

EXPEDITION NEWS

LEPTIS MAGNA

Mr. Brandon Barringer who, with the Museum, is sponsoring the exploration of this site in Libya has given us a progress report of the work which is under the supervision of Mrs. Edward C. Carter 2nd.

The main site is a peninsula, twenty feet above sea level, between the Mediterranean and the Wadi Lebda, east of the restored ruins of the great Roman city and west of the restored Roman port. This area, believed by all writers to be the site of the original Phoenician settlement from which the city grew, has never been dug. Excavation started March 29th and our last report covers the work week ending April 26th. Twenty workers have been split into three groups and four separate cuts have been made on the peninsula. One is from the Mediterranean shore, one was a sounding slightly inland, and two came in from the Wadi.

On the Mediterranean, the whole of a sixty-foot face was found to be covered by a massive crude stone wall without floors or doors, the foundation of some structure; a platform continues inland. Part of the filling was from a Phoenician dump and more from a Roman dump. A Punic lamp was found. The wall and a Byzantine graveyard were cut through and the trench was extended beyond it to the southwest on virgin soil some twelve feet below the existing land surface.

The inland sounding disclosed two large marble-faced reservoirs of a Roman bath complex at a depth of ten feet and had to be abandoned.

The first harbor trench continued for sixty-five feet along the top of the two-foot thick Severan pavement, five feet above the water level, with a Byzantine sheepfold and watering trough built of reused Roman columns and building stones on it. The end of this pavement has finally been reached and a sounding is being made at the end of this cut.

The second trench from the Wadi was on the lower, Neronian pavement. It encountered a Roman structure and sterile soil beyond it.

No Phoenician level having been found, though the dump material (Greek sherds) indicates the presence of one somewhere, a new sounding has been begun on the far side of the Wadi Lebda (the other side of the original harbor). Two other soundings through the Roman part of the city are also being made.

SHIPWRECKS

George Bass, Student Assistant in the Mediterranean Section, left for Turkey in April to take charge of the underwater exploration off the southwest coast of Turkey. In this region forty-seven ancient wrecks have been pin-pointed, ranging in date from the 15th century B.C. to the 9th century A.D. Some of these are described in the April number of *National Geographic Magazine*. The expedition hopes to investigate the earliest wreck, that of a ship carrying a cargo of bronze implements and ox-hide-shaped copper ingots, evidently in transit from the mines of Cyprus when the ship was sunk about 1450 B.C. A few of these copper ingots or "pigs" are known. Their weight is fairly uniform,

and some bear stamped impressions; evidently they were the currency of their time. Expert divers, photographers, and underwater draftsmen will participate in what will be the first scientifically organized exploration of an ancient wreck.

PLANS FOR EL-JIB 1960

The fourth season of the Museum's expedition to el-Jib in Jordan, the biblical Gibeon, will open on June 15th. The first objectives will be the further excavation of the winery which appeared during the closing weeks of the 1959 campaign and the continuation of work on the elaborate Roman tombs which were encountered at the very end of the season.

High priority will be given this season to determining the history of occupation at Gibeon. The major periods are known from excavations in the areas of the pool and the winery, but in these sections the exact sequence of settlement has been disturbed by cleanings and reuse. It is hoped that there can be found a part of the ancient city which is undisturbed from the earliest (about 2800 B.C.) down to late Roman times. Such a record within the mound itself can serve to throw considerable light upon the more than forty biblical references to Gibeon, with which el-Jib has now been firmly identified.

The staff for the 1960 season is international in character, consisting of two Germans, two Frenchmen, an English woman, two Jordanians, and four Americans. Professor Arnulf Kuschke of Mainz will be in charge of further explorations of the winery; Father John L. McKenzie S. J. expects to extend the cemetery; and Miss Diana Kirkbride of the British School of Archaeology in Jerusalem will devote her efforts to problems of stratigraphy. Dr. James B. Pritchard will again be in charge of the project.

MUSEUM PUBLICATIONS

Recent additions to the *Museum Monographs* series are two Ph.D. dissertations: *Piedras Negras Archaeology: Artifacts, Caches, and Burials* by William R. Coe and *Sumerian Proverbs: Glimpses of Everyday Life in Ancient Mesopotamia* by Edmund I. Gordon.

The Museum's expeditions to Piedras Negras (1931-39) produced numerous artifacts associated with the carved and dated Maya monuments and ceremonial masonry buildings which were the prime objectives. Some were with burials and many were cached away under plastered floors of buildings and plazas. Dr. Coe presents all such objects other than pottery vessels, and gives them meaning by developing typologies and tracing the distributions of the types at the site, and also at other sites, so far as known. The book is organized for maximum utility to other archaeologists.

Sixty-nine pages of photographs and drawings, mostly by the author, cover everything from corn-grinding stones to jade inlays in human teeth, and bits of jade or shell incised with the faces of gods. Of particular interest are "eccentric" forms of chipped flint or obsidian, which were here cached
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THE AUTHORS

ROBERT H. DYSON, JR. ("Death of a City"), anthropologist and archaeologist, worked in the Southwest and Northeast United States between 1947 and 1950; was a Junior Fellow of the Society of Fellows, Harvard University from 1951 to 1954 and during that time did field work in South Africa, Jordan, and Iraq. He came to the University Museum in 1954 where he is the Assistant Curator of the Near Eastern Section. He was the Museum's representative on the Danish Expedition to Bahrain in the Persian Gulf and is Field Director of the Hasanlu Expedition.

JEAN GORDON LEE ("A Korean Potter's Masterpiece") is Curator of Far Eastern Art at the Philadelphia Museum of Art and Research Consultant in the Oriental Section of the University Museum. She received her BA from the University of Michigan and has done graduate work there and at the University of Pennsylvania. Her particular interest is Oriental ceramics and she has contributed papers on various aspects of this subject to the *Bulletin of the Far Eastern Ceramic Group* and the *Archives of the Chinese Art Society*, as well as to the *Bulletin of the Philadelphia Museum of Art*.

FROELICH RAINEY ("The Changing Face of Archaeology"), Director of the University Museum since 1947, has done anthropological research in the West Indies and Alaska and is recognized as one of the foremost authorities on the circumpolar region. He is now particularly interested in the new archaeological techniques presently being developed: he helped to found the Carbon-14 laboratory at the University of Pennsylvania; on a recent trip to Mexico with Dr. Matthew Stirling of the Bureau of Ethnography, he tested a resistivity meter for locating underground strata and constructions; he has included an under-water investigation in the Museum's expedition program. The over-all planning of this expedition program has necessitated visits to many archaeological sites in Europe and Asia as well as in America.

KENNETH D. MATTHEWS, JR. ("The Embattled Driver in Ancient Rome"), Assistant Curator of the Educational Section of the Museum since 1952, was previously associated with the Egyptian Section. He is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania School of Education. He has devoted his graduate work to the field of Roman studies and has prepared various television programs on Roman matters related to problems of modern life. He also conducts a weekly radio program of historical topics related to the University Museum over the local educational station WHYY-FM.

JOHN L. COTTER ("Digging an Historical Shrine: Philadelphia's Independence Park") is Regional Archaeologist for the Northeastern United States. He received his MA in anthropology from the University of Denver in 1935 for his studies of early man in America and his work under the late Edgar B. Howard in the excavation of Clovis, New Mexico, the results of which he reported for the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia. He was head of the Archaeological Survey of Kentucky for two years and for the last twenty years has been archae-

ologist for the National Park Service. A three-year campaign at historical Jamestown provided the material for his dissertation for the Ph.D. degree which he received from the University of Pennsylvania in 1959.

DAVID CROWNOVER ("The Pink People") was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1952 where he did three years of graduate work in the Department of the History of Art. He has been associated with the Museum for five years, first as an assistant in the Mediterranean Section, then as Manager of Exhibitions. He is responsible for the arrangement of both permanent collections and temporary shows. His especial interest is in the tribal art of pre-industrial cultures, particularly in that of Negro Africa.

SUGGESTED READING

THE DEATH OF A CITY

ERNST HERZFELD, *Iran in the Ancient East*. Oxford University Press, London and New York. 1941.

A KOREAN POTTER'S MASTERPIECE

WILLIAM R. CARLES, *Life in Korea*. London. 1888.

G. ST. G. M. GOMPERTY, *The Development of Koryo Wares*, in *Oriental Ceramic Society Transactions*, Vol. 26, 1950-51.

Catalogue of the Morgan Collection of Chinese Porcelains, 2 volumes. New York. 1904-1911.

W. B. HONEY, *The Ceramic Art of China and other Countries of the Far East*. London. 1945.

DIGGING AN HISTORICAL SHRINE

E. M. RILEY, "The Independence Hall Group," in *Historic Philadelphia, Transactions of the American Philosophical Society*, Vol. 43, Part 1, 1953.

E. M. RILEY, *Independence National Historical Park, Philadelphia, Pa.*, in *National Park Service Handbook Series No. 17*. Washington. 1956.

DUMAS MALONE, HIRST MILHOLLEN, AND MILTON KAPLAN, *The Story of the Declaration of Independence*. Oxford University Press, New York. 1954.

Museum Publications (Continued from page 21)

in larger numbers than at previously known sites. An appendix discusses the possibilities for using such deposits in relative dating, an approach the author is now developing with great success at Tikal.

Edmund Gordon's *Sumerian Proverbs* represents the culmination of six years of concentrated Sumerological research. It consists of a definitive edition, including the original text, translation, and commentary, of two Sumerian proverb collections numbering between them 365 practically unknown maxims and sayings dating from about 1750 B.C. One of the more valuable features of the monograph, from the point of view of the anthropologist, is the cultural analysis of the references and allusions of the proverbs to the daily life of the ancient Mesopotamian peoples.

The Museum has also published a small picture book—two pages of text and twenty-four full-page photographs—of the Egyptian collections. This is the first of a projected series of leaflets relating to various collections intended for the casual visitor.