

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.