



To the Members and Friends of the Oriental Institute:

The academic year of the Oriental Institute opened last July under the clouds of uncertainty. Carl Kraeling had been forced to resign as Director because his health would not permit him to carry on. While the University was looking for a successor, I was installed to carry on for one year. The field program involved unusual ventures, because of financial and political unknowns. The financial uncertainties arose chiefly out of the emergency expedition to Nubia, which could not be a part of the already accepted budget. The political problems were those inherent in a commitment to carry out a field project months in advance of the departure to the field, and political winds veer so rapidly these days that such early engagements to undertake specific actions may have to be canceled or altered suddenly.

The year draws to a close on a wonderfully positive note. No less than four expeditions were in the field, and every one of them enjoyed a remarkable success. They will be detailed below, but the highlights might be summarized here. The Nippur Expedition in Iraq, under the quiet and competent directorship of Richard C. Haines, enjoyed a sensational success in excavating the temple of the goddess Inanna, with the finest discovery of sculptured materials in twenty-five years. The Nubian Expedition, under the vigorous directorship of Keith C. Seele, became the first new expedition to take the field after the international appeal and the first expedition to complete its allotted task.

These were our two gratifying sensations. If we mention them particularly, this does not diminish the positive achievements of the other expeditions in the field and the steady production of the home activities, both of which are reported below.

Every third year the International Congress of Orientalists convenes for the scholars to exchange views and renew acquaintances.

In August, 1960, the XXVth Congress met in Moscow. Five scholars from the Oriental Institute had been chosen as delegates representing the American Oriental Society. This was the largest representation from any American institution. Indeed, the five members of the Oriental Institute and the seventeen colleagues, former colleagues, and former students probably constituted the largest foreign representation in the Soviet Union last summer. Our delegates had rewarding opportunities to meet Russian and other foreign colleagues, to view some of the remarkable collections in the Soviet museums, and to make trips into parts of the Soviet Union of particular interest to Orientalists, such as the Caucasus and Uzbekistan. One cannot deny that a new political coloration of the Congress presented distressing problems for scholarship, but the individual experiences of our scholars added greatly to the scope of their work.

Dr. and Mrs. Kraeling carried through the year with encouraging success. Although his release from administrative duties gave him the freedom to undertake field research, it was not clear how much activity his health would permit. After careful experiment with climates and altitudes, the Kraelings settled down in Jerusalem, where Dr. Kraeling started a study of the Roman period of that city. His letters to the home office have been refreshingly vigorous and cheerful, and he participated with zest in an excursion to two of his enthusiasms, Petra and Jerash. His friends will be happy to know that his year, which started with such distressing portents, has proved to be so characteristically rich.

The budget of the Oriental Institute retains its normal structure, a solid core of income from endowment funds, support from general University funds, the allocation of a grant from Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., for specified individual purposes, and the generous contributions of Members and friends of the Institute. Particularly in this year of transition and of the Nubian emergency, we are endlessly grateful to those who have made personal sacrifices so that our work may go on. Dr. Kraeling's ambition was to turn over a tidy financial structure to his successors. With your continued generosity, this can be our happy fortune.

Cordially,

JOHN A. WILSON
Director

WORK IN THE FIELD

Since World War II, no Institute year has been so active in the field. Four of our field directors will make brief reports below. We should further express our gratitude to George R. Hughes, Director of the Epigraphic Expedition at Luxor, Egypt. In addition to his personal and staff contributions to the Nubian expedition, Dr. Hughes continued to direct the copying of the Temple of Medinet Habu at Thebes and to run Chicago House at Luxor in an exceptionally active year. His unflagging cheerfulness in a distracting and difficult season has earned him the warm gratitude of his colleagues in the field and at home.

Two members of our staff were privileged to participate in an outside expedition in the summers of 1960 and 1961. A joint expedition from Harvard, Cornell, and the American Schools of Oriental Research has been excavating the famous site of Sardis in western Turkey. We are proud that Gustavus F. Swift, Jr. and Donald P. Hansen of the Institute staff rendered such valued service to this expedition in 1960 that they were called back again for 1961. Each of them was intrusted with the responsibility for a specific locality within Sardis.

The Oriental Institute was also very much involved in the international aspects of the campaign to save the Nubian monuments. The director of the Institute, John A. Wilson, is the American member of the international advisory committee for the United Arab Republic and made two flying trips to Cairo for meetings of that committee. Since he is also the Executive Secretary of the United States National Committee for Nubia, the Oriental Institute offices were a center for planning and correspondence about the campaign. At this writing, a recommendation from President Kennedy rests in the Congress for the allocation of ten million dollars to save the Nubian monuments and to assist American archeological work in the threatened area. The funds would come out of American credits already in the United Arab Republic. The Institute's reputation has thus laid upon us a new and heavy responsibility. Fortunately, that responsibility also has its rewards in brilliant opportunities in the present and future.

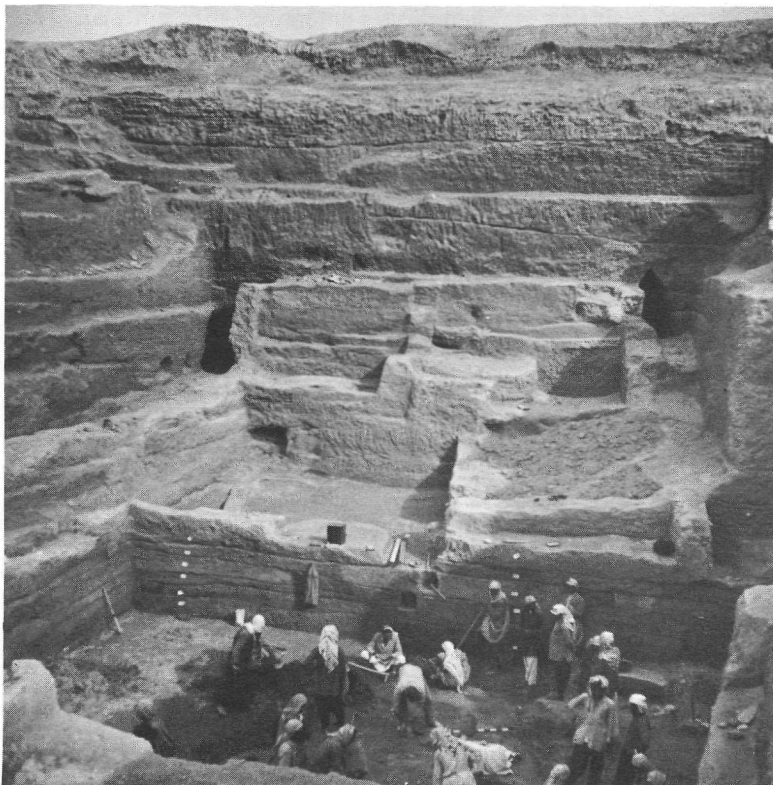


THE NIPPUR EXPEDITION

During the winter of 1960/61 the Nippur Expedition returned to Iraq to conduct its seventh season of excavation at Nippur, the religious center of ancient Sumer and one of the major cities of Mesopotamia. The primary objective was to continue the excavation of the temple of Inanna, the goddess of love and war. The temple was discovered in 1952, but systematic excavation was not started until 1955/56. The work was continued in '57/'58 and again this season. In early spring (February in Iraq) the earliest temple of Inanna was reached, and the digging was continued through the underlying strata of private houses to sterile soil. Sterile soil was reached a little more than 60 feet below the surface of the mound and about 4 feet below the present water table. At present there is a great gaping hole approximately 200 by 350 feet which decreases in size as the successively deeper temple structures became smaller and smaller until there is no more than a pit 16 by 26 feet at the water level.

The topmost stratum contained a Parthian temple, and below it there were evidences of temples belonging to the Assyrian, Kassite, and Isin-Larsa(?) periods. The next earlier temple, with an almost complete ground plan, was built during the Third Dynasty of Ur by Shulgi, who placed seven solid bronze foundation figurines in baked brick boxes below the temple walls. During these periods, which span some two thousand years, Inanna's temple was a large monumental building with buttressed walls, towered gates, and large interior courtyards.

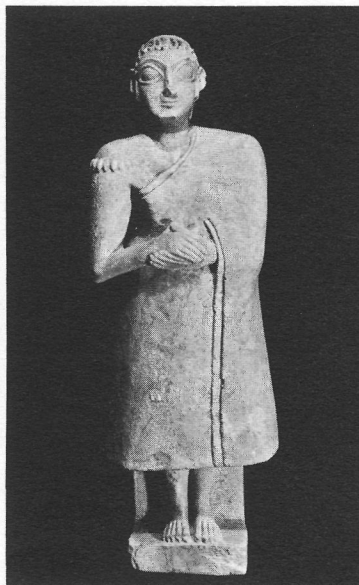
An inscribed macehead indicated that Naram Sin also rebuilt the temple in Akkadian times, but no visible traces of it remained; and only fragments of two earlier buildings attested to the building activity of an Early Dynastic III(?) people. By the end of the 1958 season the major part of a still earlier temple, probably belonging to the end of Early Dynastic II, had been outlined and dug to its highest floors. At the beginning of the present season the temple was completely cleared and excavated to its foundations. It was a long, narrow, irregularly planned building with two sanctuaries or shrines. Each shrine contained benches, circular offering tables, and an unmistakable altar. One small square shrine contained nothing; another rectangular shrine contained statuary and other temple objects

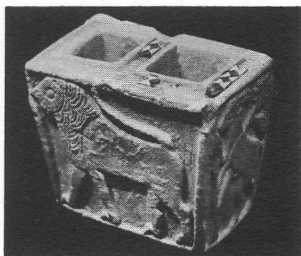


Site of the Inanna Temple excavated to the Protoliterate period

which will do much to supplement our knowledge of the sculpture of the period. Most of the objects were found in two main groups: one buried in a corner beneath the earliest floor and the other within the plasterings of a nearby bench. There were statues of men and women with hands clasped together in adoration, ritual stands or kohl boxes decorated in bas-relief, small vases supported by sculptured bulls and birds, mother-of-pearl inlays, and inscribed bowls and vases. At least fifty good pieces were found. Below this temple so rich in its buried treasure, there was another Early Dynastic II temple, similarly planned but on a slightly smaller scale. It contained almost nothing, and its major contribution was the fragments of four sculptured plaques which varied in iconography from the usual banquet scenes. In the next lower level there was an Early Dynastic I temple, much smaller and laid out on an entirely different plan. The square sanctuary contained an altar, a large bench or platform, and a circular offering table. A small adjoining room seemed to be a second sanctuary, for it contained the same "furniture" on a smaller scale. Almost no objects and little pottery were found on the floor or in the debris above it. The temple rested upon walls of a similarly planned Early Dynastic building which contained no temple installations or any suggestion that it was a religious structure. However,

A gift to the Temple of Inanna





Ritual stand or cosmetic box

these earlier phases of the temple account for nearly another thousand years. This means, for almost three thousand years, Inanna's temple was repaired and rebuilt, again and again, in the same place with each new sanctuary placed upon the ruins of an older one. Compare for a moment, the time span of this religious building to that of the Christian Era!

Below the temple there were several levels containing private houses: two levels belonging to Early Dynastic I and nine to the Protoliterate period. Still deeper, there were four additional strata which could be distinguished only by traces of ash layers, occasional potsherds, and bits of burned clay. Then sterile soil—and the close of the excavations for the current season.

The Nippur Expedition was in the field from early October, 1960, until the middle of May, 1961. It was staffed and financed jointly by the Oriental Institute and the Baghdad School of the American Schools of Oriental Research. The staff included Dr. Donald P. Hansen, Research Associate, and James E. Knudstad, Field Architect, both of the Oriental Institute; Dr. George F. Dales of the Royal Ontario Museum; and Dr. Vaughn E. Crawford of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.



Fragment of a bearded bull supporting a ritual vessel

RICHARD C. HAINES
Field Director
Nippur Expedition

THE IRANIAN PREHISTORIC PROJECT

Many indications point toward the hill flanks of the Fertile Crescent in southwestern Asia as the scene of the earliest development of effective food-production and a village-farming community way of life, some ten thousand or fewer years ago. In its 1959/60 field season the Iranian Prehistoric Project reclaimed further evidence of this important transitional step in human history.

The field season was begun with a surface survey for both caves and open-air sites of the intermontane valleys of the Zagros Mountains near Kermanshah in Iran. Over two hundred and fifty prehistoric sites were located. Sites yielding surface materials suggesting the time range from *ca.* 15,000 to *ca.* 8,000 years ago—the span during which time the swing to effective food-production and village-farming communities must have appeared—were well represented and several of these were selected for excavation.

For Near Eastern prehistory at least, the exceptional find at a small low mound called “Asiab” was great quantities of what we interpreted as coprolites or fossilized fecal matter. Should these indeed prove to be coprolites and to be human, they will be an invaluable clue to the diet of a group of people who had already achieved a somewhat settled way of life on the basis of intensified regionalized food-collecting and who also should have been on the road to “incipient agriculture.” These objects we are calling “coprolites” are definitely human in size and shape, and they occur in great concentration within the living area at Asiab, which circumstance also would

River side of Asiab





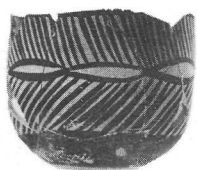
Sarab figurines

indicate a human origin. Coprolites of wild animals would not be expected to occur there, and we have no evidence for domestic animals at Asiab.

At another low small mound, called "Sarab," an assemblage of prehistoric materials was excavated which, in part, strongly recalls artifactual elements of the village-farming community assemblage at Jarmo in Iraqi Kurdistan. In fact, the pottery, the clay figurines, the finer work in ground stone, and the flint and obsidian industries might be said to be typological advances over their Jarmo counterparts within the same general technological traditions. We do not have yet firm indications of the presence of wheat or barley, an important element of the Jarmo assemblage, although it is possible that traces of these cereals may yet appear as molds in lumps of earth.

Since the laboratory processing of the materials is only now under way, it is too early to speak of absolute results. Our immediate post-field impression does include the feeling that the Kermanshah valleys *may* lie slightly too high to have been in the optimum part of the environmental zone for the utilization, by incipient agriculturalists, of the potential plant and animal domesticates. A new survey is now being planned which will link the higher Kermanshah valleys with the alluvium of the Khuzestan Plain, by traverses along various of the tributaries of the Karkheh River.

ROBERT J. BRAIDWOOD
Field Director
Iran Jarmo Expedition



Siabid pot

THE IRAN IRRIGATION SURVEY

A long-standing Oriental Institute interest in the relation of ancient cities and towns to their agricultural hinterlands was continued and expanded further during the year in two directions.

Between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers in central Iraq, roughly the area known as ancient Akkad, the work of an earlier (1956/57) survey of ancient canals and watercourses was brought to completion during the fall. Using an approach based on surface-dating of ruins adjoining the beds of streams which have long since disappeared beneath the rising level of the plain, a number of important Euphrates branches have been discovered which bifurcated and rejoined across wide areas that now for the most part are empty desert. Large-scale maps of the ancient irrigation canals and other features of settlement have been prepared, and a final report is in preparation which will discuss and illustrate the broadly changing patterns characteristic of successive periods of Antiquity.

Subsequent to the field work in Akkad, a similar but more intensive study was carried out in southwestern Iran, in the environs of the great Elamite capital of Susa. As in a previous Oriental Institute enterprise in the Diyala River Basin of Iraq (1957/58), this was undertaken as part of a modern program of agricultural development. With the aid of the Development and Resources Corporation of New York (through its Iranian arm, the Khuzestan Development Service), the study of former canal systems and modes of land use was able to proceed hand in hand with a whole battery of specialized studies on modern soils, crop yields, climate, and population. Aerial photographs, the indispensable tool of modern agricultural planning, proved equally indispensable in the identification and interpretation of long-abandoned canals and settlements. A number of striking similarities, and other equally striking contrasts, emerged between historic patterns in Elam and those in the far larger part of the Mesopotamian plain which lies in Iraq. The delineation of these will be a task for a forthcoming publication.

ROBERT M. ADAMS
Iran Irrigation Survey

ROMAN JERUSALEM

The Institute has a long-standing interest in Palestine as the home of Biblical religion and literature and as the meeting place of the cultures of the neighboring countries. But, regrettably, it has been unable to work there since the excavations at Megiddo were terminated and the clearances at Khirbat al-Karak were brought to an end. During the past winter we had an opportunity to devote a brief period to the study of one phase of the history of ancient Jerusalem.

Some ancient cities can be excavated systematically. Like Alexandria in Egypt, Rome, Athens, and Constantinople, Jerusalem cannot. Spot excavations have been made there since 1864 and are continuing sporadically, but they are severely limited by the houses, bazaars, and the religious edifices and institutions of different faiths, sects, and ages that occupy the site. Moreover, at Jerusalem inside the walls most remains earlier than the Islamic period are buried under an accumulation of rubble and refuse from 10 to 75 feet deep. To reconstruct the picture of the city in any of its older periods, one has properly to associate the literary evidence with scattered remains of ancient buildings that are visible or have once been seen there, typically deep down under present structures.

Jerusalem in the period between its destruction by Titus in A.D. 71 and the building of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre by Constantine became something quite different from what it had been before. It lost its name and ceased to be the religious and political center of the country, becoming instead the Roman colony of *Aelia Capitolina*. As such it had its own "township" and a Roman type of civic administration. A Roman legion was assigned to regular quarters there. It had a Roman "forum" with a temple to the Capitoline Triad, colonnaded streets, two public baths, a theater, a Nymphaeum, and

Crown of Roman arch along a street in old Jerusalem



a modernized water-supply system. Eventually, it was refortified and had a Triumphal Arch outside the walls. To locate, describe, and assign to their proper chronological sequence these several features is an interesting enterprise and adds a new element to the larger picture of the Romanization of the Orient.

CARL H. KRAELING

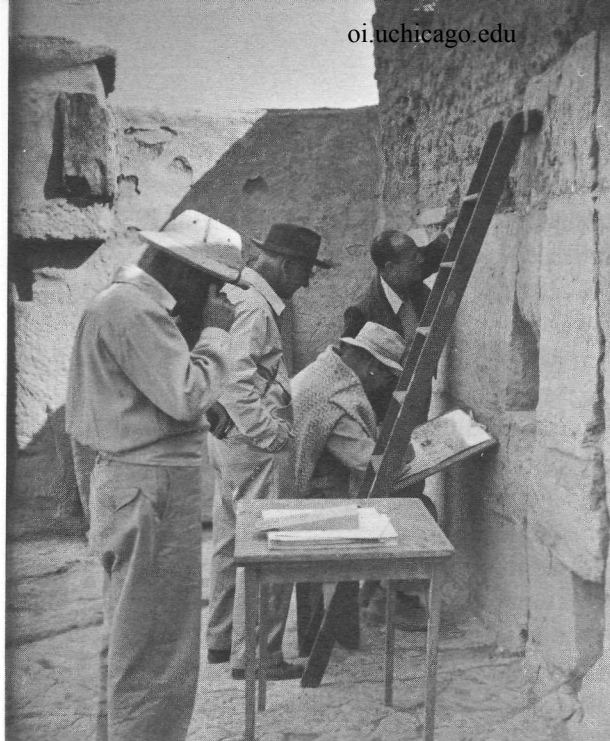
THE EXPEDITION TO NUBIA

The Oriental Institute Egyptian Assuan High Dam Program is an emergency salvage operation. Its effort is one of several active this year in the Nubian area which will be submerged by the enormous lake behind the new High Dam under construction south of Assuan. The Institute has the honor of being the first organization working in Nubia to complete a major program in the season of 1960/61.

We offered to excavate a twelve-mile area on both sides of the Nile between Dehmit and Kalabsha, beginning about twenty miles south

Beit el Wali: Entrance to the Temple





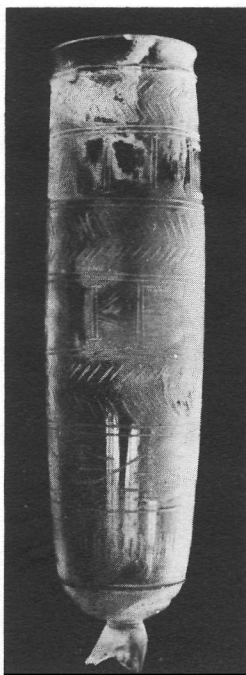
Copying the Temple of Beit el Wali

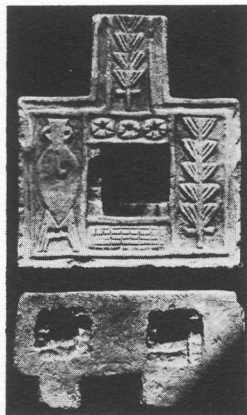
of the present Assuan Dam, and to copy for publication a complete temple in the same region. Both of these objectives have been achieved. The twelve-mile area has been thoroughly explored and excavated. The rock temple of Ramesses II at Beit el Wali has been completely copied in accordance with the high standards for which the Oriental Institute is famous. A volume of our Oriental Institute Publications will eventually be devoted to each of the two projects.

Our season lasted approximately six months. Unfortunately, nearly two months at the beginning were consumed in the acquisition of boats and in the preparations for work in the field. This period was described by the director of the program in a field newsletter distributed in February. Because the expedition was strictly a salvage effort, we had selected a region in which we could be certain of epigraphic success even if the excavations should turn out to be disappointing. Accordingly, we worked out from the site known as Beit el Wali, while our able epigraphic staff concentrated on the copying of the exquisite little temple of Ramesses II with its important historical reliefs and painted religious scenes.

The desert which borders the Nile between Kalabsha and Dehmit consists of the most forbidding formations of sandstone and granite. There is no sand whatever, and the alluvium which alone was capable of supporting life now lies under the water, already submerged by previous raisings of the Assuan Dam. Here lay the ancient settlements and nearly all their cemeteries. They have been explored and excavated by previous archeological surveys and were beyond the scope of our program. Our work extended to the higher levels, farther from the original course of the Nile, on the mere fringes of ancient habitation. We found several cemeteries on the west bank near Kalabsha and Beit el Wali and lesser ones farther north and on the east bank. There were two distinct types of cemeteries, but it was exceedingly difficult to study them with confidence or satisfaction, as every single grave had been thoroughly plundered in antiquity—probably by persons familiar with the contents of the burial—and little but broken pottery rewarded our investigation of more than four hundred graves. The sherds pointed consistently to the later Roman period as the date of these cemeteries. They may in all probability be attributed to the Blemmyes and the Nobatae, pagan enemy tribes inhabiting the country simultaneously during portions of the third to sixth centuries of the Christian Era. Near but not actually within or belonging to one of the largest graves investigated we made our best discovery of the season: a remarkable glass “chalice,” almost intact, containing two incised lines of Greek. It was found quite by accident by one of

*Glass chalice with Greek inscription,
the most important find of the season*





Offering tablet in form of a Sacred Lake

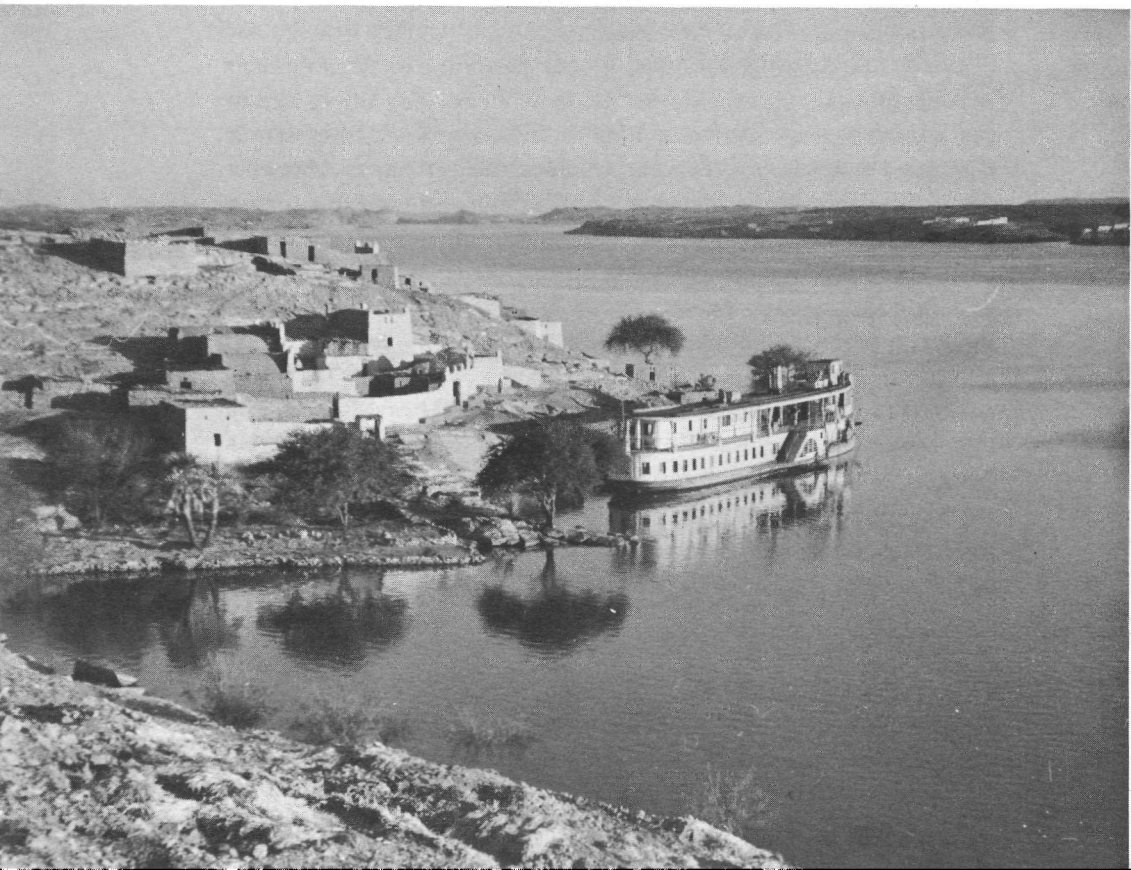
our workers when he happened to overturn one of the thousands of heavy stones strewn over the ground. The chalice was plunderer's loot, concealed under the stone by a thief whose unknown fate prevented later recovery of his prize. It was retained by the Egyptian Department of Antiquities as unique and essential for the national collection. We had at least the glory of saving it from the coming flood.

Our most extensive excavations took place near Tapha, among granite boulders on the dizzy heights of the Bab Kalabsha. Here we investigated a group of buildings—mud brick on a carefully laid foundation of sandstone blocks clamped together with bronze dovetails (all carefully extracted by the indefatigable plunderers)—never before excavated. They appear to be of late Roman or Byzantine date, but at the present writing we have not as yet been able to determine their purpose. Extensive stone remains were recovered beneath the fallen vaults of the mud-brick roofs. Among these were some of our most interesting finds, chief of which were several stone elements containing, carved in miniature, ceremonial “sacred lakes” with tiny staircases descending on all four sides to the “depths” below and provided with dummy spouts which proved them to be but a degenerate, misunderstood version of some earlier type of libation tablet. The best examples were awarded to the Oriental Institute in the division of the antiquities and will come to our museum. If these “sacred lakes” are cult objects, they point to a religious purpose for the buildings even though their elevated situation seems more appropriate for a stronghold. One is reminded of Notre Dame de la Garde at Marseilles.

Tapha was an important religious center in the Roman period; it possessed several small temples, one of which was dismantled and removed for safety in the summer of 1960. Not far distant from its site we located the traces of a curious bipartite shrine hewn in opposite facing sides of an irregular wadi. A crude stairway had been cut into the sloping south approach, as if to provide a processional way down to the shrine. In a nearby pit we uncovered numerous broken pots in a heavy bed of ashes, as if burned offerings had been customary at the shrine. Was it the goal of a privileged procession bearing the borrowed statute of Philae's Isis, permitted to tribes of the Blemmyes or Nobatae after their defeat by the legions of Rome? We have no evidence to prove it; our finds at this shrine were confined to a few architectural elements, the broken pottery, and fragments of a horned altar.

Each time we were ready to excavate a new site, we moved our floating headquarters, the steamship "Memnon," by tug to the new location. We could not afford to maintain a full crew and purchase

The steamer Memnon, headquarters of the Expedition





Members of the Oriental Institute–Swiss Institute Expedition to Nubia

the oil to keep up steam permanently, but this makeshift type of locomotion served our purpose, even though we were deprived of electricity and hot water in our attractive cabins. Our final move for excavations took us from Tapha to Dar Mus in the midst of the Bab Kalabsha, where we excavated a deplorable ruin on a tiny island in the grandest scenic beauty of Nubia. The scenery was almost our sole reward. Our efforts yielded scarcely more than an imperfect ground plan, two Islamic coins, and a Coptic cross of bronze—rather contradictory evidence for determining the function of the ruined conglomeration of mud-brick and granite walls. We had the satisfaction, at least, of realizing that our expedition had salvaged what there was before the brickwork melted and the granite disappeared beneath the rising waters of the coming lake.

The expedition enjoyed the brief presence of two visitors during the season. The first was our Oriental Institute Director, Dr. John A. Wilson; the second was Mr. William R. Boyd, of Lake Wales, Florida, donor of our indispensable motor cruiser, the “Barbara,” which was our sole link with civilization and our source of supply at Assuan. Mr. Boyd made a special trip to Nubia to visit the expedition

and to accompany the director of the program on an inspection survey of the site in the Sudan where we plan to excavate during some part of the season of 1961/62. The remainder of next season will be spent in Egyptian Nubia, just north of the international boundary.

This season's excavations were carried on under the immediate supervision of Dr. Herbert Ricke, Scientific Director of the Swiss Institute in Cairo, who had brought his organization into our program as a joint expedition. The copying of the Beit el Wali temple was directed by Dr. George R. Hughes, of our Epigraphic Survey in Luxor, most of whose staff had been loaned to the Nubian program for the season. The director of the program is deeply grateful to these two able collaborators and all their staff members for a season of work well done and for a historical achievement in the program to save the monuments of Nubia.

KEITH C. SEELE

Director

*Oriental Institute Egyptian
Assuan High Dam Program*

WORK AT HOME

PUBLICATIONS

The ambitious schedule for the publication of the *Assyrian Dictionary* which Professor Oppenheim has set for himself and his group is proceeding with unabated impetus. Six volumes have so far been published, and four more are in advanced stages of preparation. The most recently published volume is No. 21, "Z," the first to appear of a group of volumes treating words beginning with sibilants, all of which must be dealt with together.

Indicative of the *Dictionary's* usefulness and universal acceptance is the fact that stocks of the first two volumes to be published have been nearly sold out and further copies of these books have been produced by photo-offset. It has also been necessary to bind the 250 extra copies of each of the other volumes which were left unbound for easier storage at the time of printing. Storage of unsold copies of the *Assyrian Dictionary* is evidently not going to be a problem.

No new funds were received during the year from the Canadian and European organizations which had rendered a much appreciated token assistance and whose pledges have now been fulfilled. Though the sales are good and even better than expected, the proceeds still cover only a small part of the printing costs, for which other funds must be found, since other available funds provide only partial support.

The year 1960 saw the publication of the first modern translation of the Egyptian Book of the Dead. This major work, *The Egyptian Book of the Dead, Documents in the Oriental Institute Museum* ("Oriental Institute Publications," Vol. LXXXII) by Thomas George Allen, Editorial Secretary Emeritus of the Institute, is the culmination of several decades of comparative study of all known texts of the Book of the Dead.

Another milestone in the Institute's publication program was the appearance in 1960 of *Excavations in the Plain of Antioch: The Earlier Assemblages* ("OIP," Vol. LXI) by Robert J. and Linda S. Braidwood, with contributions by various specialists. This is a report on the work

of the Institute's Syrian Expedition in the years 1932/38 in an area which has meanwhile become part of Turkey.

In 1960 the Institute's Iraq-Jarmo Project brought out an interim report on its search in the hilly flanks of the Fertile Crescent for the beginnings of man's transition to a settled way of life, *Prehistoric Investigations in Iraqi Kurdistan* ("Studies in Ancient Oriental Civilization," No. 31) by Robert J. Braidwood, Bruce Howe, and others.

In the winter of 1951/52 the Oriental Institute, assisted by the Department of Antiquities of the Government of Israel, conducted a limited operation in the Holy Land. This campaign yielded another excavation report, *A Byzantine Church at Khirbat al-Karak* ("OIP," Vol. LXXXV) by Pinhas Delougaz and Richard C. Haines.

Another new book is *City Invincible*, which presents the discussions of some fifty protagonists at a symposium on urbanization and cultural development in the ancient Near East, held at the Institute in December, 1958.

At present two volumes of *The Egyptian Coffin Texts* are in press, and it is hoped that they will be available before the end of 1961. The appearance of Volume VII ("OIP," Vol. LXXXVII), by Adriaan de Buck, whose recent death is lamented by his colleagues, will complete the record of the texts themselves, but translations, indexes, and glossary are yet to come. With Volume VI of *Medinet Habu* ("OIP," Vol. LXXXIV) the Epigraphic Survey is nearing completion of the task of copying and recording the reliefs and inscriptions in the Mortuary Temple of Ramses III.

As always, manuscripts are now receiving finishing touches in the editorial office. Soon to go to press are *Ptolemais: City of the Libyan Pentapolis* ("OIP," Vol. XC), by Carl H. Kraeling, and the Iraq Expedition's *Private Houses and Graves in the Diyala Region* ("OIP," Vol. LXXXVIII).

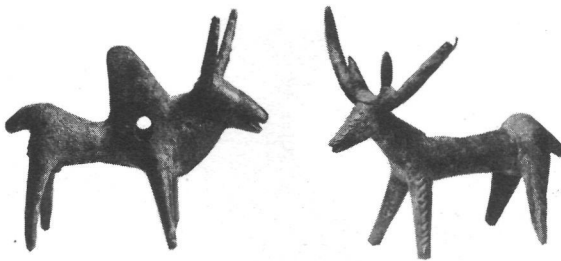
THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE MUSEUM

The emergence of the Nubian project in the spring of 1960 as an urgent and major undertaking of the Oriental Institute is reflected in the tasks of the Museum and its staff during the year 1960/61.

A special exhibit of enlarged photographs showing views of important sites threatened by the waters of the artificial lake that will result from the building of the high Assuan Dam has been arranged in the west end of the lobby.

A scale model of the portion of the Nile Valley at Abu Simbel showing the temples of Ramses II has been designed and built by the Museum staff. Normally, the water in this working model corresponds to the present water level of the Nile; by pressing a button, the water begins to rise until it reaches the top of the cliffs and completely engulfs the temples. This working model has proved to be a great attraction to Museum visitors, ranging from visiting royalty to fifth-graders. A popular columnist in one of the leading Chicago dailies wrote about it: "Perhaps the best pushbutton in the city . . . is a button in the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago. This button is just outside a tank containing a panorama Nile River scene. *You push, water comes into the tank and the Nile River floods behind a big dam. The Nubian monuments, symbols of some of man's best efforts, are swamped.* Purpose of the display: To gain sympathy for the Institute's efforts to save the Nubian monuments. I'm for it."

To support the Nubian project and to gain the public's interest for it, several members of the Oriental Institute staff, including the Director and the Curator of the Museum, appeared in a number of radio and television programs and in public lectures on the subject.



Bronze animals from Mazenderan (northern Iran)



Bronze animal from Mazenderan

The *WFMT Chicago Fine Arts Guide* for September, 1960, contained a short article by the Curator entitled "Art in the Oriental Institute Museum" and over thirty illustrations of the Museum objects, as well as a few views of Philae and Abu Simbel in Nubia. Copies of this guide, though out of date for its original purpose by the end of September, proved to be popular with Museum visitors and was still in demand some months later.

Important new additions to the Museum's holdings were made this year through the Institute's various field expeditions. From the last prehistoric survey undertaken by Professor Braidwood in Iranian Kurdistan there came a series of early artifacts including some human and animal figurines made of clay. Some were shown in a special exhibit on the occasion of a lecture by Professors Braidwood and Howe on their expedition.

In addition to the objects secured through the expeditions, the Institute, through the generosity of some of its members and friends, was able in the past year to acquire an important collection of metal and terra cotta objects from the relatively inaccessible regions of Talish and Mazenderan in Iran. These new acquisitions fill a serious gap in the Institute's collections, for the antiquities of these regions, especially the metallurgy of the first millennium B.C., are of great interest in themselves and are important for the establishing of the cultural connection of these regions with others to the north and the east.



Pottery bowl vase from Mazenderan

MEMBERSHIP

Members not only continued to give the Oriental Institute very generous support but contributed \$14,903.44 to the Nubian salvage emergency. Mr. William R. Boyd deserves special thanks for having participated personally in the Institute's first campaign at Beit el-Wali and for supplying the funds for the expedition's power launch, a real necessity for keeping the Nubian staff supplied with essentials.

It is gratifying that our Membership rolls continue to increase. Thanks, we know, are due in large part to many of our Members who continue to interest their friends in the work of the Oriental Institute.

Reception following an opening lecture of the season



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1960 / 61

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Oriental Institute Membership Fund

Condensed Statement, 1960/61

Balance, July 1, 1960		
Restricted purposes		\$21,469.89
General purposes		2,575.28
Total		\$24,045.17
Income, July 1, 1960—June 30, 1961		
Members' dues and gifts		43,208.91
Total		\$67,254.08
Expenditures, July 1, 1960—June 30, 1961		
Support of Oriental Institute Activities	\$17,000.00	
Assuan Dam Program	7,000.00	
Laboratory Installation	721.80	
Lectures and Entertainment	792.13	
Purchase of Antiquities	1,392.00	
Miscellaneous	108.89	
Total	\$27,014.82	27,014.82
Balance, June 30, 1961		\$40,239.26
Held for restricted purposes		34,734.58
Operating balance, general purposes		\$ 5,504.68

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