

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON
THE WARBURG INSTITUTE
ANNUAL REPORT 1945-1946



PRESENTED TO THE SENATE,
NOVEMBER, 1946.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1945 - 46

The Warburg Institute Committee of Management was constituted for 1945-46 *Constitution of Committee*
as follows:—

The Vice-Chancellor; The Chairman of Convocation; The Principal; Two Representatives of the Warburg family (Mr. E. M. Warburg and Dr. M. Wolf); The Chairman of the Academic Council; The Chairman of the External Council; The Chairman of the Collegiate Council; Prof. H. H. Bellot; Prof. T. S. R. Boase; Prof. C. S. Gibson; Prof. H. F. Jolowicz; Prof. H. Levy; Prof. E. Purdie (Chairman); Prof. D. Tarrant; Prof. C. L. Wrenn; Mr. Samuel Courtauld; Sir Richard Livingstone; The Rt. Hon. Viscount Lee of Fareham; The Director of the Institute.

The staff at the end of the year was as follows:—

Staff

Director: Professor F. Saxl; Assistant Director: Dr. G. Bing; Lecturer and Curator of Photographic Collection: Dr. R. Wittkower; Editor of Publications: Miss F. A. Yates; Lecturer: Mr. C. Mitchell; Lecturer and Librarian: Dr. H. Buchthal; Assistant Librarian: Dr. O. Kurz; Senior Library Assistant: Mrs. G. Sondheimer; Secretary: Miss A. M. Meyer; Senior Clerk: Miss H. M. Cookman; Master Bookbinder and Photographer: Mr. O. Fein; Bookbinder: Mr. H. A. Cottrell.

1945-46 was on the whole not a year of new achievement but of reconstruction. The Library was put into good order and brought up to date, especially with regard to foreign literature as it became available. Old literary commitments were fulfilled and plans for new work made. Two members of the staff went abroad to collect material for research, to buy foreign books, and to discuss collaboration. But all this was mainly preparatory for future activity. Those members of the staff who came back from the war started afresh in the world of learning. With printing still painfully slow the actual output of printed pages was small—smaller, I think, than in previous years in spite of the enlarged staff. *Position and Prospects*

But the signs of a healthy growth are there. For a number of years the Institute was in danger of producing almost exclusively studies on art history and iconography. This tendency is now less outspoken, with the work on the *Plato Latinus* vigorously resumed, a thesis on "Pietas," an edition of an Italian work on chivalry of the Rienzo period, and others in progress. The main questions of administration have now been settled, and additional space and steam heating will soon become available. The Institute should therefore also be in a better position to serve students and readers than it has been up to now when, except during the summer months, staff and readers were glad to leave its cold and inhospitable rooms.

Another promising feature is the two years' course for undergraduates on "The Civilisation of the Italian Renaissance" which began with two students last January and will be continued with eleven students in the new year. The aim of the course is to give the student an idea of the role of humanism in European history. The difficulties of explaining the history of the revival of classical antiquity to the student who has learned so little about antiquity while at school are very great. The teacher has often first to supply the most primitive knowledge of the classics. Teaching must be slow, and the number of facts taught, texts read, or works of art discussed, carefully selected and severely restricted. Yet such a course, having humanism as its subject, seems to fulfil a useful purpose in a period when historical studies are inclined to concentrate on the study of the political, constitutional and economic aspects of historical development.

International relations have at last been resumed on a practical basis.

Early in the year we were approached by Mr. Hinks, the British Council Representative in Rome, with the request to assist him in providing material for a course of 12 lectures on English Art. With the help of Miss M. D. Whinney and Mr. E. K. Waterhouse a programme was arranged, film strips of stills made and explanatory notes added.

In June Professor Byvanck and Professor van de Waal came to London from Leiden. They brought 14 of their students, for whom this was their first visit to a foreign country. The visit was sponsored by the Dutch Government, and aided by the "Help Holland" Fund and the British Council. Professor Ashmole assisted in arranging hospitality and obtaining access to the London collections which were then still partly closed to the public. The party made the Warburg Institute their headquarters. One evening Professor Byvanck read a paper at the Institute on his new chronology of Greek Art which provoked an animated discussion, and on another evening the Director explained the field of studies and the methods of the Institute by showing the students round the Library. Letters from our Dutch friends, old and young, have since shown us that the visit was considered a success.

Library The re-assembly of the Institute's books from various places of safety in the country was begun in August, 1945, and completed early in the New Year. It proved impossible to keep to the pre-war arrangement of shelving, and a new system had to be worked out which is far from ideal but as satisfactory as present conditions of space permit. The main feature of the new arrangement is the disappearance of the former Reading Room, which had to be converted into a stack-room and now contains the Art and Archæology sections of the Library. The former Lecture Room now has to serve as a Reading Room as well.

Relations with booksellers abroad were resumed on the widest practicable scale, and a substantial amount of the year's budget for books was spent in making good the gaps caused by the interruption of communications during the war years. Of the 1,735 items bought about 75% are of foreign origin. The Library is now fairly up to date as far as the French and Italian war-time pro-

duction is concerned; in this respect it derived great benefit from the Librarian's journey to France and Switzerland, where a number of German war-time publications could also be purchased.

We gratefully acknowledge the courtesy of the Librarian of the Courtauld Institute in allowing us to choose any items of interest from their duplicates. The Courtauld Institute also presented us with the first three volumes of the valuable publication "Scriptoria medii ævi helvetica." A considerable number of Dutch books, mostly war-time publications chosen with a great understanding of our requirements, was presented by Professor H. van de Waal, of Leiden, and another gift came from Dr. Swarzenski.

The following table gives the figures of the additions during the past year to each of the main sections of the Library:—

<i>Art and Archæology</i>		<i>Literature, Learning, Education</i>	
Classical	5.5%	Ancient Literature ...	2.7%
Oriental	5.3%	Mediæval Latin Literature	2.2%
Mediæval	15.2%	Vernacular Literature ...	4.1%
Renaissance and later ...	16.0%	Humanism	6.0%
		History of Mythology and Imagery	3.0%
	42.0%	Schools, Universities, Libraries	2.2%
<i>Religion, Science, Philosophy</i>			20.2%
Comparative Religion ...	1.5%	<i>Political History and Social Sciences</i>	
Greek and Roman Religions	1.4%	Anthropology	3.0%
Mediæval Church History	4.5%	Psychology	3.4%
History of the Reformation	4.7%	Folklore	2.8%
Religions of the East ...	1.8%	Political History	4.4%
Magic, Astrology, Early Science	5.0%	Political Theory	1.3%
Mediæval and Renaissance Philosophy	4.0%		
	22.9%		14.9%

In spite of shortage of space in the Library and insufficient staffing in the Bindery, it has been possible to press-mark about half of the 3,000 pamphlets which had remained unclassified during the war.

The Bindery still represents the most unsatisfactory part in the administration of the Library. Our main object during the current year has been to work off the arrears of unbound periodicals which had accumulated during the last few years, and the recent numbers of foreign periodicals which have been obtained from abroad to complete our sets. In this task, which was considered of paramount importance, we have succeeded fairly well, but as unbound books continue to arrive in increasing numbers from the Continent, the amount of single volumes that have to be dealt with has not been appreciably reduced. We have now arranged for books from Italy and France to be bound in the countries of origin.

The Studio was given several interesting opportunities. When the West-*Photographic*
minster Retable was exhibited at the Victoria and Albert Museum a detailed *Collection and*
photographic study was made of it, an opportunity which will probably not arise *Studio*

again for many years. Work of this kind cannot be undertaken in the Abbey. A study of the Retable containing these photographs will be made for the Society of Antiquaries by Mr. F. Wormald, of the Manuscript Department of the British Museum. At Dr. Pächt's suggestion Mr. Fein went to Stoneyhurst College to photograph a group of manuscripts. The Director supervised the photographing of a great number of details from Lincoln Cathedral. Interesting enlargements of small Renaissance sculpture were made for an exhibition at the Victoria and Albert Museum. For the Courtauld Institute we photographed a number of manuscripts which came up for sale at Sotheby's. Photographs of 18th century architecture in the Admiralty Yards at Chatham were taken for the National Buildings Record, also Rowlandson drawings in the Witt Collection, and Kent drawings in the Soane Museum, for our own collection.

The Photographic Collection gained some exceptional acquisitions due to the generosity of its friends. Mr. Hildburgh presented a considerable number of original engravings which are interesting from an iconographical point of view. The Pierpont Morgan Library gave an almost complete set of the mythological and astrological illuminations contained in their manuscripts, and Dr. Swarzenski made us a gift of about 100 photographs of paintings and sculpture in American collections. We obtained a set of photographs of the Pinturicchio ceiling in the Metropolitan Museum, and one of paintings of special iconographical interest from the National Gallery of Scotland.

The main routine job of the Department during the past year has been to reduce the numbers of un-catalogued photographs acquired during or previous to the war years. This work has progressed satisfactorily, and several thousand previously inaccessible photographs are now in place in the files. The collection of folio-size photographs is now also catalogued in the same system as the smaller photographs. The photographic collection of manuscripts is under revision by Miss Audrey Baker, and more complete references are being added to the existing catalogues of the Department.

No photographic exhibitions were held during the period under report, but enlargements of the photographs previously taken by the Institute of the Royal effigies at Westminster Abbey were used in connection with the exhibition of the effigies at the Victoria and Albert Museum, and aroused a good deal of interest. A number of requests for photographs of these works were received by the Department. Photographs were also supplied to various Government agencies, such as the British Council, the Central Office of Information, etc.; to various periodicals and magazines and to individual scholars.

Publications

Lack of paper and conditions in the printing trade still hampered long-term planning of publications. Most of our energies were spent on the publication of ready copy, and even within these restrictions we were not altogether successful. The three publications lost in Germany cannot yet be reprinted. The second part of the "Poussin Drawings" as well as "British Art and the Mediterranean" are still in the press. The same applies to Miss Yates's "French Academies of the 16th Century," Mario Praz's "Bibliography of Emblem Books," and one fascicule

of the "Plato Arabus." "England and the Mediterranean Tradition" was published by the Oxford Press in March. Our greatest success was the arrival of Jean Seznec's "La survivance des dieux antiques" (begun in 1939 and ready for publication in 1940) which, after a personal visit from the Librarian, the French printer at last managed to send to this country. It is obviously an unsatisfactory state of affairs to have three destroyed books waiting to be reprinted and another five editions in the press.

For the "Corpus Platonicum" see Dr. Klibansky's separate Report on page 7.

The second part of Vol. VII (1944) of the "Journal" came out in August, 1946; Vol. VIII (1945) is in the press. This volume represents a whole year and is not published in two parts as was Vol. VII. Vol. IX (1946) is about to go to press. It will consist of articles by Italian scholars which are being translated. Vol. X (1947) should appear towards the end of the year 1947. By 1948 we shall have caught up with the delays of the war years, and the volume for 1948 will be published in that year.

Miss Bing worked on a 14th-century Apocalypse MS. in the New York Public *Research* Library which is related to the manuscript in the Wellcome Museum published in Vol. V of the "Journal."

Dr. Buchthal has started work on the influence of the Crusades in illuminated manuscripts of the 12th and 13th centuries.

Mr. Peter G. Eden began his Ph.D. thesis on the notion of "Pietas" in Roman times and in the period of the Church Fathers.

Dr. Gombrich, who returned to the Institute from service with the B.B.C. in December, 1945, has completed the first four chapters of his book on the work and method of the Founder of the Institute, A. M. Warburg. He wrote a paper on Botticelli's "Primavera" which is closely related to Warburg's approach to Renaissance art, and which will appear in the next number of the "Journal."

Miss Selma Jonsdottir, of Reykjavik, a student of Professor Schapiro of Columbia University, who is here on a British Council scholarship, has started her work in this country on the 12th-century sculpture of the Church Porch at Kilpeck (Herefordshire), under the Director's supervision.

Dr. Kurz's book, "Fakes. A Handbook for Collectors," has gone to press. It will be published by Faber & Faber. Work on the French excavations in Afghanistan has been resumed. It will be remembered that the scientific papers belonging to the expedition of 1939-40 were deposited with the Institute by Commandant J. Hackin, who was later killed while serving with the French forces, and further work was stopped during the war at the request of the French authorities. A satisfactory agreement has now been reached between the Director of the Musée Guimet, Paris, and the Institute. In accordance with M. Hackin's wishes a French and an English edition will appear simultaneously, and Dr. Kurz will be responsible for the work on the Greek finds. The section on glass has been completed.

- Mr. Mitchell* spent the greater part of his first year at the Institute after his release from the Navy in studying the iconography and historical significance of Italian Renaissance medals. He read a paper on this subject at the Institute. He also wrote an historical introduction to an edition of Hogarth's "Five Days' Peregrination" which is to appear shortly. He gave classes on Hogarth and William Morris at the Courtauld Institute in May and June.
- Mr. Colin Rowe*, the Junior Research Fellow, has completed the preliminary work for his M.A. thesis on the literary remains of Inigo Jones.
- Professor Saxl* carried out a survey of the façade of Lincoln Cathedral and its Romanesque sculpture frieze, The biography of Prof. A. M. Warburg, started during the war and based on the diaries and correspondence which are preserved at the Institute, has been written as far as this year 1915.
- Dr. Wittkower* has made good progress with his work on Lord Burlington and his influence on Palladian architecture in England. The first part of his study on Palladio's architectural theory and practice has been published. He is preparing the volume on the Carracci for the series of Catalogues of Drawings in the Royal Collection at Windsor. An article on Holbein in England was published in "Ausblick," a periodical sponsored by the Government for distribution in Germany. At the invitation of the Chairman of the Board of Studies in History Dr. Wittkower gave four lectures on the History of English Taste in the 18th Century in the series "Special Aspects of History." He also lectured at the Royal Archæological Institute on Burlington and Kent.
- Miss Yates* is preparing a book on late 16th-century ceremonial entrées and religious processions in France, of which a series of unpublished drawings exists. She has published a paper on Paolo Sarpi's "History of the Council of Trent," and worked on the Image of Astræa as applied to Queen Elizabeth. Miss Yates delivered lectures at the Italian Summer School at Cambridge, and gave the Elizabeth Howland Lecture under the auspices of the Elizabethan Literary Society.

From this survey a few facts stand out. A number of studies dealing with problems of the relation between British and Mediterranean art which were begun during the war are nearing completion (Rowe, Saxl, Wittkower). General problems (Gombrich) and problems dealing with the relation between paganism and Christianity (Corpus Platonicum, Eden) which had receded into the background during the war are now resumed. Studies on Renaissance art and literature in Italy and France (Gombrich, Mitchell, Wittkower, Yates), as well as the study of the relation between Eastern and Western art (Buchthal, Kurz), are carried on as in the past. But there are several subjects in the history of the Classical Tradition to which research should be directed in order to make the programme of the Institute representative of its main object (history of philosophy and science, humanism, political theory, mediæval art, especially manuscripts); and it is hoped that a broader basis may be established as soon as the Institute has more teachers and more scholarships to distribute.

November, 1946.

F. SAXL.

REPORT ON THE PROGRESS OF THE CORPUS PLATONICUM MEDII Aevi.

After the restricted activities of the war, the past year has been employed in reorganising the Corpus Platonicum on a broader basis. Long-interrupted communications with continental contributors have been re-established, and valuable new contacts have been made. Thus Dutch and Belgian scholars, competent and willing to co-operate, came, at our invitation, to this country to take part in our work. At the request of Dutch classical scholars the General Editor went to Leiden and The Hague to speak about the Corpus Platonicum. In Holland as well as in France he secured the collaboration of a number of distinguished scholars. There is, therefore, reason to hope that the widening of the circle of contributors will ensure that steady progress is made with the various parts of the Corpus Platonicum.

Difficulties in procuring photostats which are still very great in Germany and Austria are gradually disappearing in Italy.

(1) *Plato, Parmenides—Proclus, Commentaria in Parmenidem.*—The Latin *A. Plato Latinus* text and the critical apparatus are ready for print. On account of the dialectical method as developed by Proclus, the work belongs to the most abstruse texts of ancient philosophy. The difficulties of understanding it are considerably increased by the form in which it has been preserved: the 13th-century rendering by William of Moerbeke. In order to make the text comprehensible to the reader, it has been decided to supply the edition with an apparatus of sources and of Greek parallel passages, as well as with a paraphrase in English. All these are nearing completion. Full indices have also been added. These indices (Greek-Latin and Latin-Greek) will make it possible for the first time to study the ways and methods by which Greek philosophical terminology has been rendered in the Latin of Thomas Aquinas' time. Furthermore, a detailed comparison of other parts of Proclus' work has yielded several more instances where the Latin translation has preserved passages lost in the Greek original.

Because of the limited manuscript resources available during the war years, the scope of the edition was confined to the Latin text of the part lost in the Greek original. It has, therefore, so far not been possible to solve the problem of the relation of the Latin text to the Greek manuscript tradition, nor to approach the wider question of the significance of Proclus for the tradition of the Platonic text. Any attempt in that direction has been hampered by the fact that the existing editions of Proclus' work are not only based on too few manuscripts (5 out of 29 now identified), but are also untrustworthy with regard to the evidence they present. The actual readings of the Paris MSS. in all those passages where the editions disagree have now been ascertained—a necessary check which had been omitted by those editors of the *Parmenides* who use Proclus as a secondary source for their Plato text. With the help of photostats of the remaining MSS.—ordered some time ago—it will be possible to edit a specimen part of the Greek text and to establish a *stemma* of all Greek MSS., and thus to lay a foundation for any future edition of the work as a whole. At the same time this will help to determine

to what extent Proclus can be used as a subsidiary source in constituting the voluminous Platonic text.

(2) *Plato, Phædo*.—The two versions in which this work has been preserved have been recognised as sufficiently different from each other to make it worth while to have them both printed side by side. The text of the first version has been established, except for the necessary checking of MS. Palatinus 639 of the Biblioteca Nazionale in Florence. For a long time it has not been possible to obtain photographs from this Library, but we have reason to expect that the microfilms we ordered will be sent to us in the near future. The text of the second version is now being constituted; several MSS. have been collated in the course of the last few months. It is hoped that the text of both versions will be ready in the course of this year.

(3) *Chalcidius' Translation of, and Commentary on, the Timæus*.—The work on this volume had to be redistributed owing to the death during the war of our Swedish contributor, Dr. Claes Blum. The General Editor has been able to secure the collaboration of Dr. J. H. Waszink, Professor of Latin at the University of Leiden. Dr. P. J. Jensen, Assistant Professor at the University of Copenhagen and Librarian of the Royal Library, who was working on this volume before the war, has agreed to share the work with Professor Waszink. The papers and materials left by Dr. Blum on his death were deposited in the University Library, Uppsala, and we have now obtained the use of them.

B. Plato Arabus

(1) *Galenus, Compendium Timæi aliorumque dialogorum quæ extant fragmenta*.—Promises made early this year by the Directors of the Imprimerie Catholique in Beirut led us to expect that printing would be completed by September. The only outstanding part of the book, *viz.* the Indices (Arabic-Greek and Greek-Arabic), was therefore sent to this firm in the spring. However, in spite of repeated reminders, we have not yet been able to obtain the last sheets. The book will therefore not appear before the coming year.

(2) *Averroes, Paraphrase of Plato's Republic*.—So far the text of the second and third books has been established, and the translation of the same books completed in manuscript. They are ready for print, subject to one further revision. As to the first book, it is hoped to complete text and translation in the first half of next year. Progress has been slowed down by the teaching obligations of the two Editors in Oxford, who have now given October, 1947 as the date for the delivery of the manuscript.

(3) *Alfarabi, Summary of Plato's Laws*.—A contract has been made with Dr. F. Gabrieli, Professor of Arabic at the University of Rome, who has undertaken to deliver the manuscript by the end of 1947.

(4) *New collaborators*.—Monsieur Henri Corbin, of the French Institute in Teheran, and Monsieur George Vayda, of the Institut des Etudes Islamiques in Paris, have agreed to take part in the work of the Corpus. Negotiations about the texts to be edited by them are in progress. Monsieur Vayda has already accepted the edition of the so-called Platonic Prayers in Arabic.

R. KLIBANSKY.



