

INCORPORATION OF THE SCHOOLS

An important and gratifying step in the history of our institution is its legal incorporation, which was effected in June under the laws of the District of Columbia. Since 1900 the American School in Jerusalem has existed without a charter, the Archæological Institute of America being its guardian and holding title to its property. But with the development of our prospects and especially the obligation to have a corporation able to take title to property, it was decided to secure incorporation, the step having the unanimous endorsement of the contributors and of President Egbert, of the Archæological Institute.

The name chosen for the new corporation was the AMERICAN SCHOOLS OF ORIENTAL RESEARCH. The plural term was selected so as to cover the proposed School in Mesopotamia and also any other undertakings we may assume in the Near East. The charter allows us to undertake archæological works anywhere in the Orient.

The first meeting of the new Board of Trustees took place in New York City, June 17, 1921. Organization was then effected and officers elected—whose names appear on the last page. It will be observed that the fifteen Trustees include the former Executive Committee of the School in Jerusalem, to whom we have been so fortunate as to add Prof. A. V. Williams Jackson, of Columbia University; Prof. Howard C. Butler, of Princeton University; Mr. Edward T. Newell, of the American Numismatic Society, and Mr. Wilfred H. Schoff, of the Philadelphia Commercial Museum. Three of the fifteen Trustees are appointed by supporting societies, Professor Egbert representing the Archæological Institute; Professor Moulton, the Society of Biblical Literature and Exegesis, and Mr. Schoff, the American Oriental Society. The remaining Trustees are elected by the contributors, four retiring from office each year.

DEATH OF PROFESSOR JASTROW

An irreparable loss to the Schools has been suffered in the death of Professor Morris Jastrow, Jr., of the University of Pennsylvania, who died suddenly on June 22. Scholarship will mourn his loss as one of its most gifted devotees; he will be missed by wide circles to whom his teaching and his books have been a fascinating introduction into Oriental lore. The management of our Schools profoundly deplores his loss, as one of its most energetic and useful members and as a beloved and charming comrade.

Dr. Jastrow attended the first meeting of the Trustees of our new corporation five days before his death. He had made his plans to spend next winter in the Orient, the first months in Egypt, and the latter part in Jerusalem on the staff of the School, and it was hoped that he might proceed to Mesopotamia and take part in establishing our long-prospected School in Bagdad. Dr. Jastrow was a scholar of astounding activity and he gave to our institution not only the prestige of his name but also the unselfish devotion of his hearty service.

RECENT OBSERVATIONS OF OUR ACTING DIRECTOR

The following interesting items are taken from a recent report which Dr. Albright made to the Chairman of the Committee. The items are of interest to a wide variety of readers.