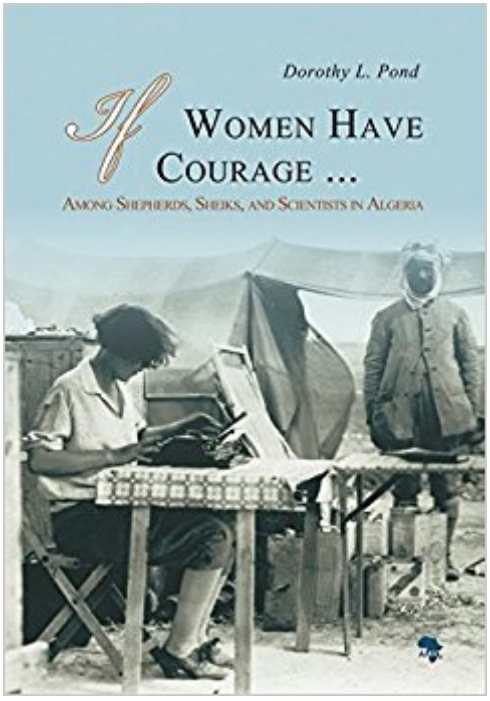
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If Women Have Courage...: Among Shepherds, Sheiks, And Scientists In Algeria



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Synopsis

The author was a small-town girl a year out of the University of Wisconsin with a Bachelor’s degree in economics when she married Alonzo W. Pond, a young archaeologist just back from a year in the Sahara. It was the 1920s. American women had won the right to vote and were launching out on non-traditional ventures. Museums were sponsoring expeditions in search of clues to humanity’s distant past. This is Dorothy L. Pond’s account of her experiences in Algeria between 1926 and 1930 as part of Logan Museum’s (Beloit College) expeditions to excavate Stone Age habitation sites. By 1928 the Ponds had an 18-month-old daughter; in 1930 the staff had grown to 16, including 12 college boys. Dorothy describes both the mundane and the exotic from a woman’s point of view, from the daily work of archaeology and shopping trips to the local markets to moonlight strolls through Roman ruins. The book will be of particular interest to those interested in the behind-the scenes workings of early scientific expeditions as well as social history, anthropology, feminism in the 1920s, or simply a Midwestern American woman’s perspective on living and working in North Africa between the World Wars. Dorothy’s account is supplemented by an Afterword by archaeologists Mary Jackes and David Lubell, who worked in the same area decades later and have been analyzing material from the Pond expeditions.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Dorothy Pond’s If Women Have Courage... provides a unique perspective on North African archaeology and its social milieu in the interwar period, from one of the few women who participated in field expeditions in that era. Along with its Afterword by Mary Jackes and David Lubell, this book

is highly engaging and informative." -- Dr. William Green, James E. Lockwood Jr. Director, Logan Museum of Anthropology, Beloit College, USA

Dorothy (Long) Pond, a 1925 graduate of the University of Wisconsin (B.A., Economics), and Alonzo Pond, a young archaeologist, fell in love through letters while he was on an expedition in the Sahara. Immediately after their wedding, they left for another Algerian expedition. She became his partner in archaeology, tourism businesses, radio broadcasting, and writing. She edited and typed his manuscripts for publication. She lectured on their travels and on natural history and published childhood memories. When Alonzo's work kept him away for months at a time, she was the sole homemaker for their children, Chomingwen and Arthur.

So glad to see this book has been published! A view of a woman of courage from a time when expectations for women were quite limited.

A solid recollection of the life of an amazing woman.

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