

IRAQ

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I R A Q

is published by the British School of Archaeology in Iraq (Gertrude Bell Memorial). It is subsidized by the British Academy, and is devoted to studies of the history, art, archaeology, religion, and social life of Iraq, and to a lesser degree of the neighbouring countries (Iran, Armenia, Anatolia, Syria, and Arabia), from the earliest times down to about A.D. 1700. Texts concerning these subjects, with translations and comments, will be considered; exclusively philological articles will not be accepted.

SIR PERCY COX

IT is with great sorrow that the British School of Archaeology in Iraq mourns the death of its first President, Sir Percy Cox, G.C.M.G., G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I. He, above all men, was fitted, after a career in the East equalled by few, to fill the Presidential Chair. He had taken an intense interest in the School from its inception, after Miss Gertrude Bell had so clearly visualized it and had left so munificent a bequest for its initiation; and it was he who was Chairman of the Appeal Fund, which was so to raise her endowment that the School might take its place still more worthily among its sisters in other fields of Archaeology. The School has lost a trusted leader, and one who was a great and historic personality.

It would be out of place here to tell the story of so long and full a life, spent so loyally in the service of his country in those lands of which the archaeology is the reason for the School's existence. The career and exploits of 'Kokkus', the name by which he was endeared to so many, must be read elsewhere in the histories of great Englishmen. But we cannot close this brief Memoir without thinking how many members of the School there must be who will remember him when he was at the height of his greatness, in those four years of stress of war, through burning days in Basrah or Baghdad, or in the dark times after the Retreat from Ctēsiphon when his quiet and resourceful capability helped so much to lead to those final victories which were to make Iraq an independent State.

R. C. T.