

# Scripture

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## EDITORIAL

*The New Manuscript Discoveries.* We are pleased to hear that Rev. P. W. Skehan of the Catholic University of America is spending a year in Palestine working on the manuscript fragments in Hebrew and Aramaic. A quarter of these are from the Old Testament and mainly of the first century A.D. Fr Skehan is carrying out this work as Annual Professor from 1954 to 1955 of the American School of Oriental Research. The discoveries made in the area of the Dead Sea since 1947 have been even more striking, and fragments of a large proportion of Old Testament books have now been found. See article on p. 131.

*Obituary.* We record with regret the death of Rev. Roger T. O'Callaghan, S.J., Professor of Archaeology at Fordham University, New York, and of Professor Maxwell Power of Kenyon College, Gambler, Ohio. The two professors were killed in a car accident on 5 March in Iraq. Fr O'Callaghan, who was forty-one years old, taught at the Pontifical Biblical Institute, Rome, from 1946 to 1952, and was carrying out research in Iraq. It is a tragic loss of a gifted and promising Biblical scholar.

*Reviews.* The Argentine *Revista Biblica* celebrates the seventieth birthday of Dr Straubinger who founded it and who has done so much for Bible study there. In the January-March 1954 issue there is a large liturgical section with articles on Lent, the Paschal Vigil, and the Dialogue Mass, in addition to a generous number of Biblical articles of wide appeal, e.g. "The language that Jesus spoke", the Apocalypse of St John, types of Our Lady in the Old Testament. It is the only Catholic Biblical review in S. America and as such has a special significance.

Of rather different character is *Crux*, the magazine of the Union of Catholic Students of Great Britain, the spring number of which we have received. It is edited from Oxford, and this number has a very varied selection of articles on topical subjects. Two writers debate the Cardinal's recent pronouncement on Catholic novelists. Another considers the right approach in discussing religion with non-Catholics; then we have an article on the overseas students in London; another

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on the Priest-workers and again one on the recent pamphlets written against the Catholic Church. The articles are all topical, well written, short (none exceeds two pages) and thus well calculated to excite interest and provide genuine information. May it long flourish.

*Back numbers.* We are receiving urgent requests for back numbers of *Scripture* which are now out of print. They are as follows : Vol. I, No. 1 (1946), Vol. III, No. 3 (1948), Vol. IV, Nos. 2 and 4 (1949), and Vol. V, No. 1 (1952). We shall be happy to purchase any of these from readers.