

"Sign language could be logically developed so as to express the highest and subtlest thoughts of man.

"Auditory speech superseded sign language because it required less effort. It left man's hands free, and did not

need light or direct vision for its understanding.

"The development of speech is retarded by pedantry, from which sign language is at present free."

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ARCHAEOLOGY

Cyclops Was Not Greek; The Babylonians Knew Him

Discovery of a Bas Relief Showing a Babylonian God Stabbing a Cyclopean Demon Dates Him As Of 2,000 B. C.

REMEMBER old villain Cyclops in Greek mythology, with one terrible eye in the middle of his forehead?

That picturesque monster, American archaeologists have now discovered, was not invented by Greek imagination at all. Babylonians knew about Cyclops—which means round-eyed—back in the days of Abraham. And that was around 2000 B.C., and over a thousand years before the Greek poet Homer made the Cyclopes famous as giant cave dwellers who ate men and defied gods.

Discovery of a bas relief plainly showing a Babylonian god stabbing one of the Cyclopean demons has been reported from Iraq, where an expedition of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago has been unearthing Babylonian cities. The remarkable sculpture was unearthed at Tell-Asmar, site of ancient Eshnunna.

The Cyclops is shown completely in the god's power. His hands are tied behind his back, a broad knife is stuck in his ribs, and just to be sure he doesn't get away the god has planted one foot on old Cyclop's toes. In all this discomfort, the sculptor has forced Cyclops to "turn his face to the audience" to reveal the horror of his one big round eye and the sightless traces of ordinary eyes below it. Rays of light or fire around his head like flower petals show that this was indeed no ordinary creature.

Fashion a Clue

Dr. Henri Frankfort, field director of the Iraq expedition, calls attention to the flounced skirt in which the monster was dressed, as a significant historic point. Clothes like this were fashionable in Mesopotamia before 2500 B.C. But by 2000 B.C., when the sculpture was made, flounced skirts were antiques, and the sculptor, trying to dress Cyclops in traditional manner, managed only what

Dr. Frankfort calls a "bungled version." From this bit of evidence, Dr. Frankfort is convinced that Cyclops was no new idea to Babylonians even as early as 2000 B.C.

Finding that Greeks borrowed mythological figures from the East, Dr. Frankfort emphasizes, "does not diminish in any way our appreciation for the originality of the Greek mind."

The Greeks were late arrivals in an ancient and highly developed civilized world, the archaeologist points out, and discoveries such as this illustrate how our modern civilization is, through Greece, inseparably linked with the ancient Near East.

Snake Worshipers

First evidence Babylonians were snake worshipers is another result of the expedition. The discovery consists of two cauldron-shaped pots one placed upside down over the other, unearthed in a temple at Tell-Asmar. Decorations on the jars glorify the power of the snake, and an unbroken saucer found in the lower jar with small animal and bird bones suggests to the archaeologists that a live snake was kept in the covered container.

At Ischali, another site explored by the expedition, a temple of sun-dried brick has come to light, revealing that ancient Babylonian architects built temples on a large scale and worked with great care. A statue of the goddess Ish-tar-Kititum was found still enthroned in the temple.

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A little 3-inch head on a bas-relief in the Boston Museum of Fine Arts is believed to be a portrait of the poet Horace, whose features have heretofore been missing among the hundreds of statues of Romans known today.



RUDE TO CYCLOPS

The Babylonian god who thus stabs the one-eyed demon, pulls his beard, and treads on his corns, incidentally proves to scientists that Cyclops was known at least a thousand years before Homer wrote of him.

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filament and a grid like some giant radio tube. Radio waves bounce from end to end of the cylinder.

The high energy waves produced may be used directly inside the tank or, enlarged many times, for radiotherapy. Or they can be carried off on a wire to the antenna of a television broadcaster.

The waves also may be used to speed up electrons passing through the chamber, Dr. D. L. Webster, chairman of the physics department, pointed out. Such electrons would have energies equal to or above 5,000,000 volts. Directing the electrons on a target would create penetrating X-rays; or by shooting them at atoms nuclear disintegrations could be studied.

Distinguished From Cyclotron

The present name rumbatron was chosen to distinguish the device from the cyclotron apparatus of Prof. E. O. Lawrence at the University of California.

An important difference between the new rumbatron and the cyclotron is that the former uses electrons as the bombarding particles while the cyclotron employs atomic nuclei themselves, which are much heavier.

Small models of the rumbatron have been successfully operated showing that the design is satisfactory for the large apparatus now being built.

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