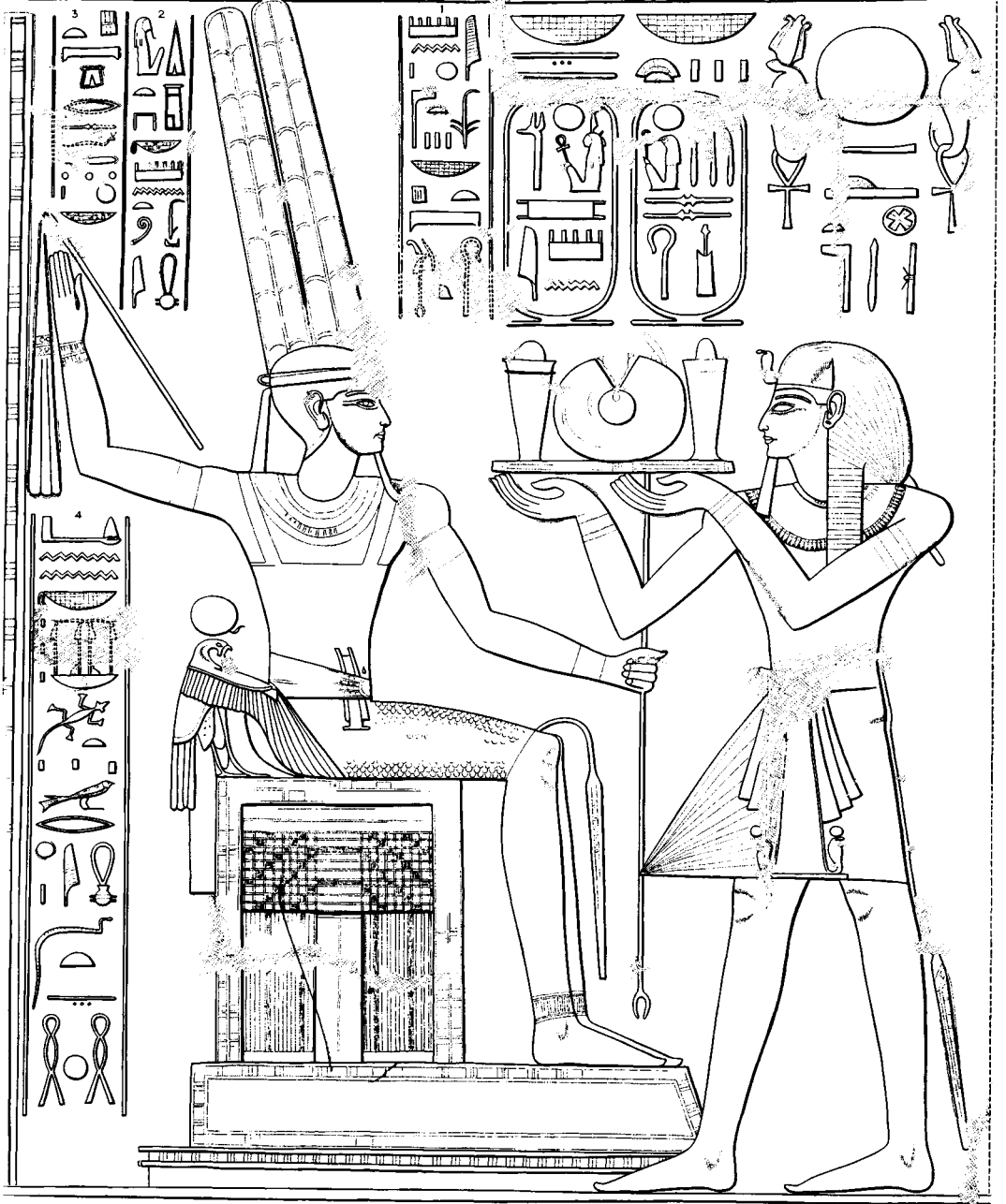
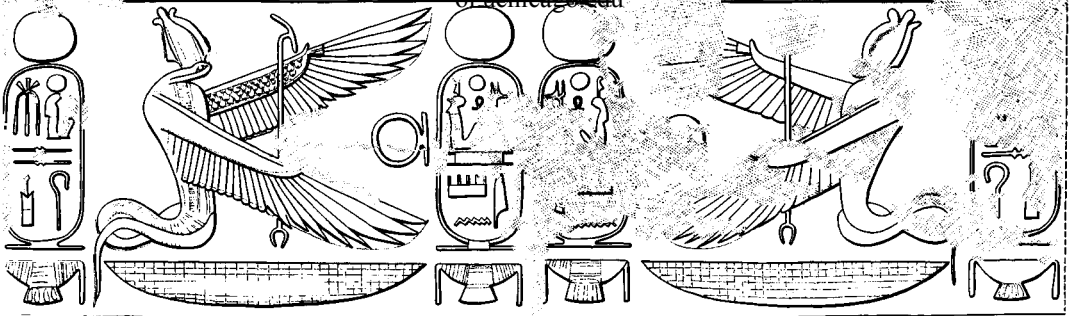


## FIELD WORK

During the academic and fiscal year just ended, the Oriental Institute had four expeditions in the field, one in Egypt, two in Iraq, and one in Libya. Of the two expeditions in Iraq, one was undertaken jointly with the Baghdad School of the American Schools of Oriental Research. Part of the work in Egypt was done in co-operation with the Department of Antiquities there.

Archeology with such scope is "big business." It requires careful planning, a full knowledge of local conditions and how to adjust to them, the availability of trained personnel, devoted leadership on the part of the field directors, a scholarly understanding of what is found and done, exact accounting and competent administration at the home base. In terms of money alone the field work during the past year involved for us a total outlay of \$139,794.94, not counting the salaries of American staff members or of those who worked with us as representatives of the Departments of Antiquities of Egypt and Iraq, and not counting administrative expenses at the home base. Of this sum, \$67,394.94 were supplied by the Oriental Institute, \$15,500 by the American Schools of Oriental Research, and \$56,900 by other agencies.

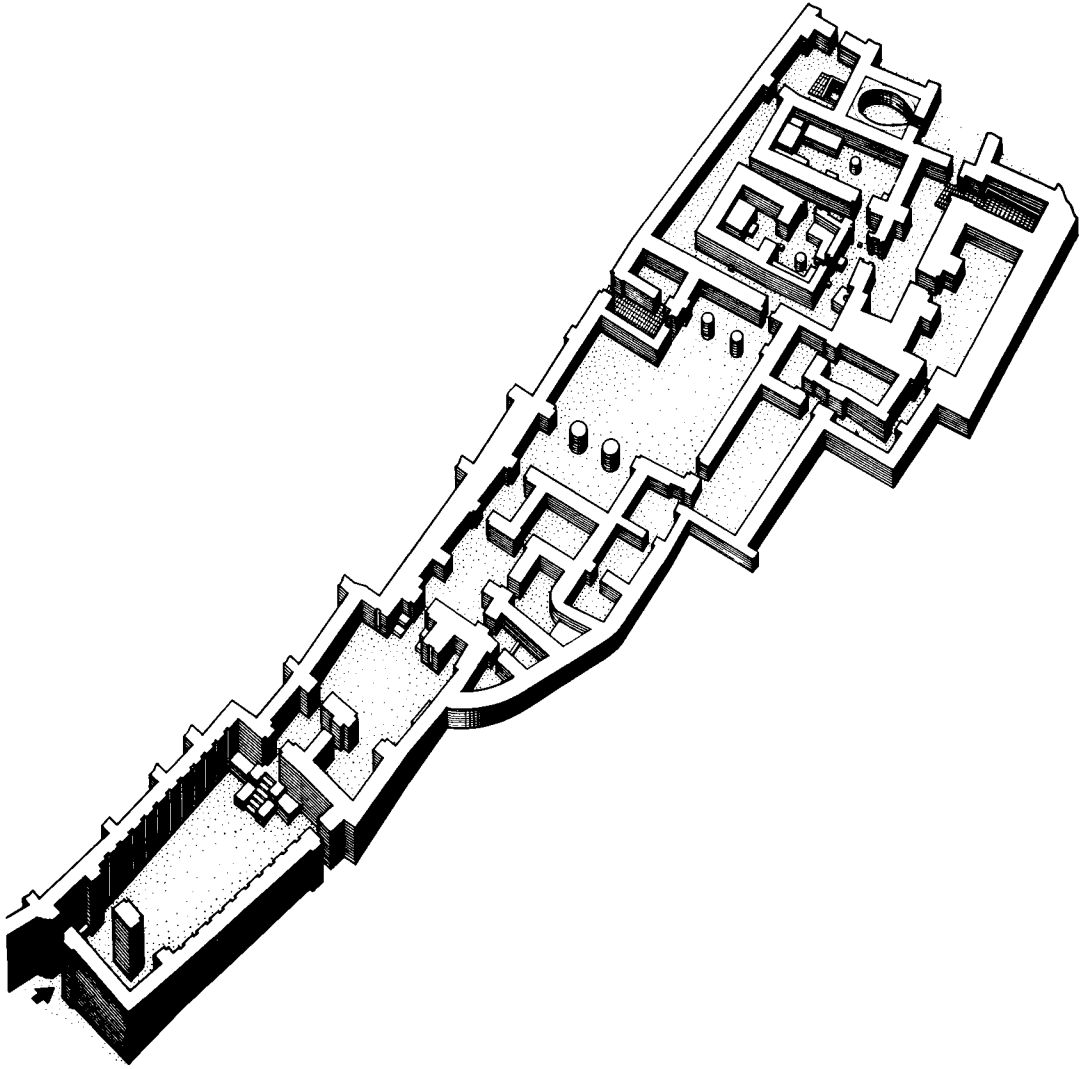
In Egypt the work of the Epigraphic Survey Expedition, which for years has been recording the reliefs and inscriptions of the great Mortuary Temple of Ramses III at Medinet Habu, was continued under the direction of Dr. George Hughes. To bring this



enterprise closer to completion and to prepare the next (sixth) in the series of great folio volumes in which the materials are painstakingly recorded, the staff at Luxor was enlarged during the past year so that four (rather than two) artist-draftsmen were working with the two epigraphers in copying the material. Simultaneously, as the result of arrangements made with the Egyptian Department of Antiquities, a new enterprise was begun jointly with the Department, namely the clearance of a tomb in the Theban necropolis. The tomb is that of a certain Kheruef, the steward of Queen Tiy, who was the wife of Amenhotep III (ca. 1411-1375 B.C.) and the mother of the famous Akhenaton. First found in 1885, then lost and only in 1943 relocated by the then Chief Inspector of Antiquities for Upper Egypt, the tomb is an ambitious work combining a series of courts and halls carved in the solid rock floor of the Theban necropolis east of the magnificent Mortuary Temple of Queen Hatshepsut. The clearance of the tomb during the past season was directly in charge of Dr. Labib Habachi, recently Chief Inspector of Antiquities for Upper Egypt and resident at Luxor. The existence of a great underground hypostyle hall and of a series of supplementary burial chambers was established, and important finds were made, including part of a granite statue of Kheruef himself. Late intrusive burials in the underground hall yielded a series of well preserved wooden coffins (see cover) with beautifully painted inner coffins and mummy cases. In underwriting the project, the Oriental Institute has insisted that the huge mass of chips and dirt under which the tomb was buried be removed far from the scene by truck so as not to encumber other antiquities sites, this being, to the best of our knowledge, the first time that this method has been applied to tomb clearance in the area. Work will hopefully be resumed here in the 1958/59 season. Once the entire tomb with its appendages has been cleared and made accessible to visitors, the work of recording its reliefs and inscriptions and of preparing a final report upon the whole will be undertaken.

In Iraq, under the direction of Richard C. Haines, a sixth season of work was done at the site of the sacred city of the Sumerians, ancient Nippur. As in 1955/56, the Baghdad School of the American Schools of Oriental Research co-operated with us and supplied the epigraphers of the expedition, to read the cuneiform texts as they came from the ground. Here operations were on a still larger scale than in the clearance of the Tomb of Kheruef, with over one hundred laborers at work and with the Institute's Decauville Railroad in operation. One entire lobe of the high multi-mile-square mound that marks the site of the ancient city was cleared to a depth of some thirty-five feet, exposing successive levels that reveal the history of the important shrine of Inanna, the Goddess of Love. At the top, on a high artificial platform, the temple of the Parthian period (second century B.C.) was completely exposed. Under this the sanctuary of the period of the Third Dynasty of Ur (2150-2000 B.C.) was cleared as far as it was preserved, and below this in turn an Early Dynastic temple (third millennium B.C.) of the same goddess was brought to light. Factors of continuity and discontinuity in the development of temple structure throughout this long period were recorded on carefully prepared plans and drawings, giving an insight into the development of religious usage and its function in the life of a developing society. Hundreds of clay tablets were discovered, a goodly number with mythical and religious texts, as well as sculptures and many objects of art in bronze and clay. Another bronze foundation statuette representing King Urnammu, carrying the first pan of mortar for laying the first brick of the temple, was numbered among the finds. As the result of the work of the past season, we are in a position to describe in rather complete detail the history of the chief religious center of the ancient city of Nippur over a period of several thousand years. To interpret and to publish the material brought to light is the all-important task of the immediate future in connection with this enterprise, begun in 1947.

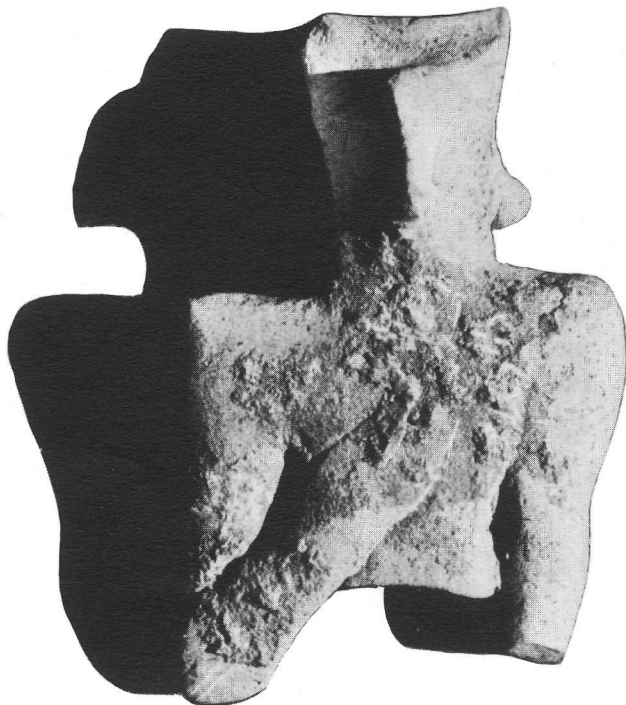




*Plan of Early Dynastic temple to the goddess Inanna at Nippur*

During the years 1930-38 the Oriental Institute carried on excavations in a series of mounds dotting the basin of the Diyala River, a tributary of the Tigris in the area east of Baghdad. Here there had been built an expedition house which, on completion of the excavations, became the property of the Iraq Government in accordance with local laws. During the season 1957/58 the scene of these earlier operations became the site of a new undertaking for the purposes of which the old expedition house was refurbished and once more put into use. The new undertaking, conducted jointly with the Department of Antiquities of Iraq and made possible by the I Technical Section of the Iraq Development Board, represented a departure from traditional archeology, especially in its immediate purposes. The purposes were to provide the Development Board with a historical study of the ancient irrigation system in the Diyala Basin, from its beginning through the Islamic period and up to the period of the Mongol invasions in the

*Fragment of terra-cotta sculpture from Nippur*





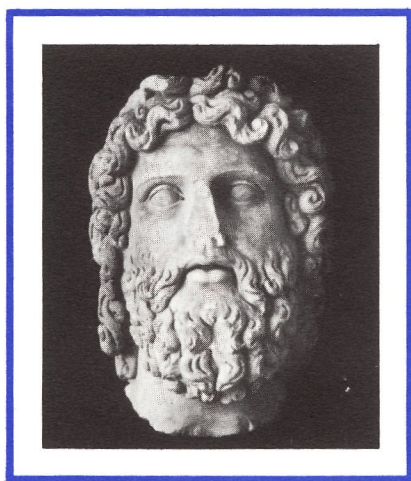
thirteenth century of our era. The study was to serve a practical purpose, namely to exhibit the rationale of ancient irrigation as a guide for modern reclamation attempts and to show particularly how the ancients had handled the ever present problem of salinity in the alluvial soils. At the same time it was inevitable that the study would throw much light upon the social and economic life of the region and thus on the history of culture there. The work was in charge of Dr. Thorkild Jacobsen, with Dr. Robert McCormick Adams as second in command. The first (preliminary) report of the findings, complete with many maps and charts, has already been issued on schedule to the Iraq Development Board. It is a highly technical but also a highly important document and one that points the way to opportunities for new insights into the cultural development in the Land of the Two Rivers. The Institute will, during the course of the immediate future, restudy the fundamental strategy of its work in Iraq in the effort to capitalize upon the enterprise just completed.



*Floor mosaic at Tolmeita*



The fourth of the Institute's field expeditions spent only the four months in the field that its leader, the director of the Institute, could spare from his home commitments. Its locus, on the shores of the Mediterranean in Libya at ancient Ptolemais, made possible continuance of the work to the end of June. This permitted the participation of Institute staff members from Egypt and Iraq, where work has to stop much earlier because of climatic factors. The expedition this year was devoted to the completion of work in certain city blocks where excavations had, in earlier years, been



*Head of Zeus from Tolmeita*

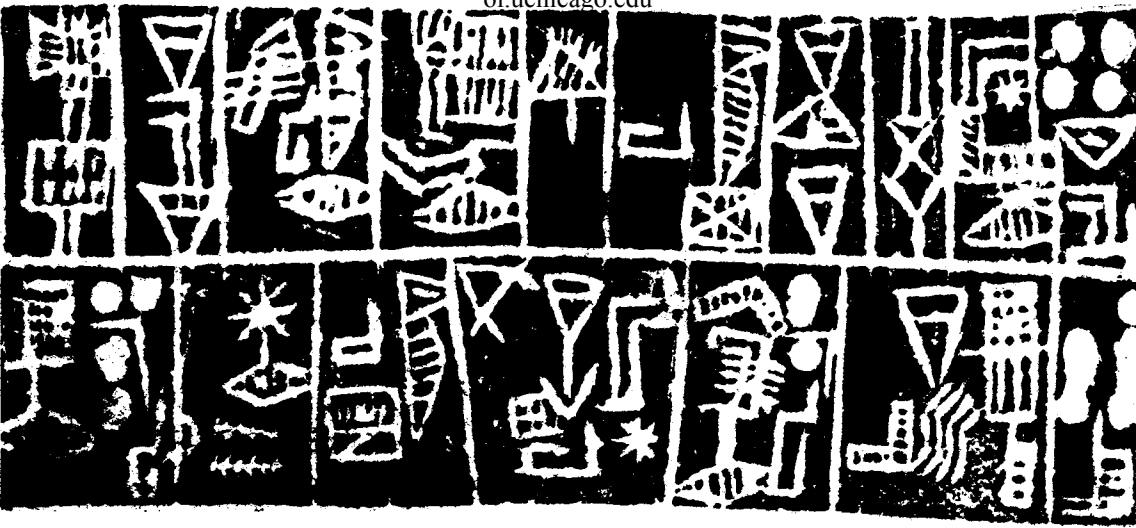
begun and to the preparation of an over-all record of the history and nature of the city. The excavations in the City Bath that had yielded the torsos of several statues in the previous season were highly rewarding also this year. But the finds consisted mainly of excellent heads from still other statues. Of these, one was assigned to the Oriental Institute in the division at the end of the season. The material for the book that will put this interesting colony of the Greek Pharaohs of Egypt on the map is now in hand, and to prepare the publication is next on the docket in this connection.

## WORK AT HOME

As in previous years the tempo of the work at the home base has by no means lagged behind that of the field operations. To maintain the expeditions in the field is itself no mean task, and as the number of expeditions increases, so also does the administrative work at home. But other matters loomed still larger.

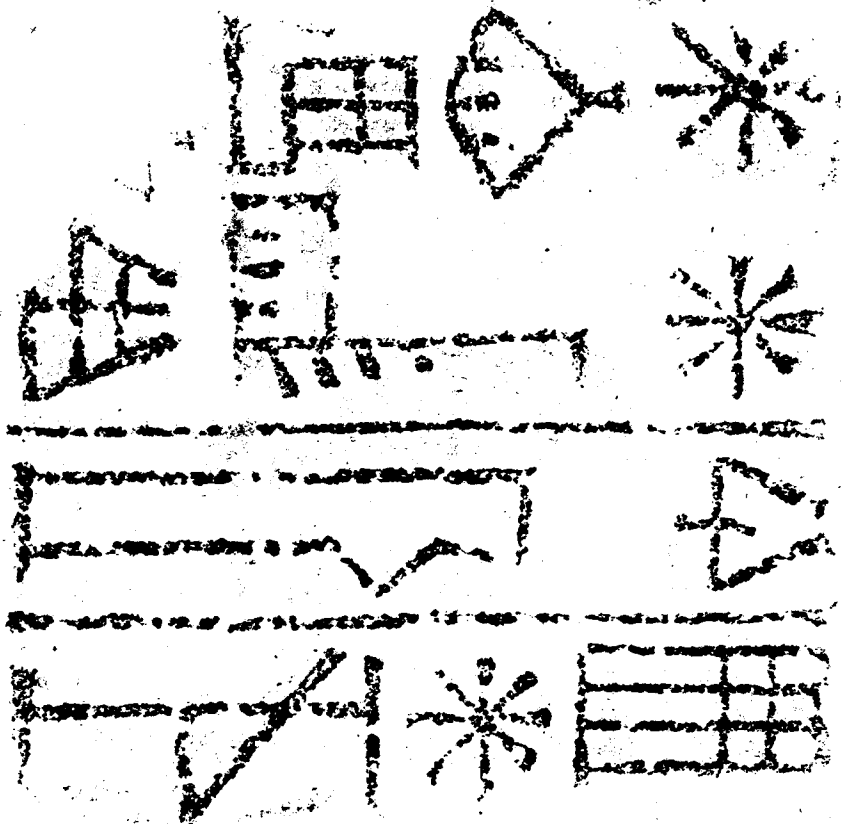
The greatest and most long-established of the Institute's home research projects, the publication of the first comprehensive Assyrian Dictionary, continued to make excellent progress. Of the twenty-two volumes anticipated (one for each letter of the alphabet), the third is expected to appear soon and the fourth is already in the hands of the printer. The schedule which Professor Oppenheim has set for himself and his group is an ambitious one, but nothing short of a two-volume-per-annum publication program will guarantee for the work the uniform cast that it must have. Already the Dictionary is receiving international acclaim as marking the beginning of a new epoch in the history of Assyriological studies, and some small measure of financial assistance in covering printing costs has been made available by Canadian and European agencies. But the costs continue to be high. To maintain the staff is currently costing the Institute \$42,000 per annum, and printing is absorbing an average of \$12,000 more. Printing is being done in Germany. As expected, sales return only a small part of the investment in printing costs, since the work is a tool above all for scholars and for libraries used by scholars who are competent in the field.





*Part of land deed inscribed on stone tablet of 25th century B.C., from Iraq*

*Akkadian brick stamp of about 2250 B.C., from Iraq*



The change in the Institute's publication procedure, reported last year, has been of great benefit to sales. By putting back into stock titles of which bound copies were no longer available, by reprinting a few titles for which there was continuing demand, and, above all, by lowering prices of expensive titles and offering them in sets, we have trebled the sales volume and quadrupled the proportion of the income which the University Press pays into our publication account. The rise in the sales volume has made us particularly happy, because it indicates that our books are going off the shelves of the warehouse to the libraries and scholars who need them. The net income to us (\$8,140.53) is fed back into publication, and, while the rise is partially offset by continuously mounting publication costs, it is highly encouraging nonetheless.

*Lapis lazuli mother goddess holding child (ca. 4000 B.C.), from Iraq  
Gift of Chester D. Tripp*



Teaching and the training of graduate students in the fields of the Institute's specialization continue on the high level of previous years. Efforts are being made to provide some participation of Institute scholars also in the undergraduate curriculum, not only to give additional breadth to the college curriculum itself, but also to establish a basis for the recruitment of students in fields in which prerequisites are extensive and in which specialization must begin early. One of the greatest needs of the Institute at the present time is for new staff appointments at the junior level, so that replacements may become available as senior staff members retire. A series of such retirements, determined by the statutes of the University, is scheduled to begin in 1959.

An important innovation, the appointment of a Docent, to guide visitors to the Institute Museum and to increase the use of the Museum by schools in the Greater Chicago area was announced in the Report for 1956/57. The undertaking has been continued successfully in the past year. The statistics show that, while the number of schools served is slightly lower, the number of students brought to the Institute is slightly higher.

	<i>Grade Schools</i>	<i>High Schools</i>	<i>Colleges and Seminaries</i>	<i>Other Institu- tions</i>	<i>Totals</i>
Number of groups	77	28	16	34	155
Number of persons	2,578	1,217	508	1,055	5,358

The Museum continues to attract visitors from Chicago and especially from other cities over and above those for whom study tours are arranged. The number of visitors to the Museum during the academic year 1957/58, as reported by the Museum Office, was 43,369.

The Museum continues to acquire new objects through the Oriental Institute's expeditions and through purchases made possible by Membership funds. These, as well as the use of the Museum particularly by student groups from grade and high schools and the desire to see the available materials used and exhibited in keeping with the best and most modern procedures and standards, pose a series of problems for the Museum. Its most urgent needs are:

1. Additional exhibition space, which ultimately will require the addition of a new wing to the Institute building.
2. Space for mounting children's exhibits, to fit in with the curricular work of grade- and high-school groups, and for simple classroom and workshop facilities to make children's visits to the Museum more valuable.
3. Provision for workshop facilities to permit the application of the natural sciences, paleozoölogy, paleobotany, agronomy, X-ray diffraction, and carbon and hydrogen analysis to the non-artifactual and artifactual materials found in the excavations and available for the reconstruction of the development of ancient civilization.

Gifts and legacies to assist in providing for these needs would greatly add to the effectiveness of the Institute's work and to its future leadership in service and research.

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