

Olcott Hotel

TR 74200

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NEW YORK, N.Y. 10023

MAR 26

Rabbi Lamm.

I will appreciate your comments
ON the question.

Do you or do you NOT, think
that DR ALBRIGHT is of opinion
that ~~+~~ MOSES received the
10 Commandments from God
at Mt SINAI.

Sincerely

M. JAFFE

APT 1108

A Residential Hotel

JERUSALEM HAILS U.S. ARCHEOLOGIST

Names Albright a 'Worthy'
for Long Scholarship

By JAMES FERON

Special to The New York Times

JERUSALEM, March 23—Three generations of Palestinian archeologists crowded into Jerusalem's City Hall today to honor their mentor, Prof. William Foxwell Albright of Baltimore.

At the age of 77, Dr. Albright, professor emeritus of Semitic languages at the Johns Hopkins University, was being made a "worthy of Jerusalem."

The title is awarded to those who have contributed to the city and who are past the age of 70. Professor Albright was the first non-Jerusalemite and non-Jew to be so honored.

Mayor Teddy Kollek said that, in fact, there was some argument over the question whether "worthy" was the best word since it had never been necessary to translate the Hebrew "yekir" before.

A Household Word

Whatever the term, Mayor Kollek said that Professor Albright's name had become a household word in Israel, where archeology is easily the most popular hobby.

For the scores of archeologists who sat before him, Professor Albright's name is even more familiar.

One of his former students, Prof. Nachman Avigad, head of the Hebrew University department of archeology, said in presenting the award:

"If today the historical accuracy of the Bible is beyond question, it is due in no small measure to the work of Professor Albright."

Professor Albright, the son of an American Methodist missionary to Chile, replied simply and briefly in Hebrew, recalling at one point that it was just 50 years ago that he first came to Palestine.

In those 50 years, some of his colleagues noted later, he has influenced scores of younger men, many of whom now teach, and developed methods of research into the history of this area. For example, he is considered the originator of ceramic chronology, a system of dating through the identification of pottery, a major advance in the science of archeology.

Impressed by Personality

But it has been Professor Albright's personality and his sweep of history that have most pleased his colleagues and impressed younger Israelis in the nearly two weeks he has been here.

Professor Albright was accompanied here by his wife, Ruth, whom he met at Hopkins, where she was completing work for her doctorate. Mrs. Albright specialized in Indo-European philology.

Married in 1921, they lived in Jerusalem for 10 years, and it was here that two of their four sons were born. Dr. Albright's visit now is being sponsored by the Israel Exploration Society and by the Biblical and archeological school of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati. The school's director, Prof. Nelson Glueck, was one of Dr. Albright's students.

Tall and erect, Professor Albright packed an auditorium at the Hebrew University one night last week when he discussed the Israelite conquest of Canaan.

He apologized for speaking in English, saying that he had discovered that his Hebrew was "modern archaic." Many of the new words and expressions were unfamiliar to him, he said.

No Trouble in Beersheba

He spoke at Beersheba in Hebrew a few nights later, however, and had no trouble being understood.

Professor Albright was one of the first to recognize the importance of the Dead Sea Scrolls, and he recalled that experience to a small group last week. He said:

"The biggest surprise of my life was when John Trevor sent me Leica prints in early March, 1948, of the Isaiah scroll and to my astonishment I saw before me a script, beautifully preserved, which I could date plus or minus 100 B.C.

"My reasoning was wholly on paleographic grounds. Fortunately, in spite of my extremely poor eyesight I have a tenacious memory for form. And I haven't forgotten a form of potsherds, profiles or the form of characters over 10, 20, 30, 40 years. That's very fortunate. Otherwise I'd be rather helpless."

Dr. Albright's vibrance and immense interest in Israel have combined with his reputation to make him a great favorite here.

His views have been widely sought and freely given. Asked, for instance, about the veracity of the Bible, he replied:

"Considering everything, the Hebrew Bible is the most extraordinarily accurate record because of the empirical attitude of the Israelites, from Moses on, to matters of fact. It's an extraordinary record of human experience."

Plane Hunt Is Resumed

HAWTHORNE, Nev. March 23 (AP) — Civil Air Patrol planes from Nevada and California flew over the High Sierra today in a renewed search for a missing airliner that vanished Feb. 18 with 35 persons aboard. The DC-3 disappeared on a "gamblers special" flight to Southern California returning from Nevada.