

Austrian pine, Norway spruce and European larch showed no consistent agreement with precipitation records of any period. Temperature studies showed almost no correlation whatever when the growing season itself was concerned, but all the coniferous trees gave significant correlations between growth rate and the temperatures in March and April, before the growth starts. This Prof. Lyon interpreted as an effect of water supply, too, since the air temperature determines

soil thawing and hence availability of soil moisture.

"On the whole," the speaker concluded, "our native white pine tree is particularly sensitive to its water supply and was the best indicator tree of those tested in this study. The width of its annual rings is a better index of growing conditions for crops and forests than the Weather Bureau records of rainfall and temperature for the year."

Science News Letter, January 13, 1940

the world's growing skepticism, shown today in American newspapers' non-committal attitude in presenting war news, may lead to similar analysis of historical source records, and similar incredulity there. Egyptologists, he said, are already re-examining Egyptian texts, questioning whether they should be taken at face value.

Emphasizing that this does not mean tearing down ancient history, Dr. Wilson said:

"The analysis which gives an initial appearance of destroying history and historical figures may go on to rehabilitate both."

Science News Letter, January 13, 1940

ARCHAEOLOGY

Propaganda Served Egypt Four Thousand Years Ago

Pharaoh Ramses Spread His "Victory of Kadesh" Over Walls Quarter of Mile Long; Follower Used Same Piece

HISTORIANS, grown skeptical over modern nations' twisting and coloring of war news, have turned a sharp eye on Egypt's Pharaohs and found them adept at the best tricks of propaganda.

Evidence that Egypt began conscious use of propaganda as early as 2000 B. C. and that its historic inscriptions include actual defeats cleverly advertised as comfortable victories was reported to the American Historical Association Meeting at Washington by Dr. John A. Wilson, director of the University of Chicago's Oriental Institute.

Modern dictator governments would understand Pharaoh Ramses the Second's idea in spreading his "Victory of Kadesh" over walls a quarter of a mile in extent in the city of Thebes alone.

"It was a tremendous personal boast to overwhelm the rumor of failure," said Dr. Wilson.

Actually, Ramses did not win this mighty thirteenth century B. C. battle on the Orontes River in Asia Minor

against Hittites and their allies. Checked with other historic evidence, the best that can be said for Ramses, said Dr. Wilson, is that he fought a drawn battle and managed to retreat in good order.

Ramses' distorted war report evidently was successful propaganda, the Egyptologist added, since a century later Pharaoh Ramses the Third plagiarized almost word for word one of Ramses the Second's inscriptions, thereby claiming that he defeated a Hittite army almost single-handed at Kadesh. The third Ramses never fought any such battle at all, it is now pretty certain.

Success of old Egyptian propaganda is attributed by Dr. Wilson to efforts of the priesthood. Religion and state were inextricably mixed in Egypt. It was highly advantageous to the priests to give the ruler of Egypt a build-up as super-hero, since this spurred Egypt on to glories and victories and in turn brought riches into temple treasuries.

Dr. Wilson expressed the view that

GENERAL SCIENCE

Rule of Emotionalism Brings Law of Jungle

NEVER since 1600 has the world seen such a reversion toward authoritarianism, superstition and every irrational and unscientific brand of emotionalism as at the present moment. This is the judgment of Dr. Robert Andrews Millikan, Nobelist, expressed in his latest book, "Cosmic Rays" (Macmillan).

"Wherever emotionalism determines conduct, there you have necessarily the law of the jungle," Dr. Millikan writes.

His definition of a reactionary: "The man who has turned his face back toward the method of the jungle, toward brute government instead of ballot government, toward authoritarianism instead of toward freedom."

On the right and the left Dr. Millikan finds all the reactionaries, only in the center is found the true progressive. In the center, "are found all those who are trying to replace the method of the brute by the method of a being supposed to be endowed with a mind—that is, by analysis, by persuasion, by adjudication, by compromise, by evolution, by peaceful change. On the left, and in somewhat lesser number on the right, are found all those who, no matter to what kind of liberalism they may pretend to adhere, actually support by their influence, and practise in varying degree, violent world revolution, assassination and intimidation, suppression of freedom of speech, press and action, indoctrination of the public in the interests of the ideas and the individuals at the moment in power, despotism—in a single word, reaction."

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