

amount of detailed material was unearthed, throwing light upon many facets of the culture of Canaanite and Israelite civilizations. Most interesting from the viewpoint of Biblical archeology was the discovery of a large number of inscriptions written on pieces of potsherd, during the time of the final Babylonian attack on Lachish. These writings are frustrating because of the briefness of their reference to contemporary events. Many exact connections with the Bible have been imagined but it is difficult to prove any of them conclusively. However, the general information that can be gleaned from them about Hebrew language and writing, and about the general situation of the time, is most useful.

3. Excavations of the American School of Oriental Research.

We have already noticed the great part that the American School of Oriental Research played in encouraging cooperation among the different groups active in Palestine. However, the School itself also had an active part in the work of excavation.

Its first effort was a small but interesting work conducted in 1922 by Dr. William F. Albright at Tell el-Ful, a mound located a few miles north of Jerusalem. According to an old tradition it covers the site of Gibeah of Benjamin, the place where Saul had his capital. In the excavation no writing was found that would prove the identity of the town. Indications point to the accuracy of the identification, but without precise confirmation it cannot be considered as completely established. For a small excavation the amount of definite information gained was surprisingly great.

Every second year between 1926 and 1932 the American Schools cooperated with President M. G. Kyle of Xenia Theological Seminary in the excavation of Tell Beit Mirsim, thirteen miles southwest of Hebron. Very extensive work was done in uncovering this town, which its excavators believe to be the site of