

## EDITORIAL

THE Expedition under the auspices of the British School of Archaeology in Iraq is now conducting its twelfth campaign in the field at Nimrud. The work is being directed by Mr. David Oates, whose report on the previous season is published in this number.

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The plan of Fort Shalmaneser which has now been taking shape ever since 1957 is the completest of the kind ever recovered, a notable addition to the annals of ancient architecture.

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It is remarkable that for five consecutive seasons ivories have been emerging from many different parts of this same building and, as we write, there is news that more finely carved pieces are still appearing. It remains to be seen whether or no the sustained work which has taxed the resources of the Expedition for so long may be completed in this particular part of the ancient city this year.

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At the last meeting of the School a number of new appointments were made. Professor Mallowan, who had been Director since 1947, resigned his post and was elected Joint Vice-Chairman. In his place the Council appointed Professor D. J. Wiseman and Mr. David Oates to be Joint Directors of the School for the next three years.

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The School also takes pleasure in congratulating Miss Barbara Parker, whose services to it during the past ten years have been recognised by the award of Officer of the Order of the British Empire.

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It is good news that the Department of Antiquities of the Republic of Iraq is undertaking a programme of conservation and restoration of historic sites

on an unprecedented scale. One happy result is that many more visitors are able to visit such famous ancient places as Ur, Babylon, Harmal, Aqar Quf, Hatra, and Nimrud where skilful reconstruction is making it much easier for the layman to visualise their past.