

AMERICAN ANTIQUITY

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EDITORIALS

A NEW VOLUME AND NEW OFFICERS . . . With this issue *AMERICAN ANTIQUITY* goes into its third volume. As we relax for a moment to comparatively examine the numbers of the first two volumes, we believe that we see reflected in the pages a progressively improving spirit of common interest and coöperation on the part of contributing members. Certainly, we see important presentations and interpretations of data that might not have been published save for the medium afforded by our journal. These apparent results seem to justify past labors, and encourage a renewal of efforts in future.

With these few words your editor dams his editorial outflow for this number, gladly yielding the remainder of these editorial pages to one of our newly elected officers: Vice-President William A. Ritchie, and extending to him and to President A. V. Kidder (who will have an editorial word for us in the next issue) on behalf of members of the editorial staff our warmest congratulations and the offer of our coöperative services to the fullest extent during their term of office.

W.C.M.

GREETINGS . . . A new field season is well under way. In many sections of the country archaeologists, professional and amateur, are hard at work in the mysterious earth, each in his "little plot of dust," "careless alike of sunshine and of storm." Within each burns an ardent desire to augment by some discovery, great or small, our knowledge of what man has been and has done in the past. Neither the love of glory nor of gold motivates his arduous and often tedious toil, but rather the elemental urge for social service and the deeply laid love of adventure and exploration with its allied romantic fascination of "old, forgotten, far-off things." Beneath his shell of cold methodology and formal expression the archaeologist is essentially a poet and his life, as reflected against the background of the modern world, is almost ascetical. Like the sage who spoke to *Rasselas*, he is content "to talk in public, to think in solitude, to read and to hear, to inquire and answer inquiries."

It matters little where circumstance has set the stage for his performance. Ultimately his contribution, if faithfully and intelligently made, will be fitted into the total picture of human activities, for "human history is one history and human welfare is one whole."

It is my earnest wish that this year shall bring the fulfilment of some great hope, the solution of some long perplexing problem to all of my fellow archaeologists who are afield or in the laboratory, and that they shall find themselves at least one step nearer to the goal toward which they yearn.

WILLIAM A. RITCHIE, *Vice-President*

SOUTHWESTERN CONFERENCE—The University of New Mexico, following its annual General Field Session in the Chaco Canyon from July 31 to August 28, is planning an Anthropological Conference at the same site, August 28–30, inclusive. All those who can find their way to the Pueblo Bonito camp may receive board and lodging there for the three-day period.

The conference will be entirely informal, without the presentation of papers, or other prescribed program. The subjects to be openly discussed will depend upon the expressed interests of those participating. It is hoped that ethnologists, as well as archaeologists and geographers, interested in the Southwestern field will be able to attend, since nothing pertaining to the ethnology and human geography of this area has been given consideration at the recent archaeological conferences.

Additional information on the conference may be obtained from Dr. Donald D. Brand, Department of Anthropology, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

W. C. M.