

THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY  
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

To  
Professor Nelson Glueck, Director, American School of Oriental Research,  
Jerusalem, Palestine

October 28th. 1946

ORIENTAL SEMINARY

Dear Nelson,

Since I wrote you on August 26th, I have received your letters and enclosures of Sept. 17, 23, and Oct. 10th. Since the October BASOR is out at last I have prepared copy for the December number, which will contain your annual report and paper on the "Chalcolithic Pottery of Northern Gilead." There is no room for the papers of Sukenik (Yigael) and Kirkbride in this number, since I am trying to hold the average number of pages down to 24. Printing is increasing rapidly in cost, and I suspect we shall have to turn to offset work entirely before long. The New Haven printers are said to be planning a strike, demanding \$3.00 an hour!

I have not seen Sukenik yet, but hope to do so before long. I understand that he is having a good time, and getting in a considerable number of lectures. Kraeling is at Washington, but I have not seen him yet either. I did see E.N. Mohl, who spent the night with us a few days ago; he had been on the same plane as Helen Glueck and Fr. O'Callaghan (as far as Rome).

I hope that nothing happens to the plan to get Burrows over there for next year while you are on leave of absence in this country. I feel that it is exceedingly important to have a safe, experienced person at the head of the School in these difficult years. Now that the shipping strike is about over, I hope that communications will slowly but steadily improve, and that we may expect them to be almost back to pre-war normal two years hence.

The new material on chalcolithic sites in Gilead is very interesting despite a certain vagueness of chronological outline, unavoidable at this stage. But then we are still without clear stratigraphic evidence for the phases antedating the upper Ghassulian levels. Incidentally, the accounts of the Tell el-Far'ah work published in American newspapers are hardly intelligible at all.

I am having to slow up again, though happily nothing is wrong with my back. But I worked too hard apparently through September, and so I have a bout with my old enemy, low blood pressure, which has knocked me out several times in the past month, though I am carrying on as usual.

The world situation is so discouraging that the Palestine phase of it doesn't seem so bad over here as it must to you. After all, India and China are in substantially the same impasse, with 200 times the population, while Europe is in a very bad way indeed. And the less said about the U.S.A. the better!

Once things do get back to some sort of normal, I am certain that there will be considerable archaeological activity on the part of Americans, though I hope we shall be content with smaller and more careful undertakings than was true of the pre-war years. McCown hasn't been heard from for some time, and Tell en-Nasbeh, followed by Bethel, is resting quietly in proof; I mention Bethel because work on that is strictly dependent on the publication of the former, whose pottery is naturally identical with it for any given period.

P.S. I never did get around to write my article promised to the Jewish Frontier. I promised much too many things during the past year, after recovering from my operation!

Cordially,

W. T. A. Bright