

## EDITORIAL

THE Annual General Meeting of the British School of Archaeology in Iraq to be held at the Royal Geographical Society at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, November 7th, 1962 will be addressed by Mr. David Oates who will report on the 1962 excavations at Fort Shalmaneser, Nimrud. This was the twelfth consecutive expedition at this site under the auspices of the School. The lecture will again be illustrated with coloured slides to show the further rich discoveries of ivories in this building the plan of which has now been uncovered.

Recent finds from Nimrud are the subject of articles in this number of the *Journal* contributed by Mr. J. V. Kinnier Wilson and Mr. P. Hulin, the epigraphists during the last two seasons' work there.

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A busy year lies ahead of the School with its wide range of interests in archaeological, philological and historical research. On December 1st-9th the Republic of Iraq will be celebrating the millenary of their capital Baghdad and of the philosopher al-Kindi. The School will be represented on this occasion by Professor M. E. L. Mallowan whom we congratulate on his recent election as a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.

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Next Spring the clearance of rooms in Fort Shalmaneser which contain ancient ivories will be continued. Work on the cleaning and restoration of the many fine objects found in previous seasons will occupy the winter. The study of the Nabu Temple texts will also continue under the direction of Professor D. J. Wiseman.

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Following the interest shown in our earlier brief reference to the restoration of ancient sites in Iraq, a fuller account of this work is given in this issue of the *Journal* by Mr. J. J. Orchard, the Secretary-Librarian of the School in Baghdad. We send our good wishes to the Iraqi authorities concerned in the furtherance of the very important tasks they have in hand concerned with the preservation of their ancient monuments and sites. It was gratifying to hear that a part of the new Iraq Museum was ceremoniously opened on July 14th last, for

this also marks another step forward in the presentation of the antiquities of the country.

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An article by Mr. David Oates on Qasr Serij is a reminder that the later periods are of no less importance and interest to the School, and to readers of *Iraq*, than the studies related to earlier periods which have hitherto been the primary concern of the School in its fieldwork.