

work and studying it as fast as he thought they might have done. Now this shows then the tremendous amount of material which has been found and the tremendous importance of this material for our study of ancient Mesopotamia. We had a great deal of inscriptional material from Egypt but the material from Egypt does not touch on every phase of life the way this does from Mesopotamia. We have no law code, for instance, from Egypt, at all. We have a number of law codes, over a dozen different law codes, from Mesopotamia and we have a great many writings which through a tremendous amount of light on the life of the average person in Mesopotamia. Hundreds of thousands of these tablets have been dug up. There probably are hundreds of thousands of them still remaining. Dr. Steele just got back day before yesterday from Mesopotamia. He has been over there investigating the desirability of another excavation at this same place at \_\_\_\_\_ where were found these tablets that now are in the University Museum. He's been over a month there with others from the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Chicago and examining the situation and they are hoping next year to start a full scale excavation there at \_\_\_\_\_ in the hope of getting another large collection of important tablets there at \_\_\_\_\_. Now as the study of this writing in the cuneiform went on it was soon found that there was one very queer thing in the writings. You would have a sign which had a certain meaning like this sign here. That sign there represents ordinarily the \_\_\_\_\_; it may also represent \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_ but it ordinarily means. Now this sign, they found, also meant the sun, and the sun, of course, is "\_\_\_\_\_". It doesn't sound a bit like this syllable or any of these other syllables, but this sign is also used to represent the sun and they found that a number of these signs have meanings which didn't sound at all like the ordinary sound meaning when it was used to represent \_\_\_\_\_, and as they found this a great many times they began to wonder what kind of queer thing it represented and some scholars suggested that there was a hidden way of writing, a secret way of writing, used in order to conceal ideas, but that didn't seem reasonable because