COLLECTION: Cuneiform tablets.

DESCRIPTION: 10 tablets bought from Edgar J. Banks, ca. 1915.
1 tablet from the estate of Kate I. Hansen, received 1969.

DATES COVERED: ca 2112-529 BC.
PLACE: Southern Mesopotamia: Drehem
        Erech (Uruk)
        Umma
        Ur

DATES WRITTEN: ca 2112-529 BC.
LANGUAGE: Sumerian
         Akkadian

CONTENTS: Each item is separately catalogued: see pp 4-5 for short list, and
pages 6-17 for transcription and translation by Professor Tom B. Jones,
U. of Minnesota.

Warning: The short list contains in addition the original descriptions of
Banks; but these so often clash with Jones' descriptions that it is
doubtful whether they are of any worth.

WARNING: The tablets are identified by the box-compartment they're in; take out ONE
AT A TIME and make sure they're RETURNED TO THE RIGHT COMPARTMENT. Page 18
is a diagram of the box.

FRAGILE: No. 2 is fragile; the rest are quite sturdy but must not be dropped or wet.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: See p.2

Miscellaneous NOTES: See pp 2-3
Another copy of the short list, and of the box-diagram, is laid in the large
compartment in the box.
Correspondence, etc., in MS Records.

alh 6 mar 73.
Box made by wlm in 1972.
HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:

Sumerian. Southern Mesopotamia is known as Sumeria or Babylonia. The Sumerian civilization began with city-states: the center was at first at Uruk (Erech, Warka, Unug) which produced the earliest written documents. These were in pictographic form, which became stylized into cuneiform—a syllabic method of writing Sumerian. Other important cities were Ur, Lagash, Nippur (a religious and intellectual center), and Umma (Djokka, Jokha).

In 2310 BC Sargon, king of the northern city of Akkad (Agade), founded an imperial dynasty unifying Mesopotamia, which lasted to 2154. (NB. Scholars are certain only of the relative position of dates, not of their absolute value; another system dates Sargon ca. 2650. We are here following the system used by Oppenheim in 1964, Jones in 1970, and Kang in 1972.) In 2112 Ur-Nammu founded the "Third Dynasty of Ur"—a new empire rising out of the old city-state of Ur. The kings of Ur ruled Mesopotamia directly or through provincial governors until 2004; Shulgi (2094-2047) instituted many administrative procedures, and we have vast administrative archives from Ur III found in the ruins of Umma, Lagash, Ur and Drehem (a goods depot near Nippur founded by Shulgi).

Old Babylonian. The "First Dynasty of Babylon" (1894-1595) moved the center of empire upstream to a small town named Babylon. Hammurabi (1792-1750) is noted for expanding his frontiers north to include Akkad again, and turning city-states like Uruk into provincial capitals. This period is called "Old Babylonian" during it the business language shifted from Sumerian to Akkadian (or Assyro-Babylonian—the Semitic language of the Assyrians and Babylonians). Cuneiform was used to express this language as well, in the same way that Chinese writing is used for Chinese and Japanese. Babylonia then passed through a Dark Age and subjection to Assyria.

Neo-Babylonian. In the 9th century BC certain warlike tribes known as Chaldeans who lived on the delta began rebelling against the Assyrian rule; their leaders thereafter became kings of Babylon. Nebuchadnezzar II (604-562) conquered the Assyrian Empire and ruled it from Babylonia. But in 538 BC Cyrus, king of Persia, conquered Babylonia and absorbed it into the Persian Empire.

These notes are a gross simplification of A. Leo Oppenheim's Ancient Mesopotamia, which in its turn is an "unavoidable simplification".

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

Oppenheim on legal documents: he who assumes the obligation indicates this by rolling his cylinder seal over the soft clay to indicate his presence and thus his consent. This was first practised in Ur III.

Oppenheim on trials: criminal proceedings were apparently not recorded on tablets; a Sumerian text from Nippur describing a trial for murder and execution may be a literary exercise. There are Old Babylonian reports of a strangled slave, a kidnapped baby, a mutilated child, political murder, murdered merchants, and 2 traitors only; theft and burglary records are rare and late.
Banks: Professor Edgar J. Banks, a graduate of Harvard and the University of Breslau, had served as American Consul at Baghdad, Professor of History at Roberts College, and as a field director of the University of Chicago's excavations at Bismya. In Baghdad in 1912, Banks had acquired about 11,000 tablets, part of a hoard estimated at 30,000 tablets, uncovered by Arabs who were digging clandestinely in the mounds of Jokha (ancient Umma) and at a small mound at Drehem village (the ancient site of Sillush-Dagan or Puzrish-Dagan near the Sumerian city of Nippur). The Drehem tablets consist chiefly of the records of the great cattle and sheep market which supplied the temples of Nippur with animals for sacrifice and also distributed animals to the military kitchens. Banks sold Illinois 1800 tablets in 1913.

Illinois holdings: largely Ur III economic texts from Drehem, Umma, Lagash, Nippur, and Ur.

Drehem: These texts come from an archive in the Drehem complex, a large government-operated animal complex established by the order of Sulgi, the second king of the Ur III empire (r. 2095-2048 BC). Here were collected livestock, fowl, and wild animals, brought here either as gifts for the royal families, offerings for the temples, as taxes, or booty from conquered cities. The officials received the animals, collected fodder and bedding for them, set caretakers over them, and finally shipped them to the temples, to officials and soldiers in payment of salaries, or to the royal household. Branches had to make detailed reports of incidents.

Banks 7: "Found at Jokha, dated about 2350 BC."

2. Large red and white tablet, repaired. List of cattle, sheep, and goats, "delivery credited to the royal account." Shulgi 47 (ca. 2048 BC). Drehem. Administrative document from Ur III.

Banks 1: "Found at Drehem. Delivered to a shepherd for herding. The date on the bottom of the back or rounded side is about 2350 BC. The wedges at the beginnings of the lines are the numbers of the animals."


Banks 8: "A rare perfect messenger tablet with a list of provisions supplied the temple messenger for the journey. Dated about 2350 BC. The messenger tablets are very rare and highly prized for the writing on them is finer. Found at Jokha."


Marked Banks 13 (?): "Found at Senkereh (Larsa). A sun-dried tablet giving the contents of a basket delivered to the temple. Rare: from the time of Hammurabi, ca. 2250 BC." (?)


Banks 10? "Found at Jokha. A typical record of the temple offerings. After the tablet was written, while the clay was still soft, the temple scribe rolled over the entire tablet his cylindrical stone seal, making it impossible to change the record. About 2350 BC."


Banks ? (Jones: Banks 15: "Found at Tello (Lagash). A list of merchandise, ca 2200 BC.)

7. Large white tablet. Tablet of Singashid, King of Uruk (ca. 1850 BC): records his titles and that he built a palace. ca. 1850 BC. Erech. Votive inscription

Banks x: "Found at Warka. Written by the temple priests and presented to the temple by or for the king for his welfare. The crystallization comes from the salt-peter in the soil of Babylonia. From one of the early kings of Ur: not long after 2800 BC."
8. Pink cone. Cone of Singashid, King of Uruk (ca. 1850 BC): records his titles and that he built a palace. (Same text as 7, but ditto from line 6) ca. 1850 BC. Erech: Votive inscription

Banks 16: "A votive cone, made by the priest of the temple of the Goddess Ishtar, and sold to the visiting pilgrim who thrust it into the mortar between the bricks of the temple wall as an offering for the king. Dated 2100 BC." Found at Warka.


10. (called "18" by Jones) Large brown tablet, broken. Court case: Nabu-aha-iddina, the Royal Commissioner and Executive Officer of Eanna, swears that Shullumu has stolen his servant: Shullumu denies it before a jury of patricians. Cyrus ? (before 529 BC). Erech. Record of trial: Babylonia as part of Persian Empire under Cyrus. Transcribed, transliterated, translated in MS records.

Banks 18: "A contract bearing the name of Cyrus who captured Babylon in 538 BC as the first word in the last line." Found at Babylon.

11. Fragment of large white cone or cylinder. Uncatalogued: from estate of Kate I. Hansen. Note in box: "Tablet with cuneiform characters, from the excavations of Ur of the Chaldees. To University of Kansas."
Kansas 1-6. Ur III (c. 2000 B.C.) administrative documents from the reigns of Shulgi and Shu-Sin.


1 sīlā' ba-ug u, 17 kam
1 lamb
Rev) dšUL-gi-uru-mu Shulgiurumu
šu-ba-tī received.
Month

For comparable texts, see Jones and Snyder, SET, pp. 10-15, and for a discussion see ibid., pp. 222-227.

Kansas 2. Brown, damaged. 72 by 43 mm. Drehem. Shulgi 47 (44 B/C)
Month 1. No day.

18 gu₄ ṣe
11 gu₄
1 gu₄ gis-du
1 gu₄ ab

18 grain-fed oxen
11 oxen
1 gis-du ox
1 (āb) ox

6 gu dar-a
3 gu₄ gis-du dar-a
3 ab
1 ab dar-a
1 amar-gu₄-am mu-l

6 spotted oxen
3 gis-du spotted oxen
3 cows
1 spotted cow
1 calf, year old
1 milk-fed calf

1 udu še-gig luŠ
11 udu še
9 gukkal
1 gukkal gis-du
41 udu

1 black grain-fed sheep,
Subarian type
11 grain-fed sheep

15) 40 udu luŠ

9 rams
1 gis-du ram
41 sheep
40 Subarian sheep

REV) 45......
280†...... (lambs ?)
Kansas 2 (cont)

20) 100 1 100 1
    4...
    1 sila-bar-x
    2 mas-gal
    1 bar-gal? lamb
    2 grain-fed kids
    2 kids

25) 2 mas' dar-a 3 (kam-us)
    1 SAL-AS-KAR
    1 female kid
    delivery credited to the royal account
    from Nasha
    Ludingira, agent of Inim-Shara

30) ki Na-sa-ta
    Ludingir-ra dumu Inim-Sara
    took in charge
    Month
    Month
    Year
    Year

Exact parallel in Jones and Snyder, SET. no 217.
Beer, bread, oil, spices and onions given as rations to:
GISKIN,NA,NI,SA 6, du-as (line 4)
Su-Samas, du-as (line 9)
\~i-lí-dan, du-as' (line 12)
This is followed by the totals and the date.
200 gu esir-babbar
esir má gul-la
d/gis-gibil
70 gu esir-gul-gul
5) esutum gu-idda PA.TE.SI-ka-ta
Gir Ur-am-ma
舌尖 Ses-ka-lal šu-i
30 gu esir-babbar

200 talents asphalt
asphalt for calking the ship
(named) Ur-gis-gibil
(Ur-Gilgamesh)
70 talents bitumen
from the storehouse on the bank
of the canal of the ensi
Conveyancer: Uramma
and Sheshkalla, the šu-i
30 talents asphalt
50 measures fish-oil
2 1/5 kur 30 sila bituminous mastic
from Lugalhegal
42 pieces of wood
calking a boat

Rev, 10) 50 sila 1-ku6
2 1/5 (kuff) 30 sila esir-es-a
ki Lugal-he-gal-ta
42 gis-ù-hi-a

vacat
ma-du-a
Month
Year
Month
Year
Kansas 5. Brown, sealed. 57 by 42 mm. Umma, Shu-Sin 4 (1).

No month or day.

1/3 iku TUK.SE.KIN

1/3 acre plowed

1/24 iku giš-a-rá 1 kam

1/4 iku-ta

1/24 acre harrowed once at the
rate of 1/4 iku

1/4 iku-ta

its rate per worker: 28 days

2/3 iku giš-a-ra

28 kam

(1 worker, 28 days, or 28 workers,
1 day)

2 1/4 iku-ta

2/3 acre harrowed at rate of 2 1/4 iku

2/3 iku giš-a-ra

28 kam

its rate per worker: 24 days

5) a-erín-na-bí u

24 kam

(1 worker, 28 days, or 28 workers,
1 day)

4

2/3 acre harrowed at rate of 2 1/4 iku

5) a-erín-na-bí u

24 kam

its rate per worker: 24 days

a-sa gi-apín-ku -du

(1 worker, 28 days, or 28 workers,
1 day)

5

ułgula Lugal-kuzu

in the field called Gi-apín-ku 5 - du

kisib Nu-úr- Me r

overseer: Lugalkuzu

vacat

confirmed (sealed) by Nur-Mer

Year

Seal: Nu-úr-Mer

dub-sar
dumu A-hu-tab

Nur-Mer, scribe, agent of Ahu-tab

Year

Month 5.  No day.

1 Lugal-hi-li  One (person named) Lugalhili
1 Lugal-ab-ba  One (person named) Lugalabba
lu GIS.UNUG.KI.ME-še  men from Umma
mu Lugal-ezen ab-ba-ni  because Lugal-ezen, their father,
5)  in-gaz-eš-a-še  they killed
    ba-hul nir-da-aŠ  were destroyed for their wickedness
    di-dib-ba gir-ir-e-ne  judgement rendered by the
gir-officials
Rev)  gir Šu-ma-ma lu-girim  gir Shumama, girim
    Lu-Ki¬ki-da  Lukiškida
10)  dumu sukkal-mah  agent of the vizier
gir Lu¬dNanna  gir LuNanna
dumu Ur¬dDa-mu a-zu  agent of LuDamu, the physician
Month
Year
Kansas 7. White, intact. 96 by 60 mm. Tablet of Singashid, King of Uruk (ca. 1850 B.C.)

Singashid
mighty man
King of Uruk
King of Amnanum
Nourisher of Eanna

Rev) The Palace of his royalty built.


Singashid
mighty man
King of Uruk
King of Amnanum
The Palace
The Palace (apparent dittography) of his royalty built.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UE</th>
<th>LOE</th>
<th>OBS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

由于图像中的表格和图示内容过于复杂，无法准确地转化为自然语言形式。建议通过专业的工具或翻译服务来解读和翻译这些内容。
University of Kansas—no number
Brown—3.5 by 4.6 mm
Nebuchadrezzar—Year 35, month not clear, 5th day

OBV.
1. 9 GUR ŠE.BAR šu-piš-ti
2. šá 6 GUR ZÚ.LUM.MA NÍG.GA
3. dGAŠAN šá UNUG.KI u dna-na-a
4. ina UGU İİR-din-nin A İša-du-nu
5. u İdXV.MU.DU A-šú šá İDEN.GI
6. ina ITI GU₄ ina ma-ši-bu šá dGAŠAN šá UNUG.KI
7. ina É.AN.NA i-nam-di-nu
8. 1-en pu-ut šá-ni-1
9. na-šu-u
10. [ç]-lat ú-îl-tim šá ina UGU İİR-din-nin
11. LÚ mu-kin-nu İDEN-šú-nu
12. A-šú šá İdAG.ŠEŠ.MES.MU A İe-gi-bi
13. İdAG.MU.MU A-šú šá İDEN-ıb-ni A İDEN.ZALÁG-ú
14. İdAMAR.UD.MU.URU A-šú šá İkit-ia? İd.xxx-tab-ni
15. LÚ.ŞID İÉ.AN.NA.MU.DU
16. A-šú šá İŠEŠ.MES.-šá-a UNUG.KI
17. ITI İf UD.Ş.KAM MU.35.KAM
18. İdAG.NÍG.DU.URU LUGAL TIN.TIR.KI
TRANSLATION

1. 9 kur of barley in lieu of
2. 6 kur of dates, the property of
3. the Lady of Uruk and Nanâ
4. Charged against Arad-Innin son of Šadûnu
5. and Ištar-šûma-ibni son of Bel-ušallim
6. In the month of Ayyar, according to the measure of the Lady of Uruk
7. they shall pay(back) into the Eanna.
8,9. One will bear responsibility for the other
10. (This is) apart from any (previous) contract which (was) charged against Arad-Innin.
11. Witnesses: Bel-šunu
12. son of Nabu-aḫḫē-iddina descendant of Egibî
13. Nabu-šûma-iddina son of Bel-ibni descendant of Bel-nûru
14. Marduk-šûma-uṣur son of Kit-ia? (descendant) of Sin-tabni
15. Scribe—Eanna-šûma-ibni
16. son of Ahḫē-šâ. Uruk
17. month of [?] 5th day, 36th year of
18. Nebuchadrezzar, King of Babylon.
University of Kansas- #18
Brown- 5.1 by 6.2 cent mm
Cyrus, Year name broken, Month of Aráhsamnu, day number broken

1. Iba-ni-ia A-šú šá Ikab-ti-ia A [···]
2. Id XV.ŠES.MU A-šú šá Idin-nin-NUMUN.BA-šá LÚ.[SIPA][SA.DUG₄]
3. Izu-um-bu A-šú šá Iba-ni-ia A Id XXX.TI.ER
4. Igu-za-nu A-šú šá Id AG.ĐU.ŠES A Iku-ri-1
5. Id na-na-a-ŠES.MU A-šú šá Ila-qi-p1
6. IMU.GI.NA A-šú šá IAG.SIG₂⁻iq
7. LÚ.ĐUMU.ĐU-1.MES šá ina pa-ni-šú-nu
8. Id AG.ŠES.MU LÚ.SAG.LUGAL LÚ.ÉN-pi-qit-tum É.AN.NA
9. a-na Id sul-lu-mu A-šú šá
10. Id AG.GIN.IBILA iq-bi um-ma
11. i-na Iku-ra-áš LUGAL TIN.TIR.KI
12. LUGAL KUR.KUR-ti-me ki-i DUMU-ú-a
13. šá ta-bal i-ta-baḫ-lu a-mu-ru
14. Išul-lu-mu iq-bi um-ma DUMU-ú-a
15. Um-šus-su ina su-šú-qu [am-mar]
16. LÚ.ĐUB Igi-mil-lu A-šú šá [Idin-nin-NUMUN]MU
17. UNUG.KI ITI APIN [UD.X.KAM MU.X.KAM]
18. Iku-ra-áš LUGAL [TIN.TIR.KI LUGAL KUR.KUR]
TRANSLATION

1. Bâânia son of Kabtia descendant of [...]
2. Ištar-aḫa-id demáson of Innin-zēa-iqîṣa-[shepherd] of the regular offering
3. Zumbu son of Bâânia descendant of Sîn-liq-unnini
4. Guzanu son of Bâânia descendant of Kûrî
5. Nanâ-aḫa-id demáson of Laqîpi
6. Sum-ukîn son of Nabu-mudammiq
7. (these are the) mār-bānî(patricians) who before them
8. Nabu-aḫa-id demáson, the Royal Commissioner and Executive Officer of Eanna
9. to Sullumu son of
10. Nabu-mukîn-apli swore thus (lit. said as follows)
11. by Cyrus, the king of Babylon
12. the king of the lands:
13. "I saw (a person who looked) like my servant whom a thief had stolen."
14. Sullumu swore as follows (lit. said as follows):
15. "I see my servant in the street every day."
16. Scribe—Gimillu son of Innin-zēa-id demáson
17. Uruk, Month of Araḫsamnu,[x day, x year]
18. Cyrus, king [of the lands]

Comm: Nabu-aḫa-idNullException claims that Sullumu has stolen his servant. Sullumu replies sarcastically that he sees his own servant every day and hence denies the charge.