

REVIEWS AND NOTICES OF PUBLICATIONS.

Hundert deutsche Fliegerbilder aus Palästina ausgewählt und erläutert von Dr. D. Gustaf Dalman ; Schriften des Deutschen Palästina-Instituts 2 Band. Gütersloh : C. Bertelsmann. £1—paper cover ; £1 5s.—in stiff cover. 1925.

It is an original idea to publish selected air photographs of Palestine with a detailed description of all the geographical points they exhibit. By the use of a transparent tablet divided into numbered squares, which adheres to the highly dressed paper, it is possible to identify any point mentioned in the corresponding description.

All the photographs were taken between December, 1917, and September, 1918, for military purposes and are only a selected few from the very large collection catalogued in the Appendix. There are also papers on the technical side of aerial photography and a topographical register and map.

To the readers of the *Quarterly Statement* the photographs themselves will have the largest appeal, and these are very remarkable. Perhaps the first impression will be how similar they are to our raised map, especially with respect to Eastern Judaea and the Jordan Valley. Nothing can give a more wonderful impression of the environs of Jerusalem than the pictures which commence the series, and those who have traversed all the boundary roads and mountain paths, which here stand out with such distinctness among the barren hills, cannot fail to be fascinated to see the extraordinary detail here reproduced.

The selection of these hundred pictures out of so many thousands must have been a considerable labour, but the result is highly satisfactory.

There are remarkable views of such famous sites as Bethlehem, Nazareth, Hebron, Tiberias, Safed, Jaffa, Jericho, Akka, Haifa, Tyre and Sidon. East of the Jordan we have Damascus, es Salt, Amman and Jerash. Perhaps no view is more striking than the wonderful views of the great ruins of Jerash. It is more impressive in some ways than any ordinary photograph. The series illustrating the Jordan Valley and its Lakes give a most vivid impression of this unique area.

An edition of this excellent work, with the photographs and their description only—translated into English—would probably have a wide circulation among English students of the land if it could be brought out at a reasonable price.

E. W. G. M.

THE NEW MAPS OF JERUSALEM.

THE Palestine Exploration Fund has received, from His Excellency the Officer administering the Government of Palestine, sixteen sheets of the new survey of Jerusalem and the neighbourhood, which was commenced in 1921. The scale of the survey is 1 : 2000 or half a metre to one kilometre, and it is being executed by the Survey Department of Palestine, under the direction of Captain C. H. Ley, C.B.E., late R.E., who is thus carrying on the traditions of the Royal Engineers, who have been associated with the mapping of Palestine since the survey of Jerusalem was first begun by Wilson in 1864 and continued by Warren in 1867.

Each sheet of the new survey is half a metre square, and thus covers an area of one square kilometre. The complete scheme will apparently include the whole of the municipal area, which is, roughly speaking, a rectangle running north-east and south-west, some 5 kilometres broad by 6 kilometres long. The sixteen sheets received from the Government of Palestine comprise the most important central block of the area in question and cover a region extending from Mount Scopus on the north to Yasul on the south, and from Et Tur and the Mount of Olives on the east to the Greek Monastery of the Cross on the west.

The sheets of the new map are printed entirely in black; the contours are marked at 4-metre intervals, every 20-metre contour being strengthened. A table of conventional signs is printed on the back of each sheet, as also is a diagram showing the arrangement of the sheets. The map is clear and easy to read, but the symbol for steep slopes is somewhat heavy for the scale, though it is difficult to suggest how else to show these significant features, unless, indeed, one trusts to the contours and rock-scarps to tell the tale.

Sheet V.F., which shows Mount Ophel, has a special interest for us, for it is on an enlargement of this sheet, to the scale of 1 : 1000, that the new P.E.F. archaeological map of Ophel is being based. And here, perhaps, a word of warning is necessary.

Large scale topographical and cadastral maps are generally constructed with a view to showing no measurable errors, and the class of error usually admitted in chaining is of the order of 1 in 1000, an error much smaller than is likely to be caused by hygrometric changes in the dimensions of the paper on which the map is printed. But when we begin enlarging such a map the original standards of accuracy tend to disappear and we meet with difficulties due to the coarseness resulting from the enlargement. There is no harm in this, if it is recognised that very precise measurements cannot be made from an enlargement; but as a counsel of perfection, each excavator should carry out his own triangulation, and his work should be plotted, originally, on a larger scale than intended for final publication. In the case of Ophel, what is now desirable is a special, close triangulation and traversing of the whole spur, fit for plotting, if need be, on a scale of 1 to 100. Perhaps this will come one day.

Meanwhile we have every reason to be grateful to the Government of Palestine for undertaking such an excellent, extended, large-scale survey of the neighbourhood of Jerusalem, a fitting successor to the earlier surveys and one which the many alterations and additions of new buildings outside the walls of the Old City have rendered indispensable for all those who use maps of Jerusalem.

It may be noted that the inner block of 16 sheets, covering an area of 16 square kilometres ($6\frac{1}{4}$ square miles), would form an admirable basis for reduction to, say, 1 to 5000, and would give an up-to-date single-sheet map of the city and its surroundings. It is possible that this may be in contemplation.

Just as the last paragraph was written we received from Sir Ronald Storrs a map of Jerusalem covering the area indicated, and, no doubt, based upon the official large-scale survey. This new single-sheet map of Jerusalem is printed in three forms with the lettering in English, Arabic and Hebrew, respectively. It is issued by the Pro-Jerusalem Society and will be found most useful to tourists and residents. The scale is approximately 1 to 5000 (it is not clear why it is not exactly to this scale), or about 12 inches to 1 mile. It is printed in black, with public buildings and contours in brown. No scale is marked, and this is a defect which should, at once, be remedied.

We have, on a previous occasion, had the pleasure of calling attention to the important work of the Pro-Jerusalem Society, and we hope that this useful map will serve as a reminder to many of what

this Society is doing. We have never yet had a map of Jerusalem so suitable as a wall map for general use and for exhibition in hotels and public buildings, and we congratulate the Pro-Jerusalem Society on its publication.

C. F. C.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

The Hebrew Ostrakon (see *Quarterly Statement*, 1924, pp. 183 sqq.).

Mr. Duncan sends the following letter from Prof. Albright:—

“This afternoon there was sun for the first time in two weeks, so I looked at the ostrakon again, and am convinced that I can get nothing more out of it. Mr. Inghold went over it with me the first day, when there was sun, and agreed with the following revised copy everywhere, except in the ק which I somewhat doubtfully read near the end of the first line. He says that he cannot see the stem; I think I can. The enclosed copy is a tracing from my original copy. In the first line (end) I read בקיידו *Bukkiyahu*, and in the eighth line ית[קיהו], as at the beginning of the first line.”

יח(ו)קיהו בן קרא הבתלשי בקיהו

ד ? ?
אחיהו בן צדק בעמק ירד[ו]

ד ? ?
צפ(ט)יהו בן קרוי בעמק ירד[ו]

..... קיהו[ו]

.....

.....

.....

יח[קיהו]

In line 1 “the Bitlishite” (?) may be the original of the Kithlish in Joshua xv, 40. In line 2 “son of Zedek,” read ש for צ?

W. F. ALBRIGHT.

JERUSALEM,

January 5th, 1925.