

NOTICES

1986 dues were due January 1, 1986. Members in arrears will find the last year they paid dues noted on their mailing label. Paid up regular members of the AAH are entitled to a \$12.80 (20% discount) subscription rate to the *American Journal of Ancient History*. Subscriptions should be sent to: Editor, AJAH, Harvard University, Robinson Hall, Cambridge, MA 02138.

MINUTES OF THE 1985 BUSINESS MEETING OF THE AAH HELD AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH AT 4:30 P.M. ON MAY 2, 1985.

- I. Approval of minutes of 1984 business meeting. MSP.
- II. Approval of Secretary-Treasurer's Report. MSP.
- III. President's Report.

President Borza noted that the increase in the size of the membership of the AAH has resulted in the fact that, while the annual meeting remains its main activity, its service activities are becoming more important. The upgrading of the *Newsletter* is one result of this development. President Borza also announced that the First Breasted Prize will be in Egyptian History. Finally, he indicated that a proposal for an inter-disciplinary NEH summer institute on Early Greek history is currently being developed by Professor Carol Thomas of the University of Washington.

IV. New Business

1. In connection with the trends pointed out in his report President Borza proposed to produce under AAH auspices a series of 40-60 pp. thematically or chronologically arranged pamphlets on the state of and prospects of current scholarship on various aspects of the history of the Ancient Near East, Greece and Rome with the first being a general historiographical—not bibliographical—guide. MSP.

President Borza stated that the series would be co-published and that budgetary considerations suggested that each member could receive a pamphlet as part of his membership if pamphlets were published on a schedule of one every two years. Additional copies would be sold commercially, and the AAH would receive a share to be negotiated of any profits earned. Prof. J. Eadie, Univ. of Michigan, agreed to form with the officers of AAH a publications committee and to serve as series editor.

2. Professor H. Boren moved that expenditure of funds for beginning production of the first pamphlet be approved. MSP.

3. Invitations for Future AAH Meetings:

Prof. W.L. Adams invited the AAH to the University of Utah for 1988. MSP. President Borza read a letter from

Prof. B. Nagle and J. Henderson inviting the AAH to the University of Southern California for 1990. MSP.

4. Prof. D. Geagan invited proposals for papers to be submitted for the 1987 meeting at McMaster University on the following topics: Hellenophone Historians of Rome, Value and Exchange in Antiquity, Christians and Jews in the Roman Empire, and Colonization.

5. President Borza suggested that future meetings begin on Friday instead of Thursday to enable members to take advantage of discount air fares.

V. In the absence of other candidates the current Secretary-Treasurer was declared re-elected unanimously.

VI. Resolutions, Awards and Honors

1. Prof. C.G. Starr noted the death of Prof. H. Strassburger on April 4, 1985. Members present stood in a moment of honor.

2. President Borza introduced the following resolution proposed by Prof. E. Badian, who was unable to attend: "In recognition of a most distinguished career of scholarship, teaching and service to the cause of historical studies, his colleagues in the Association of Ancient Historians salute **Edward Togo Salmon** on the occasion of his eightieth birthday." MSP unanimously. President Borza presented Prof. Salmon with a certificate on which the resolution was printed.

3. On the occasion of his retirement from the University of Michigan Prof. J. Eadie and J. Ober presented Prof. C.G. Starr with a volume of essays by colleagues and former students entitled *The Craft of the Ancient Historian*. Prof. Starr accepted the volume and spoke briefly in reply concerning his career as an ancient historian.

VI. Prof. R. MacMullen moved that the AAH thank Profs. H. Avery and N. Jones, the Dept. of Classics, Dean Rosenberg and the Faculty of Arts and Sciences of the University of Pittsburgh for their excellent hospitality. MSP.

VII. Motion to adjourn. MSP.

SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

Income:

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Dues | \$2,025.30 |
| Interest | 384.15 |
| Advertising | 55.00 |
| Mailing List | 123.99 |
| Gifts | 100.00 |

Subtotal: \$2,688.47

Balance Carried Forward 6,161.49

Total: \$8,849.93

Expenditures:

| | |
|---------------------|----------|
| Airfare | \$258.00 |
| Subsidy for Meeting | 1,000.00 |

| | |
|--------------------------|------------|
| Postage | 468.56 |
| Typesetting | 213.58 |
| Printing | 287.09 |
| Labels | 34.37 |
| Misc. | 19.65 |
| Total: | \$2,281.25 |
| Balance: | \$8,849.93 |
| | -2,281.25 |
| Total: | \$6,568.68 |
| Canadian Dollar Account: | \$347.04 |

PERSONALIA

Prof. Stanley M. Burstein (Calif. State Univ., L.A.) has been awarded an NEH Translation Grant for the preparation of a translation of Agatharchides of Cnidus, *On the Erythraean Sea*.

Prof. J.A.S. Evans (Univ. of Brit. Columbia) has been appointed to the APA's subcommittee on ancient history.

Prof. John Koumoulides (Ball State University) received a *Brabeion* (Award) for his contribution to the History of Greece and Cyprus from the Academy of Athens for his book *Churches of Aghia in Larissa, Greece*.

Prof. Robert J. Penella (Fordham University) has been awarded a grant from the American Philosophical Society in support of a critical edition of Eunapius' *Lives of the Philosophers and Sophists* which he is preparing for Teubner/Leipzig.

Professor Edwin Yamauchi (Miami University). Croatian and Japanese translations of his books *The World of the First Christians* and *The Bible and Archaeology* appeared in 1985.

REVIEW

The mask of Power: Seneca's Tragedies and Imperial Rome
D. & E. Henry
Warminster (Eng.) & Chicago, 1985

Two things should be said of this work immediately: (1) it is a work of solid scholarship, based on thirty years of work, and every page manifests a thorough mastery of both the texts and the scholarly literature; (2) it is of interest to all—including historians—interested in the psychology and intellectual history of the Early Empire. In connection with the latter it is worth noting that Elisabeth Henry, under the name of B. Walker, published a similar study of Tacitus (*The Annals of Tacitus*, Manchester) in 1952. This work, too, justifies the claim of its preface: "This book is not intended for Latinists only . . ." (p.ii).

For specifics, let us analyze two central chapters. In "The Fear of Disintegration" (ch. 2: pp. 40-55), the authors trace the development and significance of the pessimistic strain in Seneca's works. In the background was the sense that in the past there had been a Golden Age, characterized by *virtus* and *mos maiorum*, followed by an era of continual decline and social disintegration. This cluster of ideas and vocabulary are traced in Sallust and Horace, in particular, whose works find clear parallels and echoes in Seneca. It was accompanied in Seneca by a feeling that the world itself was approaching dissolution. Furthermore, Seneca's pessimism—say the authors—has parallels in the thoughts of his contemporaries. Irrationality, anger, dissolution, and fear were ever present, as well as the desire to escape and evade. "They are in the skeletal and gladiatorial mosaics of Pompeii which trivialise death, and in

the deliberate superficiality of Martial's epigrams . . ." (p. 54).

Then in the concluding chapter, "Tragedy and Imperial Power" (ch. 8: pp. 157-176), the authors examine the tragedies to see what they say about the world of imperial Rome. They first demonstrate clearly that although the plays are on subjects drawn from Greek Mythology, there are many elements in their vocabulary and ideas which are clearly Roman. Above all there is the constant reference to spectacle and ceremony, "Roman panoply . . . The immense concentration of wealth and power in the city where these tragedies were performed . . ." (p. 159).

At the center of all this is the ruler, with superhuman power and authority. The individual is helpless, and can only hope for *misericordia* and *moderatio*; all is in the hands of *providentia* (163). Political ideas developed along lines already established under the divine monarchies of the Hellenistic world. The authors illustrate this by linguistic evidence: the case of "It is the pleasure of . . ." in royal statements in inscriptions and laws.

But there was a separate, distinctively Roman element: a psychology which reveled in extremes of cruelty, violence, and display. Neronian society was very unlike the world in which the characters of Greek tragedy lived, but "It does relate very clearly to the world in which the characters of Senecan tragedies are seen to live" (p. 169). "The taste of blood, and familiarity with violent death, were very Roman elements in actual life, the life that included constant scenes of animal sacrifice and the shows of the amphitheatre" (p. 172).

The authors have made Seneca's tragedies a source for what one might call the historical psychology of the era. Above all it helps explain the pessimism and aimlessness, the sense of disorder in the world, which helped erode pagan beliefs and culture. One begins to understand what made possible the great cultural earthquake of the imperial age, the shift to Christianity. That is no small achievement.

Richard Frank
University of California, Irvine

BOOKS

O. Kimball Armayor, *Herodotus' Autopsy of the Fayoum: Lake Moeris and the Labyrinth of Egypt* (J.C. Gieben, Amsterdam, 1985).

Christian Habicht, *Pausanias' Guide to Ancient Greece*, Sather Classical Lectures; vol. 50 (Univ. of Calif. Press, Berkeley, 1985); German translation C.H. Beck, Munich.

Arther Ferrill, *The Fall of the Roman Empire: The Military Explanation* (Thames and Hudson, London, 1986).

John T.A. Koumoulides & John F. Haldon, editors, *Perspectives in Byzantine History and Culture, Byzantinische Forschungen*, vol. 10 (A.M. Hakkert, Amsterdam, 1985).

Fergus Millar et al., editors, Emil Schurer, *The History of the Jewish People in the Age of Jesus Christ*, vol. 3.1 (T. & T. Clark, Ltd., Edinburgh, 1986).

Chester G. Starr, *Individual and Community: The Rise of the Polis 800-500 B.C.* (Oxford Univ. Press, New York, 1986).

MEETINGS

Proposals for papers are invited for a symposium celebrating the centennial of the discovery of Tell El Amarna to be held at the Oriental Institute, Univ. of Chicago, February 1-

3, 1987. While papers in all fields are welcome, proposals in the following areas are particularly desired: (1) New Light on Tell El Amarna & the History of Egypt; (2) Interconnections: Tell El Amarna & the History of the Later Bronze Age Aegean, Mediterranean & Near East; (3) Tell El Amarna, Atonism & the History of Religion; (4) The Archaeology of Tell El Amarna: Then & Now; (5) Tell El Amarna & the History of Art; (6) The Inscriptions of Tell El Amarna; (7) Tell El Amarna & Modern Egyptology: Recent Contributions, Problems & Prospects; Tell El Amarna: An Appreciation. Communications should be sent to: Prof. G.D. Young, Dept. of History, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47907; or Prof. B.J. Beitzel, Dept. of O.T. & Semitic Languages, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, 2065 Half Day Road, Deerfield, IL 60015.

IN MEMORIAM

Bernard Aratowsky, Professor of History and Classics at the State University of New York at New Paltz, died in New York City on January 7, 1986 at the age of 63. Born in Newark, New Jersey, he studied at New York University, Columbia University and Johns Hopkins University where he took his Ph.D. in 1947 under the direction of Prof. D.M. Robinson.

Although he published a number of articles, Professor Aratowsky was primarily a teacher, teaching first at Johns Hopkins University as a Junior Instructor in Classics, and then at Loyola College in Baltimore, Rhodes Preparatory School in New York, New York University, Stanford University, the University of Florida in Gainesville and finally at the State University of New York at New Paltz where he shaped a successful Latin program for gifted students in the New Paltz High School. A stimulating teacher and speaker who was popular with his students, Professor Aratowsky received a number of fellowship awards in recognition of his teaching in both Florida and New York that enabled him to conduct special studies in Europe, primarily in Italy and Greece, first in 1953-1954 and again in 1958, 1962, 1968 and 1972. Professor Aratowsky was a learned, kind, lively, interesting and wise man who will be missed by all who knew him.

M. Aratowsky

FORDYCE WOOD MITCHEL
1922-1986

Friends and colleagues have been saddened at news of the death from a heart attack of Fordyce W. Mitchel on 15 January 1986.

A native of Tennessee, Mitchel entered Yale in 1940. By 1954 that university had awarded him the B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. degrees. While pursuing his graduate studies he served as an instructor at Yale (1945-47) and assistant professor of Classics at Vanderbilt University (1948-53). He then accepted an appointment at Randolph Macon Women's College, where he spent the decade 1954-64, achieving a professorship in Classics. In 1965 he joined the faculty of the University of Missouri, Columbia, where he was Professor of History and Classical Studies until his death.

During 1967-68 Mitchel was visiting professor at the University of Cincinnati, where he presented his well-received Semple Lectures on Lycurgan Athens. His long and happy association with the American School of Classical Studies at Athens commenced with his appointment to its Managing

Committee in 1957 and an associate membership in 1961-62. He returned to the School in 1964-65 and again in 1972-73 as Visiting Professor, where he offered seminars on Lycurgan Athens and the Second Athenian Confederacy. He was director of the Summer Session in 1974 and 1977, and served faithfully for years on a number of school committees. During the last years of his life Mitchel divided his time between Missouri and the Institute for Advanced Studies where he maintained an association with Christian Habicht and his first love, epigraphy.

Mitchel emerged as a leading authority on fourth-century BC Athens, and his work on the Athenian naval lists was fruitful. His scholarship was meticulous and thoughtful, ranging from a consideration of broad historical issues to technical epigraphical notes. The eminence he reached in a notoriously difficult period of Athenian studies was achieved through a long list of articles.

Mitchel was highly regarded as a critic and referee. Much of his time was given to the evaluation of others' work and to the judging of proposals submitted to funding agencies. His generosity toward others was no more manifest than in the personal attention and devotion he lavished on Prof. and Mrs. J.A.O. Larsen during the final years of their retirement and life in Columbia, Missouri.

"Mitch" was a courtly man, embodying the gentility of the gentleman-scholar, his life in Tennessee and Virginia having left an indelible impression on his manners. He was a good and interesting companion, full of charm, wit, intelligence and conviviality. His students praised and respected the excellence of his teaching, and his colleagues will miss his presence at the AAH and other annual meetings.

Eugene N. Borza

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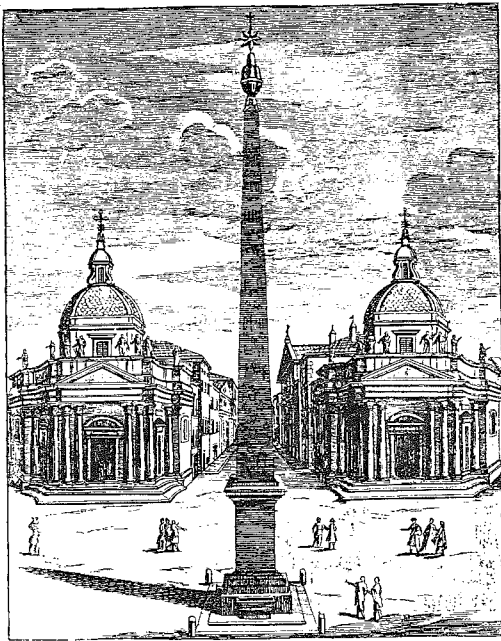
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This is: a) A new membership
b) A renewal for the year _____

Send to: Stanley M. Burstein,
Secretary-Treasurer/AAH
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