

## Notes and News

### THE 1957-8 EXCAVATIONS AT WINDMILL HILL

Since it was the late Editor of *ANTIQUITY* who, with H. G. O. Kendall, first established the Neolithic date of the earthwork on Windmill Hill, and at whose suggestion the major excavations took place, it seems especially fitting that this preliminary account of renewed investigations should appear in this journal. These small-scale excavations were undertaken during the summers of 1957-8 in connection with the work, sponsored by Mrs Alexander Keiller and now in progress, of preparing a full report on the excavations carried out by the late Alexander Keiller, F.S.A., F.G.S., during the years 1925-9. Thanks are expressed to the National Trust and the Ministry of Works for permission to excavate, and to the British Academy for a grant from the Reckitt Archaeological Fund.

Perhaps the most significant result obtained was evidence for Neolithic cultivation and settlement on the hill-top prior to the construction of the camp. This evidence was best preserved under the Outer Ditch bank on the eastern side of the camp, an area not previously investigated. Here the bank still rises to a height of nearly  $3\frac{1}{2}$  ft. above the old surface and, wherever its thickness exceeds 15 in., is separated from the undisturbed chalk by a shallow soil on which there remains no trace of a normal stone-free turf and humus zone. After examination of the soil profile, Dr G. W. Dimbleby of the Imperial Forestry Institute reports that it has the appearance of a cultivation soil from which the original turf and humus have been stripped. The suggestion receives support from Dr Dimbleby's success in extracting pollen of a cereal and of weeds of cultivation from samples of the soil. It may be supposed that with primitive equipment (digging sticks or antler hoes) it would be difficult to obtain a tilth in the matted layer of vegetation and roots, and that it would have been more satisfactory to pare this off and till the rubbly soil beneath. This new information about Neolithic agricultural techniques may help to explain other recorded instances of the absence of 'turf lines' under prehistoric banks and barrows. It is further of interest that at least this part of the Windmill Hill camp had been built over an open clearing, quite recently under cultivation.

A timber structure had also stood on the site of the later bank. It is represented in the small area as yet investigated only by three sockets which would have supported posts about 6 in. in diameter; the sockets are in line and slightly under 4 ft. apart. There is reason to think that a fourth socket may have been totally, and a fifth partially destroyed by a later, but still pre-camp, pit. A circular hearth may belong to the timber structure, which it is tempting to interpret as the end of a rectangular house. The hearth consisted of a flat-bottomed scoop, 1 ft. 9 in. in diameter and 5 in. deep, in which two layers of sarsen fragments had been tightly packed; the upper layer of sarsens was further secured by a layer of rammed chalk surrounding the pit and partially overlying the outer sides of the peripheral stones. The careful construction of the hearth, and the prolonged use, which had reduced the sarsens to a soft, friable condition, imply connection with a permanent dwelling.

A second phase of activity is represented by four clay-lined pits, all within the area which would formerly have been occupied by the 'house'. All the pits are funnel-shaped in section and more or less oval in plan; the largest is approximately 7 ft. long by  $4\frac{1}{2}$  ft. wide at the top, and 2 ft. deep. The pits, which may have been water-storage devices, had been hand-filled at the end of their (doubtless brief) period of usefulness. A notable find from one of them is a broken sickle flake—a simple leaf-shaped flake, originally some 5 in. long, with the characteristic diffused lustre along one edge.

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Although it is satisfactory to have, for the first time, stratigraphical evidence of a period of Neolithic settlement antedating a causewayed camp, the material found affords no basis for a further subdivision of the Windmill Hill culture. Bones of domesticated animals, pottery and flints (including a leaf-shaped arrowhead) of normal Windmill Hill types lay strewn over the buried surface and in primary association with the hearth and pits. As attempts have previously been made to distinguish an early phase of the culture characterized by the exclusive use of hard, flint-gritted pottery, it is worth mentioning that both flint- and shell-gritted wares have now been found not only on the bottom of a ditch but also beneath the bank.

Unlike the banks composed of puddled chalk reported from other causewayed camps, that on Windmill Hill consists of alternating tips of loose quarried rubble and scrapings of soil and weathered chalk, with merely incidental runs of puddled chalk. It appears to be of simple dump construction, lacking any form of revetment. Nothing was found to indicate the former existence of palisades or other timber-work connected with the bank.

The most important new evidence from the ditch sections is that for the stratigraphical position of Ebbsfleet ware in relation not only to Windmill Hill ware but also to the latest style of Peterborough ware, that which already approaches in form and decoration the overhanging-rim urns of the Bronze Age. In a cutting across the Outer Ditch, here 6 ft. 5 in. deep, sherds of a pot with whipped cord ornament and a characteristic Ebbsfleet rim form were found in a layer of rainwashed silt which immediately overlies the primary silt. A few sherds of Windmill Hill ware and abundant evidence for repeated visits to the camp continued upwards through another 2½ ft. of progressively slower silting to the level, 4 ft. above the bottom of the ditch, where a 'turf line' had formed. The flints and pottery from the latter deposit were of Late Neolithic types—Beaker, Rinyo-Clacton, and, predominantly, developed Peterborough wares.

But the general character of the finds remained unchanged, and they consisted, as in the layers below, mainly of the broken bones of domesticated animals, so distributed and in such large quantity as to remove any doubt that they were contemporary with the pottery. Thus it appears that, whatever the original purpose of the camp, successive generations of visitors had been engaged in exactly the same kinds of activities within it during the whole of the period represented by the natural accumulation of silt in the ditches, and long after either ditches or banks could have formed effective barriers. Indeed it is beginning to seem doubtful that such was ever their function, at any rate on Windmill Hill.

ISOBEL SMITH

### THE WELLCOME TRUST AND ARCHAEOLOGY

Our comments on the Carnegie and Leverhulme Trusts and Archaeology (ANTIQUITY, 1958, 121 and 148) have brought information from Dr Green, Scientific Secretary of the Wellcome Trust, and a copy of the Trust's *First Report* which covers the period 1937–56. During this period the Trust spent £18,148 on completing the work and publishing the findings of the Jebel Moya excavations in the Sudan, of which Sir Henry Wellcome himself had been the enthusiastic leader, and £29,080 on completing the work and publishing the findings of the Wellcome-Marston Archaeological Expedition to the Near East which worked at Tell ed-Duweir, and whose results have just been made available in their completeness by the publication of *Lachish IV: The Bronze Age* edited by Olga Tufnell (Oxford University Press, 1958, £8 8s.). The third item of archaeological expenditure listed in this report is £1107 as a grant for the publication of *The Fung Kingdom of Sennar* by the late Editor of ANTIQUITY. These munificent contributions to archaeology cannot unfortunately go on being made by the Wellcome Trustees, although, of course,

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they maintain an archaeological section (of which Dr Lacaille is Curator) in the Wellcome Historical Medical Museum. Sir Henry Wellcome made no provision in his Will for the support of further projects in archaeology. 'The only adventure in this field,' writes Dr Green, 'which the Trustees have felt justified in helping in recent years is the fascinating study by Mrs Madeleine Smith, working with Dr Oakley at the British Museum (Natural History), which is aimed at determining the blood groups of the original owners of ancient bones.' Dr Green would like readers of ANTIQUITY to know that the Wellcome Trustees regret that they cannot give further help to archaeologists 'except in such rare cases as that of Mrs Smith, in which there is an overlap between archaeology and biology', but that they would look 'with sympathy upon any further projects which happen, by however narrow a margin, to extend into their own proper fields of activity as defined in Sir Henry Wellcome's Will'. This is very good news, and a note should be made of the address of the Wellcome Trust: 52 *Queen Anne Street, London W.1.*

### LEATHER RESEARCH

Dr Donald Burton, Professor of Leather Industries in the University of Leeds is in charge of an investigation into the age, sources and techniques of manufacture of the Dead Sea Scrolls, and to further this work needs to obtain information of a comparative nature by the examination of similar materials of animal origin, i.e. leathers, parchments and vellums, preferably of known age and provenance, and, more especially, those of post-Roman date. He asks if readers of ANTIQUITY would co-operate in this work by sending him small fragments of such materials; pieces only half an inch square will be adequate for this purpose, but would inevitably be destroyed by the tests carried out on them.

### THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF CYPRUS

Dr Paul Åström, Director of the Swedish Institute at Athens, asks for assistance in locating Cypriote antiquities in museums and private collections. In connection with his work for the Swedish Cyprus Expedition he proposes to publish an inventory of Cypriote antiquities. He would be grateful if those who own or have knowledge of Cypriote antiquities (other than the major collections he has already studied) could write to him at the following address: *Svenska Institutet i Athen, 29 Jan Smuts (Boukourestiou) Street, Athens.*

### MAGNETIC PROSPECTING

The possibility of detecting buried archaeological features by means of the consequent magnetic disturbance, first investigated<sup>1</sup> by J. C. Belshé at Wattisfield, was tried out during the excavation in March 1958 of a stretch of the proposed route of the new Great North Road near Water Newton (Huntingtonshire) where it borders Durobrivae.

The expectation that the thermo-remnant magnetism of baked clay would produce a strong magnetic disturbance at ground level in the vicinity of a buried kiln was borne out. By means of a magnetic survey the presence of a hitherto unknown kiln was detected beneath the turf of a field devoid of surface indications, and its position was so accurately localized that a test-hole immediately revealed the upper rim of the kiln at a depth of 3 ft. 6 in. below ground level.<sup>2</sup> The disturbance due to other features, such as rubbish pits, though weaker than that due to a kiln, was appreciable and again enabled rapid and precise localization to be made. The disturbance in this case arises from the different magnetic susceptibility of the pit-filling compared to surrounding sub-soil into which the pit was cut.

<sup>1</sup> Belshé, J. C., *Advances in Physics*, 6, pp. 192-3 (1957). The archaeological implications were also discussed by Mr Belshé and one of us (G.W.) at a meeting of the Society of Antiquaries on 13 February, 1958.

<sup>2</sup> Since this kiln lay outside the immediate area of road improvement its excavation has not yet been undertaken.

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From the experience gained the method appears to have wide application in archaeology, the main limitation being that the ground surface must be fairly regular and unobstructed, and free from all extraneous iron, however small. Two types of instrument were used, one being a conventional magnetometer of the torsion-fibre type and the other a transistorized proton magnetometer. The latter is the more rapid in operation and with it a 10-ft. mesh of measurements can be made over an area of 1 acre in three hours, though when looking for small features such as pits the closer mesh necessitated trebles this time.

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GRAHAM WEBSTER  
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### APENNINE HORNED HANDLES

Among the very varied Apennine horned handles of Bronze Age Italy, one type, and one only, has a secure origin outside the peninsula. It is that in which the short horns are set directly on the apex of a high loop handle of cylindrical section, as in FIG. 1. There are no prototypes for it in Italy, where even this high handle, unhorned, appears late in the sequence, and may well itself be derived from the horned form. With or without horns, it is frequently found fluted, certainly a late trait, and survives well into the Iron Age, at Cumae for example.

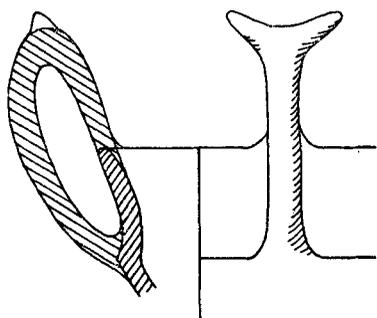


FIG. 1. Aegean type of horned handle (Belverde).  $\times \frac{1}{6}$ .

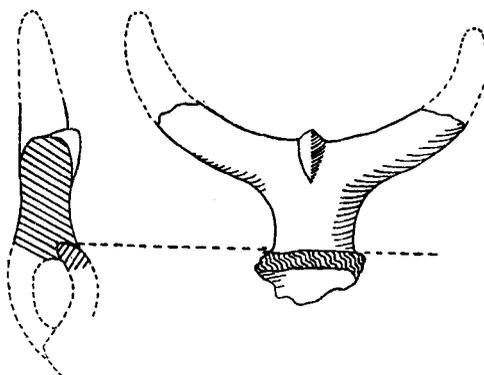


FIG. 2. Italian type (Troy VI-VII).  $\times \frac{1}{4}$ .

The home of this handle is the Aegean, as Säflund pointed out,<sup>1</sup> particularly Troy, where it is found in levels of the later 6th and early 7th Cities. The handles from the two areas are identical in shape: a difference exists in that the eastern ones are usually found opposite a horizontal handle on a goblet or pedestal-cup, whereas in Italy they are invariably single and are on the normal varieties of Apennine carinated bowl. The Apennine folk's taste for elaborate handles, manifested in countless ways through the peninsula, apparently seized upon an alien form which appealed to it and adopted it readily. Where, when and how did this alien form reach them?

The distribution of the earlier unfluted handles points unmistakably to Taranto (see FIG. 3). The Scoglio del Tonno produced twenty-five examples and the neighbouring coastal sites a further six. No other Apennine region has more than eight. Furthermore, all

<sup>1</sup> G. Säflund, 'Punta del Tonno', *Dragma (Essays Presented to M. Nilsson)*, p. 476 and fig. 27.

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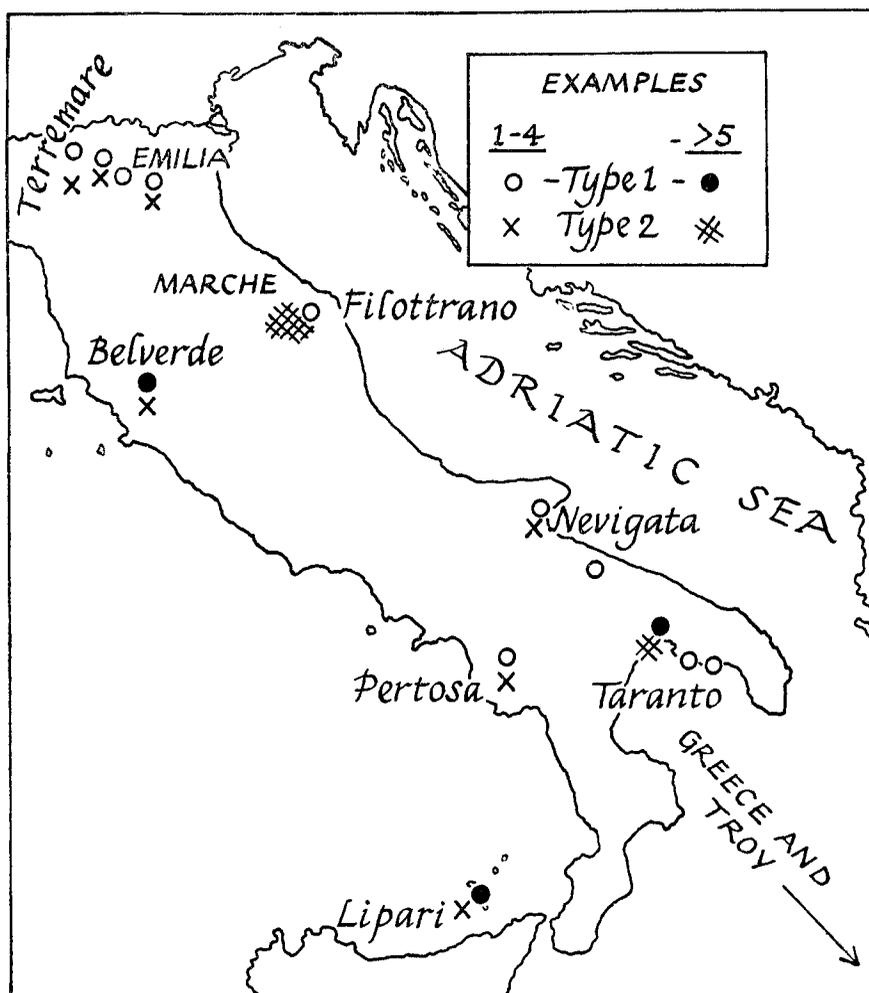


FIG. 3. Distribution in Italy of the two types of handle.

except possibly the single examples from Filottrano, Coppa Nevigata and Pertosa can be dated after the collapse of Troy VI, and most after the fall of the Homeric city, when they disappear along with the other forms of the Grey Minyan Ware in the east. Taranto therefore seems the most likely centre for their spread through Italy.

Presumably they reached Taranto during the life of Troy VI or VII A, which closed about 1200; presumably also at a time when imported Mycenaean sherds<sup>2</sup> show Taranto to have been in contact with the east, beginning soon after 1400. This gives us a date in the 14th or 13th centuries. It also shows us how they could have travelled, since at this same period Mycenaean III A-B wares are also found at Troy. Troy and Taranto were, in fact, outlying ports of a common trading area, an early 'European market'.

A more attractive, though more hypothetical, explanation would be to suppose that

<sup>2</sup> Lord William Taylour, *Mycenaean Pottery in Italy*, p. 81.

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some pre-Homeric Aeneas had preferred to try his fortunes in the west rather than rebuild his home in the earthquake-shattered ruins of Troy VI. Even more daringly, one could suggest that it was Aeneas himself, or some unsung contemporary of his, who brought this idea to Italy when the Greeks drove him from Troy VII A.

Fortunately for the archaeologist, less so for the romantic, there is more evidence than this, from Troy itself, which supports, confirms even, the more prosaic view. Amongst the material of the Schliemann collection in Berlin is, or perhaps was, a sherd whose unquestionable Italian origin has not to my knowledge previously been noticed. This<sup>3</sup> is a typical Apennine horned handle (FIG. 2). Five more are mentioned in the text, though of the other two illustrated only one seems to belong to the same kind of handle, in a later form. These too come from the VI–VII cities.

In Italy, these handles are primarily northern and eastern in distribution, being commonest in Emilia, though there at a later date, and the Marche. However, they do occur also in smaller numbers at a few southern sites, like Coppa Nevigata and particularly Scoglio del Tonno, witnessing to trade down the east coast of the peninsula. In the 12th century, the quantity of material imported into Taranto from the Po Valley, both terramara and Emilian Apennine, was so great that the Scoglio del Tonno was for long thought to be a true terramara. Yet the origins of this trade clearly go back earlier. It starts indeed as an eddy of the main amber route which connected the head of the Adriatic with Greece, but it later gained importance in its own right, after the collapse of the Mycenaean markets, as the means by which the terramara bronze-work was distributed through peninsular Italy.

These handles do not point to Taranto as unequivocally as did the others. On the other hand, they are frequent at that site, whereas positive evidence for foreign trade in the Marche, their main centre at this date, is so far lacking.

Many times during the study of Central and West Mediterranean prehistory, hints, sometimes even more than hints, are found of the import of objects or ideas from the East. The finding of evidence of such an import, with the cross-check of another travelling at the same period and between the same ports, but in the opposite direction, is sufficiently unusual to justify the publication of a note such as this.

D. H. TRUMP

### CASTELL ODO

*Mr Leslie Alcock, Lecturer in Archaeology at University College, Cardiff, sends the following note about his excavations at the Early Iron Age Fort of Castell Odo in Caernarvonshire:*

The ring-fort of Castell Odo, near Aberdaron, at the westerly tip of Caernarvonshire, has recently yielded pottery of great significance for the study of the Early Iron Age colonization of the lands bordering on the Irish Sea. Excavations were carried out by the Department of Archaeology of University College, Cardiff, on behalf of the Caernarvonshire Historical Society, last Easter. The visible defences of the fort comprise two roughly circular banks separated by a wide interspace. A section through the banks revealed that the outer one had been preceded by a timber stockade, set in a stone-lined trench. Associated with this stockade were found over a hundred sherds, including rims from four or five different pots. The fabric of the sherds, a black ware with much grit backing and coated with a brown slip, is comparable to the so-called 'Flat-rimmed Ware' of the Ultimate Bronze Age in the Highland Zone. One of the pots, however, had a situlate form and finger-dimpled rim which relates it on the one hand to the Iron Age 'A' pottery of Southern Britain, and on the other to coarse situlate jars from Ireland and the Shetlands. The pottery

<sup>3</sup> H. Schmidt, *Schliemann's Trojanischer Altertümer*, p. 161, no. 3317.

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and associated timber defences are clearly the result of an invasion of Caernarvonshire. Nothing is known of the dwellings of this first phase of Castell Odo, except that one at least of them was furnished with an elaborate stone-lined drain.

The palisade was later burned down, perhaps by a second band of invaders who then replaced it with the double ring-work. Eight circular huts with rough stone walls were built inside the inner bank. One of these huts was also excavated last Easter. It produced a sherd of pottery in the same tradition as that of the first phase, together with a very fine saddle quern.

It is hoped to undertake further excavations at Castell Odo at Easter, 1959, when the entrance will be examined and further huts will be cleared. An illustrated account of the work will appear in the next number of the Caernarvonshire Historical Society's *Transactions*.

*Anyone interested in taking part in this excavation should write to the Department of Archaeology, University College, Cardiff.*

### ANGLO-SAXON POTTERY

By holding a week-end conference on Anglo-Saxon Pottery at the Castle Museum, Norwich, from 18 to 20 April, the Council for British Archaeology, stimulated by its Migration and Early Medieval Research Committee, has broken new ground in Dark Age studies in this country. The conference, the first ever devoted to this subject, was attended by nearly fifty archaeologists, most of whom had some special contribution to make to the subjects under discussion. In addition to the English contingent of some forty-four scholars, Prof. F. Tischler, Director of the Niederrheinisches Museum at Duisburg, was an official guest, and he was accompanied by two German colleagues, Dr A. Genrich of Hannover, and Dr W. Winkelmann of Münster, and by one from Holland, Dr J. Ypey of Amersfoort.

Four main subjects were introduced in succession by the principal speakers: English Pagan Pottery by Dr J. N. L. Myres, The Continental Background by Prof. Tischler, Middle Saxon Pottery by Mr J. G. Hurst and Late Saxon Pottery by Mr G. C. Dunning. An hour's discussion followed each of these introductory papers, and in a concluding session the work of the meeting as a whole was summarized by Dr J. N. L. Myres. Welcome entertainment was provided by the Lord Mayor of Norwich who gave a reception in Stranger's Hall, and by the Norwich Museums Committee. Time was also found for excursions to some of the principal sites of the period within easy reach of Norwich, such as the great pagan cemetery at Caistor St Edmund, close by the Roman town of Venta Icenorum, the Roman and Saxon port at Caister-next-Yarmouth, and the late Saxon town of Thetford. The B.B.C. recorded a discussion of the work of the conference which was broadcast in *The Archaeologist* on 22 May.

In addition a truly remarkable exhibition of some seventy groups of pottery of all periods from the 5th to the 11th centuries A.D. was staged by Mr R. R. Clarke and his staff in the Norwich Castle Museum. They were able to draw not only on their own splendid collections, but on material contributed by many of those taking part from museums and private collections all over eastern and midland England, including exhibits from several important recent excavations by the Ancient Monuments Inspectorate of the Ministry of Works. This exhibition, which was all the more informative for being held in the same room as that used for the meetings, was really the central feature of the whole conference, for the expression of views, formal and informal, on every topic discussed, could be illustrated by the inspection and handling of the relevant objects. It was, incidentally, by far the most comprehensive and significant display of the whole range of Anglo-Saxon pottery

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ever assembled in a single room. Photographs of many of the principal exhibits can be obtained on application to the Norwich Castle Museum.

This is not the place to summarize the views expressed or to assess the results achieved. It is hoped to publish a full account of the formal proceedings in *Medieval Archaeology*, and of this reprints will be available as *Council for British Archaeology Research Report No. 4*. As usual on these occasions the informal contacts between those who took part were particularly valuable in suggesting significant comparisons or promising lines for research. A few outstanding points alone can be mentioned here. In the discussion of the earliest material attention was focused particularly on the links between the Roman and Saxon periods provided not only by the hybrid Romano-Saxon wares but by the fact that, at any rate in East Anglia, a small but significant proportion of the purely Germanic cremation pottery appears to antedate the traditional *Adventus Saxonum* in the mid-5th century. The social and economic implications of the development of a specialized pottery industry in the 6th century were also discussed, and the range, distribution, and relationships of the products of some of the principal potters and workshops operating at that time were considered. It also became apparent in discussion that there is at present too little co-operation between the study of pagan and Middle Saxon ceramics so that the links between the pottery of the 6th and 7th century cemeteries and that from the earlier domestic industries of the Christian period, such as Ipswich ware, are imperfectly understood. Prof. Tischler, who, in addition to his own valuable contributions to the discussions acted on occasion as interpreter for his German colleagues, gave an illuminating account of recent advances in Dark Age ceramic studies in North Germany, developing in several ways the argument of his recent important paper on *Der Stand der Sachsenforschung archaologisch gesehen*.<sup>1</sup> He stressed in particular the difficulties involved in the attribution of special ceramic styles to individual tribal units and emphasized the extent of the tribal intermixture which had already resulted in the development of mixed cultures before the movement to Britain began. Mr Hurst's account of the industries of the Middle Saxon period in East Anglia and the eastern midlands, particularly those based on Ipswich and Stamford, left one eagerly awaiting the application of similar methods to the corresponding material in central and western Mercia, Northumbria, and Wessex, about which so little is at present known. Mr Dunning's magisterial survey of the ceramics of the late Saxon period will not be easily forgotten by those who heard it. He covered both the native industries such as those associated with Thetford, St Neots and Stamford in the east midlands, and the varieties of imported pottery from Frisia, the Rhineland, Belgium and northern France which influenced the later stages of the English development both before and after the Norman Conquest. One of the points which emerged most clearly from this discussion was that in spite of these influences native Saxon traditions in pottery survived the Norman conquest almost unaltered: 1066 is a date of no special significance in English ceramic history.

Among many subjects which received more or less thorough examination in the discussions, or were noted as requiring more intensive study, were the date and significance of Romano-Saxon pottery, the methods of manufacture of Pagan Saxon pottery and the origin and meaning of its stamped decoration, the revival of wheel-made fabrics in Middle Saxon times, the origin of Anglo-Saxon glazes, the purpose and method of manufacture of the sagging base and the extent to which the various local centres of manufacture in Middle and Late Saxon times reflect the changing political divisions of the country. The relation of the English and continental traditions and practices in pot-making throughout the period were also profitably discussed, particularly by the foreign scholars present.

<sup>1</sup> 35 *Bericht der Römisch-Germanischen Kommission* (1956).

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The Norwich conference owed something in its inspiration, planning, procedure, and personnel to the highly successful gatherings of the so-called *Sachsensymposion* which, under the enthusiastic leadership of Herr Karl Waller of Cuxhaven and his Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Sachsenforschung, have been a notable feature of north German archaeology in the past ten years. Properly followed up it could mark a decisive stage in the development of a backward area of Dark Age archaeological study in Britain. It is indeed startling to recollect how rapidly that development has taken place: twenty years ago the holding of such a conference would have been almost unthinkable for much of the material under discussion was either not known to exist, or lay unrecognized, wrongly dated, or inaccurately described in the storerooms of our museums. Much of it, especially that of the Pagan period, is still quite inadequately published, and the need for a *Corpus Vasorum Anglo-Saxonicorum*, first pointed out in ANTIQUITY in 1942<sup>2</sup> is even more urgent now than it was then. The Council for British Archaeology has performed a most useful service in providing the setting for the assessment of our present knowledge and the stimulus to further advance.

J. N. L. MYRES

<sup>2</sup> *Antiquity* XVI, (1942) 341.

### MUSEUMS AND THE BRITISH STATE

At the Twenty-ninth Annual General Meeting of the Museums Association held in London in July of this year, the following motion was passed:

*'That the Museums Association*

- (a) *deplores the persistently negative attitude of H.M. Government towards the granting of assistance to the local museums and art galleries in the United Kingdom;*
- (b) *urges the Council, the Joint Committee on Government Assistance and individual Members of the Association to do everything in their power to bring the seriousness of the situation to the notice of Members of Parliament and to the general public; and*
- (c) *believing that H.M. Government will be the more readily persuaded to assist local museums if they are banded together in strong Regional Groups with a united purpose, gives its encouragement to Federations throughout the United Kingdom to form, as a matter of urgency, Regional Museum Services.'*

The proceedings of this Annual General Meeting are printed in the August 1958 issue of the *Museums Journal*, which also contains the speech of Sir Mortimer Wheeler on 'Government Assistance and Regionalization', in which he proposed the motion we have quoted and described the Standing Commission on Museums and Galleries as 'an archaic ornament rather than an active instrument of reform'.

We draw the attention of all readers of ANTIQUITY to this important resolution of the Museums Association and urge them to do everything in their power to see that Museums and Art Galleries in Great Britain should become, in the near future, recognized for what they are, one of the most valuable agencies of education and pleasure in the state. Two recent short publications may refresh the minds of those interested in this extremely important problem. The first is *The State and the Arts*, by Lord Bridges, being the Romanes Lecture given before the University of Oxford in June (Oxford University Press, 2s. 6d.), in which he discusses, among other things, the case for a Minister of the Fine Arts, and for a quinquennial grant to Museums, with a Museums Grants Committee on the same lines as the University Grants Committee. The second is the Bow Group *Memorandum on the Museum and Art Gallery Service*, with its neatly tabulated facts and its

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recommendations of (i) a Royal Commission; (ii) a Central Advisory Body; (iii) a block grant, and (iv) a Regional Scheme for Museums. This interesting pamphlet can be obtained from *The Bow Group*, 22, *St Giles High Street, London W.C.2.*

### INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF CELTIC STUDIES

An International Congress of Celtic Studies sponsored jointly by Trinity College, Dublin, The Royal Irish Academy, University College, Dublin, and The Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies, will be held in Dublin from 6 July to 10 July, 1959. The work of the Congress will be divided into two sections; the first will discuss the impact of the Scandinavian Invasions on the Celtic-speaking Peoples between A.D. 800 and A.D. 1100 from the points of view of languages, literature and folklore, history and institutions, onomastics and archaeology; in the second, communications directly relating to Celtic languages, literatures or civilizations outside the special topic of the first section will be received. Those wishing to attend this Congress should write to *The Secretary, International Congress of Celtic Studies, Royal Irish Academy, Dawson Street, Dublin.*

### ARCHAEOOMETRY

Attention is drawn to *Archaeometry*, the Bulletin of the Research Laboratory for Archaeology and the History of Art in the University of Oxford, of which an account was published in an earlier issue of *ANTIQUITY* (June 1958, 123). It is a duplicated journal edited by Dr E. T. Hall, and its purpose is not to by-pass the normal channels of publication but to provide a rapid means of circulating the results of completed research, to record partially successful projects which are not worthy of normal publication, and to give interim reports on some of the work in progress in the laboratory. The first number, published in the spring of 1958, has, among other articles, an account of Magnetic Dating which will be read with interest by readers of the article on this subject by R. M. Cook and J. C. Belshé in the last number of *ANTIQUITY* (September 1958, 167) and an account of the Water Newton Survey, referred to briefly in these pages in the note by Messrs Aitken, Webster and Rees on Magnetic Prospecting (*supra*, p. 270). In his foreword to the first number of *Archaeometry*, which we welcome (although we find it hard reading for one untrained in statistics and the natural sciences) Dr Hall writes 'Anybody, whether scientist or archaeologist, who finds the contents of interest, will be willingly added to the circulation list if he applies to the laboratory'. The address of the laboratory: 6 *Keble Road, Oxford.*

### TRAVAUX DU LABORATOIRE D'ANTHROPOLOGIE . . de RENNES

Attention is drawn to the *Travaux du Laboratoire d'Anthropologie Générale et des Musées Préhistoriques de la Faculté des Sciences de Rennes*, a duplicated Crown quarto publication edited by Dr P-R. Giot and, at the date of writing, only available as an exchange publication. The first volume published in 1956, contains short articles by J. L'Helgouach on the Gallery Grave of Essé, and 'Les dolmens du type "Loire" en Bretagne', and a publication of the Treboul Hoard by J. Briard. The 1957 volume contains an important memoir by J. Briard and J. L'Helgouach entitled 'Chalcolithique, Néolithique Secondaire, Survivances Néolithiques à L'Age du Bronze Ancien en Armorique' which won the first prize offered by the Groupe Finistérien d'Études Préhistoriques. Those interested in exchanging publications should write to *Dr P-R. Giot, Laboratoire d'Anthropologie, 2 Rue du Thabor, Rennes, Ille et Vilaine.*