

The Society for the History of Discoveries

NEWSLETTER

MAY 30, 1983

NEWS OF THE SOCIETY

1983 Annual Meeting: Next year's meeting, our first International meeting, will be held in Ottawa, Canada, September 29-October 2. Our hosts will be the National Map Collection, Public Archives of Canada, and a highlight of the meeting will be the special exhibition mounted for the occasion and selected from the "Treasures of the National Map Collection" exhibition which commemorated the 75th anniversary of the Collection, 1907-1982. Registration information should reach members shortly.

Publications: Volume XIV of Terrae Incognitae is in press, and Volume XV, under the editorship of John Parker, is in the final stages of editing. David Buisseret, who was appointed Editor at the Annual Meeting in the fall, has begun work on Volume XVI. A new contract has been negotiated with our publisher, Wayne State University Press, which will continue to handle Terrae Incognitae. Under the terms of the new contract, the portion of each member's annual dues which go for his/her copy of the journal will be increased from the present \$9.00 to \$10.00, and the subscription price of copies ordered directly from the press will be raised from \$16.00 to \$17.00. Your Council considered the implications of the increase and decided that the raise can be absorbed at the present time, without recourse to raising the dues.

NEWS NOTES

We have heard that several members of the Society plan to attend the IVth International Reunion of the History of Nautical Science and Hydrography, to be held in Lisbon and Sagres July 3-8, 1983. We will include news from this conference in next year's Newsletter.

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The Tenth International Conference on the History of Cartography will be held in Dublin, Ireland, 29 August-2 September 1983. Registration is open to all persons interested in the history of cartography. Information on the program, accommodations, exhibitions, etc., may be obtained by writing to: Tenth International Conference on the History of Cartography, 12 Pembroke Park, Dublin 4, Ireland.

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Announcement is made of the establishment of a new prize related to the history of New France, Le Prix de Lac Erie, offered under the auspices of Bowling Green State University.

The European discovery of Lake Erie, especially its western extremities

together with Lake St. Clair, is usually attributed to Adrien Jolliet (1669) or Rene Brehant de Galinee and Francois Dollier de Casson (1669-1670). Yet the writings of the Jesuits (1640-1648) and the cartography of Nicolas Sanson (1650), suggest that these were not the first Europeans who passed along the shores of the Lake. The prize of \$1000 (U.S.) is payable to the first person who provides acceptable documentary proof of European discovery before 1650. "Discovery" is defined as the gathering of geographical information by an individual or group in an area hitherto unknown to that group and the presentation of that information in such a manner that there is no doubt what that discovery was.

Submissions should be in the form of an essay supported by photocopies of documents or any other evidence. If there is no acceptable winner by December 31, 1983, Le Prix de Lac Erie will be withdrawn. Submissions will be judged by:

- E.H. Dahl, National Map Collection, Public Archives of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario;
- C.E. Heidenreich, York University, Downsview, Ontario;
- R.J. Wright, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio.

Submissions should be sent to:

C.E. Heidenreich
Department of Geography
York University
4700 Keele Street
Downsview, Ontario
M3J 1P3 CANADA

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An expanded version of William A. Koelsch's paper, " 'A Profound though Special Erudition': Justin Winsor as Historian of Discovery", first presented at the Society's 1979 Annual Meeting held at the American Antiquarian Society, will be published in a forthcoming issue of the Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society (probably October, 1983).

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The Society has received letters from Mrs. Joyce Parry, widow of our late fellow member J.H. Parry, and from the Harvard College Library, thanking us for our gift to the J.H. Parry Memorial Book Fund.

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The History and Philosophy of Science Program at the National Science Foundation is seeking ideas and suggestions for possible scholarly events that might be held in Australia in 1988 as part of the celebration of the 200th anniversary of Captain James Cook's discovery of the continent and the arrival, in January of 1788, of the first European settlers in Australia. Members of the Society are urged to forward ideas for suitable projects or events to President Louis De Vorsey for transmittal to NSF.

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The American Historical Association invites support for its request to the United States Postal Service for a commemorative stamp to celebrate the centennial of its founding, in 1884. Since only a small number of commemorative stamps are issued each year, application must first be made to the Citizens' Advisory Committee, which makes its recommendations to the

Postmaster General, William Bolger. One element in the advisory committee's decision is the perceived public support. Since the Society for the History of Discoveries is an affiliated member of the American Historical Association, the AHA is appealing to any interested members of our Society to offer their support. Letters should be sent to:

Citizens' Advisory Committee
C/O The Honorable William F. Bolger
Postmaster General
475 l'Enfant Plaza
Washington, DC 20260

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NEWS OF MEMBERS

Society members have been very active in several symposia which were held this year on the mapping of America. Among those giving papers at "Mapping the American Southwest", held at the University of Texas at Arlington, February 9, 1983, were DENNIS REINHARTZ, ROBERT MARTIN, and DAVID BUISSERET. The University of Nebraska, Lincoln, sponsored a symposium "Mapping the North American Plains", April 28-29, 1983. It marked the one-hundred fiftieth anniversary year of the Prince Maximilian expedition to the plains, and the publication of Vol. I, the atlas, of a new edition of the papers of the Lewis and Clark expedition. JOHN ALLEN gave the keynote address, and papers were presented by RALPH EHRENBERG, WALTER RISTOW, and RONALD E. GRIM, while ED DAHL was a session moderator.

KATHY ABBASS reports that she will be in Africa for six weeks this spring to study contemporary maritime activities - port trade, fishing, technology transfer, changes in traditional culture, etc. She will have three weeks in Ivory Coast and three in Tanzania.

Travel Literature and the Evolution of the Novel, by PERCY G. ADAMS, is in production and should be out by September. Adams writes that in addition to the book, his review of three recent travel books will be published in The Eighteenth Century: Theory and Interpretation, and he is working on another article on perception in travel books of the 18th century.

PHILIP P. BOUCHER will host the 1984 meeting of the French Colonial Historical Society in Huntsville, Alabama, tentatively set for April 12-14, and encourages members of the Society to submit panel or individual paper proposals. He writes: "Huntsville is usually at the height of its spring beauty by mid April and we hope some of the Society's members will join us." His article "The Education of a Colonial Minister: The Novitiate of Jean-Baptiste Colbert" will appear in the September issue of Revue d'histoire de l'Amerique francaise.

An Abandoned Black Settlement on Cumberland Island, Georgia, by MARY R. BULLARD, was published in November 1982. It is a microhistory of a previously unidentified freedmen's settlement in the post-Civil War years on the largest of the Georgia Sea-Islands.

AMY BUSHNELL has been appointed Historian, Historic St. Augustine Preservation Board.

More writings on Africa from JAMES A. CASADA. "James A. Grant and the Introduction of Christianity in Uganda" will be published soon in Journal of Church and State; Casada is Editor of new editions of Arthur Neumann's Elephant Hunting in East Equatorial Africa and C.H. Stigand's Hunting the Elephant in Zimbabwe's Hunting Reprint Series, and is also editing J.G. Millais' A Breath from the Veldt for the Africana Book Society. Casada writes that he is continuing work on a biography of Frederick C. Selous, and an edition of his unpublished travel diaries for a volume in the Van Riebeeck Society's publications series. This summer will see him in England, working on these projects.

PAUL CHAPMAN writes that work continues on the Spirit Pond Runestones, as evidences of authenticity are being found in cartographical, nautical, and geological sciences.

Work on a Ph.D. in Geography at UCLA keeps TONY A. CIMOLINO busy, along with his developing interest in the exploration and mapping of the deep ocean floor.

The Philadelphia Print Shop has been newly opened by DONALD CRESSWELL and his partner Christopher Lane. Address: 8405 Germantown Avenue, in the Chestnut Hill section of Philadelphia, PA 19118. We wish them well in their new venture.

As usual, ED DAHL has had a busy year. Besides coordinating a major exhibition, "Treasures of the National Map Collection", commemorating the Collection's 75th Anniversary, he has also been editing the large illustrated catalogue of the exhibition, which will be available late this year. [Editor's note: hope it will be ready in time for SHD's meeting in Ottawa.] Ed adds that the 1984 Antique Map Calendar is in press and will be in bookstores in Canada and the USA in July. If anyone cannot locate a copy, please send \$8.00 Canadian to Ed's home address: 473 Lisgar Street, Ottawa, Canada K1R 5H2.

PAT DEMPSEY and JOHN HEBERT coauthored the 2d edition of Bird's Eye Views of Anglo-American Cities, scheduled for publication in late summer or early fall of 1983. Pat also mounted the first exhibit in the new quarters of the Geography and Map Division of the Library of Congress, consisting of about 60 of the bird's eye views. In addition to an interest in panoramic maps, he is working on a carto-bibliography of the Hauslaub-Liechtenstein Collection - largely 17th-19th century maps of Central Europe - in the G & M, and in his "spare time" is collaborating with several friends on a comprehensive carto-bibliography of maps of Ireland in the collections. There should be more on this latter project for those of you who will be attending the International Conference on the History of Cartography in Dublin later this summer.

President LOUIS DE VORSEY's most recent book, The Georgia-South Carolina Boundary: a Problem in Historical Geography, was published by the University of Georgia Press recently. His chapter "The Impact of the La Salle Expedition of 1682 on European Cartography" in La Salle and His Legacy: Frenchmen and Indians in the Lower Mississippi Valley (ed. Patricia K. Galloway, University Press of Mississippi, 1982) is based on an address he presented at Louisiana State University in connection with the opening of a major map exhibit on Exploration and History of Louisiana. In addition to

his other activities, he was an expert witness at U.S. Supreme Court proceedings in the case of U.S. versus Louisiana (Mississippi Sound), and at the April meeting of the Association of American Geographers in Denver he was given the honor award for Excellence in the Application of Geographical Principles in Applied Geography.

GARY DUNBAR taught an upper-division course at UCLA on the history of exploration in the Spring Quarter 1983. His presidential address to the Association of Pacific Coast Geographers in June 1982 concerned the Barrett-Huntington expedition to Central Asia in 1905, and will be published next year in the Association's Yearbook. In line with his interest in the history of geography, he is working on an annotated bibliography on the history of modern geography since 1750 - to be one of the Garland series of bibliographies in the history of science and technology - and a history of the professionalization of geography in Europe and the United States, 1870-1930.

RALPH EHRENBERG writes that in addition to writing articles on archival administration for the Society of American Archivists and Archivaria he has given a number of lectures during the past year on such varied subjects as "The Mapping of America", "Microcartography", "Decorative Maps in the Geography and Map Division of the Library of Congress", and "Nautical Chart Collections in Washington, D.C.". He also took part in the Newberry Library Summer Institute in Cartography, and was Guest Curator for the 1983 exhibit, "Mapping the Great American Plains" at the Center for Great Plains Studies, University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

"Spain and its Empire in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries" is a recent publication by J.H. ELLIOTT. It appears in Early Maryland in a Wider World, edited by DAVID B. QUINN (Wayne State University Press, 1982).

We have a report from HERMAN R. FRIIS that his activities in the past year have included writing a number of review articles for professional journals as well as presenting a paper on "The Middle Atlantic Division: Its First Twenty-Five Years" at the plenary session of the Middle Atlantic Division of the Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting.

RONALD E. GRIM has been appointed Bibliographer in the Geography and Map Division of the Library of Congress. His most recent publication is Historical Geography of the United States: A Guide to Information Sources (Detroit: Gale Research, 1982).

The newly-elected President of the New York Map Society is Dr. E.M. GROSSMAN.

A second edition of The Sea Bright Skiff, And Other Shore Boats, by PETER GUTHORN, has been published by Schiffer Publishing Ltd. (Exton, PA 19341). The author reports that this edition includes new material added since the original Rutgers University Press edition.

CORNELIUS J. JAENEN was active in the Ninth Annual Meeting of the French Colonial Historical Society at the University of Ottawa and Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada, May 19-21.

It is our pleasure to announce the birth of a son, Roman, to NADIA KAZYMYRA-DZIOBA and her husband George, on January 20, 1983.

BETTY KIDD writes that as Director of the National Map Collection of the Public Archives of Canada, she has been very involved in activities relating to the Collection's 75th anniversary throughout 1982. These activities included the "Treasures of the National Map Collection" exhibition and the hosting of the 1982 conference of the Association of Canadian Map Libraries. Her article "A Brief History of the National Map Collection at the Public Archives of Canada" appeared in the special issue of Archivaria on "Cartographic Archives." She is presently involved in local planning for the SHD Annual Meeting next year in Ottawa.

URSULA LAMB reports: "By June 1st I should have finished three papers, two dealing with the 'Iberian Cosmographers, 1508-1624', which would get me ready for putting all those studies together. The third will be a revised version of the paper I read on Andrade's Instruccion concerning the South Atlantic. I am teaching an advanced course on the History of Discoveries with emphasis on "problems of description and representation" of the epoch (Columbus to Capt. Cook). Am still breathing."

She had such fun teaching an undergraduate seminar at Yale last year in the History of Cartography that BARBARA B. MCCORKLE repeated the course this year. Also on her agenda has been an article on the cartographic history of Georges Bank for a book on the Bank coming out of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution.

At the recent Symposium on Western European Studies and North American Research Libraries, held May 8-11 in Minneapolis, MARCIA PANKAKE presented a paper on "Comments on Resource-sharing."

DENNIS REINHARTZ's paper on "Herman Moll, Geographer: An Early Eighteenth Century European View of the American Southwest", presented at the Symposium on The Mapping of the American Southwest, noted earlier in this column, reflects his current interest in the study of Moll and his intellectual circle. His article "The Cartographer and the Literati" was published in the December 1982 issue of Mapline.

RICHARD W. STEPHENSON is current president of the Washington Map Society. In addition to his duties at the Geography and Map Division of the Library of Congress he teaches courses in Map Librarianship and History of Cartography at Catholic University of America and George Mason University, respectively.

Volcano Weather: The Story of the Year Without a Summer, 1816 by HENRY STOMMEL and Elizabeth Stommel, has just been published by the Seven Seas Press.

From GEORGE H. TWENEY: "I am pleased to announce that my personal collection of all the works of the American author, Jack London, together with pamphlets, ephemera and some manuscript material, has recently been purchased by The Ohio State University at Columbus, Ohio, where it will be available for scholarly research in the Department of Special Collections of the University Libraries. This is the collection on which much of the Jack London Bibliography, by Woodbridge, London and Tweney, published by The

Talisman Press in 1966 and reprinted by H.P. Kraus in 1973, was based."

A new honors seminar at the University of Minnesota this past semester was CAROL URNESS' Maps and Mapmakers. Carol writes: "I'm not sure how I got myself into this, but I'm learning lots."

WILCOMB E. WASHBURN went to the Canary Islands in October, where he gave a paper entitled "The Canary Islands and the Question of the Prime Meridian: The Search for Precision in the Measurement of the Earth." The paper will be published in the proceedings of the conference.

The new Book and Atlas Review Editor of the Bulletin of the Association of Canadian Map Libraries is ALBERTA AURINGER WOOD. Wood will also continue to serve as a Director of the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping until 1984.

IONE S. WRIGHT continues her research on Pan American's pioneering in the Pacific, 1931-1941. She notes that their discoveries, made primarily in the air above the Pacific, were startling and fascinating.

NECROLOGY

We note with sadness the deaths of the following members of our Society, all of whom were notable in their fields, and most of whom were active members who have contributed much to our growth as a professional society.

Jeanette D. Black, April 30, 1983, in Providence, Rhode Island.

Bailey W. Diffie, January 12, 1983.

Nobuo Muroga, Summer 1982, Kyoto, Japan.

John H. Parry, September , 1983, in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

ABSTRACTS OF PAPERS DELIVERED AT THE 1982 ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF DISCOVERIES

First Session

The Flemish Contribution to Early Portuguese Overseas Activity

By James H. Guill

A close relationship had existed between Portugal and Flanders since the time when Julius Caesar, who had previously been Governor of Lusitania (the Roman name for Portugal) led his legions across the channel from Flanders to attack Britannia. The historic ties were strengthened after the creation of modern Portugal in 1143 by marriages between royal families of Portugal and Flanders and by increased trade. In 1415 two seemingly unrelated battles, at Ceuta in Morocco and at Agincourt in France, set up a chain of events that within 20 years brought a large number of Flemish nobles and citizens into expanding Portuguese overseas adventures.

Rebellions in Flanders were put down very ruthlessly in 1438, causing much suffering and distress in the populace. Through the sister of Prince Henry the Navigator, who was Duchess of Burgundy and Countess of Flanders, an appeal was made to Henry that displaced Flamands be used in his endeavors in the newly discovered Azores Islands, thus beginning a movement of Flemish noblemen and their followers to the islands. Over the centuries Flemish names disappeared into their Portuguese equivalents as the new arrivals adopted the language and identity of their new country, and Flemish contributions of customs, festivals, architecture, shipbuilding knowledge and navigational knowledge were incorporated into Portuguese and Azorean culture.

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The Last Frontier: The Boer Settlements in Southern Angola

By David L. Niddrie

Nobody was more determined in their search for a new frontier than a renegade party of Transvaal Boers, who in 1879 decided to seek new pastures further afield. Two major waves of Boer Trekkers turned northwestward through the Kalahari Desert into Southern Angola, where the Portuguese had only recently established their own settlement frontier with the help of Madeiran immigrants.

In the midst of a Lusitanian culture to which they failed to adapt themselves, the Boers reverted to their nomadic pastoralist ways and soon turned to transporting goods between the coast and the interior by ox waggon, an ecological niche they had always occupied.

The Boers finally withdrew from this alien culture and in the 20th Century retreated to South West Africa there to seize upon yet another open frontier. They left behind in Angola the old trek road between Mocamedes and Humpata, some graveyard headstones and a few relatives who had married Portuguese.

Oscar MacCarthy, a.k.a. The Most Knowledgeable Man in North Africa

By Sanford H. Bederman

This paper recounts the Saharan adventures of Oscar MacCarthy, one of the most important yet least remembered explorers of the Maghreb. After a distinguished career as a literary savant in Paris, MacCarthy migrated to Algeria in 1849. Only thirty-four at the time, he proceeded to become a local legend for his exploits in the Sahara Desert. He wandered around the French Colony for twelve years, familiarizing himself with virtually every corner of the territory. MacCarthy later wrote dozens of articles and books about Algerian geography, ethnology, and archaeology. He became the model for a fictional character created by the artist-writer, Eugene Fromentin, a man he befriended during his desert wanderings. More than anything else, he wished to become the fourth European to visit Timbuctoo, but his desire went unfulfilled. In 1869, he became the Director of the Algiers Library and Museum, a position he held for twenty-two years. During that time, he had the reputation for being the most knowledgeable man in North Africa.

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Second Session

Isla Fuerte on the Juan de la Cosa Mapamundi of 1503: A Key to Interpreting the Historical Ethno-Geography of Colombia's Caribbean Coast.

By Paul S. Anderson

On the first Mapamundi showing the New World, Juan de la Cosa drew an island on the Caribbean coast of Colombia with nearly exact conformal characteristics of Isla Fuerte. However, if we use his drawings of Cuba and Hispaniola as a scale, he drew Isla Fuerte approximately 50 times larger than its actual minuscule 2.5 km. length.

The reason for this extraordinary attention and grossly exaggerated size is interpreted in relation to reviewed historical facts and probable events which suggest that Juan de la Cosa used Isla Fuerte as a major argument in 1503 to convince Queen Isabel of Spain to permit slave taking and looting in the New World. As mapped, Isla Fuerte, which means "strong island", dominated the area between Cartagena and Panama.

A further conclusion from the data is that the Indians at Cartagena, famous for their fierce resistance to the Spaniards, were directly linked via the Islas de San Bernardo and Isla Fuerte to a larger stronghold of "Caribs" in the Costa Brava area between the Sinu basin and the Gulf of Uraba.

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The Impact of the La Salle Expedition of 1682 on European Cartography

By Louis De Vorsey, Jr.

The true course of the lower Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico remained a matter of conjecture and speculation until 1682, when Rene-Robert Cavalier de La Salle led a party of French and Indians to its deltaic mouth. For reasons discussed in this paper, La Salle deliberately misrepresented the

location of the Mississippi's mouth as being in Texas several hundred miles west of its true position. In so doing he perpetrated the greatest geographical hoax in the history of North American exploration. It was a hoax which arrested the development of European cartography depicting the continent for two full decades. It also led La Salle to found his ill-fated settlement on Matagorda Bay and meet his death in the swamps of East Texas.

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Third Session

The Rhumb Grid of Early Portolan Charts: Speculations Regarding Origin and Construction

By Thomas R. Smith

Less than a dozen "normal" portolan charts of the Mediterranean have survived from the XIII and XIV centuries. Most of these have two "compass circles" carefully drawn with a single point of tangency near the center of the chart and their own centers, respectively, near Barcelona in the west and western Anatolia in the east. The charts are not embellished with decorations or compass roses. Each compass circle has the customary 16 rhumb-line intersections, equally spaced on its perimeter. From these wind roses the rhumbs extend only inward to other points on the perimeter, usually in quadrants of 9 rhumbs. This restriction adds to the spare and uncluttered appearance of the chart. Particular attention appears to have been paid to the central section of the chart on each side of the point of tangency. With the exception of the E-W rhumb through the point of tangency, few, if any rhumbs are drawn from one circle to the other and a pattern of arrangement is common to several of the surviving charts.

The Carta Pisana presents a different solution to the problem of areas lying outside of its twin circles. Four blocks of diagonals and squares occupy four coastal areas on each side of the two circles. These have been regarded as squares for the guidance of draftsmen in delineating the coast line, but such an interpretation must account for the lack of this pattern inside the circles. An alternative explanation is that since the lines of this square-diagonal grid are all extensions of the rhumbs of their respective circles, they may be regarded as navigational aids for the substantial coastal areas outside of the rhumb-circles.

We have here what appear to be sophisticated solutions to design problems and further support for the view that these early charts represent a substantial cartographic tradition for which there are no known survivals. Also, the examination of grids for these and later charts presently pose more questions than answers.

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Polar Points of View: Historical Trends in the Orientation of Azimuthal Maps of the Arctic Region

By Karen S. Pearson

This paper surveys polar azimuthal maps (16th-20th centuries) from the University of Alaska Library's northern research collection. Exempt from the modern north-at-the-top convention, azimuthal maps have remained free

to express the orientational outlook of the mapmaker. Contrasting approaches to lettering on the maps surveyed range from horizontal labels readable from a single fixed position to curved labels readable from changing points of view as the map is rotated. On most of the maps, though, there are some orientational cues which emphasize a particular point of view. The shifting placement of the central meridian over time reflects the transition from a Europe-centered world perspective to the global one of the present day.

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Fourth Session

Clues Concerning the Provenance of the Vinland Map

By Ardell Abrahamson

New evidence on the provenance and ink of the Vinland Map may prove that the map is really a genuine 15th-century document and not a 20th-century forgery, as has been claimed by the McCrone Report of 1974.

This paper will show that there is a strong connection between early manuscript and printed books in the National Library of Spain, an important paleographer - Dr. Pedro Roca - who worked with this material, and Dr. Laka Jelic, a Yugoslavian scholar whose name has been linked to the map as a possible forger. It will show the likelihood that Dr. Roca had access to the map in a national collection in Spain, and that he supplied information from the map to Dr. Jelic, who used it as background information for several papers he wrote at the close of the 19th-century. Roca died in 1903, and there is evidence of sales of related material by his widow, 1904-1920. Furthermore, a closer look at evidence of the McCrone report on the ink shows a number of weaknesses. An ink based on indigo could satisfy all the requirements of the Vinland Map ink and possibly prove the map to have been drawn ca. 1440 as originally claimed.

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Scientific Inquiry into the Vinland Map has Many Facets

By Robert Anderson

The authenticity of the Vinland Map has been challenged because of the identification of the titanium oxide compound called anatase in the ink. The size and shape of these anatase particles appear to be similar to those of a 20th-century commercial product. This finding may not be valid in light of the observation that old ink formulas also reproduce a synthetic anatase. This refutation of anatase questions requires that further scientific procedures be applied to assist in the evaluation of the document. These would include carbon dating the parchment and non-destructive ion beam analysis of the inks associated with the map and the Tartar Relation.

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The Vinland Map and the Tartar Relation: Were They
Lettered by the Same Hand?

By Robert H. Power

The purpose of this paper is to establish that there is no valid evidence extant supporting a delineation date of A.D. 1920, and there is probable cause to believe that a broad-base study of the Vinland Map by scholars and scientists may definitely establish its date of delineation as ca. A.D. 1440.

New information promises to shed light on the authenticity of the map, and to disprove the assertions of Walter C. McCrone, of McCrone Associates of Chicago, that "The Vinland map was made by a very, very, very clever hoaxer." A study of the calligraphy of the map and the Tartar Relation, made by Professor Thomas E. Marston of Yale University, showed that the hand is identical in both. Marston's study has not been duplicated, and has never been disproved.

It is urged that Yale University Library allow the Smithsonian Institution to work with the FBI Documents Section of the FBI laboratory to see if they can professionally render an opinion as to whether these two documents were written by the same hand, and that this laboratory test be augmented by a three-member panel of European paleographers familiar with texts of the region and date of the Tartar Relation. In this way there will be an evaluation based both on modern techniques and the work of traditional scholars.

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Fifth Session

Old World-New World Cultural Differences: The Maritime Connection

By D. K. Abbass

Anthropologists and historians explain the cultural differences between exploration period Europe and her New World colonies by considering the cultural traits found in the various regions from which the original colonists arrived, the period of their arrival, the different physical environments encountered in the New World, and the varying levels of cultural complexity and resistance found among the American Indians encountered. Using Spanish examples, this paper will suggest that exploration period maritime technology and culture was another variable in the Old World-New World cross-cultural transfer. Material goods, people and other living things had to survive the sometimes lengthy and dangerous voyages. The demands and rigours of maritime transport were not only critical factors in the success of the exploration and conquest, but also provided a common background to all early colonial developments and influenced the cultural selections from the donor mainland cultures to their colonial offspring. In fact, some colonial culture traits may have been derived directly from the maritime heritage. Therefore, the study of exploration period maritime technology and culture is a necessary adjunct to

important to the understanding of the cultural differences between Europe
and her New World colonies.

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Exploring the Bahamas with Ponce de Leon

By Arne B. Molander

The fragmentary account of Herrera provides only a limited foundation on which to reconstruct the 1513 voyage of Ponce de Leon. Those who have used this source to argue that he entered the Gulf of Mexico are ignoring the objectives of his charter and the precise, if fragmentary, clues recorded by Herrera. This paper will present a new reconstruction of his route which provides a better fit to the clues, increases our confidence in the ability of Ponce de Leon to make latitude measurements, and precisely supports the argument for a Columbus landfall near the northern end of Eleuthera.

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