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23 February 1957

E. L. Bennett, Jr.
~~1962 Yale Station~~
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*Note on pagination: Let the seven original sheets be given the numbers iii-ix; this sheet is numbered 1-2, let Continuation No. 1 be p. 3; let No. 2 be pp. 5-6; let No. 3 be p. 7; let No. 4 be pp. 9-10; let No. 5 be p. 11; let the tentative texts of the tablets found at Pylos, 1955 be pp. 13-14; let No. 6 be pp. 15-16. In some copies then there will be no pages 4, 8, or 12.

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- Emmett L. Bennett, Jr.
1978 Yale Station
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	23 Feb 55	14 Dec 55	7 Nov 56
	16 Mar 55	18 Jan 56	12 Dec 56
	4 May 55	1 Feb 56	9 Jan 57
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The London Times, 16 July 1957, prints an account of the opening of the National Museum and the display of some of the Pylos tablets, by A.J.B. Wace. On the 6 August is printed an account of the excavation at Pylos, with no further details of tablets.

Dear Colleague:

The preliminary circular of the American Philological Association announces the Annual Meeting at the Statler Hotel, Washington, D.C., on December 28-30, in conjunction with the Meeting of the Archaeological Institute of America. The program for Sunday morning will include among other sessions one "of Mycenology under Emmett L. Bennett." Members of the two societies will, I trust need no further invitation to attend, and especially to participate. To those who are not, I do now extend an equal invitation, and I should be most pleased to have an early indication of your probable or possible attendance, and, to judge by the response of those I have already asked, there will surely be room for almost any contribution you may wish to make in reporting or illustrating what progress is being made by American scholars in Mycenaean studies. Since I hope to have a fair idea of what sort of program we can present, I should like to hear from ~~you~~ any possible contributors most promptly.

The frequency with which contributions for the Michael Ventris Memorial Fund reach me has now become so small that I intend to close the account in which they are deposited and transmit the sum to the Trustees in London no later than 31 December of this year. Until then I shall continue to receive contributions of any size. The present total is 100 dollars; the donors number 12.

30 September 1957

Sincerely yours,

Emmett L. Bennett, Jr.

Tentative texts of the tablets found at Pylos, 1955, which are currently being prepared for publication.

- Fr343+1213 e-ti-we
] -se-da-o-ne re-ke-to-ro-te-re-jo OIL [
ko-ka-ro- a-pe-do-ke e-ra3-wo to-so
- Fr1184 e-u-me-de-i Oil+We 18
pa-ro i-pe-se-wa ka-ra-re-we 38
- Fr1194] -de OIL+A QT 1 OIL [
Fr1198] UNGUENT 2 LM 1 QT 5
- Fr1200 pa-ko-we a-e-ti-to[
Fr1201 ku-pa-ro-de to-so[]34 QT 2
- Fr1202 pa-ko-we
me-tu-wo ne-wo ma-te-re te-i-ja OIL+PA 5 QT 4 LM 1
- Fr1203 ku-pa-ro-we wo-do-we OIL+PO 1 LM 1 QT 2
- Fr1204 ti-ri-se-ro-e wo-do-we OIL [QT] PT 1
- Fr1205 a-ti-qo-ro-i we-ja-re-pe OIL+PA LM 2 QT 4
- Fr1206 po-ti-ni-ja a-si-wi-ja to-so qe-te-jo
- Fr1207] -so-de OIL+A QT 3 wo-do-we QT 1 [
] QT 1
- Fr1208] -do-we OIL+PO 3 LM 2 QT 4
- Fr1209-1211 pa-ki-ja-na-de e-ti-we OIL QT [
Fr1210 QT 4
Fr1212 OIL LM 1
- Fr 1215 wa-na-ke-te wa-na-se-wi-jo we-a-re-pe
sa-pe-ra ra .
- Fr1216 pa-ki-ja-ni-jo-i pa-ko OIL+PA 1 QT 2
- Fr1217 e-ra3-wo pa-ko-we we-ja-re-pe[
re-ke-e-to-ro-te-ri-jo
pa-ki-ja-na-de OIL+A QT 1
- Fr1218 e-ra3-wo we-ja-re-pe po-ro-[
di-pi-si-je-wi-jo OIL+A LM 1
- Fr1219 wa-no-so-i po-se-da-o-ne OIL+A QT 2
- Fr1220 ro-u-si-jo a-ko-ro pa-ko-we OIL-PA QT 4
di-pi-si-jo-i wa-na-ka-te OIL+PA LM 1
- Fr1221 po-ro-wi-to wa-na-se-wi-ja OIL+A LM 1
- Fr1222 OIL+PA QT 1
wa-na-so-i to-no-e-ke-te-ri-jo

In 1223 ti-no-de e-ra-wo pa-ko-we me-a-re-pe OIL+A LM 2
wo-do-we-ge me-a-re-pe OIL+A LM 2

In 1224 pa-ko-we e-ti-we
pa-ki-ja-ni-jo-jo me-no po-se-da-o-ne OIL+PA PT 2

In 1225 e-ra3-wo u-po-jo po-ti-ni-ja
we-a2-no-i a-ro-pa OIL+A LM 1

In 1226 ro-u-si-jo a-ko-ro te-o-i pa-ko-we OIL+PA QT 3

In 1227 wa-na-ka-te wa-na-so-i OIL+PA [] LM 1 QT 1

In 1228 wa-na-so-i e-re-de OIL QT 1

In 1229] OIL+PA QT 1

In 1230 pu-jo-de OIL+A QT 1

In 1231 po-ti-ni-ja di-pi-[]-jo-i []
ke-se-nu-wi-jo [] OIL LM I

In 1232 di-pi-si-jo-i po-ro-wi-to pa-ko-we OIL+PA LM I

In 1233 pa-ki-ja-na-de OIL+PA QT 1

In 1234 wa-na-[]

In 1235]-na-so-i wa-na-ka-te pa-ko-[] OIL+PA I
wa-na-so-i po-ti-ni-ja pa-ko-we OIL+PA QT 3

In 1236 pa-ki-ja-ni-jo a-ko-ro u-po-jo po-ti-ni-ja
OIL+PA LM 1 QT 1

In 1237] to-no []

In 1238]-so-de-wo-do-we OIL LM 1

In 1239] OIL+A QT 1

In 1240 e-ra3-wo pa-ko-[]
di-pi-si-jo e-go-me-[]
OIL+A QT 1

In 1241] ge-te-jo jo []
] LM []

In 1242 a-no-pa []
e-na3-wo e-pi-[]

In 1243] QT1

In 1244 me-ki-to-de []

In 1245]-so-i pa-[]
e-[]

In 1246]-we QIL+PA LM []

Wa 1199 ka-ra-ni-jo

Wa 1247 de-uo-[]-jo-no

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The program of Mycenaean Studies, at the meetings of the American Philological Associations, Washington, December 29, 10:00 AM, is to include:

- G. P. Goold, "The problem of the Linear A tablets"
- M. Lang, "A missing link"
- J. Whatmough, "Selected items of vocabulary in Mycenaean Greek"
- M. H. Jameson, "The Mycenaean and Homeric political systems"
- A. E. Samuel, "The sizes of places mentioned in the Pylos tablets"
- W.A. McDonald, "Early Greek attitudes toward environment as indicated by their place-names"
- J. Puhvel, "Mycenaean royal names in the light of Helladic religion"
- F. Householder, "Palatalized consonants in early Greek"

The TIMES (London) 5 Nov 1957 reports from Pylos the discovery of about 100 fragments of inscribed tablets, from a large hall in the new wing, accompanied by clay sealings. Some tablets are said to deal with "man-power owed." Prof. Blegen is reported to suggest that they deal with a system of recruiting. (It might be conjectured that this refers to the discovery of further tablets of the Ad series; in any case I am asked by Prof. F. J. Tritsch whether the report of G. L. Huxley that some more tablets of the A series were found this year is true; which would seem to support this conjecture.) The new wing may have housed the palace garrison, armoury, and administrative sections. Another tablet contained two words "decoded as POTNIA HIPPEIA."

3 December 1957

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Minutes, 29 December 1957.

The session on Mycenaean Studies held in the 89th Annual Meeting of the American Philological Association, 29 December 1957, was generally deemed an auspicious occasion. The attendance for the first several papers would have been larger had the room also been larger. Despite the natural tendency of papers and sessions to prolong themselves (introductions, eight papers, and a few questions together occupied not all of three hours), the continued attention of a considerable and loyal group was maintained to the end. Some notice of the session has appeared in the newspapers (N.Y. Times, Dec. 31). Summaries of the papers follow.

1. G. P. Goold (Univ. of Manitoba), "The problem of the Linear A tablets" -- A summary and criticism of much of the recent study of these texts. The foundation for any study is Pugliese Carratelli's publication of the Haghia Triadha texts. Among subsequent studies is Goold and Pope's The Cretan Linear A Script, in which are established three groups of signs, numerals, ideograms including ligatures, and about 60 phonetic signs. Of these most can be equated with Linear B forms, and will have similar values. The conclusions were that Linear A is not Greek in inflection, that it possessed a common prefix a-, may have lacked a distinction of l and r, and the vowel o, and that no connection with -nthos and -ssos names is apparent. Furumark's Linear A und die altkretische Sprache is a more systematic attempt at a rigidly internal analysis, on the model of Ventris' work. Words were divided into groups, place-names, personal-names, occupations, products, and general vocabulary. A grid of the signs in phonetic relationship was constructed, by which agreement of forms and values with Linear B signs seemed confirmed. The Mycenaean thus took over the whole system of writing intact. About 16 products (e.g. coriander, sesame), 10 vocabulary words, some place- and personal-names are recognized. Affinities of the language seem to lie with Asianic languages. Among other treatments, Georgiev, working from equation of values in Linear A and B recognizes a language of IE connections, but pre-Hellenic. Gordon reads at least 20 words as Semitic and Akkadian, of which 4 (ku-ro, su-pu, ka-ro-pa₃, su-pa₃-ra) are attractive. Davis (Univ. of Natal) reads as Semitic among other words ki-ro 'deficit' and points to Semitic borrowings in Linear B. Further he suggests that the values of Linear A signs may be acrophonically connected with their representations. Pope (Univ. of Cape Town) thinks the language Akkadian (ku-na-su 'species of wheat', ka-ro-pa₃) and adds that the length of words accords with Semitic languages. G.'s conclusions are that despite substantial progress, no solution yet proposed can stand on its own. Against the Semitic hypotheses, the Semitic languages (like Greek) make rigorous distinction of r and l, Linear A and B do not. The language may be unrelated to known languages; if so, the paucity of texts and of comparable materials will make difficult and remote a definitive solution. -- Comment by Caldwell that Semitic words, even correctly read, may be loan-words, and need not identify the language of Linear A. Comment by Whatmough on the paucity of material. -- (G. writes that "Gordon's latest proposals weaken rather than strengthen the plausibility of his earlier equations: in particular, the two-sign group ku-ro (= Semitic kull- 'all'), which was and still is the most attractive identification, is now interpreted as mu-ru (= Akkadian mullu 'paid out'). Such fluidity of treatment clearly indicates the tentative nature of all the proposals so far made by advocates of the Semitic Hypothesis.")

2. M. Lang (Bryn Mawr Coll.), "A missing link" - which is the piece joining Ta709 and 712, found in this year's excavations. The set of Ta texts is thus completed by the resulting text of Ta709.

pi-je-ra₃ to-qi-de-ja *200 3 pa-ko-to a-pe-te-me-ne *214 2
 po-ro-e-ke-te-ri-ja *LADLE? 1 ko-te-ri-ja 6
 *85-te 1 pu-ra-u-to-ro 2 pa₂-ra-to-ro 1
 e-ka-ra a-pi-go-to pe-de-we-sa 1
 e-ka-ra i-to-we-sa pe-de-we-sa so-we-ne-ja *85-de-we-sa-qe 1
 ti-ri-po ke-re-si-jo we-ke ai₂?-ke-u *201 1
 ti-ri-po ke-re-si-jo we-ke o-pi-ke-wi-ri-je-u *201 1

The proposed translation:

Three phialai with spiral designs; two unroped tubs; one turner's chisel;
 six hammers; one brush; two fire-tongs; one fire-rake; one hearth with
 edge running round and footed; one hearth equipped with vertical crane,
 footed, decorated with ... and ..., one tripod of Cretan workmanship
 with goat decoration; one tripod of Cretan workmanship

*214 is a tub-shaped ideogram; pa-ko-to: phaktai; a-pe-te-me-ne: apenthsmene;
 po-ro-e-ke-te-ri-ja: proekheteria (cp. Hsch. potek-) e-ka-ra: eskbara;
 i-to-we-sa: istowessa. Although the new fragment provides striking confirmation
 for fire-tools and a form possibly parallel to po-ro-e-ke in other Ta texts,
 neither it nor the new term descriptive of tripods can decide the interpretation
 of the phrase ke-re-si-jo we-ke ai₂?-ke-u, nor determine whether the whole set
 is a tomb inventory or the objects needed for the investiture of a high official.
 -- Comment by Jameson on Homeric use of eskbara rather than hestia. -- The 1957
 Pylos tablets will be published shortly in AJA.

3. J. Whatmough (Harvard Univ.), "Selected items of vocabulary in Mycenaean
 Greek" - How far can Mycenaean Greek be called Homeric Greek? W. thinks one
 should take a cautionary approach because the time gap is great and it involves
 the question of how quickly a language changes. Nonetheless, with Maas, Chadwick,
 and Webster, he believes that a dactylic rhythm is to be recognized in Linear B.
 The relationship to Homeric meter is more problematic. Turner, while admitting
 archaeological correlations of the Mycenaean and Homeric worlds, demurs at
 linguistic (at least rhythmical) connexions. Chadwick also thinks this approach
 dangerous; but here there is prejudice against believing that dactylic verse
 could have been written as early as 1500 BC. W. discounts the opinion of some
 that the readings in Docs. look un-Greek. "From the clues of V. and C. you get
 something that looks only too much like the earliest Greek." Mycenaean Greek
 already shows the germs of Homeric Greek, and Homeric verse could have been
 written any time between 1500 and 800 BC. Arguments concerning the influence
 of the laryngeal on Homeric metrics: Where a final vowel is short but must be
 scanned long, or in hiatus, W. believes we have to do with an original laryngeal,
 movable nu, or inserted de or other rational explanations, but not "metrical
 license." W. illustrates with "to be": Lin. B, e-e-si 3 pl. occurs in com-
 pounds and alone, and matches Hitt. asantsi. Root not *es- but *Hes-. There-
 fore Att. eisi is regular, and Hom. eāsi an artificial metrical substitute.
 Most postulate an intermediate stage, *Hensi (older *Heenti, *Hesenti), with
 a glottal stop corresponding to Gk smooth breathing. Mycenaean Gk does not
 write h; but not necessarily psilosis. Sturtevant showed that Gk alphabet
 took over the spirant [X]. Greeks did not have at that date aspiration but
 a glottal consonant. Also in Lin. B a₂te-ro (heteros) we must postulate
 initially either a glottal catch or laryngeal. This may explain the second
 sign for a, a₂; the possibility should be explored. Andrews thought a₂ the
 IE schwa; W. thinks it may be from H₂e. Neuter pls. of thematic stems (-os)
 as Gk -a, for eH₂, cf. ra₂ in nom. sg. agent nouns for ria; pi-a₂-ra, pi-je-ra
 for phiale, phiele. In practically all cases where a metrical difficulty is
 involved in Homer, W. thinks the solution to the metrical problem will come
 through further study of the oldest history of Greek, with the help of Mycenaean
 evidence. -- The material of this paper will be incorporated in forthcoming
Lowell lectures.

4. F. Householder (Indiana Univ.), "Palatalized consonants in Early Greek"-- The variety of outcomes of IE sequences of short vowel + consonant + non-syllabic i, as seen in the following table, together with the testimony of Mycenaean spellings of the same, suggest that the Mycenaeans had reached the stage of palatalized consonants, though we cannot be sure exactly how they were written, and that the differentiation seen in the dialects had just begun.

IE	Proto-Greek?	Transliterated Spellings				
		Dor. &c	Lesb.&c	Att(Arc)	BoeoCret	Cypr
1. -t/dh/ j-	-s:-	-ss-	-ss-	-s-	-tt(z)-	-ss-?
2. -nt/ndh j-	-ns-	-:s-	-:s	-:s(ns)-	-ns-	-ns-?
3. -k/gh j-	-ts-	-ss-	-ss-	-tt-	-tt-	-ss-
4. -d/g/- j-	-dz-	-z-	-z(sd)-	-z-	-dd(z)-	-z-
5. *-n/r j-	-n:/r:-	-in/ir-	-in/ir-	-in/ir-	-in/ir-	-in/ir-
6. **-n/r j-	-n:/r:-	-:n/:r-	-nn/rr-	-:n/:r-	-:n/:r-	-:n/:r-?
7. -l j-	-l:-	-ll-	-ll-	-ll-	-ll-	-il-

* after a/o. - means word-initial. -t/d/dh/s - s- similar to 1.

** after e/i/u. -t - w- similar to 2. -n/r - s- similar to 5 and 6.

The possible Mycenaean testimony includes: for -wj- (not orig. IE) di-u-ja, me-u-jo, (pa2)-si-re-wi-jo-te, pa-ra-wa-jo-diwja, mewjo, basile:wjontes, para:wjo:, for -kj- po-ni-ki-ja - phoinikja, for -dj- pe-ki-je-we - pedjewes, for -rj- ku-pa-ro2, a-ro2-a, o-ro-jo, a-ra-(ka-)te-ja - kuparjos, arjoha, orjo:n (Hsch.) arakterjai (Hsch.), for -nj- mu-jo-me-no - *munjomenos (amunomenos), for -lj- pa2-ra2-te, o-mi-ri-jo-i, o-pi-ke-ri-jo-de, e-ke-jo-to - paljantei (?Balj-), homiljoihi, opikeljoi de (epikelomai), enkeljonto: (enkello:), for -sj- to-so-pe-ma = tošjon spërma. The Mycenaean spellings may then be for 1, 2 -s-, for 3 -š-, -kij-, for 4 -z-, -dij-, for 5, 6 (r)-r2-, -r^vj-, -j-, for 7 -r2-, -rij-, -j-, for -sj- -s-, -svj-, for wj s, svj, for wj -uj-, -wvj-.

5. M. H. Jameson (Univ. of Pennsylvania) "The Mycenaean and Homeric Political systems." Major differences between the political systems of Mycenaean, Homeric, and classical times, corresponding to varying economic and historical conditions, are revealed in the political terms of the tablets and their subsequent history. The Mycenaean system seen in the texts is far more complex than the Homeric. Three levels need to be distinguished for a valid comparison: (1) the local--the pa2-si-re-we (basilewes) and possibly ko-re-te-re, and the Pylian towns in the tablets, corresponding to the basileis of Odysseus's Ithacan kingdom and the nine towns and nine hedrai of Pylos. (2) the regional--the single wa-na-ka of Pylos or of Knossos, with his subordinate, probably military, ra-wa-ke-ta- (lawagetas), corresponding to the major heroes of the Iliad, and Odysseus, Nestor in the Odyssey. (3) the "Pan Achaean" level of the Iliad with Agamemnon, unknown from the tablets and perhaps entirely fictitious. In Homer the complex superstructure of Mycenaean times is lost and the local basileus rises in social status and preempts the foreground, and in the simpler post-Mycenaean conditions each king must be his own warleader. Only in the basic themes of the old stories may there be a reflection of Mycenaean conditions (probably on a regional level) the conflict of Achilles and Agamemnon may reflect tensions between war leader and wanax. But the stories are told in terms of Iron Age society.

6. A. Samuel (Yale Univ.), "The sizes of places mentioned in the Pylos tablets"--The compilation of tables to establish with increased precision the relative importance of Pylian places. The type of tabulation is seen in the following extract the commodities appear in the columns the rank of their assessment is indicated by: I, top 20%, II, mid 30%, III, low 50%. For Produce the number of occurrences is shown. The frequency of occurrence, the kind of assessment and its size appear as criteria of the importance of the place

Name	No. of Classes	Group Assignment						
		Human	Miner	Animal	Gold	Bronze	Textile	Produce
A-ke-re-wa	7	I	-	II	II	I	II	2
A-Pu2	5	III	-	III	II	II	II	1
Pa-ki-ja-na	12	I	II	III	II	III	II	5
Pu-ro	5	I	-	I	-	-	-	3
I-wa-so	2	I	-	II	-	-	-	-

The most important towns are found in Jn829 plus A-si-ja-ti-ja, E-ri-no-wo-te, E-as-re-wi-ja, Puro. Of ca. 200 place-names there are ca. 100 smaller towns which appear in only one occurrence. Here the assessment is almost always something that could be produced at home, and the allotment appropriate for a farming community.

7. W. McDonald (Univ. of Minnesota), "Early Greek attitudes toward environment as indicated by their place-names" - which show lively appreciation and interest in the physical environment and a striking absence of the later habit of naming places for people, real or mythical. M. analyzes 189 place-names with plausible Gk etymologies: Flora, e.g. Pteleon, 30 (16%), Fauna, e.g. Rheneia, 17 (9%), Physical description, e.g. Aipeia, 96 (50%), Euphemistic, e.g. Gonoessa, 18 (10%), Historical, e.g. Stratie, 13 (7%), Personal names, e.g. Athenai, 12 (6%). These 189 come from 330 of presumed Gk. origin, within 405 "Archaic" names (in literature before 600 BC) (230 cities, 60 bodies of water, 47 islands, 34 mountains, 22 districts) and 205 "Mycenaean" names, of which 72 are equated with names known from other sources, 36 of these being duplications with the "Archaic" place-names.

8. J. Puhvel (Univ. of Texas) "Mycenaean royal names in the light of Helladic religion" - An attempt to assay important features of the interplay of Indo-European and Minoan elements, out of the fusion of which developed Mycenaean and later Classical Greek culture. The twofold sacral aspects of Helladic and Homeric kingship were studied, on the one hand the 'sanctioning by Zeus' involving social obligation, and on the other the Minoan 'protection by the palace goddess', reflecting more Oriental matrilinear concepts. It was then shown that the chief Mycenaean royal title, wanax, for which P. has previously claimed Indo-European origin, is a divine epithet transferred to royalty by the placing of kingship under the aegis of the palace goddess, on the analogy of the development of several Indo-European gods into paredroi within the predominantly female Minoan pantheon. As a divine title wanax is still particularly characteristic of the specific gods who have undergone this development. The argument receives strong support from the Pylos tablets of 1955.--The material will be presented in fuller form in an article 'Helladic kingship and the gods', to appear in the forthcoming Sundwall Festschrift.

Continuation No. 7, Mycenaean Bibliography

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