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Scripture

THE QUARTERLY OF THE CATHOLIC BIBLICAL ASSOCIATION

VOLUME VI

JULY 1953

NO I

EDITORIAL

With this issue, SCRIPTURE is published for the first time by Messrs Thomas Nelson and Sons Ltd., on behalf of the Catholic Biblical Association. This new development will, we believe, give great satisfaction to all our readers. Since the founding of the review in 1946, voluntary helpers have given their time and labours unstintingly, but the pressure of their other occupations has meant that never for very long has it been possible to run the review, on its business side, in an entirely satisfactory manner. Nelsons have done a magnificent work in publishing the *Catholic Commentary*, the general presentation of which could hardly be improved on. It is therefore with the fullest confidence that we look forward to a more promising future and to a steadily widening circle of readers. These advantages should, we feel, more than offset the regret some may feel at the increase in price. It must, however, be said that the previous price was never an adequate one, and even the present figure is the barest minimum possible to a commercial firm. Incidentally, it will be noticed that with this number we are starting a new volume. Title page, list of contents and index for the previous volume will be issued loose in our next number.

The Manuscript Discoveries. These are following on one another so thick and fast that it looks as if the periodicals will be kept busy for years to come reporting on them. Some account of the more recent finds appears elsewhere in this issue. We publish also a review of Professor Rowley's book in which he gives a masterly and detailed account of the position together with his own preliminary judgments on the subject. It was sufficiently remarkable that the first discoveries of the Dead Sea Scrolls included two manuscripts of Isaias. In the autumn of 1952 already one could record the finding of portions of many other books of the Old Testament; and today one has the feeling that yet more is to come.

A new Periodical. We welcome the appearance of *Bible et vie chrétienne*, edited by the Benedictine monks of Maredsous, Belgium, and published by Casterman. It is described as a "*revue de doctrine, de spiritualité et de pastorale bibliques*", and is one more sign of the Biblical revival which is making such headway on the Continent. As the

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editors say in the preface, a sign of the revival is the fact that 300,000 Bibles in the French language have been circulated in the last two years. The renewed interest in the Bible, however, is no mere intellectual symptom. It is the revival of a genuine desire to know more of God's Word and to integrate it with the spiritual life. The new review accordingly is devoted to this specific purpose, as its title indicates. As it is a Benedictine review we are not surprised to see that the Bible is linked up with the Liturgy. The articles in the first number further indicate the character of the review : *Parole divine et Eglise ; Le Cantique de Moïse et la Vigile pascale ; Les quatre lectures du psaume xxii ; La Femme au temps des Juges.*