

# Antiquity

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## Editorial

WE were delighted to learn that during 1964 there had been 300 new subscribers to ANTIQUITY, and that we are now printing more copies than ever before, and twice as many as in 1945. We hope that our new and old subscribers will like what is in this number and some of the articles that will appear in the three subsequent numbers of this volume. They will include Professor Hawkes on The Belgae, Dr Platon on the recent excavations at Thebes, Monsieur Roger Grosjean on Statues-Menhirs in Corsica, Mr Raymond Chaplin on Animals in Archaeology, Mr Alcock on Patterns of Early Settlement in Wales, Mr Poul Kjaerum on Tustrup and Ferslev, Professor Atkinson on the excavations at Wayland's Smithy, Mr Barry Cunliffe on his excavations at Fishbourne, Professor Thom on Megaliths and Mathematics, Mr Euan Mackie on the problem of the Brochs in relation to his recent excavations, Mr Ian Stead on Celtic Chariots, and the first part of the Piggott/Hope-Taylor series on Archaeological Draughtsmanship.

But, inevitably, as we welcome new subscribers, we say goodbye to some old subscribers; and since our last number we have lost two firm friends of ANTIQUITY. The news of Gerhard Bersu's death on 19th November reached us on the day that the December number of ANTIQUITY was published. Bersu began his archaeological researches in 1911 and worked for years on Roman forts, Roman pottery kilns, and prehistoric houses and enclosures. He became, in the 1920s, Director of the Römisch-Germanische Kommission of the Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, and

was largely responsible for building up the headquarters of the Kommission in Frankfurt-am-Main into the splendid international centre for archaeological research that it is today. In 1935 he was sacked by Hitler: in 1938 he was digging under the auspices of the Prehistoric Society at Little Woodbury. In the war he was interned as an enemy alien in the Isle of Man and there carried on much archaeological research: from 1947 to 1950 he was a Professor in Dublin at the Institute of Advanced Studies of the Royal Irish Academy. In 1952 he returned to Frankfurt and was once more Director of the Römisch-Germanische Kommission. The Society of Antiquaries of London awarded him its Gold Medal in 1962.

Gerhard Bersu was a lifelong friend of O. G. S. Crawford and together they often discussed ANTIQUITY. It was a great pleasure to the present Editor that Bersu freely extended his friendship and advice to him after Crawford's death. He was always sending suggestions for articles and notes and the names of books to be reviewed: no number of ANTIQUITY passed without comment from Bersu—critical, helpful, friendly. Even at his busiest he always had time for ANTIQUITY business, and we do not forget that, during the International Congress of Prehistoric and Protohistoric Sciences in Hamburg in 1958, of which he was President, he insisted on having time for lunch to discuss ANTIQUITY; and that over lunch in Ehmke's we decided on the policy which led to the changes recorded in an earlier number (ANTIQUITY, 1961, 90), and the desirability of establishing an Antiquity Trust. Nor do we forget that the last time we met him was at the Rome meeting

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of the same International Congress in 1962, and over lunch with his wife Maria and himself in Trastevere in the stifling heat of that Roman September we discussed many plans for the future of this journal, and that he then promised us a retrospective account of his own life in archaeology. That article is, alas, now not to be. We all mourn the passing of a great archaeologist, and, one of us, the passing of a most helpful, generous and kind Advisory Editor.

Harry Randall died a fortnight before Bersu: a remarkable old man in his 87th year. He was born in the Vale of Glamorgan and lived there all his life, a practising solicitor at Bridgend (indeed he once practised on the present Editor by drawing up our will and various powers of attorney when the 1939 war broke out). Again a lifelong friend of Crawford's, he contributed many articles to ANTIQUITY on a wide variety of subjects. The first was called 'History in the Open Air' (ANTIQUITY, 1934, 5), and this was the title of his first published book—a title which could easily have been that of a book by Crawford, that superb historian in the open air. Randall was of that genre—the professional lawyer, business-man, banker, soldier, sailor, airman, priest—which has done so much for the study of antiquity in north-western Europe, and is still doing so. Long may such men flourish.



We wrote in our last Editorial of our excitement at hearing of an allegedly ancient ship found near Béziers, and our disappointment on learning that it was a founder's hoard. We now have an eye-witness account of the whole affair from Dr Jean Arnal:

Je suis allé voir dimanche dernier seulement le matériel trouvé au cours de recherches sous-marines par M. Bouscarat, d'Agde, sur la plage de Rochelongue près de Vias, Hérault. Découverte à moins de 100 m. du rivage et à une profondeur de 8 à 10 m. selon les endroits. On a dit beaucoup de choses fausses. C'est probablement un bateau retourné avant de disparaître. On ne l'a pas retrouvé pour le moment. Il y a une tonne de matériel (mille kilogs.) découvert. Les auteurs espèrent en trouver trois fois plus (?). Il y a un matériel très abondant et très varié, 600 kg. de saumons de bronze ronds; des hâches à

douilles, des marteaux à douille, des chainettes, des flèches à ailerons, des fibules du mailhacien I à double ressort, des boucles de ceinturon ibérique. . . .

Arnal adds that while he and others would date this to the end of the 6th century B.C., others would date it to the 7th century, and that many other varying dates have been suggested. He concludes:

Qu'étaient ces gens? Il y a des saumons, des coulures de fonte, des objets usés et brisés et des objets neufs. Vendeurs-récupérateurs? Fondateurs? Dans cette deuxième hypothèse il y aurait des moules dans le bateau. . . . Espérons qu'on trouvera aussi des vases dans ce gisement.

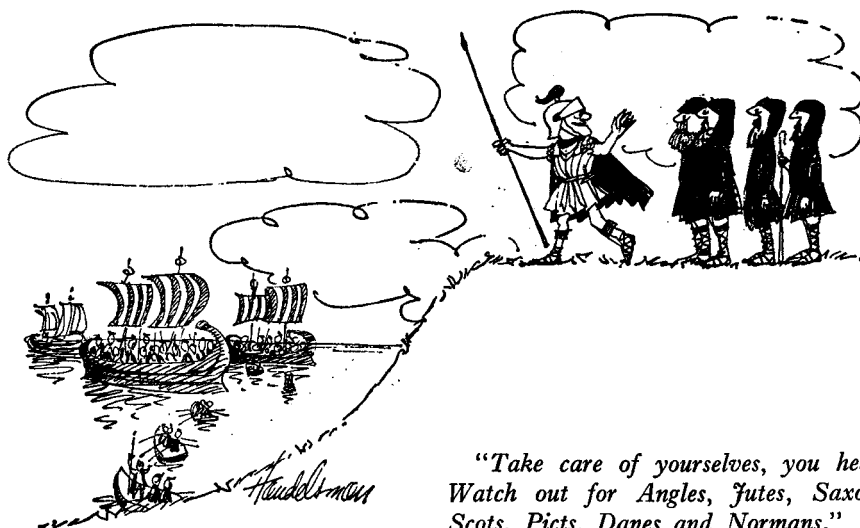
The excavations of this interesting find will continue, aided by the French Government: the material will be deposited in the Musée de la Société Archéologique de Béziers. We will keep readers informed of what goes on.



Our attention has been drawn to the operation of a restrictive rule against scientific societies in South Africa, which we think will be of surprise and interest to our readers. Most scientific societies in South Africa receive (or received, it might be more accurate to say) a subvention from the Government, either to assist in the running of the society or in aid of publication. The South African Archaeological Society was given a grant of £200 a year, and this was a grant in aid of publication. Early in 1964 the Government of South Africa wrote to all the societies in receipt of any form of subsidy requesting them to alter their constitutions so as to exclude non-white members: it was indicated that failure to do this might result in the withdrawal of government support. Most of the South African societies, to their great credit, refused to alter their constitutions in this way. The South African Archaeological Society, one of those which very properly refused, was told that it need not apply in future for its annual grant of £200.

Any archaeological journal these days works to a very tight schedule of costs—ANTIQUITY certainly does: and it must have been a great shock to the Editors of the *South African*

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*“Take care of yourselves, you hear?  
Watch out for Angles, Jutes, Saxons,  
Scots, Picts, Danes and Normans.”*

*Bulletin* when £200 of their support was removed. They have our sympathy. But there is little we can do, as archaeologists, to improve a situation which is political. There is, however, one thing we can do, very indirectly, to help: the South African Archaeological Society is soon to launch an appeal for funds to build up a publication reserve to be known as the A. J. H. Goodwin Publication Fund. Interest will be used to subvent selected papers, and all this will serve the dual purpose of helping out with the publication costs and, at the same time, keeping Goodwin's memory alive. It would be nice to think that every archaeological society in the free world would make a small contribution to this fund.



Someone, someday, and someday soon, ought to publish an anthology of archaeological cartoons. It would provide an amusing reason for thumbing through *Punch* and the *New Yorker*. Such an anthology would have to include all the classic archaeological jokes such as the Peter Arno of the be-topee-ed female archaeologist, protesting, as she was being embraced in the shadow of the Great Pyramid, 'But, Professor, forty centuries . . .', and the splendid cartoon—which we think appeared in *Dublin Opinion*—of a workman tearing down

the wallpaper of a room, revealing, as he did so, Upper Palaeolithic paintings of Franco-Cantabrian style, and turning to the owner of the house with the mild query, 'And how long did you say this paper had been up?' *Punch* has, particularly in the last ten years, had an amused eye on archaeology. Indeed, as we write, the current number (9th December 1964) has a most entertaining drawing of a funeral procession going round and round a great pyramid, with one saying to another 'We can't seem to be able to find the secret entrance!' And the week before *Punch* printed another archaeological cartoon which, by their very kind permission, we are allowed to reproduce here. We do so, Ancient Briton though we are, with our special compliments to those who study the end of Roman Britain and the translation of the lost province into England.



We have been taken to task by some French colleagues for our remarks in the last issue of *ANTIQUITY* about the sad state of affairs in the Musée des Antiquités Nationales at St-Germain; and our description of that museum as 'for long a national scandal' and 'now an international disgrace' has been thought, in some touchy quarters, to be 'clumsy and unfortunate'. We have been asked to read the discussion in the French Parliament of the

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1965 budget of the Ministère des Affaires Culturelles on 7th November when M. André Malraux said in describing the various activities of his department, 'La transformation du musée de Saint-Germain est une exceptionnelle réussite.' These are fine words, but fine words do not, by themselves, make fine museums. We shall cease to complain of St-Germain and Bloomsbury when, at long last, their prehistoric collections are in order and well displayed. Meanwhile we stand by what we said: what has manifestly happened in the national museums of Scotland, Ireland, Wales, Denmark, Sweden, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Georgia—to mention a few that come immediately to mind—could happen in Paris and London. We are told to be patient and to wait. We are, and we will: and shall be among the first to signal the new galleries in the British Museum and at St-Germain when the national antiquities of Britain and France are intelligently and adequately displayed. But we are having to wait a long time. St-Germain was a better museum when the present Editor of ANTIQUITY was an undergraduate 30 years ago than it is now. *Reculer pour mieux sauter?* It has been a long retreat and it had better be a good jump.



One of our readers who recently declined to renew her subscription wrote:

I am giving up ANTIQUITY because it no longer tells me all the exciting discoveries that are taking place all over the world, especially in the field of Classical, Egyptian, and Near Eastern Antiquity.

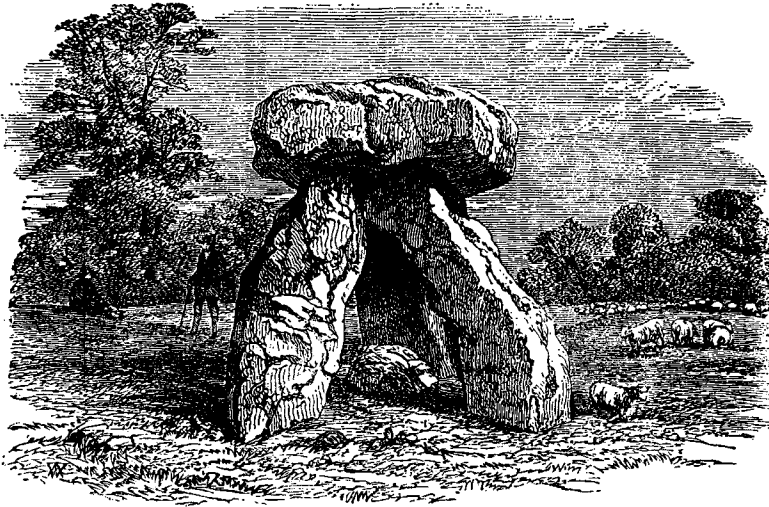
What a hope! Nowadays the informed person interested in archaeology who wants to keep his or her head even just above the level of the floodtide of discovery must read ANTIQUITY, the *Illustrated London News* and *Archaeology*. And, if future numbers keep up the standard of the first number, published November-December 1964, they must add the new French journal *Archéologia* to this short list of essentials. *Archéologia* seems to be run by three people: Jacques Lacroix, President and Director-General, André Giovanni, Secretary-General, and Régine Pernoud, Conservateur aux Archives

Nationales, who is described as 'Conseiller à la Redaction', and who contributes an editorial which says that *Archéologia* will provide 'une documentation claire et complète, une illustration exacte et vivante sur tous les sujets qui touchent à l'archéologie, à la recherche et à la découverte sur terre, sous terre, et dans les mers'.

A truly ambitious aim. The present well-illustrated and well-produced number has 15 or so articles ranging from Palenque and the Hittites to Cluny and 'Notre-Dame avant-Notre-Dame'. Of particular interest was Professor Skender Anamali's account of recent work in Albania. Guy Rachtet's 'Initiation à la Technique des Fouilles Archéologiques' could have been bettered and the photograph of work in progress on p. 22 is an unhappy choice. There are three pages of 'Nouvelles archéologiques', a page of museum notes, and an article on 'le marché des objets de fouille', and notes on current prices of antiquities—a fascinating but unusual feature in an archaeological journal. All good luck to *Archéologia*: we in England will all have to be careful when we spell it. It costs 6 francs per number in France and 6 francs 50 abroad. There will be 6 numbers a year and the biennial subscription for 12 numbers is 60 Francs in France and 65 Francs abroad. The address: *ARCHEOLOGIA*, 49 *Avenue d'Iena, Paris, XVI*.



Even in these days of carbon-14 dating it is nice to know, occasionally, exactly when certain megalithic monuments were constructed. It is satisfying to be able to say that the stone circle outside the National Museum of Wales in Cathays Park, Cardiff, was built in 1899, and the 'cromlech' immediately outside the front door of the Prince of Wales's Orthopaedic Hospital in Cardiff was set up there in 1913, and to be able to give the date of the two Stonehenges built in America after the last two wars. Now, due to the researches of Mr A. J. H. Gunstone of the Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, we can date accurately the construction of the megalith known as the Three Shire Stones standing at the junction of the counties



of Gloucester, Somerset and Wiltshire on Bannerdown, north of the village of Batheaston. Aubrey described a monument there in the mid-17th century, and such a monument is described by Stukeley in his *Itinerarium Curiosum* (1724). The present monument is built around an earlier group of small dressed stones, each of which still bears the date 1736, and the initial letter of the appropriate county.

Mr Gunstone has discovered a printed circular appeal sent out from Bath and dated 17th November 1858. It says:

... it was thought desirable by some of the neighbouring gentry, as it has been by many other persons, that the spot should be more conspicuously marked, and after much deliberation, it was resolved that a Cromlech should be erected over the old stones. That resolution has now been carried into effect, by the erection of three large rude stones, measuring from 9 to 12 feet in height, and weighing from 4 to 5 tons apiece (one in each County), and the placing of a fourth stone of a similar size on the Top. . . . That object could not of course be effected without some considerable expense, for quarrying the stones, and hauling them to, and fixing them in, their places: and the total cost amounts to £34 5s. 8d.

We would think that a megalith is cheap at that price, especially with the accurate date thrown in. We reproduce here a drawing of the monument from the *Illustrated London News*

for 19th February 1859. Those who want to know more about the Three Shire Stones should consult O. G. S. Crawford's *The Long Barrows of the Cotswolds* (Gloucester, 1925), 227, and Mr Gunstone's note 'The Date of the Three Shire Stones, near Batheaston', in *Trans. Bristol and Glos. Arch. Soc.*, 1963, 210.



Readers of ANTIQUITY will be interested to know of the Pengelly Cave Research Centre, which was founded on 31st March 1962 and is situated at Higher Kiln Quarry, Buckfastleigh, Devon. The site is the property of the Society for the Promotion of Nature Reserves, by whom it is leased to the Devon Naturalists Trust. The Association of the P.C.R.C. is a national organization with its headquarters in London, and was founded in December 1962 'for the furtherance of cave education, conservation, and research'. The Centre publishes twice yearly a getstetnered *News Letter*, and the Association an annual journal, *Studies in Speleology*. Part I of the first volume of the journal, 1964 (for 1963), has just been published: the Secretary of the Association is Dr A. J. Sutcliffe, Department of Palaeontology, British Museum (Natural History), London, S.W.7, and the Membership Secretary and Treasurer, M. Rennie, 123 Cleveland Road, Ealing, London, W.13. The ordinary membership is £1 per annum.