

EDITORIAL

IN this issue of the Journal we conclude the series of articles begun in *Iraq* XXVIII part 2 as a tribute to Professor Sidney Smith in honour of his seventy-seventh birthday. A bound copy of the two parts will be presented to him by his friends and colleagues in gratitude for his services to scholarship and to the School.

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On the occasion of the official opening of the new Iraq Museum by His Excellency President Arif on 9th November 1966, the President of the British School of Archaeology in Iraq sent a message of congratulation and good wishes. The Director of the School, Mr. David Oates delivered a felicitous speech at the inauguration in Baghdad. We were also represented there by two members of the Council, Mr. Seton Lloyd, Professor of Western Asiatic Archaeology in the University of London, and Mr. R. W. Hamilton, Director of the Ashmolean Museum; their long-standing connection with Iraq covered a period of nearly forty years, during which many archaeologists from this country have collaborated with their colleagues in Iraq. Another member of Council, Sir Frank Francis, Director of the British Museum, was present at the ceremony, and in his person represented a historic liaison between London and Baghdad—a liaison which spans more than a century.

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Professor M. E. L. Mallowan, Chairman of the School, was unable to attend the opening of the Iraq Museum as he had a long-standing engagement to lecture on Nimrud and its Remains in the United States of America where great interest was evinced in the excavation, all over the continent. The Chairman was most hospitably received and entertained at a large luncheon party given at the Iraqi Embassy in Washington by H.E. the Iraqi Ambassador Dr. Nasir al-Hani, who generously displayed to the guests a copy of the recently published volumes on Nimrud.

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We record, below, the grievous loss of the School's first Honorary Treasurer, Sir Osborne Mance, to whom we pay a last tribute. Here we would also acknowledge our warm thanks to Mr. G. E. Dent, his successor, who has

now retired. We are grateful to Mr. Colin Kerr, the Deputy General Manager of the Ottoman Bank, for accepting the invitation to serve as Hon. Treasurer, the third in succession to hold that office.

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In the current season it is expected that work will begin on a third-fourth millennium site in addition to the operations at Tell Rimah conducted by Mr. David Oates, who will be excavating for a fourth season. The new site, which is situated near Rimah, will be dug by Mr. Julian Reade who contributes an article in this number of the Journal.