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# PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.

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## NOTES AND NEWS.

WITH the opening of the New Year the Committee of the Palestine Exploration Fund are looking forward to fresh opportunities for excavation that may present themselves. The last three years have been years of activity, how solid and useful the Annual itself will show. Though there has been nothing really sensational to report, the many miscellaneous finds have filled in not a few of the gaps in our knowledge, and have served to build up a background of the archaeological history of Jerusalem more secure than it was before. For 1926 the Committee are on the look-out for a new campaign, either in the way of completing the extraordinarily interesting work on Ophel or, should supporters of the Fund desire, an entirely new venture. The Committee would be prepared to consider schemes for excavating any site, provided only a reasonable amount of financial support could be guaranteed.

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There is no doubt that a considerable stimulus to archaeology in Palestine and Syria will be given by the forthcoming International Archaeological Congress to be held next April, commencing in Beirut. The meeting will include visits to Jebail (Byblus), Beisân, and many other points of interest, and the concluding sessions will be held in Jerusalem. The P.E.F. have been invited to send delegates to represent it, and it is hoped that three or four will be able to go. We hope and, indeed, anticipate that the outcome will be a wider appreciation of the importance of Palestine as a field of archaeology.

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We have received complimentary copies of the Guide Book to the Palestinian Museum of Antiquities, prepared by the first Keeper of the Museum, Mr. W. J. Phythian-Adams, M.A., D.S.O., M.C. The contents of the Museum have been admirably arranged on scientific principles, and in a way eminently calculated to give the

visitor a clear knowledge of the archaeological history of Palestine. Visitors to Jerusalem will, of course, find it indispensable. Among objects of special interest may be mentioned the fine sarcophagus from Tell Barak, the basalt stelae from Beisān, and Greco-Roman remains from Askalon.

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The Philadelphian expedition at Beisān under Mr. Rowe (accompanied by Mr. Gerald FitzGerald) is to be congratulated upon the very interesting discoveries which it continues to make. Some account of these, with illustrations, have been given by Mr. Rowe in *The Times*, and their value for our knowledge of the old religion of Palestine is unmistakable. Remains have been found of four Canaanite temples, of models of votive-offerings of a type unique as regards Palestine, and Egyptian representations of local Semitic deities. A brief résumé will be found on another page.

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It is announced from Cairo that Prof. Breasted is proposing to excavate the site of Megiddo. It was first opened up by Dr. Schumacher in 1903-5, and the results were finally published in 1908. Only a small portion of the Tell was examined, and it is good news that more of this famous and important city is now to be laid bare. Mr. J. D. Rockefeller, junr., it is said, has contributed a sum of \$215,000 for a five years' period of excavation. We congratulate Prof. Breasted, and look forward to the results.

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In the April *Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research*, Dr. Clarence S. Fisher suggests a plan for the systematic co-ordination of American archaeological research in Palestine and Syria. It is proposed that the American School in Jerusalem should be the common centre of activities, so that American Universities or other institutions, without sacrificing their independence, either financially or as regards personnel, should be able to work along parallel and interdependent lines, thus avoiding the necessity of having to make fresh starts and to spend considerable sums on stores, instruments, etc., which might be shared in common or owned by the School. The scheme is an important one, and worthy of attention.

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The three British Academy "Schweich Lectures" were delivered in November and December by Dr. Stanley A. Cook, who took as

his subject the "Religion of Ancient Palestine in the Light of Archaeology." They were illustrated by numerous slides, a number of which were taken from the large and unique collection possessed by the Fund. (It is perhaps not so well known as it might be that the Fund's collection is a singularly rich one, and always being increased.) In the course of his remarks he showed how archaeology threw light upon certain familiar fundamental religious ideas, while at the same time it brought new and extremely interesting problems of ancient religious and other beliefs. Cults and practices could be illustrated by seals, bas-reliefs, and coins, and Dr. Cook emphasized both the continuity in the history of Palestine in spite of the great historical changes and the close relationship between Palestine and its neighbours in spite of profound differences, *e.g.* as regards the Phoenician and the Israelite attitude to human sacrifice. The concluding lecture dealt with the Greco-Roman period and the background of Rabbinical Judaism and Christianity.

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Readers will have noticed the vexatious, though obvious, slip on p. 180 of the October *Q.S.*, fifth line from the foot, where Josephus is quoted as saying that "the whole compass of the city was thirty-three *cubits*" for *stadia*.

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

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The list of books received will be found below, p. 4 *sq.*

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

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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 Committee gratefully acknowledge the following special contributions :—

	£	s.	d.
The Schweich Bequest Fund, to complete donation of £1,000 towards the Ophel Excavations ... ..	333	6	8
Sir Charles Marston, to complete donation of £2,000 towards the Ophel Excavation	250	0	0
W. G. Gardiner, Esq. ... ..	10	0	0
James Melrose, Esq.... ..	10	0	0
Capel Morris, Esq. ... ..	10	0	0

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 £12 12s. 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 5, 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 also to acknowledge with thanks the following :—  
*Sacrifice in the Old Testament*, by the late George Buchanan Gray.  
Clarendon Press.

*Egyptian Religion and Ethics*, by F. W. Read. Watts & Co.

*The Near East and India*, October 22, November 19: Oriental types, by F. W. Chardin.

*Scottish Geographical Journal*, September, 1925: Climatic influences in some ancient Mediterranean religions (*cont.*), by Miss Ellen Churchill Semple.

*Expository Times*.

*The New Judaea*, December 4. The Institute of Jewish Studies at the Hebrew University.

*Zionist Review.*

*Annual of the American Schools of Oriental Research*, v (for 1923-24).

*Journal of the Society of Oriental Research.*

*Art and Archaeology.*

*Jewish Quarterly Review.*

*Geographical Review* (N.Y.).

*American Journal of Philology*, xlvii, 3: Studies in superstition and folk-lore: Homer, by Ernst Riess.

*Journal of the American Oriental Society*, xlv, 3: The Aḥiram inscription of Byblus, by Prof. C. C. Torrey.

*The Homiletic Review*, October: A new challenge in the Old East, by Pres. Bayard Dodge.

*Bulletin of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.*

*Journal Asiatique.*

*Bulletin de Correspondance Hellénique*, July-December, 1924.

*Revue Biblique*, October: Épigraphe palestinienne, by R. P. F.-M. Abel; l'homme quaternaire en Galilée; Jérusalem glanures archéologiques; autour du rempart d'Agrippa, by R. P. L.-H. Vincent.

*Biblica*, September: Prehistoric man in Palestine, by A. Mallon.

*Conscientia.*

*Zeitschrift des Deutschen Palästina-Vereins*, xlviii, 3-4: The 'Ajlūn, by Prof. Steuernagel; a forgotten sanctuary of the prophet Elijah, by Prof. Alt; an unknown conqueror of Jerusalem, by Prof. Krauss; meteorological reports, etc.

*Der 'Adschlun*, by Dr. Carl Steuernagel, parts i and ii (two parts to follow). Hinrichs, Leipzig. (Reprinted from the above.)

*Zeitschrift für die Alttest. Wissenschaft und die Kunde des nachbiblischen Judentums.*

*Palästina-Jahrbuch*, 1925: The northern roads of Jerusalem, by Prof. Dalman; the lily of the Bible, by the same; the Judah of Josiah's age, by Prof. Alt, etc.

*Die Landnahme der Israeliten in Palästina: Territorialgeschichtlichen Studien*, by Prof. Albrecht Alt. Leipzig, 1925.

*Reallexikon der Vorgeschichte* (Gruyter & Co., Berlin): Reprints of articles on Palestinian archaeology in vols. iii *sqq.*, by Dr. Peter Thomsen.

*Orientalistische Literaturzeitung*, November-December, cols. 785-1028.

*Jüdisches Wochenblatt.*

*Guide Book to the Palestinian Museum of Antiquities*, 1925.

*Journal of the Palestine Oriental Society*, v, 2-3: History of Jaffa, by S. Tolkowsky; Hyksos and Hebrews, by Father Alexis Mallon; animals in Palestinian folk-lore, by S. H. Stephan, etc.

*Bible Lands*, October: The Galilean skull.

ידיעות וגו: The Hebrew University at Jerusalem, reports, articles, etc.

NEA ΣΙΩΝ, August: Continuation of Greek account of Mr. Garrow Duncan's report on the Fund's excavations. September: Antiquities of Jerusalem. October: The walls of Jerusalem.

*Al-Mashrik*, October: History and monuments of Beirut, by P. L. Cheikho. November: Same continued. December: Ditto.

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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).

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.

Sir George Arthur, *The Life of Lord Kitchener*.

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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.

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#### 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.