

# THE WASHINGTON ARCHAEOLOGIST

NEXT MEETING - - - July 10, 1957 - - - 7:30 P.M.

Walker-Ames Room, 3rd Floor Parrington Hall, University of Washington Campus

JIM GARNER will speak about the archaeological excavations on the Colville Indian Reservation. Since the area was a burial site and about to be flooded by the Chief Joseph Reservoir, the Nespelam Indians wanted the burials removed. Jim worked with an Indian crew doing this work and his experiences should be most interesting to hear.

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At the June meeting DR. ROBERT GREENGO was the speaker and accompanied his talk with some of the most beautiful slides we have seen. Dr. Greengo spoke of his work in the lower Mississippi Alluvial Area which is below Cairo, Illinois, where the river is building up its bed. In the Yozoo Basin located between Memphis, Tenn., and Vicksburg, Miss., a full sequence of early man has been uncovered. This includes Folsom points dating to the early Lithic Period, about 10,000 B.C. At Poverty Point remnants of pottery from the Archaic Period dating between 800-400 B.C. were found. At this time mounds not used for burials were built. During the Tchefuncte, dating approximately 400 B.C. to 1 A.D., burial mounds were built and pottery made.

At the Marksville sites burials which were made in mounds on platforms were uncovered along with coarse tempered pottery in which designs had been scratched. These burials are supposed to have been common about the time of Christ. Between 300-700 A.D. at the Troyville sites these burial mounds disappear, although the pottery remains the same. During this era platform mounds made of wicker work appear.

Included in the slides shown by Dr. Greengo were pictures of some of the artifacts. Among these were two whole pots as well as numerous pottery pieces, many with beautiful and interesting designs, points, figurines, types of pipes, bone awls, hooks, boat stones, and chunky stones which were used in playing the hoop and pole game.

JUNE BUSINESS MEETING

The major piece of business on the June meeting agenda was the voting on the proposed amendment concerning Honorary Memberships in the Society. The amendment that was approved unanimously by the membership reads as follows: "Honorary Membership in the Washington Archaeological Society may be conferred upon the recommendation of the Membership Committee and by a vote of a quorum."

Three new members were unanimously approved for membership in the WAS:

B. Robert Butler	-	3710 11th N. E., Seattle, Washington	EV 3071
William F. Loan	-	234 11th S.W., Ephrata, Washington	
Ronal V. Walter	-	213 3rd Ave. S.E., Soap Lake, Washington	

Dr. Osborne announced that Mr. Borys Malkin was making a trip to Brazil and suggested that the WAS give him funds with which to purchase Indian artifacts in Brazil to be presented to the State Museum in the name of the Society. The amount approved by the membership was \$25.00 and the Treasurer prepared the check for Mr. Malkin and delivered it to Dr. Osborne.

A guest at the meeting, Mr. Eyerdam, brought a group of artifacts, including a skull, which he had collected in the Solomons. His discussion of the artifacts and certain customs of the people was most interesting.

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MR. DICK GENT, Vice President, failed to come to the June meeting. He had a good excuse. Dick was recovering from an appendectomy. We forgive him for his absenteeism and send best regards for a speedy recovery and a speedy return to Society activities. (If we know Dick, he made the most of his stay in the hospital.)

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Three of our more energetic and durable members, David Rice, Tom Greaves, and Monty Nelson, are spending their summer vacation digging. They are working at the Priest Rapids Site under the direction of Dr. Greengo. The boys should have some interesting reports for us when they return.

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Memorial Day week end a group including Mr. Gent, the Tracy Family, the Nelson Family, and David Rice, made a trip to the Silver Lake Area in S.E. Oregon. This fine report of the expedition was prepared by two of the Junior Members in the party--Monty Nelson and David Rice.

## SILVER LAKE TRIP

To reach Silver Lake you must proceed south from Bend, Oregon, to Highway 31. From Bend it is 79 miles to the town of Silver Lake. Approximately 5 miles south of Silver Lake there is a well used turnoff. Follow this road about 5 more miles, where you will find a ranch; here you turn right and

follow this until you come to a pump about 30' to your left. At this point you will be on the edge of a sparse juniper grove.

The area we chiefly picked was in R 16 E, Twp 275 and all picking is done on the surface. 98% of the material is made of obsidian, the remaining being made of basalt and agate. Manos, metates, mortars, and pestles are commonly found in this region.

The area is noted for large knives which range up to 22" in length; however, anything above 4" is considered large as the larger knives are rare. There are ceremonial implements found in this region. Among these are crescents and ceremonial knives, which are, of course, very rare. According to archaeologists the material found is typically Paiute, although there is no proof of this fact. Archaeologists have done no work in this region with the exception of Fort Rock Cave. This is due to extensive farming in the early 1900's.

We picked in this area 4 days finding between the four members of our party, 112 perfect points and knives. Also, we found hundreds of broken scrapers, knives, points, drills, etc. The quality of the things found ranged from poor to excellent. The average workmanship is good. Among the unusual pieces found were 5 knives, one a double flow (red & black) obsidian knife  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " in length and exquisitely worked. There were 4 other large obsidian knives found which ranged from  $4\frac{1}{4}$ " to  $4\frac{3}{4}$ " in length. Along the line of unusual pieces found were an atlatl weight, a crescent, several agate points and knives, and some small points and knives of excellent workmanship. In the line of small knives we occasionally found a serrated one. We found a few perfect drills and found reworked points and knives to be common.

Among the types of points found were side notch, dog ears, basal notched, stemmed and triangular. In the area we picked the points were  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " plus, with a few exceptions. Smaller points are more prevalent in Silver Lake bed itself.

The area is well blown and dunes are everywhere. In picking for points, one must look between the dunes, in front of the dunes, and in the washes within the dunes. Actually, points are found everywhere. Another good situation is a flat blown area which from a distance is not visible. The amount you find depends partly on the distance you cover. Occasionally caches are found and when one finds a large point or knife ( $3\frac{1}{2}$ " +) it is advisable to dig an area up within a few inches of the piece. A cache may range from 3 to 100 implements. They are few but spectacular.

This is just one of many localities in S.E. Oregon. Others include Crump Lake, Abert Lake, and Sommers Lake. If you wish more information about this area, contact the Tracy's, Nelson's, or David Rice.

David Rice

Charles (Monty) Nelson

(Artifacts collected by this party were displayed at the June meeting.)

## THE OSBORNE CASE--A Report by the President

C. G. Nelson

The details concerning the impending departure of Dr. Osborne from the Washington Archaeological Society, the University of Washington, and the State of Washington are difficult to report, and impossible to explain logically. The University of Washington Faculty Handbook provides that an assistant professor after having been employed in that status for a given period of time is a candidate for tenure (permanent employment) and as a candidate for tenure either is granted tenure or is notified that his appointment will terminate at the end of the succeeding academic year. Dr. Osborne has been denied tenure. The next decision which Dr. Osborne had to make was whether he should spend the succeeding academic year at the University of Washington or accept an offer from Yale University. To those who are familiar with the relative merits of the two anthropological departments, there is an obvious choice and it is not the University of Washington.

The Washington Archaeological Society endeavored to find out among other things, why tenure was being denied to Dr. Osborne. As of February 1st of this year Dr. Henry Schmitz, President of the University of Washington, stated, "I am sure you must be aware, however, that the University's decision to assure to a faculty member continuous employment without discriminatory reductions in salary must rest on the basis of his contribution to both the undergraduate and graduate students as well as to his own special field, as judged by his colleagues."

After persuing this point further with President Schmitz, he referred the matter to Dean Woodburne who in his letter, implied that a man's reputation in the profession, the person's teaching, and his ability in the direction of training of graduate students were responsible for the granting or denying of tenure. Since no specific explanation had been forthcoming, the matter was referred to the Board of Regents. The investigations that followed established that Dr. Osborne was competent as a teacher, as a specialist, and highly respected by those in the profession. All the innuendoes and veiled implications had been refuted. The last communication from President Schmitz under date of June 5th states, "Secondly, the denial of tenure to a member of staff is no reflection on the scholarship, the personal attributes or other characteristics of the individual. Departmental needs may determine the recommendation of the College Council and of the Dean." To date the University has refused to make a positive statement concerning the reason for denying tenure to Dr. Osborne

We suspect that the last statement of the President of the University reflects some of the motivation. There is no question but that the Chairman of the Department of Anthropology is responsible for the original recommendation of denial of tenure and with the support of the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences has been able to have this recommendation sustained. We are satisfied that deception was used to accomplish this end. Our suspicion of this irregularity was reported to the Board of Regents and the President of the University. Dr. Schmitz stated, "I have refrained from going into the many collateral issues that have been raised in connection with the Osborne case because they have little or no bearing, I am sure, on the recommendation made by the College

Council." This is to us an admission of the alleged irregularities as well as a refusal to take any remedial action.

The evidence which we have now points definitely towards an organized program on the part of the Chairman of the Department of Anthropology to reduce, if not eliminate, the program relating to Northwest archaeology. This question was put to the President of the University—he put it to the Dean—the Dean referred the matter to the chairman. Back through channels has come the pronouncement that the Department of Anthropology has no intention to reduce its interest in Northwest archaeology. This may be true when one considers that the Chairman of the Department of Anthropology very likely has no interest in Northwest archaeology. The net result is this—the Washington Archaeological Society will have to evaluate the program in terms of action and the men administering this program as it is related to Northwest archaeology and decide whether it should continue the relationship between the Society and the University as established in our constitution and by-laws. The alternative is to affiliate with the Washington State Archaeological Survey which is now being directed through the Washington State College at Pullman.

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HELP WANTED:

If you are interested in helping classify the 10,000 items taken from the Dalles Reservoir Area, please contact B. Robert Butler at his home after 6:30 p.m., EV 3071; or leave a message during the day at ME 0630 Ext 2885.

Mr. Butler is doing this work in the Armory Building No. 2 on the Campus and needs people who can give several evenings to the task of weighing, measuring, and grouping these artifacts according to general type and form. Working with Mr. Butler on this project would be a fine opportunity for members anxious to learn more about these artifacts.

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BOOK SECTION

THE AMERICAN INDIAN IN WORDS AND PICTURES. By Sydney E. Fletcher

While this is a book written for young people, the general adult reader will find it of interest. This is a fascinating account of the life of the Indian in America from the earliest times to today. You will read about the many Indian tribes and their different customs and rituals from the time centuries ago when Indians in Central America laboriously developed corn, the precious grain that provided the impetus to many of the great Indian cultures from the brilliant Mayan one down to the present day. Among the stories of the principle Indian tribes of North America are sections on the Northwest Indians and Eskimos. Mr. Fletcher has also illustrated the book with authentic and exciting drawings which make the Indians come alive for every reader, young and old.

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NOOTKA, Vancouver Island, B.C.

**WHALE BONE CLUBS**

Found among Makah, a related people  
living at Cape Flattery, Washington

Del Nordquist

FROM:

Washington Archaeological Society  
Washington State Museum  
University of Washington  
Seattle 5, Washington

TO: