

SCRIPTURE

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EDITORIAL

Annual General Meeting. This will take place at the Newman Centre, 31 Portman Square, London, W.1, on Thursday, 1st January at 6 p.m. After the General Meeting, the Right Reverend Mgr Barton will read a paper on *The Biblical School of St Etienne at Jerusalem.*

Bible Commentary. It is with great pleasure that we are able to announce the publication of *A Catholic Commentary on Holy Scripture* by Thomas Nelson and Sons Ltd on 5th February 1953. Readers will have seen descriptions of the work in circulars and various articles published in this and other periodicals. Orders and enquiries should be sent either to Nelson's or one's bookseller.

Biblical Lectures. The course at the Newman Centre this year is entitled *The Background of Bible Study.* It is given by Dr Fuller and Dr Leahy and, as before, the lectures are London University Extension lectures. This means, among other things, that, if enough students can be persuaded to put in the required work, these lectures may be recognised as fulfilling the requirements for the Biblical Diploma of the University Extension Board. The difficulty at present is apparently to find the time for this work as of course most of those attending the lectures are fully occupied during the day. But by advertising these lectures as widely as possible it may be hoped that we shall get at least the minimum number of students prepared to take the examination. The significance of this should not be overlooked. It means that for the first time, Catholics attending a full-length course of Bible lectures given by Catholics may take an examination set by a State University on that course, and gain a Diploma. The attendance this year so far, has been good, the average being about thirty; rather more than last year. We may, perhaps, now regard the course as firmly established, and look forward to even larger numbers in future years.

Archæology. The current number of the *Palestine Exploration Quarterly* contains two important articles, one on the new excavations at Jericho ; the other on the Dead Sea Scrolls. On the latter subject we publish in this issue a comprehensive and up-to-date account by Fr Graystone which we hope will be of general interest to our readers. It is now clear that the name 'Dead Sea Scrolls' may have to be emended, because of the many subsequent discoveries of manuscripts or parts of manuscripts, in that area.

The *Revised Standard Version* of the Bible has at last been published by Messrs T. Nelson and Sons. It is the fruit of twenty-two years labour by no less than ninety-one scholars and has been described as the biggest book-publishing project in history. A million copies have been sold and another 800,000 ordered ; which would seem to suggest that interest in the Bible is far from dead. The book is finely printed and produced, and is easy to handle. Though of interest mainly to Americans, it is also of interest and importance to us in this country and a review of it will appear in these pages in due course.

Australian News. We hear that a Catholic Biblical Association has recently been founded in Australia though so far no details have come to hand. We offer them our sincerest congratulations and best wishes for the future and hope to be able to publish details of their society in the near future.

OBITUARY

SIR FREDERIC GEORGE KENYON, G.B.E., K.C.B.

Sir Frederic Kenyon, who recently died in his ninetieth year, was born in 1863, was educated at Winchester and New College, Oxford, and, after taking high honours in classical scholarship, became an outstanding authority on the text and interpretations of Greek manuscripts, more particularly those of the Greek Bible. His earlier publications such as *Aristotle on the Constitution of Athens* and an edition of the *Poems of Bacchylides* were, in a sense, a preparation for his main life work. He was for many years Director and Principal Librarian of the British Museum, and secretary of the British Academy. He was also an honorary Vice-President of the Society of Antiquaries, of which he was President from 1934 to 1939.