

CARL SCHUSTER, A Significant Correspondence between Old and New World Design. The lecturer demonstrated the wide distribution of squatting human figures with disks between the elbows and knees, a design which could not possibly have been invented independently in America and in the Old World.

CARL SCHUSTER, The Circum-Pacific and Oceanic Distribution of some Body-Markings and Petroglyphic Designs. In this paper Dr. SCHUSTER discussed certain V-shaped tattooing designs on the breast and shoulders, and also circular marks on the cheeks, both on living persons and on masks and sculptures. In addition, he showed the wide distribution, in Asia, Oceania, and America, of a highly specialized cross design.

ROBERT HEINE-GELDERN, Asiatic Origin of the Art of the Northwest Coast Tribes. The lecturer showed that the art styles of the coastal tribes of British Columbia and southern Alaska, of the northern part of New Ireland in Melanesia, of certain monuments and ritual objects in Borneo, Sumatra, and New Guinea, and of one element in the art of the Shang period of China are based on the same stylistic principles and, moreover, have a considerable number of very specific motifs in common. The style in question must have spread from China, eastward to America and southward to Indonesia and Melanesia. Its transmission to America cannot have taken place later than the first half of the first millennium B. C., while an earlier date seems not improbable.

ROBERT HEINE-GELDERN and GORDON F. EKHOLM, Significant parallels in the Symbolic Arts of Southern Asia and Middle America. The presence of characteristic motifs of the Hindu-Buddhist art of southern India and Southeast Asia in Mexico and the Maya region was discussed. These motifs comprise the lotus, the *makara*, the *kirtimukha*, the cosmic tree, gods standing on crouched human figures, Atlantean figures, and the so-called diving god. The close correspondence, even in minor details, precludes any possibility of merely accidental similarity. Similar correspondences occur in the architecture of both areas. Further, the following items were listed as indications of cultural contact: The similarity between the *pachisi* game of India and the *patolli* game of Mexico, that between Indian hook-swinging and the Mexican *volador*, the use, in both areas, of the parasol, the fan, and the litter as insignia of royalty and rank, the institution of four chief officials, and the close similarities in the cosmological systems. All this suggests the existence, in the past, of some kind of two-way traffic between Southeast Asia and Middle America which must have begun in the first half of the first millennium A. D. and seems to have continued through several centuries.

HÉLÈNE MARTIN-DELFOUR, *Eléments « ténémologiques » comparés entre l'Extrême-Orient et l'Amérique à travers les Malayo-Polynésiens*. The lecturer demonstrated that the same cosmological system stressing the four quarters, with the same colors attributes to the latter, existed in ancient Colombia and in China. In the discussion ROBERT HEINE-GELDERN pointed out that these conceptions could not have been transmitted by the Malayo-Polynesians, among whom no trace of them is to be found, but that they must have been introduced directly from eastern Asia. In this context he mentioned the striking similarities between certain ancient ceramic forms of Colombia and of the Far East.

RICHARD THURNWALD, The Contribution of Americanist Studies to our Imagination of Political Organization in "the Ascent of Man". Prof. THURNWALD pointed out that the higher social and political organizations of Middle America and the Andean region could not possibly have arisen independently, but that they must be due to Old World influences. On the basis of a completely different approach he came to essentially the same conclusions as CARL SCHUSTER, GORDON EKHOLM, ROBERT HEINE-GELDERN, and M^{me} MARTIN-DELFOUR.

WILHELM KOPPERS, *Positives und Kritisches zu H. GLADWIN's "Men out of Asia"*. Professor KOPPERS dealt with the general principles of historic approach to the subject. At the same time he announced the yet unpublished results of investigations into