

ANTIQUITY

Byzantine art. Notable church treasures (from St Mark's at Venice, Nonantola, Capua, and elsewhere in Italy), textiles (from Belgium, Holland and France) and ivories (from Berlin, Florence, Milan and numerous museums in Germany, Italy and elsewhere) will form the bulk of the exhibition; but many of the finer Byzantine objects from the British Museum, the Victoria and Albert, and other museums and private collections in Britain are also being made available. There will also be a representative collection of Byzantine coins.

This is the first exhibition of its kind to be held on British soil and it is to be numbered amongst the very few similar enterprises that have taken place in Europe. The only other Byzantine exhibitions have indeed been that, on a fairly small scale, held at Grottaferrata in Italy in 1905, and that, on a larger scale, but including also a large number of related material from Coptic Egypt and elsewhere, which was held in Paris in 1931.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF CLASSICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

The Eighth International Congress of Classical Archaeology will open in Rome on 6 September, 1958, and will then continue in Naples from 9 to 13 September. The Secretary of the Congress, from whom all details may be obtained is Professor Pietro Romanelli, 49, Piazza San Marco, Rome. There are four post-Congress tours beginning on 14 September. Five principal subjects will be discussed at the Congress: (1) new methods in archaeological research including aerial photography and under-water archaeology; (2) new discoveries in the archaeology of Greece and the Hellenic East; (3) the archaeology of pre-Roman Italy; (4) new problems in Roman archaeology; and (5) the spread of classical civilization outside the classical world to Iberia, Britain, Central Europe, the Black Sea and the Middle and Far East.

COWA

The Council for Old World Archaeology was formed to advance the study in America of the archaeology of Europe, Africa, Asia and Oceania. It is a non-profit making corporation, control of which is vested in representatives from nine American learned societies. Itself it is not a learned society but an 'agency for service' and its aim is to publish biennially for every part of the old world a survey of current archaeological activities and a current selected and annotated bibliography. The Council has especially in mind four classes of readers: archaeologists specializing in one area or field who want to know about other areas, scholars in other related disciplines who want to know about archaeology and ancient history, ethnologists and sociologists, and intelligent laymen. Lauriston Ward is President and Editor in Chief of COWA. The expenses of the Council during its organization period have been met by gifts from individuals and by a special grant from the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research. The Old World has been divided into twenty-two areas, and the COWA survey and the COWA Bibliography will be issued in groups by areas, five or six areas being covered every six months. At its meeting in Madrid in 1954 the International Congress of Prehistoric and Protohistoric Sciences passed a resolution endorsing the aims of the Council for Old World Archaeology and invited the members of the Congress to co-operate with it. The first group of COWA publications is now in print and being distributed. It consists of the Survey and the Bibliography for the areas of Central Europe, Eastern Mediterranean, North-West Africa, Northern Asia, Western Asia and Indonesia. The second group (Survey and Bibliography for British Isles, European Russia, West Africa, Southern Asia and Pacific Islands) will be issued in April or May, 1958. The Council emphasizes that its available funds are not sufficient to permit any free subscriptions anywhere, or any subscriptions on the basis of the exchange of

NOTES AND NEWS

publications. Subscribers should write to the Council for Old World Archaeology, 11, Divinity Avenue, Cambridge 38, Mass, U.S.A. The annual subscription (covering eleven areas issued in two groups) is four American dollars. A preliminary look at what the Council has already published shows that, although intended for America, its surveys and bibliographies will be indispensable for all archaeologists working in the Old World. We have no comparable survey and bibliographical machinery; COWA is just the learned service agency for which so many of us have been hoping for so long. The list of its Trustees inspire confidence, and its first sample publications demonstrate that this confidence is not misplaced.

THE CARNEGIE TRUST AND ARCHAEOLOGY

Since 1951 the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust has had a policy of grant-aid for groups of amateurs practising the visual arts. During 1957 the trust embarked on a policy of grant-aid for amateurs whose spare time interests lie in science rather than the arts, and, avoiding for the time being the physical sciences, has decided to begin with activities in natural history and archaeology which take amateurs into the countryside. The policy is in three parts, all with the object of assisting the group activities of societies whose members are mainly, if not entirely, amateurs. The first part of the policy is the offer of bursaries to adult amateurs to enable them to attend courses offered at Field Studies Centres. The third part of the policy is an attempt to improve the record of information about local scientific societies by preparing, through the British Association for the Advancement of Science, a directory of societies and unions of societies. It is the second part of the policy that will most interest readers of *ANTIQUITY*; it is a scheme devised in conjunction with the Council for British Archaeology of grant-aid for amateur field work in archaeology. To quote from the Trust's 1957 report 'the object of this scheme is to encourage local archaeological societies to arrange practical group activities among their members not limiting their outdoor work to excavation only, but taking in general field work as well. Grants will be offered primarily for the fees and expenses of the directing staff of approved projects, and it is hoped that this offer may encourage enterprising groups to tackle work they have not so far been able to contemplate. Grants will also be available towards the purchase of equipment for particular projects. The emphasis on this scheme is on the practical side of archaeology and passive activities will not qualify.' The Trust emphasizes that it is not its intention to compete with the training schools organized by University Extension Extra-mural Activities Departments. Applications for grants (which should be from recognized societies or groups of societies and which should involve projects mainly for amateurs) should be made in the first instance to the Council for British Archaeology, 10 Bolton Gardens, London, S.W.5.

AN EARLY BRONZE AGE KRAAL AT BISKUPIN

PLATE XVI

In the years 1952-54 excavations were carried out on one of the hills near the well-known Lusatian earthwork stronghold of Biskupin in North-West Poland (*ANTIQUITY*, 1938, 311). Long ditches with deep deposits containing Early Bronze Age finds were discovered, and in 1956 six weeks' excavations were undertaken by the State Archaeological Museum in Warsaw. The ditches are situated on the highest sandy hill on the shore of the Biskupin lake. It is surrounded on three sides by low peaty meadowland. On the fourth side the hills are connected with an upland of rich soil (PLATE XVI, *c*). The original, upper layer of the sandy hill, 1.5 m. deep, consisted of alternate thin layers, 20-50 cm. thick, of sand and clay. Here and there occur traces of moraines, stratified with sand, clay, gravel and boulder. The hill, which eighty years ago was birch-forest, is now under cultivation.