

without ability. In the case of children selected by competitive examination at the age of 11 plus, only 1.0 per cent have the opportunity for higher education without having the ability to benefit by it.

These figures reveal striking differences between the educational opportunities available for children of equal ability but of parents of different social status; and these differences are inherent in the

present social system. That is to say, they belong to nurture and not to nature. It might be added, in comment, that the validity of these results depends on the extent to which the intelligence test measures the ability of the child to benefit from the higher education of the type provided in secondary schools. This is a matter which some educationists would be prepared to debate.

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## Tell el-Amarna, 1934-5

AN exhibition of finds from Tell el-Amarna, results of the Egypt Exploration Society's expedition during the season 1934-5, opened at the rooms of the Palestine Exploration Fund, 2, Hinde Street, London, W.1, on September 16, and will remain on view until October 12. Further progress has been made in the excavation of the Royal Palace. Its total length has not yet been ascertained, as exploration has not proceeded beyond the modern road, but it is expected that it will fall not far short of a kilometre.

Operations of the season concentrated on the great hall at the south end of the building, the harem quarter, and the state approach, paved with plaster, which runs on the western side of the harem to the 'Broad Hall'. Advantage was also taken of an opportunity to make a record in tracings and photographs of the sculptured reliefs in the Royal Tomb, which lies in a valley about four miles away. This is the burial place of the young Princess Maketaten, one of the daughters of Akhenaten (1387-70 B.C.), religious reformer and builder of Tell el-Amarna. No complete record of these reliefs has been made before, and owing to the fitting of a new doorway, the opportunity will not recur. The drawings from the tracings have not yet been completed; but the series of photographs, which show the representations of intimate scenes of mourning, including a visit of the Royal Family to the temple, forms part of the exhibit of plans and photographs, which illustrate the progress of the excavations and the character and extent of the building.

Although the finds of the season included several of striking interest, the total number of exhibits is not large. This is due to the fact that a large amount of the expedition's time was absorbed by the deep digging necessitated in the area of the approach way to the 'Broad Hall'. Here a large building, called the

'Shining of the Aten', and part of the approach had been demolished early in the reign of Akhenaten. The whole area had then been filled in with sand to a depth of ten feet and levelled to form a parade ground.

In this filling were found many fragments of the sculpture of the original building, which could not be used elsewhere. Hence the sculptures have preserved all their freshness. Among the selection shown are some singularly striking examples of graphic representation, such as, in particular, spirited horses, soldiers and servants bowing, a fine royal head, and two heads with arrogant expression, here labelled 'priests'. The approach way itself has yielded thousands of fragments of the rows of huge granite and quartzite statues with which it was adorned. These were systematically broken up at the time of the destruction of the city after the death of Akhenaten and the overthrow of his reformed religion.

In the harem quarter, with its garden surrounded by a colonnade carved with festoons of birds, one of the most notable finds was the model of a fish in gold plate, which may have formed a part of the decoration of a formal pond, or have been a royal toy. It is shown only by a photograph, the original remaining in Cairo. One of the most interesting portions of the Palace as yet explored is the great hall at the south end of the building. Its vast roof was supported by a forest of brick piers, and it was decorated with faience tiles. Complete examples of these are now shown for the first time. They show naturalistic flower designs with white daisies in faience inlaid. It is hoped that it may be possible to complete the excavation of the Palace in the coming season. This, however, must depend entirely upon the extent to which further financial assistance towards the cost of excavation can be obtained from subscription by the public.

## The Bihar Earthquake of 1934

SOON after the occurrence of this great earthquake on January 15, Dr. J. A. Dunn and three assistants were sent to the areas chiefly affected. A preliminary report on the earthquake by Messrs. J. B. Auden and A. M. N. Ghosh has recently been published (*Rec. India Geol. Surv.*, 68, 177-239; 1935). A brief report has also been written by Mr. N. Nasu (*Bull. Earthq. Res. Inst.*, 13, 417-432; 1935), who

spent seven weeks during the following summer in the central district.

Owing to the occurrence of the earthquake at about 2.13 p.m., the loss of life was much less than might have been expected from the damage to property. Including Nepal, more than 10,000 lives were lost, mainly in the crowded towns of Monghyr, Muzaffarpur and the Nepal valley. The isoseismal of highest