## PROPHETS AND PROPHECY

ARTICLE

A. A. MacRæ

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The passage states that seventy elders prophe sied in a group by themselves and that two men
prophesied within the camp. Thereupon Moses'
servant was filled with jealousy for Moses' sake
and asked Moses to rebuke them, but Moses
answered, 'Would God that all the LORD's people
were prophets.''

8 It would hardly fit with the rest of what is 9 told in the Pentateuch about the character and 10 attitudes of Moses to think that he was refer-11 ring with commendation to an activity that could 12 be described as orgiastic or ecstatic. From the 13 context it seems much more likely that the men-14 were praising God and extolling His goodness in 15 a way that would arouse the admiration of the 16 rest of the people.

Much more is generally made of certain Much more is generally made of certain passages from I Samuel. A recent writer speaks of "the numerous references in I Samuel to bands of prophets who, dancing and singing to the accompaniment of musical instruments, worked themselves up into a frenzy, and then fell into trances." Actually there are very few passages in I Sam that could possibly be interpreted as warrant for such a statement.

