

The Horse of the Americas. By ROBERT M. DENHARDT. Foreword by J. FRANK DOBIE. 2nd ed. Norman, 1975. University of Oklahoma Press. Illustrations. Maps. Bibliography. Index. Pp. xiv, 343. Cloth. \$9.95.

This revised edition of Denhardt's 1948 book is, like its predecessor, excellent reading. It covers a wide spectrum of history in tracing the arrival, diffusion, and differentiation of the Spanish horse in the Americas. The book is both authoritative and entertaining as it includes well-researched anecdotes into the lives of outstanding horses and horsemen of the conquest. We have, for example, the story of Cortés' black steed Morzillo, which, after surviving the conquest of Tenochtitlán, suffered an injury during Cortés' difficult journey to Honduras and was left by the conqueror to the care of the Petén Itza Maya. Never having seen such a splendid animal, they treated it as a god, and upon the horse's ensuing death, enshrined and worshiped the remains.

In addition, Denhardt details the efforts of horse breeders in Chile, Argentina, and Brazil to develop a "national" strain of horses such as the caballo Chileno and criollo.

This revised edition was prompted by the difficulty of obtaining copies of the 1948 edition and it remains substantially the same as the original. It offers many insights into the role of the horse in the clash of cultures during the conquest and the subsequent development of horsemanship in the Americas.

S.P.B.

Moche Occupation of the Santa Valley, Peru. By CHRISTOPHER B. DONNAN. Berkeley, 1973. University of California Press. Maps. Tables. Illustrations. Appendices. Bibliography. Pp. ix, 190. Paper. \$8.50.

Textiles of Ancient Peru and their Techniques. By RAOUL D'HARCOURT. Edited by GRACE G. DENNY and CAROLYN M. OSBORNE. Translated by SADIE BROWN. Seattle, 1974. University of Washington Press. Illustrations. Figures. Bibliography. Pp. xvii, 186. Paper. \$8.95.

Our understanding of the Moche culture has been largely derived from analysis of its ceremonial ceramics abundantly furnished to the world's museums by the unrecorded activities of treasure seekers. Little archaeological investigation has been carried out in the looted sites which might help us place known objects in their proper context. Donnan's clearly presented report of this 1965-67 field work offers fresh insights into Moche architecture and settlement patterns, as well as the full range of its ceramic forms and craft technology. He has provided Peruvianists with valuable tools with which to reconstruct a splendid ancient civilization.

D'Harcourt's greatly respected book needs little comment since it has long been the basic reference in its field. The 1934 French edition and first English edition published in 1962 have been long out of print. Its re-issue in inexpensive paperback is therefore a welcome event for all who are interested in the fascinating and complex subject of ancient Peruvian textiles. As the title implies, the emphasis is on techniques. The examples illustrated are drawn from the central and south coasts and do not attempt to demonstrate the full range of ancient styles and iconography. It is, nevertheless, an indispensable reference tool.

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