

BRITISH SCHOOL OF ARCHAEOLOGY IN IRAQ
(Gertrude Bell Memorial)

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Ordinary Members of the School (including libraries, etc.) pay an annual subscription of one guinea or more. A man or woman may become a *Life Member* by a donation of £15.

Both Ordinary and Life Members are entitled to receive the Journal *Iraq* for an annual payment of ten shillings.

The price of single (half-yearly) copies of *Iraq* is eighteen shillings.

Forms for subscription will be found at pages 14 and 15.

FORM OF BEQUEST

I bequeath unto the Honorary Treasurer of the British School of Archaeology in Iraq (Gertrude Bell Memorial) the sum of sterling, free of duty, to be applied towards carrying out the objects of the said School.

REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE
1937

THE FIFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SCHOOL WILL BE HELD IN THE HALL OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY, BURLINGTON HOUSE, ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25TH, 1937, AT 5 O'CLOCK, TO CONSIDER THE ACCOUNTS, BALANCE SHEET AND REPORTS OF THE COUNCIL AND AUDITOR; TO ELECT MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL; TO APPOINT AN AUDITOR; AND FOR ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH MAY PROPERLY BE TRANSACTED.

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*Member of Executive Committee.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

for the year ended 30th June, 1937

The Council received with deep sorrow the news of the sudden death of Sir Percy Cox, the first President of the School. After nearly twenty years' service with the Indian Political Department in the Persian Gulf he became the first High Commissioner in Iraq, and no Englishman ever had greater influence in that country. He took a principal part in the formation of the School, being Chairman of the Committee which raised the Endowment Fund. His death is a serious loss to the School.

The Council has pleasure in announcing that the Right Honourable L. S. Amery has accepted appointment as President. The School is fortunate in obtaining a President who has special knowledge of Iraq and its people. A Fellow of All Souls, he has travelled much in the Near East, and as Secretary of State for the Colonies he was responsible for the administration of Iraq from 1924 to 1929.

We record with much regret the death of Professor S. H. Langdon, who represented the Royal Asiatic Society on the Council. In his place the Society has appointed Sir Denison Ross, who had hitherto represented the School of Oriental Studies. That School has appointed as its representative its new Director, Professor R. L. Turner.

MR. MALLOWAN'S THIRD EXPEDITION TO NORTHERN SYRIA

The expedition to the Habur region, under the auspices of the British Museum and the School, has completed its third consecutive season of excavations. The staff consisted of Mr.

and Mrs. M. E. L. Mallowan, Colonel A. H. Burn and two architects—Mr. L. Osman and Mr. R. H. Macartney. Mr. Mallowan has kindly supplied the following account of the work of the Expedition.

"The important discovery was made at Chagar Bazar of a Record Office containing 70 tablets inscribed with over 2,200 lines of cuneiform script. The tablets are written in Babylonian Semitic and appear to be grain accounts recording the receipt of wheat and barley from numerous individual farmers. The range of proper names suggests that the population was as mixed in antiquity as it is to-day, and it is clear that the whole region was given over to an intensive agriculture. The tablets were probably written between 1900 and 1700 B.C. and give a valuable clue to the dating of a large amount of archaeological material.

"Under private houses of the same period were numerous graves containing painted pottery, metal objects and jewellery, and two objects of outstanding importance: a magnificent bronze battle axe with a ribbed socket and a flanged blade, and a carnelian cylinder seal with gold caps.

"The greater portion of the season was devoted to the excavation of Brak, 30 kilometres south-east of Chagar Bazar, on the right bank of the river Jaghjagha. The highest point of Brak stands no less than 140 feet above the plain. From the size, situation and quality of the objects contained within the mound it is certain that Brak was the metropolis of the Eastern Habur.

"The last period of occupation at Brak dates back to c. 1900-1600 B.C. and is represented by private houses built of mud brick and containing a remarkable painted pottery which is to be associated with a new ethnic group, the Hurrians, a non-Semitic people whose individual names are frequently inscribed on the tablets at Chagar Bazar.

"In the houses containing the Hurrian remains the Expedition discovered a unique vase—a small pedestal-based cup moulded in the shape of a man's head. The details of hair, side-whiskers and beard and the outline of a broad grin are represented in black paint; on the head there is a painted crown.

"The most important discovery of all, however, was a Sumerian Palace with a ground plan 160 yards in length and a long range of private houses abutting on one end. These buildings were erected between 2300 and 2000 B.C. and contained some cuneiform tablets and a large number of inscribed seal impressions of the period.

"One of the houses had a chapel, in the corner of which was a semi-circular altar with two rows of clay panelling and a scalloped decoration, the entire face covered by a white lime plaster. One of the panels was pierced by an oracle hole communicating with a chamber at the back of the chapel, from which a priest in concealment could make his pronouncements. In the oracle hole was a gold finger-ring—perhaps the price of consultation.

"In addition to a large collection of pottery the houses contained jewellery, terracotta figurines and treasure trove in the shape of a pot with thirteen heavy gold ear rings, buried under a floor.

"The Palace was typically Sumerian in plan, with a system of spacious courtyards, the principal court being approached by a flight of stone steps and surrounded by store rooms. Some of the walls still stand no less than 42 brick courses in height, and the building has a façade of great stone buttresses and recesses flanking the main gateway. These rooms, which were eventually destroyed by fire, served primarily as a receiving house for the agricultural produce belonging to the city.

"Embedded in a corner of the building was a beautifully made foundation box, which no doubt originally held a tablet naming the Royal founder of the Palace.

"Almost the last discovery of the season was a deep shaft with twelve steeply-cut steps descending into a complex of five subterranean treasure chambers. From the character of the numerous small objects in the shaft—alabaster idols, seals and jewellery—it is clear that these chambers belonged originally to some building of an earlier foundation, nearer to 3000 B.C., though possibly they continued in use at the time of the occupation of the Palace. They are in a dangerous condition, and as, owing to lack of time and funds, they have yet to be excavated, it was found necessary to seal them and partially refill the shaft. Further excavation of the Palace, of the treasure chambers and of the Hurrian houses is urgently necessary.

"The work at Brak offers as a reward fresh information on the part played by the Hurrians in Syria, and above all a new outlook on the influence of Sumerian civilisation in Syria, far distant from its natural home. There is every reason to suppose that in the course of another season the Expedition may be able to discover the main features of this civilisation at Brak. For the first time we have a site where we can study the early Sumerians outside their own territory proper, and an opportunity to see the first development of an influence that remained a most important element in Syrian culture until the ninth century B.C. Further, as Brak remained inhabited later than Chagar Bazar, we can here study a central Syrian site just at the time when our historical and archaeological records in the Near East fail—between 1800 and 1600 B.C. The completion of this work is therefore of considerable scientific importance. **Funds are urgently required to enable the Expedition to excavate the core of the site in 1938.**"

The share of the antiquities allotted by the Syrian Government to the Expedition is expected to reach the British Museum during the present month, and it is hoped that Mr. Mallowan will lecture to the School early next year.

SIR LEONARD WOOLLEY'S EXPEDITION TO SYRIA

Sir Leonard Woolley received a grant from the School in aid of his continued excavations this year at Al Mina, Sueidia, an ancient Greek harbour at the mouth of the Orontes. Deserted when the new port of Seleucia was founded in 306 B.C., it was rebuilt and reoccupied by the Crusaders in the middle of the eleventh century. Two seasons' work produced a large collection of Greek pottery ranging from the eighth to the fourth centuries B.C., as well as coins, jewellery and a series of medieval glazed wares. Many of the objects will be on view in the British, Ashmolean, Victoria and Albert and Eton College Museums, and the Institute of Archaeology will have a representative pottery series. Sir Leonard Woolley will lecture on these excavations at the annual meeting of the School on November 25.

FURTHER EXPEDITIONS TO SYRIA

The Council have granted £750 to Mr. Mallowan and £150 to Sir Leonard Woolley in aid of the expeditions to Northern Syria which they are undertaking before the end of the winter. Mr. Mallowan will continue excavations at Brak, and Sir Leonard Woolley at Atchana, an inland site not far from Al Mina.

FELLOWSHIP

Owing to other work, Mr. P. L. O. Guy has been obliged to relinquish the Fellowship granted to him by the School for surveying a dolmen field in Transjordan.

THE JOURNAL

Iraq this year contains more than a dozen articles. The longest, by Mr. M. E. L. Mallowan, gives an account, with numerous illustrations, of his excavations in 1936 at Chagar Bazar of strata falling within the period 3000-1500 B.C. Mademoiselle Corbiau describes her excavations in the Indus Valley which reveal connections with the more western lands. Mrs. Van Buren publishes a gaming-board from Baron von

Oppenheim's excavations at Tall Halaf. Mr. Godfrey Driver has a cuneiform contract endorsed in Aramaic in the reign of Darius. Professor Rostovtzeff writes on some queer squatting figures of gods. Mr. Theodor Gaster provides a translation of several of the poetical tablets from Ras Shamra. Mr. Gadd suggests that the apparently meaningless syllables *me me pa pa* in a Babylonian legend are nothing more than ancient Mesopotamian for "mamma" and "papa." He has also an article on the tablets found in Mr. Mallowan's excavations. Mr. E. J. Holmyard, who has specialised in Arabic chemistry, has an article on Aidamir al-Jildaki, a writer on alchemy of the eighth century A.H. Mr. J. G. Milne has two articles, one on some Oriental copies of Athenian tetradrachms, and the other on the coinage of Aradus in the Hellenistic period. An article on pottery from Carthage, containing a careful catalogue of the finds of several years' excavations, is contributed by Mr. D. B. Harden, who shows the shapes in use in a Semitic colony. The Editor (Dr. Campbell Thompson) has three articles; one on a scandal in the Assyrian palace, indicating a reason for the overthrow of an Assyrian monarch; the second on certain reliefs of the ninth century B.C. from excavations at Nineveh; and the third on an Assyrian letter-tablet, found in the excavations of 1930 at Nineveh, which describes an earthquake.

The second part of *Iraq*, containing some of the above articles, will be published about the end of November.

LIBRARY

The Library, which consists at present only of Journals received in exchange for *Iraq*, is now housed by the Institute of Archaeology (London University) at its temporary premises in Regent's Park. The Council would be grateful for any books which would add to the value of the library.

The accounts for the year are appended. The General Fund had an income of £1,092, including £311 from interest on the Gertrude Bell and Hugh Bell bequests and £448 from interest and dividends on the School's own investments. The expenditure totalled £1,103. The School is indebted to the British Academy and the Royal Central Asian Society for grants towards the cost of *Iraq*.

The thanks of the School are due to Mr. Harold Lakeman for auditing the accounts without fee.

The Council appeals for additional donations and annual subscriptions (including subscriptions to "Iraq") to enable the School to extend its work and to take advantage of the many opportunities which present themselves for archaeological research in the Middle East. Forms for subscriptions, donations and bequests will be found at pages 14-16.

On behalf of the Council,

E. BONNHAM-CARTER, *Chairman*

November, 1937.

E. H. KEELING, *Hon. Secretary.*

[illegible]

(sd.) E. BONHAM-CARTER, *Chairman*.
H. O. MANCE, *Hon. Treasurer*.

I have examined the above Balance Sheet and accompanying Income and Expenditure Accounts with the books and vouchers, and find them to be correct and in accordance therewith. I have also verified the cash at bank and the investments.

FARLEIGH HOUSE, 33 LAWRENCE LANE, LONDON, E.C.2
27th October, 1937.

(sd.) HAROLD LAKEMAN
Chartered Accountant, *Hon. Auditor.*

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE 1937

ENDOWMENT FUND

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To balance, being surplus of income over expenditure				By donations							
	101	0	0						101	0	0
	<u>£101</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>						<u>£101</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

GENERAL FUND

12	To grants to British Museum : for North Syrian Excavation Fund (Mr. Mallo- wan's Expedition) .. 500 0 0 for Sir L. Woolley's Ex- pedition to Syria .. 150 0 0			By subscriptions (including sub- scriptions to Journal) .. 171 18 3 ,, outside sales of Journal .. 97 2 1 ,, special donations to Journal .. 60 0 0 ,, income received from Trus- tees of British Museum, arising from Gertrude Bell and Hugh Bell bequests.. 311 18 10 ,, interest and dividends :— on investments 421 13 11 on bank deposits .. 26 15 3 ,, balance, being surplus of expenditure over income for the year 11 19 1							
		650	0								
	„ miscellaneous expenses .. 99 17 7										
	„ cost of production and dis- tribution of Journal .. 351 9 10										
		<u>£1,101</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>					<u>£1,101</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS, 30th JUNE, 1937

ENDOWMENT FUND

	Book Value	Market Value
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
£3,750 5 % Conversion Stock 1944-64	3,796 19 3	4,200 0 0
£1,365 4s. 8d. India 4½ % Stock 1958-68	1,389 5 6	1,549 10 9
£1,000 Army & Navy Investment Trust Co., Ltd., 4 % Perpetual Registered Debenture Stock	995 2 6	1,025 0 0
£1,080 United States & South American Investment Trust Co., Ltd., 4½ % Perpetual Second Debenture Stock	1,115 17 6	1,117 16 0
£250 Third Guardian Trust, Ltd., 4 % Redeemable Debenture Stock 1963-73	261 7 0	251 5 0
£1,277 6s. 9d. Sheffield Corporation, 3 % Redeemable Debenture Stock 1956-58	1,271 2 0	1,207 1 8
£110 London Scottish & American Trust, Ltd., 4 % Perpetual Debenture Stock	119 11 6	112 15 0
100 £1 5 % First Preference Shares, Thomas W. Ward, Ltd.		106 5 0
	<u>£8,949 5 3</u>	<u>£9,569 13 5</u>

GENERAL FUND

£500 Central Electricity Board, 4½ % Stock 1957-82 ..	520 14 6	560 0 0
£500 Metropolitan Trust Co., Ltd., 3½ % Debenture Stock	505 3 3	482 10 0
	<u>£1,025 17 9</u>	<u>£1,042 10 0</u>

FORM FOR REMITTING ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION, OR
DONATION

(For terms of Membership, etc., see page 16)

To the
BRITISH SCHOOL OF ARCHAEOLOGY IN IRAQ, 20 WILTON ST., LONDON, S.W. 1

I enclose £ and will subscribe that sum annually
 or as a donation
 Please delete one of these two lines

*I also enclose 10s. as subscription for *Iraq* beginning with the
spring number 193
autumn

Name and description.....

Address

Date.....

Cheques and Postal Orders should be made payable to "British
School of Archaeology in Iraq" and crossed "Ottoman Bank."

*Delete this if the *Journal* is not required.

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Please place to the credit of the British School of Archaeology in
Iraq at the Ottoman Bank, 26 Throgmorton Street, London, E.C.2,
on 1st January annually until I cancel this order, the sum of

(in words).....
as a subscription to the School, and *the sum of ten shillings as
subscription for *Iraq*.

Signature

Description

Address

Date.....

This order, when filled in, should be sent to the British School of
Archaeology in Iraq, 20 Wilton Street, London, S.W. 1, not to the Bank.

*Delete this if the *Journal* is not required.