

long before our era that we can only vaguely conjecture their antiquity. Even today, there are regions in India where crops are produced by carrying water from the streams in skins, and putting it on the higher ground. It was thus that men got their earliest ideas of engineering science and systematized agriculture.

Our irrigation program is after all only a proposal to repeat, on the scale of modern engineering operations, the works by which primitive man learned to subjugate the earth and make it serve the needs of a developing social order. Ancient Egypt, which originated the civilization of which we are the direct inheritors,