

up there and they said, "What are you doing digging in our hill." And he said, "Well, I would like to excavate." I'm here to find out about the archaeology of this place." 'But what right have you to do ~~it~~ it without talking with us first.' Well, he ~~had~~ had found on investigation, that little hill was owned ~~by~~ in thirty shares and each share would be owned by four or five different families, <sup>often jointly,</sup> and by the time he went around and hunted them all up and deal with them, it was easier to do this and let them come to him . So they all came around, flocking around, he told them what he wanted to do. They said Oh, well we are very happy to let him excavate for a profit here. They said , "Give us \$2,000.00 and we will be very glad to let him excavate. Well, he had a total of 1500.00 dollars to pay all expenses of the excavation, so he didn't care to give them \$2,000.00, so instead he let them take the case to the courts. And he said he spent half his time excavating and the other half going through the details of --fighting the thing back and forth in the courts. And in the end , the court appointed ~~an~~ an accessor to set a fair rate for him to pay for excavating in the hill, and they said \$35.00 would be a fair sum to the people. But he had put in days and days and weeks of work on the case before they got it so nicely settled as that. Now, suppose anybody ~~had~~ had said, "Jeremiah had said about Palestine, her cities are a desolation, a dry land, and a wilderness, a land wherein no man dwelleth, neither doth any son of man pass thereby." I'm sure when Dr. Albright stood on that hill of excavation and he looked out, he might say That is probably full here--just look at it. About ten minutes later he would say it does not fit ~~Palestine~~ Palestine at all. And there are not many places where it would fit the great centers of civilization, and of all places you would not expect it to ~~fit~~ fit, surely we would pick Babylonia as one of the most ~~improbable~~ improbable, because as I mentioned there were these great cities along those great rivers