

SUMMARY

Some Remains of the Yarmukian Culture

by M. STEKELIS

In the course of research devoted to the investigation of this culture (to be published more fully in the *Annual* of the Society, Vol. I) were discovered two figurines. No. 1 is of limestone, 91 mm. high, once coloured with ochre mixed with oil. It represents a crouched woman; the face, eyes and limbs are indicated by incisions; the hair-dressing by parallel lines. No. 2., also of limestone, is broken at the base; the fragment is 66 mm. high. The subject is the same; the eyes are indicated by two deep indentions; tatouage is represented by cuts at the sides of the head. No figurines of this type, destined for primitive magic, have so far been found in the "Fertile Crescent" and but rarely in the Mediterranean region.

The Legend "Shekel" on Hebrew Weights

by A. REIFENBERG

A tortoise-shaped weight in the author's collection was first published (*JPQS* XVI (1936), p. 39 ff.) as inscribed *płg [rb^ct]*; now the author has deciphered on the top side the letters *šql*, i. e. shekel. This is the first occurrence of this term on a Hebrew weight. Its weight is 2,63 gr. and with another one, inscribed *rb^cnsf* (2,54 gr), it goes to show the existence of a half-shekel (*nsf*) of 10,1 gr. and of a shekel of ca. 20-21 gr.

Ancients Jewish Tomb-Caves near Tel-Aviv

by J. KAPLAN

The author has excavated these caves on behalf of the Department of Antiquities of Israel at Kh. Suweilima, N. of the Yarkon River. The vaulted caves are cut in kurkar sandstone, and have been much damaged by building

operations. *Cave A.*: Only one locus is preserved, 1,25 m. long with one skeleton and some ribbed Roman sherds. *Cave B.*: Part of an arch in the back wall has a locus to the left and another one to the North. A pit on the floor contained many ossuary fragments. On the West is a bench 30 cm. high. The finds include bones, a stone tablet 70 by 50 cms., and a glass bottle. *Cave C*: A ruined vault, beneath which were two jars containing bones of children; the jars are ribbed. The ossuaries were of the four-panelled type, with red paint. This is the first find of ossuaries in the Sharon plain.

A New Synagogue Inscription at 'Alma

by I. BEN-ZEVIE

A new inscription on a fragment of a basalt lintel; the fragment preserved (39,5 by 53 by 43 cms.) reads:

... נה טברייא די ...
... נ שקופה מלכ ...

It is completed as follows: "Blessed be the memory of [Yo]nah (?) of Tiberias who gave ... this lintel. The King of the World ..." The inscription belongs to the 3rd — 4th centuries. An earlier inscription has been known to exist at this village since Renan discovered it.

Caesarea Coin-finds and the History of the City

by H. HAMBURGER

The author has for many years explored the surface area of Caesarea and its vicinity. He has now classified the coin-finds by period and find-spots. The coins indicating the ups-and-downs of the city's history are distributed as follows: Alexander 2; Seleucid 10; Jannaeus 18 (plus 6 usually attributed to Hyrcanus II); Herod 12; Archelaus 6; Agrippa I 10; Procurators 90; Jewish Revolt 6; Autonomous Caesarea 40; Phoenician 13; Constantine I-II 100; Arab 8th — 9th cent. 14; 12th-13th cent. 17; Crusader, 9. The distribution of the find places was as follows (see map p. 77): Area A Arab; B — Byzantine; C — Constantinian; P — Procurators.

The Israelite Exiles at Gozan

by B. MAISLER

The newly published texts of Tell Ḥalâf (*AFO Beihefte* 6, 1940, No. 111) contain a legal undertaking to hand over a woman Da-a-a-na-a (Dinah?) to a man U-si-^ca (Hosea); the high forfeit suggests that the transaction referred to the redemption of an Israelite slave or prisoner of war. Another Israelite name (Yasime^cel = Ishmael) occurs among the witnesses. The existence of Israelite exiles at Gozan (=Tell Ḥalâf) is of course known from I Kings XVII, 6; I Chronicles V, 26. The name Yâ-abi (Text No. 49) on the other hand is not identical with Joab.

The Reorganisation of the Army of Judah under Josiah

by Y. YADIN

In reviewing E. Junge's "Der Wiederaufbau des Heerwesens des Reiches Juda unter Josia", Stuttgart 1937, the author explains his own conception of the development of the armies of Israel and Judah. He rejects Junge's assumption that the army of Josiah was organised of popular levies in contrast to the earlier period of a standing army of mercenaries; but he admits that Junge made an important contribution to the study of the organisation of the conscript army of Judah. In general the tribal levies of the days of the Judges were replaced by the kings with a standing army of hired troops; the mass of the people was called out only in case of invasion. Charioteers appear already in the days of David, as part of the mercenaries; they were posted by Solomon in fortresses guarding the big plains, their chosen field of operations. Fortresses were constructed since the days of Rehoboam by popular corvees and were garrisoned by standing troops. After Sanherib's campaign Judah was desolated and the kings, unable to afford a mercenary army of the same size as before, had recourse to the popular levy, which was reorganised by Josiah as a standing army; but the charioteer forces continued to exist and took part in the battle of Megiddo. The popular levy was commanded

by the King's scribe (סופר) assisted by the "ruler" (שוטר) whose underlings supervised the mobilization in the country districts. The levies in each district were organized in panels, which took turns in guarding the fortresses. There is no necessity to attribute the origin of this system to Josiah; it could have as well have existed since the time of David, but to have been expanded in the later days of the monarchy.

The Tell Halâf (Gozan) Texts

by A. MALAMAT

The author gives a short summary of these recent texts (Assyrian, Neo-Babylonian and Aramaic inscriptions) and points out the various new facts contained in them, with reference to linguistic, historical, religious and especially military matters.

The Leviticus Fragments in the Hidden Scrolls Find

by S. YEIVIN

The author considers these fragments, written in the Old Hebrew Script still used by the Samaritans, to be of Samaritan origin; his conclusions are based on a comparison of the texts and on the shape of the writing in old inscriptions; he dates these fragments to the late 2nd or early 1st century B. C.

A Christian Inscription from Beerot Yishaq

by M. SCHWABE

The inscription was found by the members of the settlement in 1945, and was since re-buried; the publication is from a defective copy made at the time. The text reads: + + + θήκη τοῦ τριᾶς / μακαρίου Ἀλ/εξάνδρου πρ/εσβυτέρου κα[ι] / ἀρχιμανδρί/του ἀνεπάρη τῇ / Περτιίου θκ' / τοῦ ἐξω' ἔτους / ἰνδικτ(ίωνος) ιγ' (=24th Februaay 505). Similar texts were published by A. Alt, *Die Inschriften der Palästina Tertia*, No. 18 and Clermont-Ganneau, *Arch. Res. in Pal.* II, p. 402.

Review

New books: Prof. A. Reifenberg reviews two articles by L. Mildenberg dealing with the coinage of Bar-Kokhba. M. Hartom adds some notes to Dr. Prawer's review (*BJPES*, XIV, pp. 124-127) of A. Yaari's edition of the Itinerary of R. Meshullam of Volterra. B. M.: Short notes on new publications.

D. Ashbel discusses the exceptionally extensive snow-fall of 1950 in comparison with earlier meteorological records.

The Sixth Annual Archaeological Conference

October 9th — 13th, 1949

The sixth of the Annual Archaeological Conferences of the Society was held in Galilee. The Conference exceeded in length, variety and numbers all the previous ones. It began on October 9th at Tel Aviv Port, where the members embarked on ss. Kommemiut and passed along the shores of Israel to Acre. The Minister of Communications, D. Remez, addressed the conference on the subject: "Israel and the Sea". The sites along the shore were explained by Z. Vilnay and J. Braslawski. At Acre the conference disembarked.

The opening session was held at Acre. Prof. L. A. Mayer, Hon. President of the Society, presided. The Prime Minister, D. Ben-Gurion, opened the Conference in a speech devoted to a discussion of the historical mission of Israel in the light of the Land and the Book, and the value of archaeological research for the study of both. He was followed by Dr. B. Maisler, Hon. Chairman of the Executive Committee, who spoke on "Ancient Galilee". The evening concluded by an address by Major-General Y. Yadin on "The Geography of Galilee in its military aspects".

The second session was continued at Acre on October 10th. M. Avi-Yonah lectured on "Galilee in the Roman wars"; Prof. E. L. Sukenik on "Ancient Synagogues in Galilee"; Dr. D. Amiran (Kallner) on the "Physical Geography of Galilee". After a tour through Acre Town, the third session was devoted to lectures by Dr. H. Z. Hirshberg on "Moslem

Acre" and Prof. L. A. Mayer on "Turkish architecture". The conference then visited the mosque of Jezzar Pasha; there followed a reception arranged by the Acre Municipality, and the fourth session, addressed by J. Braslawski on "The Continuity of Jewish Settlement in Galilee" and J. Weitz on "The New Settlements".

On October 11th the members toured the Valley of Beth ha-Kerem, Peqi'in, and followed the frontier road to Hanita and Nahariya. In the fifth session, held at Nahariya, papers were read by Prof. E. L. Sukenik on the "Hidden Scrolls", and the She'albim synagogue; by Dr. I. Ben-Dor on the work at Ma'ale Hamisha, Nathanya, Jaffa and Tiv'on; by M. Aviyonah on his excavations at Sheikh Bader, Jerusalem; by Dr. B. Maisler on his excavations at Tell Qasila and Engaddi.

On October 12th the conference toured the Ladder of Tyre and Achzib, then by way of Me'ona (Tarshiḥa) and Sa'sa they visited Gischala, where a reception was held by the local population led by the Rev. Athanas Khury; their way led onward to Kefar Bir'am, Kadesh Naphtali and Safed. The sixth session was held at Safed; here Mr. I. Ben-Zevie spoke on the history of Safed and Dr. D. Amiran on the population of Galilee.

On the last day, October 13th, Safed was visited and the tour continued by way of Meirun, the Plain of Beth Netopha to Nazareth, where a reception had been arranged by the Municipality. From Nazareth the members proceeded to Sepphoris, where the proceedings concluded at the ancient Castle with addresses by Dr. B. Maisler and J. Abramski, Secretary of the Society, and the National Anthem.

The Archaeological Circle

A summary is given of five papers read at the circle: Dr. B. Maisler — "Shishak's campaign in Palestine"; Prof. L. A. Mayer — "The Jewish Breithaus"; Dr. A. Shalit — "Alexander Jannay's conquests in Moab"; Prof. A. Reifenberg — "The Discovery of Archaeological Sites by airphotography"; Prof. H. Tur-Sinay — "The origin of the Sabbath".