

Bibliography of the Works of I. Ben-Zevie

The bibliography includes 254 items published between 1904 and 1944. An analytical index shows the distribution of the items under the following heads: Palestine—History, especially the Jews in Palestine; Palestine—Antiquities, Inscriptions, Manuscripts; Zionism, Labour movement, Re-settlement; Jewish Communities in Palestine; the Diaspora; the Remnants of Israelite Tribes; the Jewish Sects (a) Samaritans, (b) Karaites, (c) Sabbataeans; Non-Jewish Communities in Palestine; Persons and Books; Varia.

Second Provisional Report on the Exploration of the Northern Jordan Valley

by B. MAISLER and S. YEIVIN

The explorations of the *Ancient East Research Association* were continued on the 31.3—5.4.44. Eleven new sites were discovered in addition to the six found before (see map on p. 21). The geological features of the area were explored at the same time. Surface examinations of the new sites yielded the following results: VII—Chalcolithic and EB (grain wash, ledge handles, 'Kh. Kerak ware'). VIII—oven(?) of bricks on stone foundations. IX—flints, EB sherds. X—EB pottery, pottery weight. XI—small, EB-MB(?), Byzantine and Early Arab. XII—Arab, basalt voussoirs, drums and capital. XIII—corner of building of dressed basalt stones (Byz.-Arab?). XIV—basalt mill and crusher, ledge handles, flints (EB-MB I). XV—two low mounds, South-Western Hellenistic and Roman, North-Eastern-EB. XVI—Aurignacian flints. XVII—Prehistoric. Near Jisr el Majami' was found a tell (site VIII) with Chalcolithic to Hellenistic sherds; the EB and EI remains were most noticeable. The remains of Kh. Duweir were re-surveyed and planned; three(?) gates were identified in the city wall and a pentagonal (Roman?) acropolis on the summit of the hill.

Note on a Greek Inscription from Beth-She'arim

by A. D. SINGER

The writer proposes to fill the lacuna in l. 2 of the Greek inscription No. 188 of Beth-She'arim (published by M. Schwabe in *Studies in Memory of A. Gulak and S. Klein* [Jerusalem, 1942]) as follows: Ἐγὼ Ἡσύχις ἐνθάδε κίμει σὺν τῇ ἐμῇ συνβίῳ. (2) Πᾶς τολμῶν ἀνύξει ἐφ' [ῆ] μᾶς, μὴ ἔχη μέρος, κ.τ.λ., i. e. "... (2) Whosoever dareth to open (*scil.* the *arcosolium*) over [u]s (*scil.* me and my σὺνβίος), shall have no part...".

A Judaeo-Greek Inscription from Kh. Habra

by J. KAPLAN

The author found at Mughar village a funerary inscription from the above site. It reads Κύρω Μεγάλου υἱοῦ τοῦ μακαρίου Ἰωανάνου.

Notes on the Kh. Habra Inscription

by M. SCHWABE

Prof. Schwabe, commenting on the above inscription notes the rarity of the title κύριος among the Jews of the period. He compares it to the other Judaeo-Greek inscription found on the site (H. Vincent in *RB* 1902, p. 436-7), and remarks upon the designation of the deceased as μακάριος, which is common to both, but quite unusual in other Jewish epitaphs. He points out the rare form Ἰωανάνης which corresponds closely to the Hebrew Yoḥanan; the choice of this name in this particular region may reflect the influence of R. Johanan b. Zaccai. On the evidence of the letter-shapes he assigns the inscription to c. 600 A.D. It may represent a remnant of the Jewish necropolis of Yabne, the famous centre of Judaism after the fall of Jerusalem. On literary evidence Jews certainly continued to live there till the VIth cent.

An Inscription on a Column from the Habra Synagogue

by M. SCHWABE

The fragment of a Judaeo-Aramaic dedication, written on a column, 48 cms. thick (now in the Palestine Archaeological Museum I, 10596) was found on the same site. The author proposes two tentative readings. He prefers the version *Yudn bn.../hbšn.../vtq...*—which he completes to *[Blessed be the memory of] / Judan the son of... / from Beth-Shean [who made / this column] and repai[red...]* This inscription, too, may be dated on internal evidence to c. 600 A. D.

Adami Hannekeb

(Joshua XIX, 33)

by R. DE VAUX, O. P.

The author, following A. Saarisalo, identifies the site with Kh. Damiya, 8 kms. S.W. of Tiberias. He describes it as a triple site, consisting of a Byzantine-Arab ruin, an earlier (Roman-Byzantine) acropolis (et-Tell) and a still earlier site on the top of a mountain, with EB—Iron I pottery. A fourth unnamed area S. of the Wadi was newly discovered. It measures 200-300 m. by 100, shows EB—LB pottery and plenty of Iron I ware. The double site explains the dual name form; the *Neqeb* refers to the pass in the Wadi Mu'allaqa.

These new finds confirm the author's identification of the twin towns of Udm Rabbath and Udam Tharrat (Big and Little Adam) in the Ugarit texts with this site.

Topographical Researches (IV)

by B. MAISLER

Gabaa and Harosheth of the Gentiles. — The author points out that with the definite identification of Sheikh Abreiq with the ancient Beth-She'arim (Besara of Josephus), another site has to be found for Gabaa. After surveying the available evidence, he proposes *el Harithiye*, where remains have been found dating from the Hellenistic to the Arab period and whose position is of great strategic importance. The Gaḅa (Qb') of the Thotmes III List should be placed accordingly at Tell 'Amr in the neighbourhood, which has been settled in the LB-Iron I period and again in Arab times. The identification of Gabaa-Gaba with el Harithiye-Tell 'Amr makes necessary a reconsideration of the old identification of the latter with Harosheth of the Gentiles (Judges iv, 2; 13). The author suggests that this appellation refers to a whole district, the mountainous area of Galilee which was ruled over by Sissera as viceroy of Jabin, King of Hazor and foremost ruler of the Canaanites. The word Harosheth is connected with the Akk. *huršu*—"mountain", "mountain covered with trees", "forest", and in the plural-*huršāni* "mountains" (Cf. II Chr. xxvii, 4). "Harosheth of the Gentiles" would thus describe the wooded and hilly part of "Galilee of the Gentiles".

From the Records of the Damascus Community

by S. ASSAF

The Cairo Genizah includes one page (Cambridge T.-S. 16. 181) from the records of a Beth-Din of Damascus. It contains four betrothal contracts dated Adar I and II, 933. These engagements, which are among the earliest preserved, are signed by witnesses. The parties to the contracts are members of the Babylonian community at Damascus. Under Palestinian influence they follow a double reckoning, by years of the Creation and years of the Sabbatic circle. Three documents are written in Hebrew and one in Aramaic. The author discusses the legal points of the documents and prints the texts of the three Hebrew contracts.

The Keys of Rains

by J. W. HIRSCHBERG

Comparing the Jewish (Biblical and Talmudic) and the Arab

legends regarding the miraculous powers of some personalities to bring rain through the force of their prayers, the author comes to the conclusion that the legends contained in the Hadith and the ceremonial by which the Moslems attempted to procure rain in times of drought were taken over from the Jews and were influenced by their customs, as before Mohammad the Arabs had quite different ways of procuring rain. Even in the last generation there lived a Yemenite rabbi whose prayers were said to open the gates of Heaven. The author concludes by a description of a fast and prayers for rain taken from R. Jacob Saphir's description of his travels in Yemen. The Arabs of Yemen believed quite recently that the Jews had the keys of rains and on occasion could be forced to use them.

Numismatic Section

The "Umbrella" coins of Agrippa I.

B. Kirschner, considers the so-called "umbrella" on the coins of Herodes Agrippa I as an archaic umbrella, or basket, or mushroom-anchor, alluding to certain maritime events in the king's history, and following his predecessors in the use of such a symbol.

Note on a Coin of King Agrippa

by A. REIFENBERG

The author refers to his article in the *Bulletin* (V, 4, 1938) and to E. L. Sukenik's note in *Kedem* II (1945), pp. 19-20. The coin published by Sukenik disproves the author's contention that the background shows a chain. The author maintains, however, his view that the coin must refer to the coronation of Agrippa by Claudius.

The Samaritans in the First World War

by I. BEN-HANANIA

In 1916 two Arab officials in the Turkish service, Rafiq Bey et-Tamimi and Majid Bey wrote an official report on the Beirut vilayet, which included Samaria. Part of the report is devoted to the Samaritan community. Its material and moral state is described in the most sombre colours. The author translates the most interesting passages and gives a resumé of the rest.

MISCELLANEA

J. Halperin looks for the origin of the name, now usually read Beth-She'arim, in the name Se'orim, a priestly family mentioned in I Chron. xxiv, 8. The name, Beth or Kefar Se'orim, occurs also in Talmudic texts.—

S. Abramson supports on the basis of a Leningrad MS. *S. Krauss'* reading of "Tetrapylon" given in the Midrash (Proverbs ix, 2) as the burial place of R. 'Aqiba.— *S. H. Kook* reports from ancient Jewish travellers the existence of an unknown cemetery at the foot of Mt. Carmel, where the Jews of Acre buried their scholars.— *J. M. Grintz* reviews *P. Korngruen's* "Laws of the Ancient East".

The activities of the JPES reviewed include a report on the *Second Archaeological Conference* held at Tel-Aviv in October 1944 on the subject *On the Sea-Shore*, a review of the Maritime Activities of the Jews in ancient Palestine; on the excavations at Beth Yerah; on the literary activities of the Society; on the lectures given on its behalf; on the draft new rules; on the foundation of a *Numismatic Circle* attached to it; on the activities of the branches; and on the Third Archaeological Conference in preparation at Haifa.

A. Schalit commemorates *Dr. Y. Levi*, Lecturer in Classical Philology at the Hebrew University, who died recently, aged 44.

Preliminary Report on the Beth Yerah Excavations

by B. MAISLER and M. STEKELIS

After a review of the past history of the site (at present Kh. Kerak at the S. end of the Sea of Galilee), the excavators describe the results of the trial trench (ca. 2 dunams) dug in 1944-45 at the S. end of the tell. The strata identified included a Roman camp, two Hellenistic levels containing big and well built houses, with baths etc. and three Early Bronze strata (EB I-III); the lowest had the remains of a mud-brick city wall, and near it a wall of undressed basalt blocks was erected at a later age. The finds included pottery, figurines and stone implements of the periods uncovered and a group of finds (jewelry, beads etc.) in a tomb of the Late Hellenistic period. A further report on the results obtained at the end of the season will be published in a later issue.