LEGEND FOR COVER

FRONT COVER: CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT

The ziggurat courtyard (Ekur) of Nippur from the Parthian citadel wall, Iraq.

Cliff tombs of the Achaemenid kings at Naqsh-i Rustam near Persepolis, Iran.

Northwest corner of a court showing successive floor levels at Tell Asmar, Iraq.

Façades of Porters' Lodges and the Eastern High Gate at Medinet Habu, Egypt.

The North Syrian mound of Chatal Hüyük which covers ancient Calneh of the Bible.

The Palestinian mound covering the fortress city of Megiddo (Armageddon). On the north terrace, at left of the mound, stands the expedition house.

BACK COVER: CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT

Excavation of the winged bull colossus discovered by Professor Chiera at Khorsabad, Iraq.

The Anatolian mound called Alishar Hüyük, covering an ancient Hittite city. Work is seen in progress on the citadel, and around it lies a broad town terrace.

The site of Jarmo, Iraq.

Outer and inner fortifications of Khafaje, Iraq.

Tell Jedeideh, one of the ancient cities of the North Syrian kingdom of Hattina. At left is the expedition house and in the background is Chatal Hüyük.

Headquarters building of the Sakkarah Expedition on the site of ancient Memphis, Egypt.

Corner of pottery tent at Qustul, Nubia.

Excavating a Hittite Empire (13th century B.C.) seal deposit at Korucu Tepe, Turkey.

The Oriental Institute

REPORT FOR 1968/69

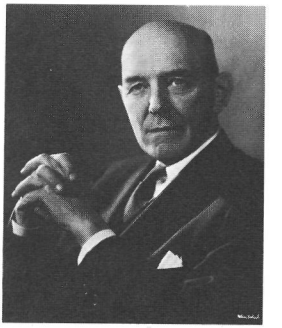
Fiftieth Anniversary
1919–1969

DIRECTORS OF THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE

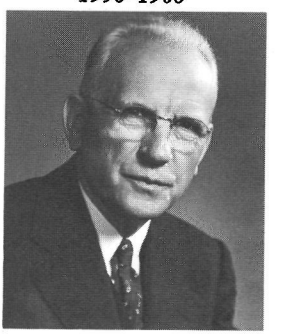
James Henry Breasted
1919–1935

John A. Wilson
1936–1946; 1960–1961

Thorkild P. R. Jacobsen
1946–1950



Carl H. Kraeling
1950–1960



Emery T. Filbey
1961–1962

Robert McCormick Adams
1962–1968

George R. Hughes
1968—

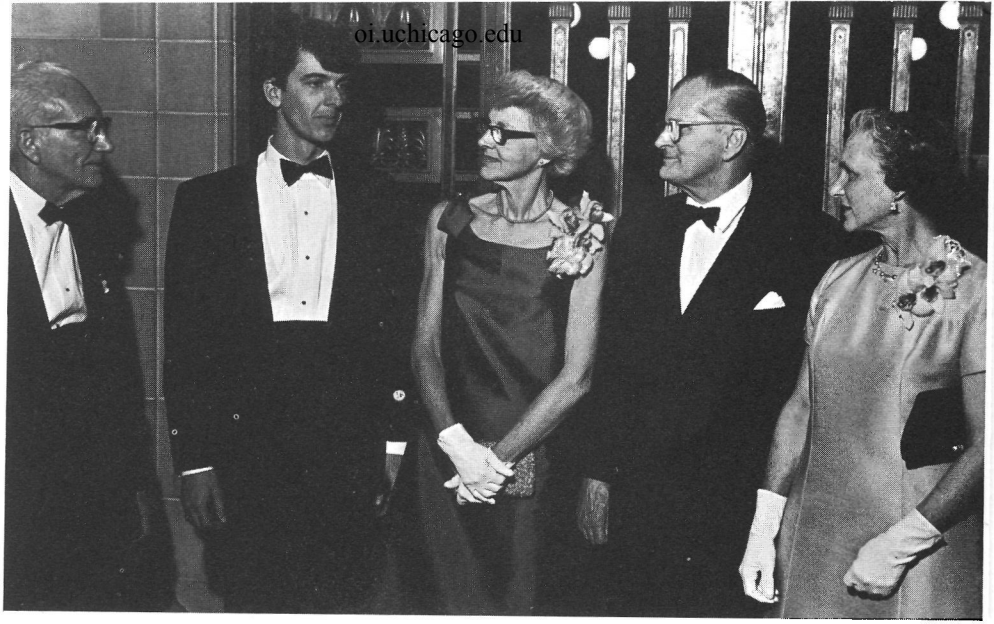
To the Members and Friends of the Oriental Institute

The annual report to the members was once brief and largely, if not exclusively, written by the director, giving the essentials of the Institute's work and a statement of the purpose and progress of the various projects, for the most part only the expeditions in the field. In recent years the accounts of field work have been written by the persons in charge in each case. In the last three years, at the instigation of Mrs. John Livingood, the report has come increasingly to include accounts of research work in progress at home, frequently carried on, not by a team, but by an individual faculty member. That is as it should be, and the accounts bear the marks of authority and more adequately reflect the diverse concerns of the staff. This report for 1968/69, as is evident from the photographs and some of the contents, is a special anniversary issue.

The Oriental Institute was established by action of the Board of Trustees of the University of Chicago on May 19, 1919, and on the evening of May 7, 1969, in the Egyptian gallery of the Museum a banquet was held to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the event. The dinner was sponsored by the Visiting Committee, was excellently planned and carried out by two of its members, Mrs. Theodore D. Tieken and Mrs. C. Phillip Miller, and was attended by some 250 members, friends, and staff of the Institute and the University.

The evening was a most satisfactory commemoration, for it blended the social and the scholarly. In many ways it took everyone present back firmly over the 50 years to the Institute's founder and architect, James Henry Breasted, but especially through the presence of the two sons and daughter of Professor Breasted: Charles, of Pasadena, California, James H., Jr., of Kent School, Kent, Connecticut, and Astrid (Mrs. Bernhard L. Hörmann), of Honolulu, Hawaii.

The celebration had a further tone of reunion in that a number of former staff members now at other institutions returned to bring their own memories and the greetings of their institutions.



From left to right: Mr. Charles Breasted, Mr. Nicholas Hörmann, Mrs. Bernhard L. Hörmann, and Mr. and Mrs. James H. Breasted, Jr.

The climax of the evening which bound both nostalgia and history into one retrospect was the address by John A. Wilson, Breasted's student and successor as director. The address, which appears in this report, blended the vicissitudes and humor of fifty years with the new departures and achievements which marked the inception and development of the Institute.

President Edward H. Levy of the University conferred honor on the Institute on the evening of the celebration by conferring honor on two of its distinguished scholars. He announced the naming by the University of A. Leo Oppenheim as the first recipient of the new John A. Wilson Professorship of Oriental Studies. The Wilson professorship, honoring as it does by name one of the Institute's illustrious *emeriti*, will always belong to the Institute and be held by one of its faculty members.

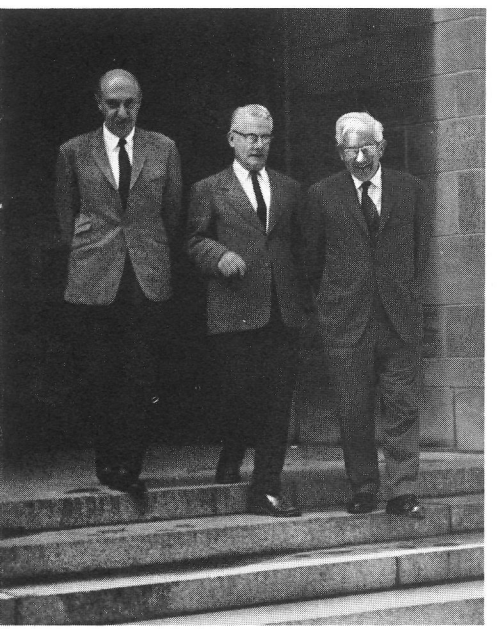
President Levi also announced the well deserved though unexpected naming of Hans G. Güterbock to one of the University's coveted chairs, the Tiffany and Margaret Blake Distinguished Service Professorship. Hans Güterbock is the first to hold this chair also, for it was established by Mrs. Margaret Blake of Chicago only in the spring of 1969.

The Institute passed a milestone of another kind during the year when Dr. Gustavus F. Swift agreed to assume the curatorship of the

Oriental Institute Museum, on July 1, 1969. As a member of the Institute faculty, Mr. Swift will be the Museum's first full-time curator in the more than 50 years of existence of the collections. He actually resumes membership on the staff, for he was a member for five years after receiving his doctorate in Near Eastern archeology from the University in 1958. In addition to his field work in Syria for the Institute, he also excavated for eight seasons at Sardis in Turkey with the Harvard-Cornell expedition.

The Museum had its origin in 1896 as the Haskell Oriental Museum in three small rooms in Haskell Hall with a nucleus of objects purchased by Breasted in 1894/95. In 1917 T. George Allen, then a graduate student, was appointed Secretary of Haskell Oriental Museum, and in 1929 Watson Boyes became Secretary of the Oriental Institute Museum, two years before the move was made to the present building. In 1944 P. P. Delougaz, Professor of Near Eastern Archeology, became Curator. In this capacity, after the death of Mr. Boyes in 1964, Mr. Delougaz served until his retirement in 1967 as sole custodian of the collections while continuing with his excavation, teaching, and research duties.

The scope of activity revolving about the Museum has increased



Dr. A. Leo Oppenheim, recipient of the John A. Wilson Professorship in Oriental Studies, Dr. John A. Wilson, and Dr. Hans G. Güterbock, recipient of the Tiffany and Margaret Blake Distinguished Service Professorship, in Hittitology.

many times over during the last three years. The enthusiasm with which Mrs. John Livingood volunteered her full time as Secretary of the Museum program and then conceived of a new role for the post is only less remarkable than the success she has had in enlisting the assistance of scores of Chicagoans to help carry out her program. Some of these volunteers, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Charles Shields, have matched their initial interest in the Near East and its antiquity with hours of study to become mediators between the Institute and the public. Others of them, under the leadership of Mrs. Norman R. Cooperman, have not only learned the trade and the wares but have obligated themselves to managing and manning the Suq (the Museum shop) on a regular basis every day of the week. To say that we do not know what we did without each of our volunteers hardly measures the now indispensable role that they play daily, for in very large part they have been responsible for the increasing demand for their services by meeting it so well.

Another group that gives its time and thought to the Oriental Institute on a voluntary basis is the group of busy laymen known as the Visiting Committee. As of July 1, 1968, the Committee was reorganized, and, following the death on August 8, 1968, of Mr. John Nuveen, for many years chairman of the Committee, the Institute was fortunate in having Mr. Sydney Stein, Jr., a Trustee of the University and resident of Hyde Park, agree to assume the chairmanship.

For the second consecutive year Dr. and Mrs. Edmundo Lassalle of New York made a generous gift to Egyptological and Coptic studies at the Institute. Part of the gift provides two Patricia R. and Edmundo Lassalle Fellowships for graduate students. The remainder provides subvention for the study and publication of the results of excavations in Egyptian and Sudanese Nubia above the Assuan dam: the Coptic monastery at Qasr el-Wizz and the pharaonic fortress at Semna South.

On March 21, 1969, with the death of T. George Allen in Bradenton, Florida, the Institute lost the last of the group around Breasted in the years prior to and following the founding of the Institute. Dr. Allen had been a student of Breasted's and received his doctorate in Egyptology in 1919. In 1917 he had become Secretary of Haskell Oriental Museum, and in 1919, when the Institute was established, he became Secretary of the Oriental Institute. In 1927 he was made Editorial Secretary, and until his retirement in 1950 he lent his very

considerable abilities to establishing the high standard of Oriental Institute publications. Dr. Allen was outstanding in ancient Egyptian grammar and lexicography, and he channeled his own scholarship into the study of Egyptian mortuary literature: the Pyramid Texts, Coffin Texts, and Book of the Dead.

On June 30, 1969, the University and the Institute lost a notable scholar and wise academic statesman in the departure of Professor Muhsin S. Mahdi to become the James Richard Jewett Professor of Arabic in Harvard University. Professor Mahdi received his doctorate from the University of Chicago in 1954. In 1957 he became an assistant professor and was at his departure Professor of Islamic Studies and Chairman of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations.

This year we have had occasion to remember Breasted and his concept of what this laboratory for the study of ancient man should be and should attempt to do. It was a large concept and, although in these fifty years the scope of investigation has widened, the amount of information and understanding of it have expanded vastly, the tools and techniques have been refined and have proliferated, and the defining of and approach to problems have altered markedly, there is virtually nothing in his "organized endeavor to recover the lost story of the rise of man" of which Breasted did not conceive, at least in an incipient way, as a desirable and legitimate part of the task of the Orientalist. Although he well knew that the real insights in the writing of history or depth of understanding of a culture could not come out of the work of committees—despite the modern preoccupation with colloquia, symposia, and "think tanks"—Breasted also knew that the gathering of vast quantities of data, the recording of great bodies of original material, the interpreting of the endlessly diverse and complex evidence for the human career demanded not individual scholars working alone but the collaboration of many minds and disciplines in one endeavor. This need has become even more insistent in the half-century of the Institute's existence.

It is now time for this chronicle, whatever may have been omitted, to give way to the staff members who will describe the year's progress in the investigations and activities for which they have been responsible.

GEORGE R. HUGHES
Director

"A Jubilee Shall That Fiftieth Year Be unto You" (Lev. 25:11)

For us Americans the year 1919 opened with bright faith and confidence. World War I had ended, and there was hope that the peace conference might establish justice and welfare among the nations. It was to be a new world. In the Near East the heavy incubus of the Ottoman Empire had been removed, so that there were brighter prospects for archeology in that region. Europe might be exhausted by the War, but the United States had only been exhilarated by its brief incursion into Europe, and our eyes were now looking outside of our own frontiers with a greater interest in other cultures.

This was the situation in May, 1919, when John D. Rockefeller, Jr., wrote to James H. Breasted, pledging $10,000 a year for five years, to start an Oriental Institute. Martin Ryerson, Chairman of the University's Board of Trustees, added to this, as did others, so that the Oriental Institute was founded in May, 1919, with a budget of about $20,000 a year.

Emerson has said that an institution is the lengthened shadow of a man, and, in order to understand the Institute, we should consider the founder, Professor Breasted. But wait a moment: Professor Breasted was the founder in one sense, and Mr. Rockefeller was the founder in another sense. We must resolve this problem.

Fortunately the religion of ancient Egypt comes to our aid at this point. You may read the answer on page 40 in *The Dawn of Conscience*, by James Henry Breasted. The creator god in Egypt had two essential qualities critically important for bringing life into being. These two qualities were the god Sia, "creative understanding," or the ability of the heart to think out new ideas and purposes, and

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This address was delivered by John A. Wilson at the celebration, May 7, 1969, of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Oriental Institute.

the god Hu, "creative speech," or the ability of the tongue to make these thoughts concrete and viable.

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." The heart and voice are one body. So the two founders were one founder, Breasted as the god Sia, "creative understanding," and Rockefeller as the god Hu, "creative command."

Because the Word was good, it prospered. To the generous interest of Mr. Rockefeller was added support from the International Education Board, the General Education Board, and the Rockefeller Foundation. There was a score of other individual benefactors, of whom I shall mention only Julius Rosenwald, Theodore W. Robinson, and Mrs. William H. Moore. Over the years the Institute sent at least thirty-five expeditions into the field, some of them for a single season, some of them continuing for forty years. Over the years the Institute published about two hundred books. It was big. We believe that it was also good.

Let me list three different kinds of triumphs. In Iraq there was the excavation of the complex of mounds around Tell Asmar, which sorted out the predynastic and early dynastic cultures of Babylonia in a firmer way than had been achieved before and set the model stratigraphy and typology for early Mesopotamia. In many ways Henri Frankfort ran a model dig.

In Egypt there was the copying of the temple of Medinet Habu, which has set a standard of accuracy and the control of detail never surpassed anywhere. This was particularly dear to the heart of Breasted, because he believed that the highest priority in Egypt was not to uncover new monuments, but to record those already uncovered.

At home there was the Assyrian Dictionary, a gigantic task of collecting cuneiform texts, parsing sentences, organizing the defining articles, and publishing. Elsewhere so colossal an enterprise could be achieved only by a national academy or by a team of several learned societies working together. It belonged to the gallant vision of James Henry Breasted.

Those first years were not an idyll of one success after another. There were hardships, frustrations, and quarrels. There was danger. The first expedition was Breasted's reconnaissance into the Near East in 1919/20. There the War was not yet over. The party made a dar-

ing dash by horse carriage up the Euphrates from lower Iraq to Syria, a no-man's-land of warring tribes. For a week the group was passed from one unreconstructed sheikh to another and thus protected from the unorganized bands of roving brigands. That region was in such a state of flux and uncertainty that Breasted was invited by Field Marshal Lord Allenby to go to London to report his observations to Lord Curzon, the foreign minister.

The land was still raw and cruel. In the spring of 1927 I arrived at Megiddo in northern Palestine, hoping to learn field archeology at the dig there. Communications were so bad in those days that, although I had had a letter accepting me, I had had no further word for more than a month. The motor trip from Haifa to Megiddo, only fifteen miles, took four hours because of the miserable, muddy roads. When I reached Megiddo, there was not a man left there of the expedition. The area around the mound was infested with malaria, and two of the staff were in the hospital with virulent attacks. The other two men had departed abruptly. That left only the British woman who ran the household and kept the archeological records day by day. For about ten days she and I ran the expedition, she as the inside man, I as the outside man. Every day I supervised the dig, keeping carefully to the same level, labeling the baskets coming out of the various squares, and bringing them in to her to register. For the rest, Mrs. Wilson and I dosed ourselves with quinine until our ears rang, and registered 117° F. in our room under the iron roof. I never did learn field archeology, except by the experience of being pitched into it head first. By the time the expedition was reorganized with a new staff, I had to go on to other commitments.

The old-fashioned archeologists who lived in mud huts and ate out of tins and drank local water criticized Breasted for the so-called sumptuousness of his expedition houses: "Think of it! Screens on every window! Refrigerators to keep the food cool! No less than six bathrooms to one house! Incredible!" Well, the answer has been that the Oriental Institute expeditions have maintained an excellent record for health over nearly fifty years. Megiddo was briefly the one exception. Sanitary conditions and proper food have kept our staff members out of the hospitals and have paid off handsomely on the budget.

Archeologists are traditionally highly individual personalities, and there were displays of temperament and feuds. You cannot pen up a dozen people on one spot for six intense months without people

rubbing each other the wrong way. One expedition suffered from too great a relaxation in the evening after the long hard-working day; the junior members of the staff could not match the drinking of the director. On another expedition, where the country was politically torn between two racial factions, there were feuds of partisanship among the staff. Another expedition was headed by a Byron-like character who seemed to be more interested in striking dramatic poses than in pushing the scientific works. Cases were referred to Breasted for solution. He had to build up a staff of 125 within a few years, and not all of the personalities were gentle knights, *sans peur et sans reproche*.

Then there was the disappointment of 1924/25, when Breasted, on behalf of Rockefeller, offered the Egyptian Government $10,000,000 for a new museum and an institute to train young Egyptians to be Egyptologists. Jealous personalities wrecked this admirable scheme, and the offer had finally to be withdrawn. The only mitigation of the bitterness was that Mr. Rockefeller then gave $2,000,000 for a beautiful little museum in Jerusalem. Breasted, when thwarted in one direction, would try a new direction.

What was the Oriental Institute? Breasted defined it as "a research laboratory for the investigation of the early human career." The investigation was to concern itself with "the rise of man" from savagery into complex civilized society, as that phenomenon was first visible in the ancient Near East. Breasted was a genius and a man of devout faith in his work. When his trumpet call reached the high note of "the rise of man," we sat eagerly on the edges of our chairs, waiting to be sent into action into Egypt or Turkey or the Fertile Crescent. (By the way, it was James Henry Breasted who invented that term, "Fertile Crescent.") He was a man of great magnetism. Mr. Rockefeller once told him that he was really supporting an institution only because he believed in a man.

What were the features of Breasted's Oriental Institute? First, it was to be a coordinated attack on the problems of the ancient Near East. Instead of the isolated scholar sitting in his study, rarely in contact with anyone who shared his interests, there would be a score and more of scholars, working to a common purpose, language men and excavators, Egyptologists and Assyriologists, prehistorians and Arabists, stimulating each other to greater productivity by the exchange of ideas. This certainly worked in part: we were thrown into juxtaposition and benefited by nearness. But it would be claiming

too much to insist that the old individualism was replaced by a team effort. There was still a lot of angular separatism.

Another way of expressing that same approach of a coordinated attack is to say that the Breasted approach was comprehensive. The geographic front ran from Egypt through Palestine, Syria, Turkey, and Iraq, into Iran. The range in time was from the earliest prehistoric into the recent Islamic. The techniques brought together geologists and prehistorians, excavators and architects, philologists and lexicographers. They were all interested in the career of man in the Near East. The unity of attack which Breasted planned fifty years ago was attempted by other institutions only twenty years ago.

Breasted sought out the best men available: American, Canadian, British, Dutch, German, and so on. Men like Edward Chiera, Adriaan de Buck, Henri Frankfort, Ernst Herzfeld, Uvo Hölscher, and Arno Poebel stood at the head of their various fields. Not all of our scholars were companionable. If they had elements of genius, that meant that they could also show flashes of choleric temperament. But they all recognized the creative force in Breasted.

He began two revolutionary moves within the Institute. The field personnel were put on annual salaries, just like the professors who taught at the University. The old system had been that a professor took a leave of absence from teaching, invited one or two graduate students to accompany him into the field, at their own expense, picked up an artist or an architect out in Cairo or Baghdad, dug for two months, and then let his expedition disintegrate and disappear. But by 1919 there were professional standards for archeology. Men knew how much damage untrained amateurs might do. It was Breasted who recognized that archeology was now a profession, by putting the field workers on an annual salary. Thus they could be held from one year to another, and thus they could spend the off-season in preparing the field results for publication. Fifty years later it is hard to remember that this was a tremendous forward stride for archeology.

The other revolutionary proposal was to budget money for publication. It is the normal fate of archeological researches in the field or at home that they get money for the actual work, but none for publication. Breasted put into his early budgets annual sums for the publication of specific projects. A scholar could carry on his work with some confidence that it would reach his readers just as soon as he could get it into print.

Of the other reforms I shall mention only one. Breasted had carried on his own undergraduate and graduate work on the lowest possible financing. He had begun his teaching at the University of Chicago at a salary of $800 a year. He was determined that other young scholars should suffer no such privations. He set up ten research fellowships at $2000 a year. He was never so busy that he forgot the students.

Where do we stand today? What parts of the 1919 vision have we retained and what parts have we discarded?

Certainly the Oriental Institute is still hewing to the main line, "a research laboratory for the investigation of the early human career." If we are timid about talking about "the rise of man," it is because in these troubled days we are not so sure that man's course has been clearly and steadily upward. When we say "human progress," we often mean merely "human process."

We still have a staff which is brought together from different countries and different interests, but which still has incomplete coordination and incomplete exchange of ideas. There have been many successful collaborations in recent years: the seminar in comparative archeology which Frankfort conducted in the late 1930's; the lectures in the 1940's which were published as *The Intellectual Adventure of Ancient Man;* the Assyrian Dictionary being brought to publication; the symposium on early cities held in 1958; and the Institute's participation in the rescue of threatened areas in Nubia. However, generally speaking, the typical Institute scholar has been the creative individual, and not a member of a team working on a project.

The work is still comprehensive in space, time, and method. Professor Breasted would have revelled in some of the recent work, such as the prehistoric sequences on the flanks of the Fertile Crescent, the study of irrigation and early cities in southern Iraq and Iran, the rescue work in Nubia, where he had his own first expeditions, and the ancient crossword puzzle found by the Epigraphic Expedition on the walls of an Egyptian tomb 3300 years old. There is still a broad range of interest to the work, with constant new discoveries.

Are the scholars still the world's best? When I first came to the Institute forty-five years ago, I looked up to them with amazement and awe from the lowly viewpoint of a student. Now that I am a weary old man, it is not so easy for me to summon the same rever-

ence. Yet I can testify from the judgment of outsiders about us. In 1960 there was a session of the International Congress of Orientalists in Moscow. A foundation provided funds to help Americans travel to Russia. More scholars were selected from the Oriental Institute than from any other institution. Our professional society is the American Oriental Society. In the past twenty-five years five presidents of the American Oriental Society have come from this building—at the extraordinary rate of one every five years. As I look at some of our younger men, I might venture the opinion that five future presidents of that Society will come from this building.

In that professionalism, which Breasted first recognized by putting research workers on annual salary, we have come a long way. We now take it for granted that artists and editorial secretaries and librarians and museum secretaries belong to the professional community, along with professors and excavators. The job benefits by community, and that community exists for the job.

We have fallen down badly on providing fellowships for students and on budgeting money for publication. When the depression years came along and forced refinancing, it was important to hang onto the scientific staff which we had, so that funds for new workers and funds for producing books went by the board. In the 1950's Mr. Rockefeller generously picked up some of the backlog on publication, but now we have to go around with hat in hand, begging for money to put out the books. Over the long run we see no solution for this. Yet we are never finished until the product is captured between the covers of a book.

Certainly we can never afford to become complacent. In these days of violent change and of violent protest, we need a long-range view of man: how did he come to be what he is? We can provide that long perspective. We of the Oriental Institute need to take new oaths of dedication to the vision of James Henry Breasted. May I paraphrase some words used many years ago by Abraham Lincoln?

"It is now for us, the living, to be dedicated to the great task remaining before us, that from those whom we honor today we take increased devotion to that cause to which they gave their full devotion; that this Institute, under God, may have a fresh burst of faith and vigor, so that the 'creative understanding' exemplified by James Henry Breasted and the 'creative speech' exemplified by John D. Rockefeller, Jr., shall not perish from these halls."