

SCRIPTURE

THE QUARTERLY OF THE CATHOLIC BIBLICAL ASSOCIATION

VOL. IV. No. 9

JANUARY 1951

EDITORIAL

The Annual General Meeting of the Association was held at the Newman International Centre, 31 Portman Square, London, W.1., on Tuesday, 19th December, at 6 p.m. Before the Business Meeting a paper was read by the Very Reverend Monsignor J. M. T. Barton, D.D., L.S.S., F.S.A., entitled *Archæology and the Exodus*. The meeting and the paper were followed by an interesting discussion.

As mentioned in the October issue of *SCRIPTURE*, the C.B.A. lending library has now been housed at the Newman Centre and members may now apply for books on the usual conditions. We apologize for the long period during which it was not available to the public, but this was due, as the saying goes, to circumstances beyond our control. Application should be made to the C.B.A. Librarian, Newman International Centre, 31 Portman Square, London, W.1.

The Holy Year has drawn to its close leaving us many precious memories. Among notable pronouncements besides the Encyclical Letter *Humani Generis*, there appeared during the month of May, the *Instruction of the Pontifical Biblical Commission on the Teaching of Scripture in Seminaries and Colleges*. In general the purpose of the document is to attach the maximum importance to this subject, to urge that every facility, both of time, and other means, be given to the professor charged with teaching it, and to lay down the general lines along which teaching should be directed. In part this repeats what has been said before in Papal documents, in part lays new emphasis and deals with further points.

Great stress is laid on the value of Scripture in the spiritual formation of the student for the priesthood, bearing in mind also the apostolate for which he is destined. Thus while re-emphasising the need for a thoroughly scientific training in the Bible that the student may be abreast of the problems of the day, the Instruction urges that daily Scripture reading and meditation be practised, not only during term but also during vacation time, so that it may become a life-long habit with immense fruit to the spiritual life of the student. To the same end, the doctrine, above all, of the Bible should be brought out, showing the development of Revelation,

the connexion between the Testaments, and the spiritual value for our times of the Old Testament also. The Library too should be well-stocked with the best works—both Patristic and more recent commentaries, encyclopaedias, lexicons, and periodicals. Likewise, Scripture should have its due place in the Junior Clergy Examinations and the Clergy Conferences.

CORRIGENDA

In the article *The New Latin Translation of the Psalms* (SCRIPTURE, July 1950, p. 206, lines 2-3) a sentence occurred which seemed to imply that this translation was or could now be used at Mass by the priest. No such authorization has in fact been given.

In a footnote to the article *Trends in Biblical Interpretation* (SCRIPTURE, Oct. 1950, p. 247), the last sentence should read 'His work entitled *Origène*, Paris 1948, in the series *Le génie du Christianisme*, should also be read'.

'THE EXPECTATION OF THE CREATURE'¹

IF anyone loveth not the Lord, let him be anathema' (I Cor. xvi, 22). St Paul who had persecuted the Lord Jesus reacted with all the intensity that is characteristic of such a psychological *volte-face* when it is, in addition, brought about and brought to its term by the power of grace. 'There is one God, one mediator also between God and men, himself man, Christ Jesus, who gave himself a ransom for all men, bearing in due season his witness, whereunto I have been appointed preacher and apostle . . .' (I Tim. ii, 5).

This Lord Jesus is the image of the invisible God, the brightness of his glory ; every knee should bend before him. He is the same yesterday, to-day and for ever ; the end of the Law, the corner-stone and foundation. He is our peace, reconciliation and glory, most essentially Saviour. And in preaching to the Corinthian converts St Paul claimed to preach nothing save Christ, and him crucified. All the blessings of the new economy flow from Calvary ; it becomes the supreme and only viewpoint for those who would scan the mysteries of God's plan through the ages. On it St Paul very deliberately takes his stand ; as do all the saints in the history of the Church. It is more essential for every Christian because immediate in its relation to the 'one thing necessary' which is salvation that comes of love and following of our Lord.

¹ Rom. viii, 19.