

THE RAYMOND FOUNDATION PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

On Saturday morning, September 26, the first of the autumn series of free motion picture entertainments for children, presented under the provisions of the James Nelson and Anna Louise Raymond Foundation for Public School and Children's Lectures, will be given in the James Simpson Theatre of the Museum. There will be eleven programs in all, to be given on successive Saturdays. Each will be presented twice, at 10 and 11 o'clock.

Following are the titles of the films on the first two programs:

September 26—When Autumn Comes; Hiawatha's Hunting Ground; Feathered Braves; Naskapi Indians; Where the Red Trail Ends.

October 3—Elephant Seals; Shooting Rapids; The Woolly West; Cowboy Thrills.

Details of the remaining nine programs will be announced in succeeding issues of FIELD MUSEUM NEWS. Children from all parts of Chicago and suburbs are invited to attend these entertainments.

GOLD EARRINGS FROM KISH

By HENRY FIELD

Assistant Curator of Physical Anthropology

During the past season of excavations conducted by the Field Museum-Oxford University Joint Expedition at Kish, Mesopotamia, three pairs of gold earrings were unearthed. These were found in Babylonian graves belonging to the period of Nebuchadnezzar who ruled over Kish and Babylon about 2,500 years ago. It can therefore be suggested with some degree of certainty that they were worn by ladies at the court of King Nebuchadnezzar.

Two pairs are made of wire gold, while the lower parts of the third pair are formed by larger, thin semicircular beads. Four of the earrings recently were received at Field Museum. Among these there is one pair, the upper portion of which is formed of thin wire gold which penetrated the ear lobe and from which hangs a triangular ornament covered with small beads and terminating in a larger golden pearl. There is also a single earring with a wire gold loop for insertion through the ear lobe from which hangs a large lunate golden ornament.

The most important is a large intricately designed gold earring an inch and three-quarters long. This is one of the most beautiful objects which has been found in Mesopotamia and bears eloquent witness to the artistic ability of the Babylonian craftsmen. The upper part is composed of a wire gold loop for attachment to the ear lobe. One end of the loop is attached to a lunate ornament decorated with three rows of tiny pearls. Below this is a fluted ball fastened to a plain collar decorated around the base with the small pearl motif; and beneath that is a larger fluted ball, from which hang two rows of six smaller round ornaments. At the base of each small ball is a triangular ornament of six round beads in the shape of an inverted pyramid. The central lower portion of the earring consists of two larger beads placed one above the other and terminated by an inverted pyramid consisting of ten small beads.

The artistic beauty of these objects which were designed twenty-five centuries ago, together with their romantic history, make them valuable acquisitions to the collections of Field Museum, where they will be placed on exhibition in the near future.

Iron Yield of Ore Illustrated

The relationship between quantities of iron ore and the amount of actual iron they

contain is illustrated in a revised collection just placed on display in Frederick J. V. Skiff Hall (Hall 37). A one-pound piece of each variety of ore is shown together with a piece of iron equal to its average iron content. In the case of the commonest ore, hematite, the iron weighs almost eleven and one-quarter ounces, or nearly three-quarters of the weight of the ore. The comparative scarcity of gold is emphasized by comparison of this with another exhibit in the same hall showing a cube of less than three-eighths inch diameter representing the entire gold content of a near-by specimen of gold ore which weighs 635 pounds and is regarded as a rich ore although this amount yields less than half an ounce of gold.

Vanity in Ancient Egypt

A case of objects illustrating the vanities of the ancient Egyptians was recently placed on exhibition in Hall J. Included are such articles as jars which held unground cosmetic materials, slate palettes and flint pebbles for grinding the cosmetics, sticks of bronze, wood and stone used for applying cosmetics, spoons for applying unguents, bronze mirrors, combs, tweezers for depilatory purposes, razors, and various personal ornaments. The objects range in date from the predynastic period to the Coptic or Christian period (4000 B.C. to A.D. 600).

The use of tweezers for plucking out superfluous hairs, and also for extracting thorns, and the practice of shaving with razors, appear to have begun as early as the first dynasty, according to Dr. T. George Allen, Assistant Curator of Egyptian Archaeology. The first razors embodied the scraping principle. Later during the eighteenth century a rotating saw type, of which examples are included in the Museum exhibit, became established.

Both long and short-toothed combs, made of wood, ivory and bone, were used. Personal ornaments in the exhibit include an ivory hairpin, earrings, ear-plugs, and many pins, finger rings and bracelets.

Unusual Form of Concretion

The Museum received recently an unusual form of concretion from R. C. Swank of Chicago. The specimen was formerly a prized possession of Mr. Swank's friend, John Klopper, of Denver, Colorado. Learning recently that Mr. Klopper had died, Mr. Swank called upon his widow and secured the specimen for Field Museum.

The concretion is circular in form, fifteen inches in diameter but less than two inches thick. It shows also what is known as cone-in-cone structure.

Gifts to the Museum

Following is a list of some of the principal gifts received during the last month:

From Mr. and Mrs. Edward W. Everett—a painting on silk representing a school of carp, sixteenth century, China; from Dr. Don F. Dickson—29 specimens of archaeological material from Dickson Mound, Lewistown, Illinois; from William J. Chalmers—8 specimens crystallized minerals, Maine and New Mexico; from Richard C. Swank—a specimen of clay concretion, fifteen inches in diameter, Kansas; from J. K. Hawkes—2 specimens transparent gypsum, Oklahoma; from E. W. John—7 specimens fossil invertebrates, Utah; from R. S. Bacon Veneer Company—10 veneered panels of foreign woods; from Paul Van Cleef—trunk of a rubber tree, Singapore; from Frank Schobele and Company—10 straw hats for exhibit; from A. S. Windsor—48 salamanders and 2 snakes, Tennessee; from J. E. Baum, Jr.—4 Persian goats (with skulls) and 2 wild ass (skins only), Persia; from Robert H. Everard—a scaly anteater, Tanganyika Territory, Africa; from Dr. Karl Alsolon—2 specimens of the Grottenolm, *Proteus anguineus*, the blind cave salamander of Europe; from General Biological Supply House—6 frogs, Minnesota; from Frank J. Berea—a rattlesnake (head only), Illinois.

SEPTEMBER GUIDE-LECTURE TOURS

Following is the schedule of conducted tours of the exhibits during September:

Week beginning August 31—Monday: 11 A.M., Low Forms of Plant Life, 3 P.M., Mexico; Tuesday: 11 A.M., and 3 P.M., General Tours; Wednesday: 11 A.M., Woodland Indians, 3 P.M., Bears and Their Relatives; Thursday: 11 A.M., and 3 P.M., General Tours; Friday: 11 A.M., Interesting Geological Exhibits, 3 P.M., Hall of Plant Life.

Week beginning September 7—Monday: Labor Day holiday—no tours; Tuesday: 11 A.M., and 3 P.M., General Tours; Wednesday: 11 A.M., Primitive Modes of Travel, 3 P.M., Asiatic Animals; Thursday: 11 A.M., and 3 P.M., General Tours; Friday: 11 A.M., Implements of Warfare, 3 P.M., Rodents.

Week beginning September 14—Monday: 11 A.M., Economic Minerals, 3 P.M., Oriental Theatricals; Tuesday: 11 A.M., and 3 P.M., General Tours; Wednesday: 11 A.M., Migratory Animals and Birds, 3 P.M., Economic Plants; Thursday: 11 A.M., and 3 P.M., General Tours; Friday: 11 A.M., Roman Archaeology, 3 P.M., Dinosaurs and Other Reptiles.

Week beginning September 21—Monday: 11 A.M., Food Dishes and Household Utensils, 3 P.M., Apes and Monkeys; Tuesday: 11 A.M., and 3 P.M., General Tours; Wednesday: 11 A.M., Toltecs, Aztecs and Mayas, 3 P.M., Fur-bearers; Thursday: 11 A.M., and 3 P.M., General Tours; Friday: 11 A.M., Egyptian Hall, 3 P.M., Crystals and Gems.

Week beginning September 28—Monday: 11 A.M., The Carl Akeley Hall, 3 P.M., Firemaking; Tuesday: 11 A.M., and 3 P.M., General Tours; Wednesday: 11 A.M., Home and Village Models, 3 P.M., The Grasses and Their Uses.

Persons wishing to participate should apply at North Entrance. Tours are free and no gratuities are to be proffered. A new schedule will appear each month in FIELD MUSEUM NEWS. Guide-lecturers' services for special tours by parties of ten or more are available free of charge by arrangement with the Director a week in advance.

A group of large relief maps of the region about Chicago, showing the distribution of land and water in this district during a number of stages following the glacial period, is available for study in Clarence Buckingham Hall.

NEW MEMBERS

The following persons were elected to membership in Field Museum during the period from July 13 to August 17:

Life Members

Newton Camp Farr

Associate Members

Carol W. Alton, Arthur A. Boettcher, Mrs. John Dolese, Mrs. Frank M. Elliot, Robert S. Kinsey, George F. Mitchell, Dr. Gaston C. Parker, Sparrow E. Purdy, David Skooglund, Fred J. Stebbins, Selden Freeman White.

Annual Members

Paul E. Arnold, Edward B. Dunigan, Mrs. Arthur T. Evans, Rollo Gullickson, Walter Davis Hardy, Gustave Heding, Thomas H. Hoyer, Lloyd B. Huguenor, William H. Moore, John Thompson, II., Miss Elizabeth W. Towner, Walter N. Vance.

MEMBERSHIP IN FIELD MUSEUM

Field Museum has several classes of Members. Benefactors give or devise \$100,000 or more. Contributors give or devise \$1,000 to \$100,000. Life Members give \$500. Non-Resident (Life) and Associate Members pay \$100. Non-Resident Associate Members pay \$50. All the above classes are exempt from dues. Sustaining Members contribute \$25 annually. After six years they become Associate Members. Annual Members contribute \$10 annually. Other memberships are Corporate, Honorary, Patron, and Corresponding, additions under these classifications being made by special action of the Board of Trustees.

Each Member, in all classes, is entitled to free admission to the Museum for himself, his family and house guests, and to two reserved seats for Museum lectures provided for Members. Subscription to FIELD MUSEUM NEWS is included with all memberships. The courtesies of every museum of note in the United States and Canada are extended to all Members of Field Museum. A Member may give his personal card to non-residents of Chicago, upon presentation of which they will be admitted to the Museum without charge. Further information about memberships will be sent on request.



Field, Henry. 1931. "Gold Earrings From Kish." *Field Museum news* 2(9), 4-4.

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