

EDITORIAL

IN this number, the first in succession after the Jubilee volume, we present six articles which cover a wide variety of subjects. Advances in the application of technology to the examination of archaeological discoveries are discussed in the article by Mrs. Maxwell-Hyslop and Mr. Hodges and, from a different approach, by Mrs. Birmingham and her colleagues. These essays supplement an investigation into the working of bronze in antiquity first published in volume XXIV, 1962.

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Mr. Reade's discovery of some long untraced drawings of the sculptures of Ashurbanipal made by Charles Hodder in 1853 is an appropriately timed contribution to Assyrian art, for the School is now preparing much new material in the catalogue of the ivories which have been excavated at Nimrud from 1949 onwards.

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The important historical text first treated here by Mr. A. R. Millard will add to our knowledge of the group of cuneiform texts commonly known as the 'Babylonian Chronicle'. These records are accurate and objective sources for the reign of Shamash-shum-ukin of Babylon during the period 664-650 B.C. This tablet together with all the extant texts of this class, is preserved in the British Museum.

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With his third report on the excavations at Yanik Tepe, Azerbaijan, Mr. C. A. Burney concludes his preliminary account of that site between the Neolithic (*c.* 6000 B.C.) and Iron Age (*c.* 600 B.C.).

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A report by Mr. Jeffery Orchard on the final season of excavations at Fort Shalmaneser, Nimrud, will appear in the next part of this journal.

This spring the School embarks on a new venture. In conjunction with the University Museum, Philadelphia, whose co-operation with the British Museum at Ur (1922-1934) will long be remembered, a preliminary investigation is being made of a second millennium site at Tall Rimah, near Tall

Afar, some fifty miles west of Mosul (see *Iraq V* 1938, Part 2, p. 137). Reports of these excavations will be published in our forthcoming volumes.

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Mr. David Oates, Director of the Tall Rimah Expedition will lecture on the 1964 season's work there at the thirty-first Annual General Meeting of the British School of Archaeology in Iraq. Subscribers are asked to note that this will be held at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, November 4th, 1964 at the Royal Geographical Society, Kensington Gore, London.