

❖ 20% SALE ON ALL BOOKS ❖

We were planning on ending the 10% sale on June 30th and going back to the regular prices. Unfortunately, however, things have taken a turn for the worse. We had arranged with a loan company for a loan of \$1,300. We had agreed with them on the terms and everything was set up, but at the last minute they changed the terms making them so oppressive that we could not sign the contract. Since the majority of people in Utah are opposed to our work, we do not know where to go to borrow money.

While we feel that money could wisely be invested in our company, many of the people here would like to see our company fold. Since we do not know of any bank which is in favor of our work we feel that it is almost futile for us to try to borrow money in this city.

(Perhaps some of our customers might be interested in investing in our company. We would be willing to sign a promissory note and pay 8 percent interest. For instance, on a loan of \$1,000 we could make a monthly payment of \$48.34 for two years. This would give the investor \$160 in interest at the end of that period. The more capital we have at this time the greater will be our chances of success. If you are interested in investing in our company at these terms write to us and we will make the necessary arrangements.)

We are very low on capital at the present time, and while we do not fear bankruptcy, we are rather concerned that one of us will have to hold an outside job. This would greatly reduce the amount of literature we could turn out. We have been working on a book for two years which, we believe, will be one of the most revealing books ever written on the subject of Mormonism. We hope to have this book out before too long, but if one of us has to get a regular job it will cause a long delay. Since we feel that this is by far the most important work we have yet attempted, we have decided to have a 20% sale on all of our books. We hope by this means to bring in enough money to finish this book soon.

The 10% sale which we had earlier in the year was a tremendous success and we have been able to continue full time up to the present time. We want to thank those who helped us at that time. If the 20% sale is a success we will be able to pay off most of our equipment and bring out the new book in a few months.

Remember we do not plan to reprint many of the books on our list. This may be your last chance to get them! With a 20% reduction in price this is the time to get those books you have been thinking about.

A special price list is enclosed which shows the price of each book with the 20% discount already deducted.

Although this sale will not end until August 31, 1966, it would be to your advantage to place your order early to insure getting the books of your choice.

❖ NEW BOOK ❖

David Brewer has just completed his thesis, "Utah Elites and Utah Racial Norms." This thesis has been accepted by the University of Utah in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

This important study of the Negroes' chances of obtaining equality in Utah is very revealing. David Brewer shows very plainly that the "Mormon church, which prevails in Utah, does not accord religious equality to Negroes" (page 160).

Dr. Brewer interviewed a number of the General Authorities of the Mormon church and found most of them "strongly opposed" to civil rights for the Negro. He also found that they were opposed to any change in the church's Negro policy (a policy which prohibits Negroes from holding the Priesthood).

SPECIAL PRICE \$3.96

This book will sell for \$4.95 in the bookstores, but if ordered from us during this 20% sale the price will be \$3.96. A MUST for your library.

A WORK OF THE IMAGINATION

In the April 1966 issue of the *Salt Lake City Messenger* we announced that we had printed a document entitled "Joseph Smith's Egyptian Alphabet & Grammar." This document was suppressed by the Mormon Church for 130 years because it proves that Joseph Smith did not understand ancient Egyptian and that his Book of Abraham was a work of his own imagination.

I. E. S. Edwards, Keeper of the Dept. of Egyptian Antiquities at the British Museum, examined a microfilm copy of the original document, and in a letter dated December 22, 1965, said that "The writer could not possibly have understood ancient Egyptian." Some time later a gift copy of the printed document was sent to him in a letter dated June 9, 1966, he acknowledged receipt of the document and again denounced Joseph Smith's work as fraudulent. Below is a photo of that letter.

Dear Sir,

It was very kind of you to send me a copy of Joseph Smith's Egyptian Alphabet and Grammar which has been the subject of previous correspondence between us.

Perhaps it is needless to say that the book is largely a piece of imagination and lacking in any kind of scientific value. One of the plates does not even contain ancient Egyptian writing but Arabic. The whole document reminds me of the writings of psychic practitioners which are sometimes sent to me.

I shall place it in our main library where it may be useful for reference.

Yours truly,

I. E. S. Edwards

(I. E. S. Edwards)

All of our readers should have a copy of *Joseph Smith's Egyptian Alphabet and Grammar*. This book is available in two editions.

Small Edition—contains photos of all the Egyptian characters and drawings with the English words typed out for easy reading. Reg. \$3.00 — Special — \$2.40 — 2 for \$4.00 — 5 for \$8.00 — 10 for \$14.40.

Large Edition—contains all of the above material plus actual photos of EVERY PAGE. In this edition the reader will not only see photos of all the Egyptian characters, but also photos of all the English writing (as written by Joseph Smith and his scribes). Reg. \$5.00 — Special — \$4.00 — 2 for \$7.20 — 4 for \$12.00 — 10 for \$24.00.

Bible Study

We are now holding a Bible study in our home at 1350 S. West Temple, every Thursday evening at 8:00 pm. Everyone is welcome.

For I am not ashamed of the gospel. I see it as the very power of God working for the salvation of everyone who believes it, both Jew and Greek. I see in it God's plan for imparting righteousness to men, a process begun and continued by their faith.
(Romans 1:16-17 — J. B. Phillips translation)

* * TIMES AND SEASONS * *

While this sale lasts you can buy a complete set of the *Times and Seasons* for \$30.00. After this sale is over if there are any copies of the *Times and Seasons* left we plan to raise the price to \$47.50 a set. Be sure to order your set now. We do not plan on reprinting these volumes.

STILL WAITING

Many of our customers have been waiting to receive bound books. The binder has informed us that he ran out of black buckram used in the binding operation but will receive more soon. He plans to have the books done in a week or two. We are sorry for the delay.

??? CAN YOU HELP US ???

We are doing research concerning the "Book of Joseph" and Oliver Cowdery's "Defense." We wonder if any of our readers have information that would help us with these matters. We are very interested in knowing if Wilford Wood is the man who turned the manuscript of the "Book of Joseph" over to the Church, and how can the authenticity of the typed copies be determined? We will keep your name confidential if you will help us with these matters.

MORMONISM—Shadow or Reality?

In an article published in the *Church of God Evangel*, page 8, April 18, 1966, Charles Beach, Professor of Languages, Lee College, made the following statement concerning the book *Mormonism—Shadow or Reality?*:

NOTE: The quotations on Mormon beliefs are taken from *Mormonism—Shadow or Reality?*, by two young ex-Mormons, Jerald and Sandra Tanner, the latter a great-great-granddaughter of Brigham Young. This 431-page book, by far the best and most thoroughly documented publication on the Mormon heresies, should be in the hands of every evangelical minister and Christian, especially those in areas where Mormonism is getting a foothold. It may be obtained from Modern Microfilm Company, Box 1884, Salt Lake City, Utah. The price is five dollars.

In a letter dated April 19, 1966, a man from California wrote:

... I ordered 30 copies of *Mormonism* on March 28 ... I cannot keep up with the orders now ... please send as soon as possible via fast motor freight (or whichever way is best) 100 copies of *Mormonism*. ... I sell them 10 and 20 at a time now.

Another man, from Utah, wrote us a letter in which he stated:

Would you please send me one copy of the book "Mormonism." I have read a borrowed copy and think it is probably the most informative book on Mormonism I have seen.

The regular price for *Mormonism—Shadow or Reality?* is \$5.00 a copy, but the special price during this 20% sale is \$4.00 — 2 for \$7.20 — 4 for \$12.00 — 10 for \$24.00.

!!! SURPRISE!!!

Imagine our surprise to see the following published in the letters to the editor, Sunday issue of the *Salt Lake Tribune*, June 26, 1966.

Books on Church Recommended

Editor, Tribune: This is in response to L. M. Montgomery's letter of June 21, headed "Discrimination in Hiring." Mr. Armstrong wanted to know what is an "Upstanding LDS Man." I suggest he read "Mormonism," by Gerald Tanner, and "Latter-Day Saints in the Modern Day World," by William J. Whalen.

PAT HAMMAR
Kearns, Utah

Is the *Salt Lake Tribune* becoming more liberal or was this printed by mistake? It should be remembered that this is the same paper that refused our ad on the *Book of Commandments* because they said it was too controversial!!!

MYTH - MAKERS

Dr. Hugh Nibley has published a book entitled, *The Myth Makers* in which he states that "the whole structure of anti-Mormon scholarship rests on trumped-up evidence . . . it is high time to take a new look at a pack of story-tellers who have been getting away with too much for too long" (*The Myth Makers*, Foreword).

While this may be true of some anti-Mormon books, the Mormon leaders themselves have been responsible for a great deal of myth-making. For years we have claimed that they changed the history and suppressed important documents; now one of their own members admits that this is the case. Frances Lee Menlove, a Mormon psychologist, wrote the following in an article for *Dialogue: A Journal of Mormon Thought*:

But the story of Joseph Smith, the early Church, the hejira across the plains, and the consequent establishment of Zion is more than just history. It is the story of God directing His People to a new Dispensation. Perhaps because the history is so fraught with theological significance, it has been **smoothed and whittled down, a wrinkle removed here and a sharp edge there**. In many ways it has assumed the character of a **myth**. That these courageous and inspired men shared the shortcomings of all men cannot be seriously doubted. That the Saints were not perfect nor their leaders without error is evident to anyone who cares to read the original records of the Church. **But the myths and the Myth-Making persist**. Striking evidence for this is found in the fact that currently one of the most successful anti-Mormon proselyting techniques is merely to bring to light **obscure or suppressed historical documents**. Reading these historical documents arouses a considerable amount of incredulity, concern, and disenchantment among Mormons under the spell of this **mythological view** of history. That individuals find these bits and pieces of history so shocking and faith-shattering is at once the meat of fundamentalistic heresies and an indictment of the quasi-suppression of historical reality which propagates the one-sided view of Mormon history.

The relevance of this to honesty is obvious. The net result of **mythologizing** our history is that the hard truth is concealed. It is **deception** to select only congenial facts or to twist their meaning so that **error becomes wisdom**, or to **pretend** that the Church exists now and has existed in a vacuum, uninfluenced by cultural values, passing fashions, and political ideologies.

There are other temptations to public dishonesty in the Church, temptations to use pretense and distortion to forward the work of the Church. This is the dishonesty of the missionary who presents only those facts or arguments which tend to support his purpose or who takes a scripture out of context or distorts its meaning a little to add to the evidence marshalled for the point he is making. Invoking a higher law or greater truth can also be a form of dishonesty. This occurs when someone's views are suppressed or **historical manuscripts censored**, not because they are false but because they might cause dissension or disturb the faithful or imperil unity.

... Another motive behind some kinds of public **dishonesty** is the belief that the naked truth would be harmful to the simple believer. The assumption here is simply that the believer remains better off with his delusion intact, that faith suffers when it bumps into reality. The reasoning of those who **distort or suppress reality or alter historical manuscripts to protect the delusions of the simple believer is similar to that of the man who murders a child to protect him from a violent world**. (*Dialogue*, "The Challenge of Honesty," Spring 1966, pages 49-50)

EMBARRASSING?

Ralph W. Hansen (the man who refused us photocopies when working as manuscript librarian of the B.Y.U.) has written the following concerning Modern Microfilm Co. in *Dialogue: A Journal of Mormon Thought*, Spring 1966, page 154:

Microfilm, Xerox and other forms of photo-duplication have made possible inexpensive reproductions of out-of-print or rare books and newspapers. As far as the L.D.S. Church is concerned, such photo-publications are a mixed blessing. Jerald Tanner of Modern Microfilms (Salt Lake City, Utah) has used photo-publications to reproduce early Church and anti-Church works in wholesale lots. Mr. Tanner's object is to embarrass the Church to which he at one time gave allegiance. His reproductions are often as weak as his motives for doing them.