BRITISH SCHOOL OF ARCHAEOLOGY IN IRAQ

(Gertrude Bell Memorial)

31-34 GORDON SQUARE, LONDON, W.C.I

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REPORT & ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st MAY, 1967

As approved at the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING on 26th July, 1967

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*Member of Executive Committee.

 $\dagger Deceased.$

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

During the year 1966–67 a School Fellowship was awarded to Miss Stephanie Page, and a grant was made to Miss Jocelyn Farrell to assist with the Nimrud Ivory programme. The principal event at the beginning of the year was the opening of the new Iraq Museum by H.E. the President of Iraq on 9th November, 1966. Great Britain was represented by Sir Frank Francis, Director of the British Museum, Professor K. A. C. Creswell, Professor and Mrs. Seton Lloyd and Mr. Robert Hamilton. The Director delivered a short address of congratulation, as did the heads of other foreign archaeological missions working in Iraq. Mr. Hamilton, as the first holder of the School's Visiting Lectureship, delivered a lecture entitled "From Mshatta to Samarra" in the auditorium of the new Museum on 10th November. The Director and Mrs. Oates entertained delegates and colleagues in the British School, and were honoured by the presence of H.E. The British Ambassador, our Vice-President.

Professor H. W. F. Saggs was given a special grant by the School to enable him to bring the Rimah (1965) tablets from the British Museum, where they had been treated, to Baghdad and to complete the study of them there.

The School continues to be used by an increasing number of visiting scholars and students, 38 of whom were in residence for varying periods

throughout the year.

Work on the Nimrud ivories in Baghdad has continued under the direction of Mr. Jeffrey Orchard, assisted by Miss Brenda Macey (conservation), Miss Jocelyn Farrell (catalogue) and Mr. Peter Dorrell (photography). Part 2 of the first fascicule, by Mr. Orchard, has now been published and other fascicules are being prepared. During the winter Mrs. Joan Oates continued her survey of ancient sites in the Mandali-Badra region on the eastern edge of the Mesopotamian plain, with the aid of a Fellowship from the Guggenheim Foundation. The earliest site so far discovered dates from the Jarmo period and is the first of this date to be found in the plain. Other large sites have yielded Samarra and later material, including for the first time pottery of both north and south Mesopotamian cultures together with some apparently Iranian material.

Excavations were resumed at Tell al Rimah on 3rd March, 1967, and continued until 3rd June. The School was assisted by grants from the British Academy, the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, and the Musées Royaux d'Art et d'Histoire, Brussels. The staff consisted of the Director and Mrs. Oates, Mr. J. E. Reade (Assistant Director), Miss Stephanie Page (epigraphist and registrar), Mr. David Hawkins (epigraphist and registrar), Mr. Jonathan Hodgkin (draughtsman), Mr. Christopher Dalley (surveyor and photographer) and Mr. Peter Dorrell (photographer). An additional grant from an anonymous source for the excavation of a third millennium site made it possible for a second dig to be undertaken at Tell Taya under the direction of Mr. J. E. Reade. The Directorate General of Antiquities was represented by Sayyid Majid Abdullah, who was of great assistance.

At Tell al Rimah work continued on the temple and ziggurrat and on Site C, in the town north-west of the temple. Some small additions have been made to the plan of the original temple, but the main architectural discovery of the season was a projecting stair some 35 m. long, partly supported on arches, which led up from the town to the temple terrace. This is reminiscent

of the approach to the ziggurrat at Ur, although no trace of lateral stairs has yet been found. Among finds in the temple area were a large and superbly carved serpentine cylinder seal of the Agade period, obviously an heirloom, a Middle Assyrian alabaster vase and two groups of Old Babylonian tablets, including letters, economic and administrative texts.

The most important discovery, however, was a Late Assyrian temple built against the north side of the then ruined ziggurrat. In the cella, adjoining the podium, was a finely carved stele of "Mosul marble", depicting Adadnirari III with the symbols of the gods above his head. Across his skirt is an inscription recording a dedication to Adad and mentioning the city Zamahi, almost certainly the Late Assyrian name of Tell al Rimah. The latter part of the inscription was defaced in antiquity, but legible. Flanking the entrance to the cells were two limestone orthostats, each bearing a lion's head with a dagger blade projecting downwards from the mouth. Two other similar orthostats were found out of position, one behind the royal stele and the other outside the doorway of the temple, together with a badly eroded limestone altar. All the orthostats bore traces of a deliberately defaced inscription. The temple also produced a number of cylinder seals, ivories and other small objects, as well as a large number of fragments of a bitumen relief apparently representing a winged figure, perhaps a scorpion man. On Site C the Expedition cleared an area containing a long sequence of second millennium occupation, represented by more than five metres of debris, and exposed at the bottom a part of a massive building which was evidently the palace. In the later levels the most notable find was an inlaid glass beaker of the Nuzi period. The palace yielded more than two hundred tablets, many of them letters, mentioning individuals already known in the Mari texts. These are of great historical importance, and will undoubtedly throw light on the external relations of Tell al Rimah, first under Assyria and then apparently in alliance with Zimri-Lim of Mari.

At Tell Taya an extensive excavation revealed a sequence of occupation extending from the Agade period, and perhaps earlier, into the second millennium, with some later material. It also confirmed that the very large area of buildings, almost two kilometres across, which surrounds the central mound, is to be dated in the second half of the third millennium. Among the finds on the central mound, which was fortified with a massive stone citadel wall, was a very large number of beads and pendants of frit and a hoard of silver rings and ingots.

We must offer our thanks to the Director General of Antiquities, Dr. Faisal al Wailly, and the Inspector General of Antiquities, Professor Fuad Safar, and their staff for the generosity with which they have supported all our enterprises.

On behalf of the Council, M. E. L. MALLOWAN, Chairman of Executive Committee.

D. OATES. Director. COLIN KERR. Hon. Treasurer. 11th September, 1967.

BRITISH SCHOOL OF ARCHAEOLOGY IN IRAQ

BALANCE SHEET, 31st MAY, 1967

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I have prepared the Balance Sheet set out above and the accompanying of the School and I have received all the information and explanations I like Income and Expenditure Accounts for the year to 31st May, 1967, co Sheet gives a true and fair view of the state of the School's affairs as at the Provincial House, 98/106 Cannon Street, London, E.C.4

BRITISH SCHOOL OF ARCHAEOLOGY IN IRAQ (GERTRUDE BELL MEMORIAL)

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MAY, 1967

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To LONDON EXPENDITURE: Journal Office		By SUBSCRIPTIONS TO SCHOOL AND JOURNAL	£ s. d. £ s. d. 973 0 10 6 2 6
Office, Library and Insurance Fellowships Rent of School Building and House	3,916 14 0 1,773 7 4 299 7 3 1,956 19 0 1,269 17 5 1,958 10 1 592 3 10	"OUTSIDE SALES OF JOURNAL "INCOME RECEIVED FROM THE "TRUSTEES OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM (Gertrude Bell Legacy) "TREASURY GRANT "INTEREST AND DIVIDENDS: On Investments Bank Deposit Post Office Savings Bank London Trustee Savings Bank	979 3 4 1,735 1 11 245 2 3 13,125 0 0 986 8 11 369 9 2 2 12 7 7 6 9
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SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS AND EXCAVATIONS FUND

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FORM OF BEQUEST

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I bequeath unto the Honorary Treasurer of th	e British Sch	ool
of Archaeology in Iraq (Gertrude Bell Memor	rial) the sum	of
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Ordinary Members of the School (including librar annual subscription of thirty shillings or more, the Journal Iraq (prepaid for the current year) is membership of the School, costs forty-five shillings	Subscription neluding ann	to
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