

TRAVEL LECTURES, FILMS START OCTOBER 3

The Museum's 112th series of travel lectures, illustrated with color motion pictures will be given on Saturday afternoons beginning October 3, and continuing through November 28. There will be nine programs, all starting at 2:30 P.M. in the James Simpson Theatre of the Museum. Admission is free. The lectures are provided by the Edward E. Ayer Lecture Foundation Fund.

The schedule for October is as follows:

October 3—The Philippines

Eric Pavel

October 10—People and Places in India

John Moyer

October 17—A Missouri Story

Alfred G. Etter

October 24—Mexico

Phil Walker

October 31—Splendors of Persia

Clifford Kamen

KATCHINA CULT—

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paraphernalia were due to Spanish-Roman Catholic influences. More recently, the archaeologists from Harvard University uncovered murals on the walls of kivas that were certainly painted at about A.D. 1400—about



KATCHINAS ON POTTERY

Fragment of bowl unearthed by Museum expedition, showing heads of two impersonators of supernatural beings. Such a bowl is believed to have been imbued with extreme sanctity. Dating from about A.D. 1250, this and other specimens just excavated are the earliest extant evidence of the presence of the "Katchina Cult."

150 years before the advent of the Spaniards. In these murals, one can clearly see masked figures, undoubtedly katchina figures. The murals themselves may be altars, and painted thereon in colors are scenes that probably represent actual ceremonial performances. Since then a few other such murals have been found. These discoveries, then, exploded the idea that katchina masks and other details concerning the ceremonialism of the "katchina cult" were Spanish in origin.

The two fragmentary parts of a katchina

bowl that we excavated assume great significance, for now we know that masked men were impersonating katchinas or supernatural beings and that, in brief, the katchina cult was present by A.D. 1250 to 1300 at least, and possibly much earlier. It is my feeling that the religious beliefs concerning katchinas and the whole cult were probably Mogollon in context and may go back to the beginning of the Christian era. Present research suggests that the katchina cult and some aspect of the katchina ceremonies may be the result of stimulus from Mexico.

NEW MEMBERS

(July 17 to August 14)

Non-Resident Associate Member

F. W. Pain

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MOVIES FOR CHILDREN BEGIN OCTOBER 3

The strange and fascinating wonders of the desert will come alive on the screen in Walt Disney's True Life Adventure story, "The Living Desert," on October 3 in the Museum's James Simpson Theatre to open the Museum's fall program of movies for children. The motion picture, which captures all the beauty of the desert in color, is the first in the series of films.

Children will be able to see these movies free every Saturday morning during October and November at 10:30, and are invited to come alone, accompanied by adults, or in groups. The series of free programs is sponsored by the James Nelson and Anna Louise Raymond Foundation.

Other movies scheduled include:

October 10—Adventures of Huckleberry Finn

Mark Twain's classic story of the Mississippi River, and a sequel to Tom Sawyer

October 17—Gulliver's Travels

The animated technicolor picture of Jonathan Swift's literary classic of Gulliver's travels to the Kingdom of Lilliput

October 24—A World Is Born

The story of life on this earth in prehistoric times . . . Also a cartoon

October 31—Between the Tides

Nature's mysteries of the sea—"the edge of the unknown" . . . Also a cartoon

A complete schedule of the nine children's programs for October and November will appear in the next BULLETIN.

Malacologist Returns

Dr. Fritz Haas, Curator Emeritus of Lower Invertebrates, has returned from a field trip of three weeks in the northwest corner of North Carolina. Near the little town of Highlands, the highest incorporated town east of the Rocky Mountains, situated at an elevation of 4,000 feet, there is one of the few inland biological stations of the United States. There Dr. Haas had his headquarters, and from there he searched the surrounding mountains and woods for representatives of mollusk life.

West Indies Fish Collecting

Fishes of West Indian waters from the vicinity of Puerto Rico to the Virgin Islands, and from the Saba Bank in the Lesser Antilles will be collected by Loren P. Woods, Curator of Fishes, this fall. He has been invited by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to join a research and exploratory cruise aboard the motor vessel *Oregon*, on which in past years he has made several other expeditions.



1959. "Malacologist Returns." *Bulletin* 30(9), 8–8.

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