

THE ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Newsletter

STONES & BONES

March 1961

Birmingham Anthropological Society

Morgan-Limestone Chapter

Madison-Huntsville Chapter

Muscle Shoals Chapter

Guntersville-Marshall Chapter

East Alabama Chapter

Member of the Eastern States Archaeological Federation

Secretary: Rodger L. Schaefer

1414 15th Ave., S.E.

Decatur, Ala.

Editor: Dan Josselyn

408 Broadway, Edgewood

Birmingham 9, Ala.

Assistant Editor: Elizabeth Cline

TR 1-2270

*Phone in late news

* * * * *

* THE AMERICAN WAY! *

* * * * *

The unaggressive little lady (the year was 1907) hadn't had any luck with the Sunday editor of Philadelphia's "North American". But by one of those almost-miracles, on her way out of the bustling beehive of the press Miss Emily Bissell went by the desk of Leigh Mitchell Hodges, in her kindly way to tell him how much she liked his column. And he, in his own kindly way, asked if he could do anything for his pleasant visitor.

Oh, no thanks - she had seen the Sunday editor - no soap. Well, what had she wanted? Oh, she just had a way to wipe out tuberculosis, she explained simply.

Not the Great White Plague! The Captain of the Men of Death! The leading killer, by far! What sort of nonsense was this?

She showed him a foolish little weapon - a colored bit of paper. It would sell for a penny - finance the fight - educate the people - all could contribute....it was the Christmas Seal.

Somehow the great newspaperman saw the vision too - the army of the people wielding the double-barred cross of the Crusaders - a unit of awareness and support - applied democracy. He grabbed a sheet of seals and burst in on the editor-in-chief himself.

"What the hell do you mean - a way to wipe out tuberculosis!", editor E. A. Van Valkenburg exploded.

But shortly he was saying, "The North American is hers. Drop what you are doing and give this your whole time. Take all the space you need." And in the first of a series of editorials, this great editor wrote: "Without hesitation, we make the sweeping statement that in all the world there is no nobler work today than this in which it costs but a single penny to share."

He spoke more truly than he knew. Far more than even the great killer was involved. Here was a self-educating device for Democracy, and a way to get things done - truly of, for, and by the people. Never again would the world be dependent upon "benevolent dictators" for progress....

That was the beginning of the uniquely American Way which has, since 1907, wrought the world's greatest miracles in health and welfare fields - with millions of lives saved and millions of lives made useful and happy.

BUT IT HADN'T BEEN TRIED ON ARCHAEOLOGY

There was a new tool, too, of course - the thing called science - from scire, to know. Against tremendous opposition, it was gradually supplanting the dreadful centuries of bleeding and purging, and blaming man's troubles on God. It has been applied science which has enabled man to accomplish more in his last 100 years than in his first half million!

Yet the people have been slow to bring their American miracle to the support of basic science. There is no motivating fear, no crippled poster child, no way to reach deep human sympathies. Intellectual motivation is rare!

The industrial sciences have prospered mightily, for reasons of personal gain - so people have more time and wealth and devices for trouble. The health sciences have prospered mightily, motivated by fear - so there are vastly more people to get into trouble. The science of war has prospered most of all - because man doesn't understand himself.

In fact, he actually hasn't wanted to! He preferred to weave pretty little myths about himself. Perhaps, when he peered into his own mirror, he looked too disturbingly like a monkey.

So the science of man himself has been tragically neglected. Self-understanding could make good use of our new wealth, control the quantity and direct the quality of our populations, even transmute our martial vigors into creative living. But the branches of anthropology - the science of man - are everywhere indigent. The people have not rallied to the support of their one salvation...and mankind about to go to hell on a rocket!

SCIENCE GOES TO THE PEOPLE

~~~~~

But the ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, having made a discovery of major importance, determined to appeal to the people for financial support of basic science. This aroused wide concern in the scientific world - we were advised on every hand that people would not support scientific research, and since our discovery was a must, for heaven's sake seek other sources!

However, it begins to look as if the people will support science - even that important branch of the science of man called archaeology. There has certainly been a wider response than we expected. And this could be another break-through - a major discovery in its own right. If we can blaze this new trail - prove that people have more intellectual motivation than they have been given credit for - this discovery might even outweigh the importance of our archaeological break-through! The professional archaeologists around the country are as interested in "how did you finance it?" as in "what did you find?"

Certainly those who have donated to our project have aroused in us a new respect for the American people, and the American Way. And we devoutly hope that the pioneers have begun something which will endure and spread. There is great need.

And it will be a major obligation, and opportunity, of the Alabama Archaeological Society to encourage the continuation and spread of this new trend. It must be given publicity equal to our major discovery itself. The names of these good donors must

appear in all reports, giving the great credit due them, and permanently engraving them on the honor roll of science.

Our devout wish is that these good people may learn to value their donations half as much as the world of science does.

\*\*\*\*\*

### TELLING THE STORY OF SCIENCE

////////////////////

Look at that strange dragon under the microscope! But did we ever show it to people? What's dull about science? It has fired mankind to greater devotion and labors than anything we ever discovered! But have we ever told the story of science to the people - divested of its too prideful technical jargon?

My gosh - we have a whale of an exciting story to tell people about HUNTING DOWN EARLY MAN - maybe having the critter cornered right here in Alabama! It beats any "treasure hunt" you ever heard about! And who wouldn't want to donate, and actually be a part of scientific progress - if we tell them the story as we know it?

Talk about your mystery stories! Only ten years ago science pops up with proof that there actually was an Early Man in America - upsetting all the applecarts! And to this day we know nothing about him except that he was a marvelous flint craftsman, and lived in a remote Walt Disney nightmare age, somehow killing box-car sized mammoths and mastodons, giant armadillos, giant ground sloths, a huge species of bison and the massive dire wolves, and camels and horses, four-horned antelopes, giant jaguars and dwarf mammoths, saber-tooth tigers, giant beavers and amazing cave bears. Talk about your science fiction!

And Early Man in America has achieved somewhat the status of a later "missing link". What manner of a man was he? How long had he been here? Where did he come from? Or is it barely possible that our modern human species, Homo sapiens, evolved here in the protected isolation of America? Holy mammoth! Our ignorance has left a bad gap in the total picture of world archaeology - we know not how bad, but it might be a most vital key.

Ten thousand years, and more, have of course dimmed the trail of Early Man in America... a thin trail, at best. Tragically few sites have been found suitable for excavation by archaeologists - you can practically count them on your fingers. And mostly these are just "kill sites" where Early Man stopped only briefly to kill and eat his meat. Camp sites where he lived for considerable time, and left considerable evidence, and buried his dead - well, we just haven't found them!

The Lehner Site, Arizona, was a particularly rich site as Early Man sites go. Here he had killed at least nine mammoths. And there were an unusual number of artifacts - for an Early Man site: 13 projectile points and 8 butchering tools.

Now, just imagine what a bombshell it dropped - or atomic bomb is the word - into archaeological thinking when the amateur members of the Alabama Archaeological Society began to report Early Man type artifacts by the thousands - and surface-collected from over three hundred sites!

But what a sorry admission - we had never once financed a professional archaeological excavation to hunt down this "missing link" where evidence of him is greatest!

Sputniks aren't the only break-through, though. Last summer our members and friends

raised enough money to employ Prof. David L. DeJarnette to put down a scientific test trench in a promising cliff shelter. It was a long, long chance - about ten thousand to one we would hit a "dry well" as the oil prospectors say. Money was scarce for such a gamble.

But we struck archaeological oil - scientific "pay dirt"! It is not a gamble now - it is a must. It is a man-shot more important than a moon-shot. A very early Alabama citizen lived in this cliff shelter, and left a lot of evidence to be deciphered. The shelter is dry and bone preservation excellent - so there could be the first authenticated skeleton!

That is our story. What's wrong with it? And that is what we are asking people to finance - the full dig next summer. And what is wrong with that?

The main trouble is that we have not yet developed ways to reach a lot of people. People do donate - if we tell them.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### HOW THE PEOPLE GIVE

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

Your editor, as Secretary of the ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION OF ALA., INC. (set up for tax-deductible purposes), has the job of keeping the records, receiving the donations - and reminding, even perhaps prodding. We are where we get the human reactions, and read the letters. There are, as we all know so well, a great many good ways we can think of to spend a dollar.

So we were not entirely prepared to learn that you don't know just how nice people can be until you get in the thick of a fund-raising campaign for a worthy cause! We aren't losing friends - we have made a lot of new ones, and grand ones. This is a wholesome experience that we are glad indeed we did not miss, and we want to try to pass some of it along.

#### MATT LIVELY'S CRUSADERS!

Matt Lively, despite his own cross, has taken up the double-barred cross of the Crusader, and gathered his little army. In one of his cherished notes he writes: "I know you are very busy but I certainly would appreciate it if you would write a note of thanks." This was in reference to his gang at "The Little Aristocrat Cafe" - twenty-one have donated to our dig!

Sorry, Matt - about that note - it took us three pages to express a fraction of our appreciation.

"Several nights last week I was on the telephone asking friends...sure hope you have heard from some of them", Matt continued. Sure have, Matt! And we have tried to thank all ten - who responded to just a telephone call!

"And my own contribution...wish it could be many times more."

Sorry again, Matt - we can't accept any apologies from you. You are the one of us who has most certainly proved that even scientific archaeological research can be financed. A lot of people don't have a lot of money, but there are a lot of people. And Matt proves people are pretty nice. If we all had Matt's faith in people, our dig would be financed twice over as of today!

"Hope your project is a huge success", comes with donations from J. W. DONOVAN and

L. L. BUS ENLEHNER. That sort of thing, over and over, proves Matt reaches the giver as well as the gift - despite the handicap of the solicitor and the almightiness of the dollar. "In Matt Lively you have one of the best", Mr. and Mrs. CLEM W. HARRIS write - after Matt talked them into a donation! No argument! And we like his friends!

ROMA E. ANDREWS  
W. W. ANDREWS  
EDWIN BECKMAN  
MR. & MRS. H. J. BELL  
T. W. BREESE, SFC  
CURTIS CAVALERI  
L. L. BUS ENLEHNER  
RENE CEYTE  
MRS. E. J. CHENOWETH  
S. S. CLECKLER

ROBT. F. DELOACH  
J. W. DONOVAN  
MISS FRANCES P. EGGART  
E. P. ESSIG, JR.  
BOB GANN  
JAMES E. GREEN  
E. B. HANKS  
MR. & MRS. CLEM W. HARRIS  
ODELL HASKINS

MRS. T. M. HODGE  
LAWRENCE A. LEE  
O. E. McLEAN  
JOHNNY MEDDERS  
J. M. MILLER  
W. T. NEEL  
EVELYN & PAUL SNIDER  
JOHN R. WILFORD  
J. D. WILLIAMS

They heard our story. Democracy, like water, can rise no higher than its source - the education of the people. If we can raise the level ever so little, we might irrigate vast new fields of public interest. When you see people avidly grasping a brand new idea, their eyes lighting up, you realize that we have been selling democracy short.

#### MOBILIZING MOBILE

NICHOLAS H. HOLMES, JR., gave us a startling demonstration of interest in distant Mobile - where we have no Chapter to sustain it! He sent in a regular bale of checks: donations from himself, his three children, HARRY INGE JOHNSTONE, A. F. DELCHAMPS, JR., O. H. DELCHAMPS, JR., and VASCO R. GEER. The last three also became new members of the Society!

"My wife and I are very interested in putting in about a week this summer with you", writes Mr. Holmes - the giver with the gift again!

Nor is this an isolated case - donations have already come in from Albertville, Anniston, Birmingham, Bremen, Decatur, Florence, Gadsden, Grant, Guntersville, Henager, Huntsville, Lincoln, Moundville, and Tusculumbia - amazing geographic spread of interest.

#### !!!! ELEVEN OTHER STATES DONATE !!!!

A. B. CRAIG ..... Durham, North Carolina  
HESTER A. DAVIS ..... Fayetteville, Arkansas  
ALICE DE LAMAR ..... Palm Beach, Florida  
JAMES S. FARRIOR ..... Los Altos, California  
LOUISVILLE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY ... Louisville, Kentucky  
SIGFUS OLAFSON ..... Larchmont, New York  
MRS. FRANCIS C. SMITH ..... Atlanta, Georgia  
JOHN A. STELLMACK ..... University Park, Pennsylvania  
MRS. ROBERT WICKHAM ..... Clinton, South Carolina  
R. L. ROST ..... Pulaski, Tennessee

SAM B. HOUSEHOLDER, and family, as we compile this list of states, send in their donation from the eleventh state - Morgantown, West Virginia. And they beautifully express their "respect and gratitude" for those who have also donated "inspiration, energy, dedication, imagination, selflessness". People say things like that at the same time they are handing you their good money!



DONORS-JOINERS

As further proof of real interest, and the giver with the gift, a surprising number have donated and joined the Society:

HENRY L. BADHAM III  
A. F. DELCHAMPS, JR.  
C. H. DELCHAMPS, JR.  
VASCO R. GEER

FRANK E. LANKFORD  
JAMES H. McCARY II  
SIGFUS OLAFSON

MRS. JEFF POWERS  
WM. M. SPENCER  
MRS. ROBERT WICKHAM

It probably isn't the thing to say, in these days when we are all supposed to be "equal", but without exception these donors-joiners are first-line quality. They are the kind of people archaeology needs to reach, interest, inform. But we need first-line operations to reach first-line people, quite obviously and reasonably. The petty pot-hunters and pretty projectile points of the old days were plainly insufficient to stir up community support.

There is much talk in archaeology today about the advantage of enlisting the aid of "the other disciplines" such as soil analysts, botanists, etc. But we seem to have been forgetting the people whose drive made America what it is - business and industrial interests. They know how to get things done. We were babes in the woods until the James H. McCarys and Wm. M. Spencer became interested. And the McCarys have enlisted the aid and interest of Henry Beach (W. B. Leedy & Co.) and the Southern Life and Health Insurance Co., two of our most important and influential Alabama concerns. We definitely are getting "a foot in the door" by doing something of real consequence.

James H. McCary II, in his deceptively quiet way, got us a half-page spread in the Birmingham News, Sunday, Feb. 12 - your editor had "worked like a dog" on the News without results! And Jim Spotswood, who wrote the story, really worked at it - reading the literature, visiting around, calling Dave DeJarnette long distance. And he did us a fine job, and a great service. We have now "covered Alabama", and many thanks to the Birmingham News and Jim Spotswood - and our own James H. McCary II, the working President of our indispensable Archaeological Research Association of Alabama, Inc. We can indeed pride ourselves that we have served to arouse such responsible members of the community.

PROFESSIONAL INTEREST

Donations of professional time, interest, encouragement, testimonials, funds, and no doubt patience, are a precious heritage found in few of the disciplines. Indeed, the cooperation of professional archaeologists with amateurs, despite the many crimes committed in the name of "amateur archaeology", must be recorded as one of the enduringly bright lights in the history of science. They invite, and enable, us to contribute proudly to scientific advancement. Our Jack Cambrons and Ed Mahans are given ear, and publication in the Journals, and credit - and their fine contributions valued and respected. We see references to them in the learned books. Archaeology is the better for it. And our world is better - most of our problems are not going to be solved until the people and science become better acquainted. We here acknowledge our unpayable debt to the professionals.

STEVE B. WIMBERLY, and family, when our project was just a "pipe dream", took time out from an excessively busy life to make the long trip up to Colbert Co. - on the strength of nothing but the often pretty "tall" tales of amateurs. Steve put down a small test pit in a hurried few hours and risked his reputation to professionally certify the site as worthy of our strenuous effort - and gave us courage to begin. And now we receive a note from Christine (Mrs. Eimberly) with "a check from Steve and me" - their second generous donation in addition to priceless guidance and encouragement.

DAVID L. DeJARNETTE could excavate in peace for the National Park Service next summer but elects to brave our amateur enthusiasms, and has in many ways expended much time and effort to be helpful. When our fund drive needed stimulation he gave it a big shot in the arm - out of a professor's salary. And dollars have a most convincing sincerity! Our "North Carolina member" was inspired to an invigorating statement and duplication of the fine donation - though one could excuse him for devoting every penny to his family, one of the very best. Yet could he leave his splendid children a finer heritage than civic and scientific responsibility?

HESTER A. DAVIS, Jan. 26, joined the professionals who have added financial sincerity to their other donations - "because I feel your cause for excavation at the Worley Shelter is deserving of any attention it can get", she wrote. Miss Davis works with Dr. Bob McGimsey - in our Jan. issue we reported the fabulous job they are doing with the Arkansas Society and Newsletters. Miss Davis promised to mention us in their Newsletter, which reaches us this very day (Feb. 16):

"The Alabama Archaeological Society has a project on its hands worthy of note and help. Just as the Missouri Society helped us last year, so perhaps some of us can help Alabama. An extremely important site, the Stanfield-Worley shelter, has been found in Alabama. Test excavations last summer showed it to contain important evidences of Early Man, as well as later cultures. The scientific excavation of this shelter would add tremendously to the prehistory of the southeast...Here is a chance to aid the cause of southeastern archaeology. Information derived from this shelter would be important to archaeology in all surrounding states."

Sight (and site) unseen, she takes our amateur burblings seriously, as is not customary in the sciences. Bless her! And most of all, perhaps, for giving publicity to the fund drive idea. Archaeology is indigent everywhere, and we hope the notion will catch on - which is more reason for us to make a grand success and example of ours.

DR. H. M. WORMINGTON is of course an almost magic name to students of Early Man in America. Dr. Wormington's periodically revised "Ancient Man in North America" is the classic in the field, and such authority assumes an almost fleshless remoteness - a great name obscured from our common gaze by the bright aura of science.

So you can imagine our thrill, the mice with cold feet pranking up and down our spine. Today we were laboriously doing our third revision of this long Newsletter, trying desperately, sometimes discouragingly, to say what we wanted to say, the way we wanted to say it. And by some miracle of timing there came one of those supreme moments which keep one inspired...a letter from the Denver Museum of Natural History...from Dr. Wormington!...real and kindly flesh and blood after all!

"I have read with great interest of the discovery of the stratified site in Alabama which may well help to solve some of the most pressing problems pertaining to the early prehistoric stage of the eastern United States. Recently, a number of archaeologists have come to believe that the 'Archaic' is not so much a developmental stage, but a tradition with considerable time depth. The excavation of a stratified site such as this should throw a great deal of light on this question and will be of incomparable value. I am enclosing a contribution to aid in this extremely worthwhile project. My warmest good wishes for a most successful season."

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) H. M. WORMINGTON  
Curator of Archaeology

Isn't that a wonderful letter, and endorsement! And it had that bright, American, red-

white-and-blue urgency of air mail! And the italic emphasis of an actual financial donation! This grand endorsement will mean money in the till of archaeology, and we sign our thanks: With love, from a host of aspiring "archaeologists".

We males, with our customary assumption of masculine superiority, are caught open-mouthed when we first learn that the initials are for "Hannah Marie" - we stammer, "Did you know he - she was a woman!" In other words, how could such authority be feminine? But now we ask, how could such a honey be masculine!

Those of us who have not bought her up-to-date edition will surely do so now. And it is of course an absolute must if we are to understand the potential, and develop the resources, of our "Paleo State". As we announced in our November issue, the price is \$3.65 paper cover; \$5.25 cloth; Denver Museum of Natural History, Denver, Colo.

DR. TOM LEWIS, Tennessee, DR. CHARLES H. FAIRBANKS, Florida, DR. A. R. KELLY, Georgia, DR. CARL B. COMPTON, Texas, DR. BOB MCGIMSEY, Arkansas, DR. JAMES B. GRIFFIN, Michigan, and our own DR. CARL E. SENSENIG, Alabama, we have mentioned in past issues among the professionals who have been so interested, encouraging and helpful. Today we also receive in our heavy mail a most unexpected letter from the University of Iowa, signed MARSHALL MCKUSICK, State Archaeologist. Isn't it handsome of the professionals to grant us such quick recognition and move us up into the "big league"!!!!

#### NON-MEMBER DONORS

Extremely significant for the future are the many non-member donors - even though relatively few of our members have had the courage and faith to invite them! Other people are "just as bright as we are" - they just haven't happened to run into the same facts.

A letter arrived half an hour ago from Frank C. Watson, Piedmont, Ala., with the wonderful reaction: "I read the article on the Colbert County excavations...I hope I will be able to help financially if not otherwise." How many of us are smart enough to take hold of a situation in that way, from a single newspaper story?

Don't, for mercy's sake, twist any arms - but do share your knowledge and our discovery with people. Give them the opportunity to donate, and to share the honor.

To Matt's non-member army of donors, and the non-members who also joined, we add:

|                                                           |                             |                      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| MRS. G. D. AXFORD                                         | JANE K. HAWLEY              | HUBERT M. STILES     |
| MRS. JULIA W. BARBER                                      | MRS. PHILIP C. JACKSON, JR. | W. T. WARREN         |
| HENRY BEACH                                               | HARRY I. JOHNSTONE          | W. S. WATKINS, JR.   |
| W. N. CULP                                                | ALICE DE LAMAR              | DR. H. M. WORMINGTON |
| HESTER A. DAVIS                                           | MRS. JAMES LIVINGSTON       |                      |
| DAUGHTERS OF COLONIAL WARS (Mrs. Claude E. Boykin, Pres.) |                             |                      |
| LOUISVILLE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY (Jack Deddens, contact) |                             |                      |
| SOUTHERN LIFE AND HEALTH INSURANCE CO.                    |                             |                      |

...and we could have missed some in this clutter of mail, but we shall publish them all, with addresses.... Ho-hum, can we ever catch up with our correspondence - or even find all of it here on our overburdened desk? Somewhere - ah, here it is - that Matt Lively swamps us today with NINE MORE DONATIONS from his wonderful gang at "The Little Aristocrat Cafe"! We don't know what to say - that makes forty non-member donations Matt has sent in! We'll publish full addresses as soon as we get more room:

CHESTER CLAYTON

JACK HARRIS

BOB MISSILDINE

K. L. MENK



G. M. LAMBRECHT      PATRICK V. MAHON      PATRICK H. TULLY      EVELYN & PAUL SNIDER  
(second time around for Evelyn and Paul!)...and one "anonymous" - hope Matt can get  
him to reveal his (or her) name.

JIM McCARY III also sends us a letter today: "Please write a letter of thanks to Mr.  
Jack D. McSpadden, Executive Vice-President of LIBERTY NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE COM-  
PANY...Through his efforts we have just received a contribution from Liberty National."

And this adds Liberty National to the two other important Alabama business firms the  
McCarys have brought into the fold: Southern Life and Health Insurance Co. and W. B.  
Leedy. The importance of this could hardly be overestimated. This represents "smart  
money" and if we come up with a good "scientific return on the investment" we just  
might be able to interest them again next year. We shall try to express our thanks  
to Mr. McSpadden and Liberty National.

(We took time out here for a very pleasant occasion. Jim Spotswood, who did such an  
unusually good job telling our story in the Birmingham News, brought his family to  
look at, or almost devour, archaeology. It was one of those real nice little things  
that happen now and then and leave you with a positive glow - nice children asking  
such eager, breathless questions, and all that. And we were reminded again of the  
almost instinctive interest in archaeology - if we tell our story! And we are so for-  
tunate to have caught the real interest of such a good newspaperman - he wants to go  
all the way with us!)

Now where were we - other than thoroughly disorganized by the press of events. Well,  
here are three more donations to record from our good members:

GEORGE E. RUSSELL

DICK HUMBAR

DR. ALBERT FISHER

and still one more, just come in, from FLOYD ANDERSON.

AND NOW - THIS!

MISS ALICE DE LAMAR, all the way from distant Palm Beach, Florida sends

\$600.00

"for operation cliff shelter"

Did you ever see six hundred big, beautiful suns rising on a clear spring morning?  
Miss De Lamar's forethoughtful timing "to help swell the pot as the last months of  
fund raising draw near" has lifted our fund over the high psychological hurdle of the  
half-way mark - where we might have relaxed and contented ourselves with the half-  
measures of a six weeks' dig - half the chance to learn about Early Man, and perhaps  
even find him.

DONATED AND PLEDGED ..... \$3,787.61

\$3,013.39 ..... TO GO

There is nothing to do now but go for the full twelve weeks excavation! And with this  
tremendous shove to help, we are now betting that we make it. Others are becoming  
convinced too. Sigfus Olafson, Vice-President of the Eastern States Archaeological  
Federation, writes us an enthusiastic letter of a page and a half and says "I know...  
that rock shelter will be dug as it should be."

Yet it could be that Miss De Lamar sends us even more! She is deeply interested in archaeology - visiting most of the great archaeological centers and museums of the world, and reading the books. For some time she has been suggesting in her letters that there is room for a book primarily on amateur archaeology for general readers. And she thinks this may be it.

Should we tell our story to all the world? Hunting down Early Man - the trail leading to a magnificent cliff shelter in Alabama - digging for the critter himself - amateur archaeology at its best - financed in the great American way by the people!!!

Certainly there is a grand story - if your editor could tell it well for John Public. And we are seriously thinking of giving it a try - if we get that full twelve weeks of excavation next summer. If the idea should survive all the ifs and iffents of writing, publishing, and attracting the public, it could have a tremendous influence - especially on sustaining our future operations in Alabama.

Miss De Lamar couldn't possibly have "donated" a better idea. Nor could we possibly express our thanks for either donation. We can only hope that the results of the dig will merit such generosity of "dollars and sense". And a good way to show appreciation is to

Make checks payable to

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION OF ALA., INC.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY PROSPERS

In the meantime, and as you may have gathered from the nationwide attention we are receiving, our Society prospers - certainly in part because it is going places and doing things. Our President Britt Thompson called a most productive meeting of Officers at Cullman, with the best attendance we ever had, including Dr. Long from our new Marshall Chapter and Harry Amling all the way from our new East Alabama Chapter at Auburn.

If we had the space of another Newsletter we could go into details. We do want to report that we were reminded of the many other kinds of donations our members are planning to make to our dig. Harry Amling said his Chapter could supply insecticides and pressure spray - and those Auburn folks know how such things should be done. Bob Lacks has procured a Jeep and two trailers - brother! Martin Hullender comes up with the completely swell idea that we have our Moundville Annual Meeting early this year as a sort of kick-off celebration of the dig - whoopee! And we are delighted that Dave DeJarnette is thinking about what a wonderful public-relations opportunity (and whale of a job!) our dig will afford next summer - amen!

We learned that Dave is also making available to Jack Cambron the vast amount of lithic material excavated in the past on the Tennessee River to help Jack work out the stratigraphic and temporal relationships of Archaic projectile point types - which is greatly needed. Jack is becoming the projectile point specialist of our area, and giving great assistance to the professionals. Working with Lewis and Kneberg, they plan to get all our points typed. If you think you have a new type, send it to Jack for inspection. (211 - 7th Ave. N.W., Decatur, Ala.) We can well be proud of Jack and the systematic and determined way he has tackled this formidable problem which others have evaded for a quarter of a century. And once again our thanks to professional cooperation and attention which make it possible for amateurs to make real contributions to science.

\*\*\*\*\*

SPECIAL

\*\*\*\*\*

We received a mimeographed sheet from our Marshall Chapter which gave us the wonderful feeling that our young Chapters are going to take over where we left off, and blaze new trails. It was a very commanding SUMMONS, and in part asking:

? ? DO YOU AGREE ? ?

- 1st -- WE WANT TO BE A LIVE WIRE, ACTIVE CHAPTER OF THE ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY!  
2nd -- WE WANT TO BECOME WELL KNOWN, AND RECOGNIZED IN THIS AREA!  
3rd -- WE WANT A PLANNED PROGRAM OF PROJECTS FOR THIS YEAR, WITH AS MANY FIELD TRIPS AS POSSIBLE!  
4th -- WE WANT TO SUPPORT ALL PROJECTS OF THE ALABAMA SOCIETY!

For one worthy project, they have already arranged for NOW for an educational display case of artifacts in the Chamber of Commerce Building. And this invigorating SUMMONS closes with:

P.S. 9 new members -- total 26. Let's make it 100 by Dec. 31.

It makes one feel his age - but with the assurance that his shoes will be more than filled.

At the Cullman meeting we learned, with very deep regret, that Ed Mahan, who was so instrumental in forming the Marshall Chapter, has had a coronary attack and is in a hospital in Guntersville. But Dr. Long reported that he seemed to be doing well - in fact, an unusually fine artifact "almost got him out of bed". Now isn't that Ed! Archaeology never had a more devoted disciple, and he has done much to call attention to our tremendous and neglected Paleo evidence. He has contributed far more than his share to archaeology, and our best wishes go out that he will contribute much more.

\*\*\*\*\*

CHAPTERN-E-W-SMORGAN-LIMESTONE CHAPTER..... T. W. Tarkington

Jan. 9, 1961, City Electric Auditorium, R. L. Schaefer presiding, gave the report of the nominating committee: CHAIRMAN, R. L. Schaefer; VICE-CHAIRMAN, T. E. Croxon; SEC-TREAS, G. M. O'Mahoney. Vote next meeting!

The program, "Historic and Middle Mississippian Cultures", was moderated by Rodger Schaefer and Jack Cambron. The oldest Middle Mississippian villages, perhaps influenced by Mexican cultures, date about 700 A.D. They were agricultural people, with moats and palisades around their villages, planned streets, houses with thatched roofs and walls of cane daubed with mud - wattle construction. Religion was highly developed. Burial urn culture came during the late Middle Mississippian. Strap-handle and effigy pots are characteristic.

Artifacts were exhibited and explained by George Clem, Tom Croxon, Maurice Jones, Terry Tarkington, Jack Cambron, W. J. French, Henry French, Harry Smith and Bill Hedding - a good collection of Historic and Middle Mississippian items.

Verne Reckmeyer announced that everyone was invited to the meeting of the Madison Co. Archaeological Soc., Public Library, Huntsville, third Monday of each month; also that some 200 copies of the "Geological Survey of Alabama" are still available @ \$10.00 from Dr. Walter B. Jones, State Geologist, Univ. of Ala., Tuscaloosa, Ala. (Would Dr. Jones autograph for members? Ed.)

EAST ALABAMA CHAPTER..... John W. Cottier

Feb. 3rd, County Courthouse, Dadeville, Ala. After a short business meeting Treasurer

A. R. Bray gave a financial report. Mr. Bray has had the unfortunate luck of being transferred from the solid South to regions up North. We have heard that you can find some sites in Ohio, but nothing to beat our "Paleo-State". Seriously, we hate to lose Mr. Bray, as he has been a definite asset to our Chapter, and we wish him all the luck in the world. (Ohio Arch. Soc., 1025 South West St., Findlay, Ohio.)

The program was given by Johnny Cottier, on recording, with hand-out sheets to supplement the lecture. In the future we hope to see more recording - proper recording.

Just "off to the woods" - or shall we practice recording? This will be our theme for an outing Feb. 11-12 at Lake Martin. As far as we know, no salvage work was done in this basin. The lake is down 15 to 20 feet, and Mr. Moore of Dadeville has found a site come up for air for the first time in many years. A family expedition for surface salvage will leave Dadeville Courthouse at 8 A.M., Feb. 11 and 12 - visitors invited.

Six new members joined our Chapter

B. JACK MADDOX ..... Family ..... P. O. Box 462, Auburn, Ala.  
 MRS. MARGARET BEAIRD ..... Family ..... P. O. Box 72, Dadeville, Ala.  
 MRS. W. H. BARNES ..... Family ..... P. O. Box 86, Dadeville, Ala.  
 MR. P. LEE ..... already State member ..... Opelika, Ala.  
 JOHN MELZER ..... not yet State member ..... Auburn, Ala.  
 HUBERT R. PENNY ..... Active ..... P. O. Box 631, Dadeville, Ala.  
 (Mr. Penny is with the National Park Service at Horseshoe Bend.)

Next meeting March 3, Opelika, 2nd floor, City Hall.

(Johnny Cottier, Anthropology student, archaeological aspirations, is one of those young fellows who gives even us old fossils hope for the younger generation! Hope he'll ask Dave DeJarnette if the student quota is filled for our dig next summer. Ed.)

MUSCLE SHOALS CHAPTER ..... C. F. Smith

Jan. 23, Student Lodge, Florence State College, a very good meeting, attendance very good, considering weather and sickness.

We elected officers for 1961: ADRIAN THOMPSON, President; OSCAR P. GROGAN, Vice-President; BOB LACKS, Secy-Treas. (They were all on the job at the Cullman meeting of officers. Ed.) C. F. SMITH was reappointed as Reporter. (He is always on the job. Ed.) Our officers for 1960 did an excellent job, and we are sure our new officers will continue the good work.

MR. A. W. BEINLICH, our State Vice-President, gave us a very interesting and informative talk on "Archaeological Significance of Fort Morgan, Ala." followed by a general archaeological discussion.

Now that we know when the Stanfield-Worley dig will start, at our Feb. meeting we shall inventory volunteer help and advise accordingly.  
 (They have already made considerable hay, as per Bob Lacks and Jeep. Other Chapters please assist. Ed.)

MARSHALL COUNTY CHAPTER ..... Dr. A. G. Long

Met Feb. 14 and enrolled two new members:

MR. FRANK PARSONS ..... 336 20th Ave., N.E. .... Birmingham, Ala.  
 (Already a member of State and Birmingham Societies)  
 MR. CARL BRANNON ..... 1129 Monte Vesta Dr. .... Gadsden, Ala.

The program was impromptu due to program chairman Ed Mahan's illness, and we wish him a speedy recovery in the Guntersville Hospital.

A. G. Long reported on two Paleo sites; Acton Boone on how to find sites; Mr. Hagood on methods of excavating; John Davis on Geology of the Tenn. Valley.

Many artifacts were brought and cataloging begun on our project of an exhibit in the Chamber of Commerce building, and I believe we have enough material to depict the known eras of man in this region.

Mr. James Cambron in a letter suggested we undertake the project of excavating Cathedral Caverns.

Our Chapter is in dire need of speakers and teachers, all of the membership here is very eager for knowledge of early man in the Tenn. Valley.

(Frank Parsons, right on the job for a new member, contacted your editor about speaking on the second Tuesday in March. Agreed. We'd like, in general, to excavate our own 25 years of learning little and accomplishing nothing. We may be blunt. We may even be so crude as to be strictly honest - the one unforgivable sin. But there might be a useful moral, here and there, for a young Chapter that bids fair to exceed anything we even dreamed of doing. We'd be proud to meet you - even if you do make a lot of later remarks about that crusty old so-and-so. He is! Ed.)

#### BIRMINGHAM ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY

CHAPTERS PLEASE NOTE: President Martin Hullender and Vice-President Bill Steele got a news release in the paper about an Indian skeleton and artifacts to be on display at our meeting. We had to tote in extra chairs to accommodate visitors until the walls fairly bulged. We recommend it - but hire a hall.

Mr. H. Floyd, Jr., who excavated the skeleton at the Mahan Site, flew down from Ann Arbor where he is doing postgraduate work.

Steve Wimberly diagnosed the site as very late Middle Woodland, with pottery resembling Tenn. River McKelvy, Louisiana Coles Creek, and Florida and So. Ala. Weeden Island - but not studied in this area or further identified. From a small stratigraphic testing sample there was no visible cultural change in a 30-inch deposit of potsherds. There were two stray Middle Mississippi sherds, one Carrabelle incised and one fiber tempered in the considerable surface collection, three atlatl weights, and a few steatite sherds - the usual sly attempt of the Indians to mess up our pat calculations, no doubt.

Mary Alyce Beatty will talk on "The Story of Yucatan", with visuals, at our next meeting. Young, attractive, born in Panama, habla Espanol, knows the people as friends - so march down the first Friday in March, 8:00 P.M. Public Library.

#### Seven new members joined our Chapter

|                                 |                            |                    |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| MRS. LLOYD BOWERS .....         | 3825 Redmont Rd.....       | Birmingham 5, Ala. |
| MRS. CLAUDE E. BOYKIN .....     | 1755 Kensington Rd.....    | Birmingham 9, Ala. |
| MR. & MRS. EDGAR R. EVERTON ... | 3602 Cliff Rd.....         | Birmingham 5, Ala. |
| MR. & MRS. L. E. GREENE .....   | 417 9th Ct. W.....         | Birmingham 4, Ala. |
| MRS. RUSSELL D. LANIER .....    | 4315 Cliff Rd.....         | Birmingham 5, Ala. |
| MR. JOSEPH F. WATKINS, JR.....  | Odum, Bowers & White, 1917 | 3rd Ave. N. B'ham  |
| MR. WILLIAM O. WATKINS .....    | 2436 Shades Crest Rd.....  | Birmingham 9, Ala. |



Five new members nationwide

MR. LANCE W. ANDERSON ..... 404 Memorial Dr., SW. .... Decatur, Ala.  
MR. DAVID ARMSTRONG ..... Box 383 ..... Slocumb, Ala.  
MR. VASCO R. GEER ..... P.O. Box 864, 261 N. Joachim St., Mobile, Ala.  
MISS CAROL HARRIS\* ..... Room 119, Taft Hall, Univ. of Ill., Champaign, Ill.  
MR. R. E. WYNN ..... 2514 Kyle Ave., Ala. City Station, Gadsden, Ala.  
(\* Miss Harris is majoring in anthropology!)

\*\*\*\*\*

124 NEW STATE MEMBERS

since the Feb. 1960 Newsletter began agitating for action on Worley's cliff shelter!  
Let's never again be without a major project!

\*\*\*\*\*

MAN OVERBOARD

Look, guys and gals, Ed Mahan is sick. He is the kind to want to donate to our dig - and to worry about it - which is the worst thing a coronary can do - adrenalin, coagulation, occulusion!!! He should just lie there and be happy about his friends. So we are starting a fund to take care of Ed's donation. It is going to cost you a buck to be a friend of Ed's - a bargain if we ever saw one. Hand it to your Chapter Secretary.

\*\*\*\*\*

from

DR. CARL F. MILLER  
////////////////SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION and RUSSELL CAVE

In November, 1959, we were busy sending out SOS calls about Worley's discovery of the cliff shelter, prospecting ways to do something about it. Nov. 6 we wrote to Dr. Carl Miller. Nov. 14, we received a very interested letter in reply - he had taken our letter to the 16th Southeastern Archaeological Conference for discussion, and asked to be kept posted.

Feb. 7, 1961, we brought Dr. Miller up to date and asked if he would care to say anything which might by way of endorsement or otherwise assist our fund drive. Feb. 10, he wrote us a fine letter, going all the way with us. His name is so widely known in Alabama, and his Russell Cave fame, that we excerpt this letter in a supplement so you can conveniently detach it and show it to your prospects:

"Your letter of February 7th asking for my help in the raising of the necessary funds for the continuing of the investigation of the Colbert County cliff shelter, through public subscription, is of extreme interest to me and one I wholeheartedly endorse.

"The Colbert County cliff shelter is one of Alabama's important archaeological sites. This has been proved through initial testing. The ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF ALABAMA and its officers who have sponsored and supervised this project are to be highly commended.

"Now, a call is being made at this time for the public to subscribe the necessary funds to prolong the investigation of the shelter. Former testing showed that human beings occupied this shelter for a long time, perhaps 10,000 or more years. The only way we will know for sure is that work must continue. It is my honest belief that it is not only a privilege but the civic duty of all the people of the State of Alabama together with its industries, businessmen, civic organizations, as well as school groups of Alabama to make all efforts to raise the necessary funds and make the necessary contribution, irregardless of size, so as to salvage this important aspect of Alabama's history, not only for the citizens of Alabama but for all posterity as well....

"Since 1938 I have been delving into Alabama's archaeological past and have tested the deposits within the renowned RUSSELL CAVE in northern Alabama. As a professional archaeologist and one interested in the State of Alabama and its history, I thoroughly endorse and encourage the people of the State to heed the clarion call for funds and to come to the aid of the ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF ALABAMA to finish the investigation of the COLBERT COUNTY CLIFF SHELTER and to preserve one of their outstanding archaeological sites....Any help in this cause will be personally appreciated by me."

Most sincerely yours,

(Signed)

Carl F. Miller  
Archaeologist

Let the people of Alabama know what Dr. Miller thinks of our site, and our fund drive!