

quently they received him at their excavations, showed him what they were doing, gave him the opportunity of learning from the discoveries that they had made, and, in turn, profited from the increased understanding that he gained from his own study and from his visits to many different sites. The general spirit of cooperation that was developed in Palestine during this time did much to increase the results attained by all the various groups.

Only one important figure refused to cooperate. That was Sir William Flinders Petrie, who came to Palestine in 1927 after a lifetime of work in Egypt. Petrie had been a great pioneer in Egyptian excavation, and as a matter of principle had tried to reach his own conclusions without being affected by the ideas of others. The result was that, while generally friendly with other excavators, he did not allow himself to be influenced by their ideas or discoveries. In his previous brief visit to Palestine, more than thirty years earlier, Petrie had laid the foundation upon which all work in Palestine was now done, but most excavators continued from this foundation along quite different lines than he himself now followed.

The great amount of work done after 1919 was far better than the much smaller amount that had preceded, because much had been learned in the process of excavation, techniques were greatly improved, and the results were available to all the different groups.

Another advantage came from the fact that during these years three very large excavations were carried on in Palestine. Each of these took an extremely large mound and went to work with great care, starting from the top and examining everything on the mound. Such excavations sometimes fail to yield as much of sensational interest as is occasionally produced by smaller ones, but the great amount of material gathered, and the progress that can be made through observation of the precise relationship of different types of material to each other, gives