

INDIANS, AND NOT VIKINGS, MADE DISPUTED ROCK CARVINGS

The ancient rock carvings along the Columbia River, which are translated by Prof. Oluf Opsjon, of Spokane, as runic inscriptions made by Vikings in the eleventh century, tell a big story but it is an Indian story and not a record of Viking exploration in western America, according to Herbert W. Krieger, curator of ethnology of the National Museum, who has just returned from three months stay in the region of the rock pictures.

Mr. Krieger spent some time studying the petroglyphs, which are numerous along the Columbia River, and has a number of photographs, including some from Vantage Ferry, where Prof. Opsjon claims to have found runic inscriptions.

"The pictures pecked in the hard basalt are extremely crude," said Mr. Krieger, "and any one can read into them anything he likes in order to make a plausible story. To say that they are Viking remains is to read into them something that is not in the pictures themselves."

Crude as they are, some of the objects scratched out on the rocks are typically Indian, Mr. Krieger points out. In the carvings can be seen such objects as bows and arrows and a representation clearly meant for a feather headdress.

Considering the numerous rock pictures along the river as a whole collection, he finds evidence that they tell the story of tribal migrations in search of food, and the use of the Columbia River as a path of migration. They are mostly hunting and fishing scenes, he believes. Mountain goats and curved horned mountain sheep are frequently portrayed. But why these artists left such records to be preserved in the hard stone and what it was they wanted to communicate can only be guessed at, in the opinion of this ethnologist. They had no system of fixed symbols with one or two exceptions, so there is no hope of finding a key to the mystery.

TESTS SHOW WOMEN WORK FASTER THAN MEN

Women can do more work in a given time than men but men still retain their superiority in matters of judgment.

These results are shown in a series of experiments conducted by the Psychological Laboratory of Johns Hopkins University and described by Isabel C. Steward in a recent paper.

Tests were given 542 women and 542 men, college students in different sections of the country, ranging in age from 16 to 39, the average being about the same for men and women.

Similar tests in the past have been concerned almost wholly with school children, and indicate that girls show greater speed and accuracy in performance but do not measure up to the boys in judging weights and distances.

The work in these tests consisted in substituting letters for symbols. The work to be done was fully explained and a key to the symbols given at the top of the