

THE
PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The Annual General Meeting will be held in the latter part of June, at a date and place which will be announced later.

NOTES AND NEWS.

It is proposed to resume active work at excavations without delay. With this new season the plan is to make trial explorations upon a series of "tells" near Askalon and Gaza, rather than to continue at once the exploration of the vast site of Askalon. Without much greater financial support it is impossible to undertake any kind of exhaustive examination of such a site as this, and the deeper layers, in which lie the "Philistine" remains, are buried under such a depth of Graeco-Roman buildings that to reach them would be a prolonged and very expensive business. In addition to this, Professor Garstang considers that the examination of several sites in this "Philistine" area of S.W. Palestine is necessary for the proper understanding of the great amount of early pottery remains recovered from Askalon itself. Although the new diggings will be not within the walls of Askalon, they will be part of the "Askalon excavations," and are deeply concerned in the chief object for which this site was chosen, viz., "the problem of the Philistines." It is hoped that the whole of the results of the work of the two seasons (1921—1922) will be published next year

(1923) in a special "Annual" similar to those published before the war. The Committee, with the cordial consent of Prof. Garstang, have invited Mr. Phythian-Adams to act as Hon. Director of these new excavations, but they still hope to have the benefit of Prof. Garstang's long experience and active supervision. Any donations towards the new season's undertakings will be gratefully received and specially mentioned.

At the Annual Meeting of the British School of Archaeology in Jerusalem, held at King's College, March 7th, Prof. Garstang gave some account of the various sites which were being excavated in Palestine at the present time. He said: "Taking last year with this, no fewer than eight distinct and well-equipped expeditions will be at work; five, which had been working last year, will continue. The French Archaeological School did an interesting piece of work at Jericho . . . At Tiberias, Dr. Slousch has worked for the young and vigorous Jewish Palestine Exploration Society, disclosing fragments and remains of Roman Tiberias, also sarcophagi of the period of the Talmud. Further north, at Capernaum, the Franciscan Order have been at work for many years in uncovering and preparing for renovation the area in which are the ruins of the famous Synagogue of Capernaum. This piece of work is, unique of its kind, in that the building in great measure is intact, except that as a result of an earthquake shock it has fallen, and some part of the stone has been removed, but it is quite possible to restore accurately and exactly the original design with the original materials At Beisan, the University Museum of Philadelphia has a well-equipped expedition under an equally well-equipped leader, Dr. Fisher, backed up by magnificent funds the end of which can hardly be seen, but which amounts to something like £15,000 a year . . . He has laid bare, stage by stage, several of the more superficial layers of the top of the great mound of Beisan, and has also cut a great exploratory section This mound will lead us back clearly beyond the time of the Pharaohs (of which one monument has been found), into the earliest strata of civilization in Palestine Personally, I think it will be at least twenty years (of systematic work) before Dr. Fisher will arrive at the period of prehistoric antiquity and the mound of Beisan will have disappeared. At Askalon, as we know, the Palestine Exploration Fund has been at work, and I would like to congratulate

them on the results which, through my own fault, have not yet been published (Prof. Garstang described the work at Askalon at some considerable length)”

“Work is going forward in Samaria under the University of Harvard; at Megiddo under the University of Chicago, and the British School itself will commence a short period of investigation at the mouth of the Plain of Esdraelon, near that narrow neck where the Plain of Acre leads towards it.”

See also Prof. Garstang's report on the work of the Department of Antiquities for Palestine, below, pp. 57-62.

Thanks to several friends, we are able to publish in this issue a photograph and an obituary notice of the late Mr. Morrison, well known to the world as a millionaire, and to the Fund as one of the original founders, a generous benefactor and for many years Treasurer. We have also to regret the death of Lord Bryce, O.M., of the General Committee, who took a warm interest in Palestine, and presided over the Fifty-sixth Annual General Meeting last June. We have also to record the loss of the Rev. Prof. John P. Peters, a well-known member of the General Committee, who died in New York on November 10th. He was excavator at Nippur, and wrote much on Biblical and archaeological research. He was part author of the *Tombs of Marissa*, and also contributed to the pages of the *Quarterly Statement*. His is a serious loss to Biblical studies, and his pen will be much missed.

We are glad to be able to reprint portions of an interesting article in the *Expository Times*, by Prof. Macalister, on thirty years of excavation in Palestine, below, pp. 79-86. It is well that we should recall the great progress which has been made in this department of research; it is no less necessary that we should remember the extremely prominent part which this country has taken in it hitherto. With the death of Mr. Walter Morrison there disappears another of the last remaining links between the foundation of this Society and the present generation; and we cherish the hope that interest in Palestinian archaeology, so far from diminishing, will steadily grow, and that new friends will arise to take the place of those who have gone. Truly, there remains very much land to be possessed; and though much has already been accomplished, much

still remains to be done, to the end that fuller light may be cast upon the internal history of Palestine during those centuries which were so crucial for the history of humanity.

In the Hebrew daily *Haaretz* ("The Land") of January 26th, published at Jerusalem, Mr. Raffaeli writes upon Mr. Pilcher's note on "A Mother in Israel," published in the last issue. It may be added that in the Journal of the Palestine Oriental Society, Dr. Albright interprets Judges v, 7, to mean that Deborah was originally the name of a town at the foot of Mt. Tabor, and that it was a "mother-city" in Israel. We are also indebted to Mr. Raffaeli for the description and photograph of an interesting bronze weight from Petra which is discussed below, p. 71 *sq.*

In the fourth bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research, Dr. Albright urges that "the ancient Ekron lay at Kaṭra instead of at 'Ākīr, which preserves the name, but lies three miles to the north-west." There are no antiquities at the latter, whereas at the former place marble pillars, masses of Graeco-Roman pottery and an important tell point to the prominence of the site. He considers both Kaṭra and Esdūd (Ashdod) promising sites for excavation, especially Esdūd, which is easily accessible to the spade. He also suggests that Tell eṣ-Ṣāfi is the site of the ancient Libnah, and that Gath is to be identified with 'Araḵ le-Menshīyeh, eight miles to the south-west. Der ed-Dibban is tentatively identified with Makkedah, and he endorses the identification of Tell Zakariya with Socoh, made by Bliss. With all this keen interest in the Philistine district an article by the Rev. Segal in this issue may be commended to the notice of readers; it illustrates the interconnexion of archaeological and historical research.

The Hebrew Palestine Exploration Society, which was founded some time before the war, and which has its centre in Jerusalem, is continuing the excavation of Tiberias. Among the most important discoveries there is an ancient synagogue which is connected with Rabbi Meir (about second century A.D.), a carved marble seven-branched lamp, and several other objects which throw light upon Jewish arts and crafts in the Temple period and the arts and crafts during the first centuries of Christianity. This work is being carried out with the collaboration of the non-Jewish Archaeo-

logical Societies. The Society also aims at starting new excavations in Caesarea, Artuf and two localities in Jerusalem, for which concessions have been granted by the Government.

Some of our readers who are acquainted with Palestine and the surrounding lands may be glad to know of a way whereby they can co-operate in an organised study of Western influences on Near and Middle Eastern peoples. Prof. Arnold Toynbee, of the University of London, in a letter to the press points out that "the history of this influence during the last two or three centuries is one of the keys to present Oriental problems, and the intellectual and social sides are at least as important as the military, diplomatic and economic. There is an admirable field for such studies in the narratives of Western travellers, which, though often ransacked for curiosities of literature, seem never to have been surveyed systematically. But this field is so vast that no one inquiring into some particular subject can really cover it single-handed. Group work suggests itself, and I am trying to bring together at the Institute of Historical Research, Malet Street, Bloomsbury, a group of people interested in the studies that I have mentioned. For this purpose I am proposing to exclude India and Russia, to concentrate on the peoples and countries that have at one time been included in the Ottoman Empire, and not to go further back to start with than about the last quarter of the 17th century. On these lines I have already made a start with several collaborators. At the Institute of Historical Research we have rooms, maps and works of reference and are conveniently near to the British Museum. If any of your readers wishes for further information, I should be glad if he or she would write to me at the Institute; I will only add that I am not asking for pupils but for collaborators, and that even those with little time to spare may give valuable help." Professor Toynbee's address is the Institute of Historical Research, Malet Street Bloomsbury, W.C. 1.

Miss L. Winchester, of Liverpool University, at the Annual Meeting of the Geographical Association on Friday, January 6th, "showed how greatly the rainfall varied from one part of Palestine to another, being on an average 16 inches per annum in the South as compared with 35 inches at Beyrouth. The heavy rains of winter are like what would be termed cloud-bursts in England. Thus, in Haifa 3 inches would fall in a day; in Jerusalem, Hebron and Jaffa,

4½ inches. In September, October and November gentle rain would fall for a day or two and cease. This gentle rain was all important for preparing the hard ground. Between the middle of December and the middle of March there was a period of hard rains. In March and April there fell the latter rains; these were essential for the welfare of the cereals. Without them the grain could not stand the heat of the summer. Miss Winchester expressed a conviction that there were in Palestine large stores of water in underground streams. She said that the English troops had found such waters in the desert between Egypt and Palestine, when they sank artesian wells. The future of Palestine depended on the storage of the winter rains."— (From the *Zionist Review*.)

A subject of the greatest importance for the future welfare of Palestine and for the understanding of past conditions is that of malaria in ancient and modern times. Malaria is present to a greater or less extent in all towns and large villages of Palestine, but is everywhere preventible. The Advisory Council of Jerusalem have taken the problem in hand, and from a memorandum on the Public Health Draft Ordinance, printed in *Palestine*, March 4th, we quote a couple of paragraphs.

"In many parts of Palestine the numerous remains of the Græco-Roman period bear evidence of the populations that flourished there and of the care taken to maintain proper drainage of the land. The drainage was, however, subsequently allowed to fall into neglect, swamps formed and bred mosquitos which spread malaria, and the inhabitants became too sickly for hard work and allowed more of their irrigation channels to fall into disrepair, with a resulting increase of swamps, malaria, and sickness. Thus, in the lapse of centuries, large tracts of what might be fertile land have become malarious and uninhabited marshes.

"But these swamps can be reclaimed, malaria extirpated, healthy villages formed, and the land once more brought under intensive cultivation. The Anti-malarial Advisory Commission has already formulated and considered many schemes of reclamation, governmental as well as those put forward by communities, private individuals, land development companies, and other organizations. Several smaller schemes considered by the Commission have already been completed, notably at Jenin, where the Municipality, in conjunction with the Government and the Army, carried out the

work ; at Khedera, where the colonists completed the drainage of the Gazazo Swamp ; and in the Acre district, where the Musherifa dam was constructed, owing to the energies of the Sub-Governor and local people. On the recommendation of the Commission, clauses have been inserted in certain concessions of Government land, as, for example, that for the Zerka Swamp, to ensure the carrying out of the necessary measures for drainage and malaria prevention. Lack of funds has militated against the inception of the larger Government schemes, but work on the Beisan marshes has now been in progress for two years, and, already, for an expenditure of less than £E.3,000, some thousand acres of Government marsh land have been reclaimed for cultivation and a considerable diminution of malaria in the area for the past year has been recorded."

Subscribers to the Palestine Exploration Fund may be interested to hear that the Fund have acquired the remaining copies of *Jerusalem sous Terre*, written by Father Vincent, and published at the Office of the *Field* Newspaper. This work is profusely illustrated by plans and photographs, and giving as it does a full archaeological review of the excavations in the hill "Ophel," conducted by the Hon. Montague B. Parker, is essential to all those who make a scientific study of the Holy City. The Fund is disposing of these—of which there is only a limited stock—at 5s. per copy, or 6s. post free.

Subscribers will recollect that the map of the Negeb or Wilderness of Zin, which should have accompanied the 1914-15 Annual, had then to be withheld from publication owing to the War. The Committee are glad to announce that the map has now been prepared for the Fund by the War Office, and a copy will be supplied gratis to those Members desirous of procuring it to complete their record of the 1914 Survey. Applications should be addressed to the Assistant Secretary.

Photo-relief map of Palestine : This popular little map, which is reproduced by colotype process from the well-known raised maps, has been reprinted and is now on sale. It measures (with margin) 29 x 19 inches and contains some hundreds of Biblical names. The price to subscribers is 2s. 6d., and to non-subscribers 3s. ; postage 6d. extra.

The Library of the Palestine Exploration Fund contains many duplicate volumes, including standard works by Robinson, Ritter Stanley and others. They may be had separately, and a list, with the price of each volume, has been prepared, and can be obtained on application.

The list of books received will be found below, p. 53.

The Committee will be glad to communicate with ladies and gentlemen willing to help the Fund as Honorary Local Secretaries.

It may be well to mention that plans and photographs alluded to in the reports from Jerusalem and elsewhere cannot all be published, but they are preserved in the office of the Fund, where they may be seen by subscribers.

The Annual Report for 1921, containing the list of subscriptions and accounts is in the press, and, if not ready for issue with this number, will be circulated to subscribers sometime before the Annual Meeting.

A complete set of the *Quarterly Statements*, 1869-1910, containing some of the early letters (now scarce), with an Index, 1869-1910, bound in the Palestine Exploration Fund cases, can be had. Price on application to the Secretary, 2, Hinde Street, Manchester Square, W. 1.

The price of a complete set of the translations published by the Palestine Pilgrims' Text Society, in 13 volumes, with general index, bound in cloth, is £10 10s. A catalogue describing the contents of each volume can be had on application to the Secretary, 2, Hinde Street, Manchester Square, W. 1.

The Museum at the office of the Fund, 2, Hinde Street, Manchester Square, W. 1, is open to visitors every week-day from 10 o'clock till 4, except Saturdays, when it is closed at 1 p.m.

Subscribers in U.S.A. to the work of the Fund will please note that they can procure copies of any of the publications from Prof. Elihu Grant, Honorary General Secretary to the Fund, Haverford College, Pa.

The Committee have to acknowledge with thanks the following:—

The Near East: A weekly review of the politics and commerce of Egypt, Asia Minor, Arabia, Mesopotamia, etc. Dec. 12, Jan. 12: Beersheba Sketches; The Mystery of the Orient, by Edouard Driault; Jan. 19, 26, March 23, etc.: The Greek Patriarchate of Jerusalem.

The Expository Times, Jan.: The Long Ages of the Patriarchs, by E. E. Kellett, M.A.; Joshua and the Miracle of the Sun, by Rev. G. P. Wallace, B.D. Feb.: The Theophany at Horeb, E. L. Allen, M.A.

The Irish Theological Quarterly.

Palestine.

The Zionist Review.

Art and Archaeology, Feb.: Russian Art Number.

American Journal of Archaeology, Oct.-Dec. 1921.

Annual Report of the Smithsonian Institution for 1919.

Jewish Quarterly Review, Jan. 1922.

The Homiletic Review.

Hebrew Christian Alliance Quarterly.

Revue Biblique, Jan.: La Région de Aïn Qedeis, by R. P. R. Savignac; Notre Exploration à Naplouse, by R. P. F.-M. Abel; l'Année Archéologique 1921 en Palestine, by R. P. L.-H. Vincent.

Journal Asiatique, xviii, 1, 2.

Bulletin de Correspondance Hellénique, 1921.

Biblica, Vol. III, Part I.

Orientalistische Literaturzeitung: Monatsschrift für die Wissenschaft vom ganzen Orient, 1921.

Journal of the Palestine Oriental Society, Vol. II, No. 1: The Tomb of Isaiah, by F.-M. Abel, O.P.; Judicial Courts among the Bedouin of Palestine, by Omar el-Barghuthi, etc.

Bible Lands, Jan.

The Palestine Weekly, Dec. 16: An Early Traveller in Palestine; Jan. 27, A Night by the Dead Sea; Feb. 3, The Damascus Gate; Feb. 24, A Pious Pirate; The Journey of Sigurd to Jerusalem, about 1110 A.D.; March 3, The Jews of the Yemen.

Al-Mashrik, Feb.: Les Croisés et la Bibliothèque de Tripoli, by P. H. Lammens, S.J.; La fameuse Inscription d'Abercius, by Abbé Joseph Eid; March: La Pacification de la Syrie et la Défense de ses Frontières sous les Romains, by P. René Monterde, S.J.

NEA ΣΙΩΝ, Oct.-Dec.

The Committee will be glad to receive donations of Books to the Library of the Fund, which already contains many works of great value relating to Palestine and other Bible lands.

The Committee will be grateful to any subscribers who may be disposed to present to the Fund any of the following books :—

The Memoirs of the Survey of Western Palestine.

The Quarterly Statement, from 1869 up to date.

Duc de Luynes, *Voyage à la Mer Morte* (1864); published about 1874.

K. von Raumer, *Der Zug der Israeliten*. (Leipzig, 1837.)

Lagarde, *Onomastica Sacra* (1887).

Prof. Flinders Petrie's *Tell el-Hesi* (*Lachish*).

New Edition of the Babylonian Talmud, English Translation. Original text edited, formulated and punctuated by Michael L. Rodkinson.

Revised and corrected by the Rev. Dr. Isaac M. Wise. Published by the New Amsterdam Book Company, New York. Vol. I, *Sabbath*, already in the Library, subsequent volumes wanted.

Whilst desiring to give publicity to proposed identifications and other theories advanced by officers of the Fund and contributors to the pages of the *Quarterly Statement*, the Committee wish it to be distinctly understood that by publishing them in the *Quarterly Statement* they do not necessarily sanction or adopt them.

FORM OF BEQUEST TO THE PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.

I give to the Palestine Exploration Fund, London, the sum of _____ to be applied towards the General Work of the Fund; and I direct that the said sum be paid, free of Legacy Duty, and that the Receipt of the Treasurer of the Palestine Exploration Fund shall be a sufficient discharge for the same.

NOTE.—*Three Witnesses are necessary to a Will by the Law of the United States of America, and Two by the Law of the United Kingdom.*
