

UNIVERSITY RECORD

AUGUST, 1904

*RECENT REPORTS FROM THE EXPEDITION OF THE ORIENTAL EXPLORATION FUND
(BABYLONIAN SECTION).*

Dr. E. J. Banks, Field Director of the Expedition (Babylonian Section) of the Oriental Exploration Fund of the University of Chicago, has made the following reports from Bismya:

REPORT NO. 14.

"BISMYA, April 1, 1904.

"Since my report of last week we have worked five days in III, clearing out the various rooms and streets as we have come to them. Among the finds of the week is a tomb in which a number of objects were found. . . .

"Another object of interest is a marble statuette of a seated figure, apparently a reproduction of the larger statues from the temple. The hands are folded; the hair is braided and hanging down at the sides; and the skirt is provided with folds. It has no inscription. We have also found a headless terra-cotta statuette of the same form, but this I take to be much later.

"I am inclosing a copy of an inscription on a seal cylinder which was also found in III, and of a perfect tablet upon which I think I see the name of Dungi, king of Ur, as upon the bricks of the temple.

"The ruins in this part (III) of Bismya, although very deep, contain inscribed objects only near the surface, and those objects, usually of the greatest antiquity, are few in number, and are found in groups as if forming private

collections. . . . The only places where tablets of a later date have been discovered are in Palace I, and a few days ago I discovered two tablets with late Babylonian writing in a small conical mound near the west corner.

"In comparing the archaic characters on the fragments of vases from the temple with those found at Nippur, I am convinced that we have inscriptions as old as any from Nippur. It therefore seems advisable to search as thoroughly as possible in the lower strata of the temple. . . . I have decided to put all of the men at work in the temple, with the hope of finding the body of another statue or other inscribed vase fragments, and I see no reason why the temple should not be thoroughly excavated at once. I would estimate a month's time with the present number of workmen sufficient. . . .

"Apart from some walls of mud bricks far below the surface of the temple hill, the lowest stratum of a more substantial material consists of scattered blocks of white limestone, which I take to be the foundation of a temple constructed before burned bricks were employed at Bismya. Above this layer of limestone is a meter of clay, upon which rests a solid wall of well-preserved plano-convex bricks, reaching in places to the height of nearly two meters. These bricks are generally considered to antedate Sargon and

Naram Sin. Near the level of the top of the wall of plano-convex bricks, but reaching to a considerable distance out to the sides, is the foundation of a temple constructed of long grooved bricks, which I take to be the development of the plano-convex bricks. In a chamber of this temple I found the inscription of Naram Sin, and I am inclined to believe that this foundation was constructed by him. Above it is another of square bricks, some of which are inscribed with the name of Dungi, king of Ur. Above Dungi's foundation I can find nothing of a later date, and if any structure ever existed upon it, it has been worn away by the weather and carried off by the strong winds.

"We therefore have traces of four builders who employed material more substantial than clay. A careful examination of the bricks may reveal traces of others.

"The most interesting thing about the temple is that below the layer of clay upon which the pre-Sargonic temple rests is a stratum of débris in which the large statue and the greater part of the fragments of the inscribed vases were found. The conclusion, then, is that the statue and vases belonged to the temple of limestone blocks, and that, when it was destroyed to make room for the temple of plano-convex bricks, these objects were broken and buried in its ruins. We may then give tentative dates to the various foundations. Beginning at the top:

"The First is of Dungi, 2750 B. C.

"The Second possibly of Naram Sin, 3750 (?) B. C.

"The Third, of plano-convex bricks, in the fourth millennium B. C.

"The Fourth, of stone blocks, possibly from the fifth millennium B. C. . . .

"I cannot too strongly urge the necessity of more money immediately, for, apart from the extremely great success of the excavations, it is next to impossible to carry on the work with the sum now at my disposal. I have reduced the number of watchmen to three and the soldiers to two

for the purpose of cutting down my expenses, and for the same reason I have not purchased a horse, which is a necessity. The workmen number about 120, and in case of an attack, which may occur any day, it is not sufficient for protection. An increase of the workmen would decrease the dangers to which we are exposed. To prolong the work here after two years . . . seems an unnecessary exposure of life and health, for there is no part of Mesopotamia more inhospitable than this. Personally I do not mind the dangers nor the fierce sandstorms, but I believe it is for the best interests of the University to complete the work here while we have the irade. . . ."

REPORT NO. 16.

"BISMYA, April 15, 1904.

"Since my last report we have worked at the temple five and one-half days with a force of 120 men, and the results have been more satisfactory than I anticipated. I am inclosing copies of four inscriptions taken from fragments of vases, all of which were found outside an inner wall near the north corner of the temple inclosure. Along this wall we are finding fragments of marble vases of various sizes and shapes, and with them fragments of plano-convex bricks, indicating that when the temple in which these bricks were employed, was razed, the rubbish was dumped outside the wall. It is this dump which we are now excavating, and although we have hardly begun it, we have discovered four inscribed fragments, one perfect marble vase, an engraved marble lamp, nearly perfect, the hind parts of two marble bulls, and several basketfuls of fragments of white marble, onyx, soap and sandstone vases, and of other objects. Very little terra-cotta is found in this ancient stratum, and I am anticipating valuable results.

"Near the same place we have uncovered a drain built of plano-convex bricks, and a few centimeters above it is a second drain identical in construction, except that the bricks employed

are larger and marked with two grooves running parallel with the longer sides. Thus I have a clue to the markings on the bricks—something for which I have long been working. It is thus evident that the earliest of the grooved bricks were marked with two parallel lines. It is now certain that after the temple of plano-convex bricks was destroyed, the site witnessed at least five reconstructions or additions before the time when other bricks were employed. The bricks of these five builders were marked as

follows: . In no case are

the bricks of one stamp used with those of another or on the same level. I am expecting to find traces of three other builders whose

bricks are marked , for bricks of

this description are found elsewhere in the ruins of Bismya. If, as is generally supposed, the bricks employed by Sargon and Naram Sin were very large and square—two varieties of which have been found in the temple—we have traces of at least five kings who reconstructed the temple between the time when the plano-convex bricks were discarded and the reign of Sargon, and perhaps a clue to the date of the first brick temple.

"The excavation of the temple should be nearly finished within the next ten days. We are now sinking a shaft in the very center of the hill, digging out the perpendicular drains and following about the inner walls of the inclosure. . . ."

REPORT NO. 17.

"BISMYA, April 22, 1904.

"Since my last report we have worked at the temple four full days and two half-days with 122 men. Of the finds the most striking object is a large bronze spike terminating in a finely shaped lion, a design of which I am inclosing.

The spike is forty-eight centimeters long. It may bear upon its right side an inscription in raised characters, like Hittite, but the raised parts are more likely the result of corrosion. Whether it is inscribed or not, it is an object of very great value, especially as it was found two and one-half meters below the platform of plano-convex bricks, in the pit which we are digging in the center of the hill. It must antedate this temple, and is therefore one of the most ancient bronze objects. . . .

"During this week four of the gangs were employed at the north corner of the inclosure in what I have termed the dump of the plano-convex brick temple. On the northwest side of the platform of this very ancient temple is an inclined plane leading up to it, and when the temple was razed, its ruins were dumped in the corner at its side. About fifteen basketfuls of the fragments of marble vases have been recovered; among them are six inscribed fragments, copies of which I am inclosing, together with the copy of another vase inscription which was found in the southeast trench of the temple. By putting fragments together, a number of vases are now nearly perfect; a design of one is inclosed. . . . When the work at this point is finished, I hope to have a good representative collection of vases of marble and other stones used in the service of the temple which must date not far from 4500 B. C.

"The importance of the temple of plano-convex bricks is daily becoming more evident. Its platforms, which can now be traced on the northwest and southwest sides, appear to have been more extensive than those of the later temples which stood above it, and to have an appearance of solidity which they lack. I hope that during the next few days its excavation may be completed, and that we may be able to prepare a detailed plan of it.

"Other gangs have been employed during the past week in digging to the bottoms of three perpendicular drains. Two have been reached

at the level of the sand. One has twenty-nine rings; the other, twenty-six; the third, which has not yet been finished, has been dug to the depth of thirty-two rings.

"It is getting warm here. The past week the thermometer has been at 96° in the coolest place we could find, and at seven o'clock this morning in the court of the house it registered 112° in the sun. There were three days of sandstorms this week, and it is on that account that work was discontinued two half-days."

REPORT NO. 19.

"BISMYA, May 6, 1904.

"In the list of finds inclosed are two objects of special interest, which were found during the five days' work of the past week. One is a fragment of a large inscribed marble vase resembling the type found at Nippur, and although the writing is nearly defaced, I am inclosing a copy of all that I can see. The other object is a large fragment of a very large plano-convex brick-shaped tablet, inscribed on both sides in the most archaic characters. The fragment, which is nearly the quarter of the brick, contains 70 lines of writing; the original must have contained nearly 300. I have been trying to prepare a copy of the inscription to inclose this week, but the pressure of work may not permit me to do so. It is by far the most valuable inscription yet discovered at Bismya, and possibly the most valuable of all the very ancient inscriptions. . . .

" . . . I am now digging off the top of the hill (IV), that we may safely go deeper into it. Thursday one of our men was buried by a landslide, and when dug out was unconscious, but he is not seriously injured.

"There seems to be very little wall at IV, and the two large rooms appearing on the west side of the hill confirm my impression, obtained from an evident order in the arrangement and character of the tablets, that a school existed here.

"Last Wednesday we were surprised by the

appearance of four visitors: Rev. Mr. Ussher, of Philadelphia, and Miss Brinton; the others are missionaries from Bagdad. Mr. Ussher, who has just visited the excavations at Nineveh, Kalah, Shergat, and Babylon, when seeing the results here, became enthusiastic over Bismya. The visitors, the first we have had, will shortly leave *via* Nippur, and Mrs. Banks will go with them, to stop in the cooler climate of Bagdad."

REPORT NO. 20.

"BISMYA, May 13, 1904.

"Our visitors left Wednesday, May 11, and with them Mrs. Banks, who will remain in Bagdad during the summer. Last Monday, together with Mr. Ussher and Dr. Bridgestock, I visited Fara, and I beg to inclose a paper on my impressions of the work of the Germans at that point. . . .

"In the lower part of the room were a number of round tablets, a copy of one of which I am inclosing, and which I take to be a copying exercise.

"We are now working on a trench connecting I and IV, to discover what buildings, if any, occupied the intervening space. We are clearing out a plano-convex well at IV, in which we are now at the depth of twelve meters, and are finding an extraordinary amount of entire and broken pottery; other gangs are clearing out the remaining rooms of IV, but are finding nothing.

"The heat, although it is but the middle of May, is becoming intense, and the men, even when urged by the sheikhs to remain, are beginning to leave. The thermometer has registered 120° in the early morning at the excavations. This extreme temperature is due to the hot sand. Outside the sand belt, and in the cultivated tracts, as at Affedj, the weather is comparatively cool. It will be but a matter of days when most of the workmen will leave, and those who are forced to remain will be able to work but two or three hours in the early morn-

ing and in the evening. However, I shall continue the work as long as it is possible to do so. I am preparing to spend the summer in preparing a final report on the temple, and in copying tablets, unless I am instructed to do otherwise.

"In the absence of a map, I am inclosing this rough design that you may be able to understand the relative positions of the various hills in which excavations have been made. The square roughly represents the high ground. The highest hills are on the southwest side, and there the chief work must be done, while every part of the square must be worked over."

IMPRESSIONS FROM THE EXCAVATIONS BY THE
GERMANS AT FARA AND ABU HATAB.

"The ruins of Fara and Abu Hatab are situated four hours by horse south of Bismya, and about an hour distant from each other. Here the Germans, under Koldewey, have carried on excavations for nine months, with a force varying from 300 to 500 men.

"Fara, the larger of the two ruins, is somewhat smaller than Bismya, a little more than half a mile in its greatest diameter and about twenty feet above plain level at its highest point. Its shape is somewhat suggestive of a crescent; its soil is permeated with salt and is black and soft. The bed of an ancient canal appears on the southeast side of the ruins, and some distance away on the other side are a few low ridges representing the ancient burial place.

"The excavations at Fara began at the northwest corner, and consist of a series of parallel trenches about eight feet wide and four deep, running entirely across the ruin and out into the desert at the sides. At the appearance of a wall the course of the trench was changed until the building of which the wall was a part was cleared. One small palace not far from the northwest corner came to light, and near the center of the ruins a much larger palace, near which is an enormous well. The well, which I

had no time to measure, may be twenty feet in diameter and forty feet deep, and is built up entirely of plano-convex bricks laid in every conceivable position. Running down one edge is an ordinary Babylonian drain built up with terra-cotta rings. Nearly a half of the bricks of the wall has been removed to furnish material for the large house constructed for the use of the excavators.

"If the reports of the workmen formerly employed at Fara may be trusted, it was three months after the excavations were opened before a single object of value was discovered, and all of the antiquities carried away, with the exception of a bronze head of a deer, which it is said was found in a palace near the center, came from the southeast side. In this palace, at the very end of the ruin, were found a number of stone vases, some of them entire and some with brief inscriptions, and in the dump of dirt near by I picked up a small, perfect, white-marble vase which had escaped the attention of the workmen. In the same palace were found some good baked-clay tablets, 250 in number, so the former workmen say. In every part of the ruins immense numbers of terra-cotta vases appeared.

"By far the most interesting object at Fara is the sewer which emptied into the canal. Its walls are a meter apart and a meter high, and upon them rests a perfect arch of plano-convex bricks, perhaps the oldest arch known and probably older than the one found beneath the temple at Nippur. In the cemetery beyond the canal a wall twenty feet or so in width was uncovered, and along its side and a meter below the surface a few round terra-cotta coffins were unearthed. Fara seems to have possessed no temple, or, if so, it was not provided with a tower, as in later Babylonian cities.

"As in the sewer and well, the bricks in every part of the ruin are plano-convex, or a modification of them. The plano-convex bricks are very small and the others, nearly double their

size, measure $29 \times 15 \times 5$ cm., and are less convex. Some are marked with a single groove; others with three small circular holes, as if punched by the end of a walking-stick.

"Comparing the bricks with others found at Bismya, it is easy to assign an approximate date to the city which the ruins of Fara represent. At Bismya, below the great square bricks of Sargon, 3800 B. C., are found long thin bricks marked with four grooves, and still deeper bricks with three and two grooves in various positions. Still deeper are the plano-convex bricks. At Fara nothing of a later date than plano-convex bricks appears upon the surface, the city being one of the most ancient of Babylonia, the last king who built there having ruled generations before 3800 B. C. There is reason to believe that Fara ceased to exist as early as 4000 B. C. The shape and material of the marble vases, fragments of which are scattered on the surface, are identical with those found in the stratum of plano-convex bricks at Bismya, and again certify to the extreme antiquity of the ruin. That the Germans found few tablets is not surprising, for the city did not exist during that period when most of the tablets from Nippur and Abu Habba were written.

"What city the ruins of Fara represent is uncertain. I doubt if the Germans know its ancient name. It is certain that it is not Isin, the name of the place which they hoped to discover.

"Great credit is due Koldewey for his patient, systematic work. His trenching, a system peculiar to himself, gives the impression of thoroughness, and the way he finishes the work, as he goes from one end of the ruin to the other, increases the impression. However, in Arabia, where troubles with the Arabs are likely to terminate the excavations at any moment, it would seem advisable to excavate the most promising points first. At Fara nothing was found for three months, but the work went steadily from one end of the ruin to the other,

and only at the farther end were objects of any value discovered. When less than a month was required practically to finish the work, one of his men was killed in an Arab battle, and the government closed the excavations. It would seem that the richest treasures of the ruin may lie under the little corner of the mound still untouched, and there they must remain.

"At Abu Hatab, a small, low, and rather insignificant ruin of a later date, the same system of trenching was employed. The results, it is said, were few."

REPORT NO. 21.

"BISMYA, May 20, 1904.

"I am pleased to report that among the finds of the past week are a number of objects of very great interest. The first, perhaps one of the most valuable things yet discovered at Bismya, is about a quarter of a large, plano-convex, brick-shaped tablet, inscribed with about eighty lines of the most archaic form of characters. The fragment does not belong to a similar one which was found a few days ago. You will notice that in the copy of the inscription which I am inclosing occur the forms of the signs x and y , which, according to Hilprecht, are evidences of different periods in the development of cuneiform, and cannot therefore appear in the same inscription. I am also inclosing a copy of an inscription upon a small fragment of a stone tablet, and of another, upon half of an onyx-like marble vase. All of these objects were found at IV. Two more brick stamps of Naram-Sin have been discovered, but both are very fragmentary. They bear the same inscription which is upon the one previously discovered, and are like it in every way, excepting that their backs are provided with knobs instead of with a semicircular handle. A third bronze tablet has been discovered. It is badly corroded, but I take its inscription to be identical with that on the other two. Although I bought it of a Montifik woman, I believe that it was stolen by one of the workmen from the temple.

"I am also pleased to report that I have discovered the fragments of four bricks, bearing upon the edge a fourteen-line inscription of Kurigalzu, whom I regard as one of the latest builders at Bismya. The writing is very indistinct, but I hope to be able to send a copy of it later. I have also another brick inscription, a copy of which I am trying to prepare to inclose.

"I am inclined to believe that IV may contain the ruins of an Ishtar temple. My reasons are that in the large tablet-room of this structure were found the brick stamps speaking of Naram-Sin as the builder of the house of Ishtar, if I read the inscription rightly; in the ruins we found three small, obscene bas-reliefs—things which one could easily associate with the rites of the Ishtar worship; inscribed vase fragments which would be more likely to be found in a temple than in a house; and finally the general plan of as much of the building as is now uncovered. No traces of a Ziggurat have yet appeared. All of the finds in IV were found on the level of the floor of this structure, and we are now working to clear the entire hill to that level, moving from three to four meters of dirt. The most modest of the bas-reliefs to which I have just referred represents a rude figure seated or squatted upon a decorated stool. The modeling is very fine and reminds one of the best Greek or Roman art, but it was found together with objects of the greatest antiquity.

"Cut through the floor of this building are three oval-shaped holes which I cannot yet understand. One of them, but half a meter in its greatest diameter, is six meters deep and is enlarged at the bottom, so that the entire hole resembles a huge boot. The walls are of libbin; consequently, the hole could not have been connected with any water-works. Along their sides small niches were cut to assist in climbing in and out, and the entire walls show marks of ancient picks. The holes do not seem to have been graves, or places for cold storage, or

drains, or shafts sunk by illicit antiquity diggers, as the workmen assert. Nothing but pure dirt was found in them. If a temple stood here, they might have been used in connection with its service. A plano-convex brick wall in the vicinity has been cleared out. It is cistern-shaped, 67 cm. in diameter at its top, and 130 below. At the bottom twelve meters below the surface were found at least one hundred plates, broken and whole, two large vases, ten smaller vases, one perfect marble vase, fragments of another, a marble slab, and two lapis-lazuli beads of a shape found in the tombs. We are now clearing out a square brick well a few meters away.

"While digging a trench along the ridge of one of the side hills of IV, which I designate as IVa, we have come upon two houses, and in one of them were found a number of tablets. I am finding upon the tablets from this and other parts of Bismya the name of the city UD-NUN.KI, but in nothing that I have here can I find the pronunciation of this combination. That it is the name of the city there is no doubt.

"The difficulties in our way have become quite serious during the past few days. A battle between the Montifik and the El-Bedin occurred near here this past week, and three of the El-Bedin were killed and their flocks stolen. The occasion is that Hamud Pasha, the chief of this branch of the Montifik, is grazing his camels and has pitched his tent in El-Bedin territory. The result of the battle is that a blood-feud exists, and our workmen, afraid to remain in the vicinity, have been demanding their money that they may leave. One of the sheikhs came to take his men away, but as I explained that they were safer with me than with him, they remained. However, about forty men, driven by fear, the increasing heat, and the sandstorms, which seem to grow more terrific and numerous with the heat, have gone.

"To add to the difficulties, Ahmud, my right-hand man at the excavations, the only one

whom I can trust to any extent, suffered a rupture in some unaccountable way, and is now laid up. The Montifik will probably move in a few days, and as they have not yet attacked us, as everyone has expected and as it was reported that they would do, they may leave us in peace. Although I shall continue to work as long as possible, I do not think I can keep the men for more than another ten days, and our only course is then to go to Bagdad to pass the summer, or to await further instructions."

EXTRACTS FROM A LETTER FROM REV. MR. USSHER.

"BAGDAD, May 20, 1904.

" For the past two months and more I have been visiting the various points in Turkey-in-Asia at which excavations are being carried on in the interests of science, wholly for personal pleasure. Yesterday I returned from a week's visit to Bismya, where I received a cordial welcome from Dr. E. J. Banks, of whose magnificent work under the most trying circumstances surely you and your University may justly feel proud.

" During the past four months I have visited all the fields of work in operation except Tel Lo. This includes Nineveh, Nimroud, Kaleh Shergat, Toprak Kalah, Babylon, Babel, Nippur, Tel Ibrahim, Fara, Abu Hatab, and Bismya — a journey which none of the explorers in this field have taken. May I not feel somewhat qualified therefore to speak thus? I can assure you, after having seen them all, studied their methods, made the personal acquaintance of those in charge, and feeling fairly well informed as to the results, that Bismya will add a crowning glory to them all, not even surpassed by Nippur, of which the University of Pennsylvania is so proud, and justly so. Bismya, after four months of the most economical management, under the trials and deprivations which *none* of the other excavators have experienced because they are all differently situated

(save perhaps Fara where the Germans were obliged to cease working), has yielded a sufficient return to reimburse the University of Chicago manifold, and open up new fields of research in the language, religion, and arts of pre-Sargonic history hitherto unknown. Bismya seems to have been a ruin before Nippur began to be great, such is its antiquity."

REPORT NO. 23.

"BAGDAD, June 11, 1904.

"We reached Bagdad June 1 by way of Affedj, Nippur, and Hillah. I arranged with Sheikh Selman to maintain eight watchmen at Bismya at an expense of one lira each per month, and he has given me a *sennet* or contract to protect the house and its contents, and to prevent digging at the ruins during my absence. Should he not keep this contract, he is responsible to the government, for a *sennet* is a thing of power among the Arabs. We then took boats for Affedj and the next morning visited Nippur.

"A comparison of Nippur with Bismya was of extreme interest to me. The two ruins are almost identical in shape and are similarly divided by canals. At Nippur the temple is on the side of the canal; at Bismya, upon an island in it. Nippur is fully three times as high as Bismya, but Bismya is the greater in extent, and it is only along the southwestern border that it is a little higher than the desert level. At Nippur the ruins on the surface are comparatively modern; at Bismya, Sargonic and pre-Sargonic ruins are on the surface. At Nippur nine-tenths are post-Sargonic; at Bismya nine-tenths are pre-Sargonic. The bricks from Nippur are mostly square, or of late Babylonian origin; few are plano-convex. I did see three small bricks with two grooves. At Bismya there are few square bricks. Ninety per cent. are either plano-convex or grooved, showing that Bismya was a ruin before Nippur had risen to importance. At Nippur the canal and vegetation about may have assisted greatly

in raising the general level of the land; at Bismya the sandstorms have worn away the ruins, and the desert level has changed but slightly since the earliest times. Consequently, the amount of work required to excavate at Nippur is many times greater, for the antiquities are deep and dirt must be carried to a greater distance; at Bismya the most ancient objects are on or near the surface, and the dirt, comparatively little in quantity, may be left near the excavations. I am confident that during the five months' work at Bismya as great a portion of the ruin has been excavated as the three expeditions to Nippur have accomplished. An estimate that one-fifth of each ruin has been excavated would not be far out of the way. In results, we cannot expect to find objects in such large quantities as have been found at Nippur. Bismya has nothing post-Christian, no Parthian coffins, no Hebrew bowls, and but few late Babylonian tablets. Ninety per cent. of the objects of value found at Bismya are pre-Sargonic, therefore less in quantity, but greater in value.

"Excavations may be carried on at Nippur with the greatest ease. There are no sandstorms of importance, for the oldest trenches are not filled. A deep trench in Bismya would be filled in a month. Nippur is surrounded by cultivated land, and good soft water is always at hand. At Bismya we are five miles from water, excepting that from our own well, and that is rapidly becoming bitter. There is only barren sand about us. The difference in temperature at the two ruins in summer time must be about 15°. Affedj close to Nippur has a good market and affords protection by people who are not quite Bedawi. At Bismya it is difficult to obtain money; provisions of all kinds are brought from a good distance, and all our dealings are with the most noted of the desert robber tribes, the El-Bedin. While Nippur is in a malarial district, I do not think that malaria at Bismya is possible.

"As we left Bismya, cholera was raging at Diwanieh and other places in the vicinity, and we escaped quarantine at Hillah by presenting a paper stating that we had not touched at any infected places, and by the payment of a bak-sheesh. At Hillah it was very difficult to get a carriage to Bagdad, as people were trying to leave. Since then cholera has broken out at both Hillah and Bagdad.

"In Bagdad we have rented a house near the consulates. I am retaining Ahmud and the two servants whom I wish to take back to Bismya. Haidar Bey, the commissioner, has taken a house near by.

"You probably have long known the pronunciation of U. D. N. U. N. K. I. In the Brünnow which has just arrived I notice that it may be pronounced "Adab," and I am wondering if the name Adappa can be the same. I have no means of determining it here. It is certain that Bismya is not Isin; it may be Adappa."

ROBERT FRANCIS HARPER, *Director*.

HASKELL ORIENTAL MUSEUM,
July 25, 1904.

CONFERENCES OF THE CORRESPONDENCE-STUDY DEPARTMENT.

Summer Quarter students had two opportunities this year to learn of the work of the Correspondence-Study Department. On July 20 the President of the University addressed a general assembly in Kent Theater on "The Extra-Mural Work of the University of Chicago." An attendance which more than filled the large amphitheater attested the lively interest in this unique phase of the University's activity. Attention was called to the fact that, of the five divisions into which the University is organized, three—namely, the University Press, the University Affiliations, and the University Extension—are concerned with non-resident work. The University Extension Division is organized into two co-ordinate departments—the Lecture-Study Department

and the Correspondence-Study Department. Through the former the University reaches groups of individuals in neighboring communities, and through the latter, individual students anywhere. The results and possibilities of individual student work away from the University, were presented in detail.

On the following afternoon, July 21, a conference was held in the Chapel at which some special features of correspondence work were discussed. Associate Professor Frank J. Miller, of the Department of Latin, spoke on "The Informal Course;" Dr. C. H. Neilson, of the Department of Physiology, on "The Formal Course;" and Professor Wilbur S. Jackman, Principal of the Elementary School of the School of Education, on "The Feasibility of Nature-Study by Correspondence."

The addresses at these two meetings will be printed in full in the September issue of the UNIVERSITY RECORD.

AN APPOINTMENT TO THE CECIL RHODES SCHOLARSHIP FOR ILLINOIS.

Mr. Robert L. Henry, Jr., who graduated from the University of Chicago in 1902 with the degree of Ph.B., has been unanimously chosen by the state committee of college and university presidents for the first Cecil Rhodes scholarship allotted to Illinois. The committee consisted of President Edmund J. James, of Northwestern University; President Clifford W. Barnes, of Illinois College; President M. H. Chamberlin, of McKendree College; Acting President T. G. Burrill, of the University of Illinois; and President William R. Harper, who acted as chairman.

Mr. Henry was fitted for the University of Chicago at the Chicago Manual Training School and at the Harvard School. At the time of his appointment to the Rhodes scholarship he was a student in the second year of the Law School of the University. For three years Mr. Henry was a highly successful member of the University track team, and was prominent in

connection with student publications and honorary societies.

The scholarship is for three years' study at the University of Oxford, and is valued at \$1,500 a year. Mr. Henry will leave for Oxford in September.

Mr. Charles F. T. Brooke, a graduate student and Fellow in German at the University during the past year, has also received an appointment to a Rhodes scholarship, being awarded the honor from the state of West Virginia.

MEETING OF THE CHICAGO PRESS CLUB AT THE UNIVERSITY.

Wednesday afternoon and evening, July 27, the Chicago Press Club visited the University. On the arrival of members at the Tower, they were met by a student reception committee, and guides were assigned who took them on a tour of the University buildings and grounds. Although rain came up in the afternoon and kept many away who would otherwise have attended, by six o'clock more than a hundred people were on the grounds. The Quadrangle Club and the Woman's Union extended their hospitality, serving light refreshments toward evening. At half-past six there was an organ recital in Leon Mandel Assembly Hall, and a concert given by members of the Press Club. About half-past seven a student dinner was served to a hundred and fifty guests in the Men's Commons, Hutchinson Hall. After dinner there were speeches by the President of the University and Dean Harry Pratt Judson, and poems were read and stories told by Messrs. W. D. Nesbit, Emerson Hough, and Opie Read. A dance in the Reynolds Club concluded the day's entertainment.

THE FACULTIES.

On July 6, 1904, the number of matriculations in the University of Chicago had reached 20,000. The first matriculation was recorded in September, 1892.

"Are School Teachers Underpaid?" is the subject of a much-discussed contribution by President William R. Harper in the July number of *The World To-Day*.

At the June commencement of Beloit College Mr. William Gorsuch, of the Department of Public Speaking, acted as one of the judges in the Senior Oratorical Contest.

Professor George E. Hale, Director of the Yerkes Observatory, received from Beloit College at its commencement in June, 1904, the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws.

On July 13 Rev. Lemuel Moss, D.D., LL.D., died at his home in New York city. Dr. Moss was prominent as an educator and editor, and was formerly president of the old University of Chicago.

The University Preachers for the month of August are Assistant Professor Herbert L. Willett, of the Department of Semitic Languages and Literatures, and Professor John P. Mahaffy, of the University of Dublin.

Professor Rollin D. Salisbury, Dean of the Ogden (Graduate) School of Science and Head of the Department of Geography, received the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from Beloit College at its commencement in June, 1904.

In the July issue of the *American Journal of Theology* Dr. Edgar J. Goodspeed, of the Department of Biblical and Patristic Greek, has a critical note on "The Madrid Manuscript of Laodiceans."

Associate Professor Marion Talbot, of the Department of Household Administration, received from Cornell College in Iowa the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws at its commencement in June, 1904.

"The College East and West" is the title of an illustrated article in the August issue of *The World To-Day* by the editor, Professor Shailer Mathews, of the Department of Biblical and Patristic Greek. Mr. Mathews also discusses

in the same number "The Situation in Colorado."

In the July issue of the *Biblical World*, President William R. Harper makes the fourth contribution, "Prophecy and Prophetism during the Davidic Period," to the series of Constructive Studies in the Prophetic Element in the Old Testament.

Word has been received of the death of a former well-known and successful student at the University of Chicago, Mrs. Lizette Seidensticker Richardson, who went to the Philippine Islands as a teacher. At the time of her death she held a responsible position as a teacher in one of the government schools.

Mrs. Zella Allen Dixson, Associate Librarian of the University, announces the publication of a new volume on book-plates. It is entitled "Concerning Book-Plates: A Handbook for Collectors," and contains over two hundred pages and many plates. Mrs. Dixson is both author and publisher of the volume.

Under the heading of "Men and Women of the Month" in the July issue of *The World To-Day* is a discussion of the recent scientific achievements and honors of Professor George E. Hale, Director of the Yerkes Observatory. A full-page portrait of Mr. Hale accompanies the comment. Mr. Hale is now on leave of absence for the prosecution of solar research at Mt. Wilson near Pasadena in California.

In the July number of the *American Journal of Semitic Languages and Literatures* is a description of "Ethiopic Manuscripts from the Collection of Wilberforce Eames," by Dr. Edgar J. Goodspeed, of the Department of Biblical and Patristic Greek. The same number contains Reports 14 to 17 from Dr. Edgar J. Banks, Field Director for the Excavations at Bismya in Babylonia, the reports being edited by Director Robert Francis Harper.

Lecturers and Instructors for the Summer Quarter of 1904 have been drawn from a great

variety of educational institutions in the United States, among them being Yale University, the University of Washington, Harvard University, the University of Utah, Union College, Leland Stanford Jr. University, Amherst College, the University of Illinois, Allegheny College, Ohio State University, Cornell University, and the University of Wisconsin.

On the evenings of July 14 and 15 there was presented in the Leon Mandel Assembly Hall the famous old English morality play entitled "Everyman." The drama was interpreted by a company of players under the direction of Mr. Rudolph E. Magnus. There was a large attendance on both nights. "Everyman" has also been presented at Harvard, Yale, Princeton, and other universities, having been first revived at the University of Oxford about two years ago.

Mr. Henry Harwood Hewitt, son of Dr. Charles E. Hewitt, Student Secretary in the Divinity School, recently completed with honors a course in the Ecole de Beaux Arts of Paris, after five years of study. Mr. Hewitt entered the University of Chicago at its opening and was graduated with the degree of A.B. in 1896. He later graduated at the Boston Institute of Technology. Mr. Hewitt has accepted the position of instructor in Architectural Design at the Art Institute of Chicago.

Professor George E. Vincent, of the Department of Sociology, contributed to the August issue of *The World To-Day* an illustrated article on "Student Clubs and the University Spirit." Among the illustrations is an especially attractive view of the Library in the Reynolds Club and a general view of the Tower Group of buildings. Mr. Vincent gives some account of the Reynolds Club House architecturally, the organization of the Club, and its contribution to the social life and spirit of the University.

Among the distinguished lecturers from Europe for the Summer Quarter of 1904 are Eugen Philippovich, Professor of Economics

in the University of Vienna, the general title of whose lectures is the "History and Theory of Foreign Trade Policy;" John Pentland Mahaffy, A.M., D.D., Mus.D., Professor of Political and Economic History in the University of Dublin, whose lectures concern "The Rise and Growth of Hellenism;" Herbert Hall Turner, Sc.D., F.R.S., Savilian Professor of Astronomy in the University of Oxford, who gives six illustrated lectures on "Astronomical Discovery;" and Hugo De Vries, Professor of Botany and Director of Botanical Gardens and Laboratories of Plant Physiology, the University of Amsterdam, who delivers four lectures on "The Mutation Theory."

In the July number of the *American Journal of Sociology* Professor Albion W. Small, the editor, has a ninth contribution on "The Scope of Sociology." The preceding chapters have already appeared in the *Journal*. In the same issue is a fourth contribution from Mr. Howard Woodhead on "The First German Municipal Exposition." Mr. Woodhead received the degree of Bachelor of Arts at the University of Chicago in 1900, and is now a Fellow in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology.

On July 6 the Filipino Commissioners to the Louisiana Purchase Exposition paid a visit to the University and were officially welcomed by Dean Harry Pratt Judson in the Reynolds Club House. Dr. Baldomero Roxas responded for the visitors in Spanish, which was interpreted by Mr. A. W. Ferguson, who accompanied the Commission from the Philippines. Assistant Professor George C. Howland, of the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, was a member of the Chicago committee of entertainment.

The opening article in the June issue of the *Journal of Political Economy* is a discussion of "Hobson's Theory of Distribution," by Professor J. Laurence Laughlin, Head of the Department of Political Economy. In the

same number is a contribution by Edith Abbott, a Fellow in the Department of Political Economy, on "Wage Statistics in the Twelfth Census." Mr. Wesley C. Mitchell, of the University of California, who took his Doctor's degree at the University of Chicago in 1899, *summa cum laude*, and was formerly an instructor in the Department of Political Economy, has a note in the same number on "The Real Issues in the Quantity-Theory Controversy."

The fifty-ninth Contribution from the Hull Botanical Laboratory appears in the July issue of the *Botanical Gazette*, under the title of "Spermatogenesis and Oogenesis in Ephedra Trifurca." It was written by Mr. William J. G. Land, Assistant in the Department of Botany. Mr. Land himself made the drawings for the five full-page illustrations which accompany the article. In the same number also is the sixtieth Contribution from the Laboratory, "An Experiment on the Relation of Soil Physics to Plant Growth," written by Dr. Burton E. Livingston and Mr. Gerhard H. Jensen. Mr. Livingston is an Assistant in the Department

of Botany. The article is illustrated by three figures.

"Babylonian and Assyrian Imprecations" is the title of translations in the *Biblical World* for July, by Professor Robert F. Harper, of the Department of Semitic Languages and Literatures. In the same number are the most recent reports from the work of exploration and discovery at Bismya in Babylonia. Ten illustrations accompany the reports, which are edited by Robert Francis Harper, Director of the Oriental Exploration Fund (Babylonian Section).

The regular University reception for the Summer Quarter was held on the evening of July 12. The President of the University and Mrs. Harper received in Hutchinson Hall, and were assisted by members of the Faculties representing the Departments of Philosophy, the Historical Sciences, the Ancient Languages, the Modern Languages, and Science. In the Library of the Reynolds Club representatives of the Professional Schools, including the Law School, the School of Education, and the Divinity School, also received. The reception followed immediately the Tuesday evening concert in the Leon Mandel Assembly Hall.

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