

Noel Freedman. On the morning of June 23, about five cars assembled in front of our School. True to his word, Moshe Dothan had an extra pass for four of us of the HUCBASJ, so Dever, Dick Scheuer, Ezra Spicehandler and I piled into Bill Dever's car, and off we went. Bill Dever had been to most of the sites we wanted to visit on the western bank, and before the day was over, we had gone to Tell Far'ah, excavated by De Vaux, to Shechem excavated by G. Ernest Wright, to Samaria-Sebastieh, where Paul Lapp has recently been doing some restoration work under a Point IV program, and where he has also exposed some Israelite foundations in a beautifully cut trench, and then to the top of Mt. Gerizim to see the excavations of what may prove to be part of the Samaritan Temple, with its staircase, that appears on some ancient coins, and finally back to el-Jib (Gibeon) excavated by James Pritchard. The great round opening hewn out of the rock there with its spiralling staircase descending to a spring that once existed below, evokes admiration of the skill and persistence of the inhabitants of Biblical Gibeon. Then back to Jerusalem. We stopped in at the ASOR, to visit Father Casey, but he was out. We then went into the antiquity store of Kando of Dead Sea Scrolls dealings. His shop is near the ASOR, and our old friend Yusuf Sa'ad, who until last year was connected with the Palestine (Rockefeller) Archaeological Museum, was in the shop. There is some kind of tenuous business relationship between Kando and Yusuf Sa'ad. Kando was very busy talking to another Arab, and greeted me only briefly. Yusuf Sa'ad whispered to me briefly that some belongings of Kando had been taken away but it was not clear to me what he was talking about. As I left, I said to Kando that if he wanted to talk to me and I could be of help, I should be glad to try. I have a suspicion that it has something to do with some fragments or perhaps a complete Dead Sea Scroll that Kando may have had in his possession. There have been rumors that there was another Dead Sea Scroll around somewhere. I imagine that I shall hear more about it somehow or other.

The trip through the countryside yesterday was like one through a dream world. I hadn't been to these various sites for 20 years, and little seems to have changed. The road was little frequented by cars.