

# This & That

(Continued from 3-A)

Declare the history experts: "While there is much evidence that human beings existed many thousands of years ago on earth, it is Egypt that has given us the oldest known written and pictured records of a nation's life, going back nearly 6000 years B.C."

"Twas Egypt and a few other Middle East ancients who first discovered the means of developing agricultural and a bit of handiwork; this prompted them to settle down, building village and cities—no longer finding it necessary to be nomads, wandering the face of the earth in search of food and shelter.

TOO, THE use of the lever, invention of papyrus paper, the observation by certain of their wise men of the sun and stars caused them to invent a calendar. They left colorful picture records of their life and times, featuring paintings that have lasted thousands of years. These, and many other pursuits affecting the welfare of the human family were given to mankind by the ancients of the Middle East.

Today, with the modern development of methods of communication and transportation, Egypt, as with the remainder of our earth's areas, has shrunk to but a few hours of the jet airplane's routes. You can board a jet in New York and be in Paris in six hours; in Rome in ten hours; in Cairo, Egypt, in about nine hours.

The big Moslem city, located on the fabulous Nile River, is invited to the tomb that has long been the best in food and shelter—even though but a few miles away, in that same Cairo, you can drive or walk through many thousands of old narrow streets, become confused in a sprawling, primitive-type of open-air market place, or try not to get lost in the new part of a city whose population is expanding so rapidly that hundreds of new, large, many-storied apartment buildings are being erected. Most of them, under Egypt's President Gamal Abdel Nasser, are for the poorer class of Egypt, the many other Old World nations, is endeavoring to develop a large "middle class" population, holding that only with such a segment of population can it ever hope to achieve democratic self-government . . . and then try to retain it.

THE NILE RIVER, where it flows through Cairo, approximates a third of a mile in width. This much-used artery of marine transportation empties into the Mediterranean Sea at Alexandria, 142 miles north of Cairo. Without the Nile, Egypt would be but another part of the Arabian and Sahara deserts.

The Nile-Milton was our shelter in Cairo. Near it was the great Egyptian museum in which, among other items, is housed much of the ancient artifacts of that country. Our chief interest was in the wealth of things removed in 1922 from the tomb of King Tut-an-khamen, located in the Valley of the Kings, at Luxor, 450 miles south of Cairo, alongside the Nile. More about King Tut later.

In Cairo is the famous Mohammed Ali Mosque, on a high hill, the floor of this large Mosque and almost touching the tomb may be seen Egyptian in worship, kneeling and bowing and praying, always facing the Moslem's shrine in Mecca.

Incidentally, tourists find almost no language barriers in foreign countries today—for, where most tourists go, either a local guide is available who speaks good or fairly good English, or else the hotel or store you enter has personnel capable of conversing with you.

Naturally, an automobile tour of the city visit is in order; Cairo has them, and Cairo is worth a few hours of touring. Then, of course, there is the subject of the famous pyramids, plus that enigma "Mona Lisa" Great Sphinx, located near those three pyramids.

THESE ANCIENT monuments, going back about 3,000 years B.C., are in a Cairo suburb called Giza. A couple of miles before you reach them, the grass and foliage of Cairo and Giza give way to the sands of the Arabian and Sahara deserts. Waters from the precious Nile, you see, are not piped any farther.

The Sphinx is older than the pyramids. Nobody knows exactly which Pharaoh built it, or when. But it is 240 feet long, about 66 feet high, and possesses the head of a man, the body, feet, legs and tail of a lion. Warring Arabs have shot its face, and the warring desert sands have worn away some of it, too—as monuments go, then, it would never win any beauty contest. Originally, it was supposed

to be dedicated to the god Horus, who guarded temples and tombs. Like you, I had always seen it pictured with the pyramids far in the background, so that I thought this link of solid rock was very, very large. But when you stand close to it, it really doesn't appear very large at all. Its claws are hardly identifiable as such, being eroded by the ability of a desert manticore to keep its cleanland free from drifting sand.

But those pyramids . . . well, they're something else. I've seen three of 'em from the outside, and the largest one, known as "Cheops", from the inside. Herb Gardner and I engaged an Arab policeman, or interpreter-guide, to take us within its dark insides. I didn't ask when the "ascending" shaft up which we climbed had been opened to Cheop's tomb. But, about 15 feet above the base of the pyramid, there was the entrance.

THIS PYRAMID guide (our regular Cairo guide) would allow us to guide us into the pyramid—except they all being to separate into two, and one can't invade the other's insides.

Today, with the guide starting by the inclined passage-way, we walked on planks to which were nailed cleats, and a rope hand-rail kept us from getting into the gaps of planks. An endless string of plain electric light bulbs strung at the top, to light the silence of the dark insides.

The outside top of Cheop's pyramid is 450 feet high; the old gold top was half way up, or 225 feet above the ground level. You must remember that this, and others, were constructed during the king's life, and when he kicked his Moslem lucked, he remains, though with just about everything he used and/or thought needed in life, was placed within the tomb. He obtained his sarcophagus and plenty of the stuff was severely cold-padded and often jewelled.

Remember that, according to the various religious and mythical beliefs at some time in the unknown future the king was supposed to return to earth and the assortment of stuff entrusted to him was to be kept handy for his next incarnation.

WELL, HALF-WAY up to Cheop's own special tomb room, the lights went out. Within a split second our guide reached into his "dressing sacque" and pulled out two candles, which he quickly lit. He gave one to Herb, and decided not to climb any higher, and then I followed him with his in a e-g-r illumination. However, when another minute the lights came back on, to the guide, Mohammed Ali, continued toward old Cheop's last resting place. I closed behind him.

Well, we finally reached the tomb room. It was about 60 feet by 25 feet, with a high ceiling. The only object in the room was the lower half of a blackened, beat-up sarcophagus, no cover on it, no mummified monarch within it. This tomb was ransacked a long time ago," said Mohammed. "We don't know when. But when the tunnel through which we got here was finished, the room was just as you see it today—it appears that somebody or bodies got in and plundered Cheop's secret burial place, though, we are told, that he was able to remain unchanged for a good many centuries before being carried off to where we do not know."

The guide let out a sort of howling yell, and the echo of it was audible for perhaps 10 or 15 seconds. Then I, disappointed in not being greeted by at least a couple of Cheop's jet out a couple of my own indescribable groups, hollers, and finally a Swiss yodel. It is determined to get some of the money's worth, anyway.

THEN MOHAMMED and I started

ed down the narrow passage-way, often having to bend low so as not to knock out a 10- or 20-ton hunk of stone that is part of the pyramid. We got back to join Herb, at which point the guide preceded us for about 15 feet; then, abruptly turning toward us, he held up his hands and said: "Stop!"

This, of course, we did—we couldn't get past him, anyway.

Then, quick as the ringing of a cash register, he jerked off the turban-cap that adorned his cranium and, extending it almost into Herb's and my face, he loudly and declaratively shouted one word: "TIP!" (Seems that it doesn't take too long even in backward countries, for some of its natives to understand and use that simple and plaintively entreating word.)

Well, friend, what would you have done? So did we. Herb parted with one American paper dollar— which seemed enough for about a half-hour's work . . . but, N'Ol Mohammed (with the speed of a sidewalk Barker selling a world-wide manna for all bills) pointed his finger at me and again hallooed: "TIP!" Well, after all, Mohammed really had put on a good show for us; besides, not wanting to be entombed in the kindly recesses of Cheop's pyramid, I balanced Herb's offering with one of my own.

After all, neither of us ever expected to have a return trip and cash, after all! It was worth a couple of American dollars to us for Mohammed and his fellow-dragons to have shown us the way to the Egyptian King around all these years so that curious and naive tourists could enjoy the sepulchral recesses of his tomb—of so many hundreds-of-thousands-of-tens-of-thousands of slaves spent 20 years piling up.

What even I'd give you more details about Egypt, including a visit to Luxor and its Valley of the Kings!

Many motorists on two-lane highways have a tendency to hug the center on dividing line, according to the Institute for Safer Living of the American Mutual Liability Insurance Co., emphasizing that the motorist is in greater danger if he collides with oncoming traffic than with roadside objects.

## Torch Drive Job Goes to Ford Officer

Robert S. Olson, 1100 E. Glenary Circle, Birmingham, chairman and chief executive officer of Ford Motor Credit Co., has been named Torch Drive business solicitation chairman for Western Wayne County.

Mrs. Irving F. InOherstar, Torch Drive general chairman for the Western Wayne unit, announces Olson's appointment. She said that his first step toward getting business communities organized for the Torch Drive would be the appointment of five regional chairmen.

REGIONAL chairmen will then name divisional chairmen for each of the 28 communities in Wayne County west of Detroit.

Olson joined Ford Motor Co. four years ago as director of the company's dealer financing office. He was named head of the company subsidiary early this month, succeeding Theodore O. Yntema of

Bloomfield Hills. At the same time, Olson was named chairman of the American Road Insurance Co. and Ford Leasing Development Co., also Ford Motor Co. subsidiaries. The 16th annual Torch Drive will start October 15.



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## He Gives It a Whirl

Junior steals the show on "Father's Day." Adams assist with the locomotion. The eccentric Rusty Felix manages to squeeze in an extra ride on the playground facilities as his father, Daniel Felix, and Bloomfield Co-operative Nursery School teacher Mrs. John

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## JA President Cites Year's Sales Record

Junior Achievement companies in southeastern Michigan chalked up an impressive record of sales and enjoyed the best financial year on record, according to Ben D. Mills president of the business organization for teen-agers.

Mills, who is a Ford vice president and general manager of the Lincoln-Mercury division, said that 370 small manufacturing and sales firms in the six-county area produced a total of 192,058 units of merchandise and grossed \$214,800 in sales, an increase of 12 per cent over last year.

MILLS, 780 Caughn Road, Bloomfield Hills also announced complete year-end statistical report of 60 JA firms from the Royal Oak-Birmingham area.

He said the local business firms created the following record during the '62-63 program year which ended in May.

Sales—\$28,750; units produced—26,717 wages, salaries and commissions—\$9,450; number of shares—6,500; 12,502; number of stockholders—5,019.

The organization will start its 15th year of operation in the southeastern Michigan area when JA companies and Achievers are again activated in the fall. The companies voluntarily liquidated the first week in May.

## Lathrup

(Continued from 3-C)

celebrate their daughter Dawn's sixth birthday recently. After lunch and the show, they all returned to the Scintone home for the usual cake and ice cream and the opening of gifts.

Mrs. Harry R. Hiltner of Rock Creek will be the hostess today at a luncheon and meeting of her regular bridge group.

LATHRUP, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Anderson and family of San Quentin traveled to Mackinac Island for the Memorial Day weekend to open the home which they purchased last summer.

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