COMMUNICATIONS

To celebrate the tenth anniversary of the sending out by Michael Ventris of Worknote 20 (the effective date of the decipherment of Linear B), Dr. John Chadwick has agreed to give a public lecture on Wednesday, June 6th, at the University of London Institute of Classical Studies. The subject will be "The Development of Linear B - the first ten years."

From the New Yorker for March 24, 1962: "We have just attended a monthly meeting of the Astrologer's Guild of America ... The main event of the evening, a lecture on the horoscope of New York City, was preceded by a short business meeting ... The chair was occupied by the Guild's vice-president, Miss Ruth Goldstein,... and when the meeting recessed she told us that the group, which is mainly a professional one, had been started on April 9, 1927, by the noted astrologers Evangeline Adams and George McCormack, who carefully selected the proper natal day by horoscope. 'Miss Adams legalized astrology in New York,' Miss Goldstein went on. 'In the twenties, she was taken to court for practicing astrology, but after she presented a horoscope of the judge's wife, the judge ruled that astrology was not fortune-telling, which is illegal. All we do is state probabilities.' ... 'I just looked up the planetary positions for July, 1999,' said a diligent lady, newly arrived. 'Everything's fixed very dangerously, with an eclipse in Leo.' ... We joined the lady with the instant eclipse information, who proved to be Mrs. Ruth Oliver, a resident of Los Angeles and an expert on Mesopotamian astrology. 'I've just deciphered the Phaistos Disc, from Crete, seventeenth century before Christ,' she told us proudly. 'All along, archeologists thought it was written in hieroglyphics, but actually the symbols are astrological. On one side there's a hymn to the planetary god of the sun, and on the other a hymn to the planetary goddess of the moon!"

From the <u>Times</u> (London) April 25, 1962: "NEW APPROACH TO CRETAN SCRIPTS - The Cretan scripts are unlikely to be disentangled by the usual methods of phonetic decipherment, it was emphasized at a two-day conference under the aegis of the Department of Greek at Edinburgh University last week. Instead it was urged new avenues should be explored in order to reach an understanding of the enigmatic documents from Knossos, Pylos and Mycenae.

The suggestion was made that both the Minoan Linear scripts A and B contain a much smaller phonetic and a much larger ideographic element than has been generally supposed, and that the former in particular must be regarded as containing a remarkably high proportion of ideographic signs. Professor E. Grumach, of Berlin, gave examples from both scripts of pairs of signs that appear to convey the same meaning both when they are written separately and when they are combined as monograms.

Professor A. J. Beattie, of Edinburgh, analysed the variations and permutations of the so-called "totalling formulae" in the Linear script B. He showed that these are unlikely to be phonetic spellings of words, and that each sign in them can convey a meaning of its own.

The ideographic theory is strengthened by the demonstration by Mr. W. C. Brice, of Manchester, at a recent seminar also held in Edinburgh, of close

similarities between the Linear A account tablets of Hagia Triada in Crete and those of Susa in Iran. The latter are written in the Proto-Elamite script, which is generally acknowledged to be in essence ideographic."

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 This study is chiefly concerned with the relations between Crete and Anatolia in the second millennium B.C. I have gathered and examined the evidence suggesting that before Greek speakers first came to Crete the rulers of the island had affinities with the Luwians, speakers of an Indoeuropean tongue who were settled in many parts of western and southern Anatolia in the Late Bronze Age. Properly to discuss the evidence for Luwians in Crete I have had to examine a number of related questions, amongst them the decline of the Cretan thalassocracy and the chronology of Late Minoan Knossos. This, then, is not a history but an endeavor to find solutions of some historical problems of the Middle and Late Minoan periods.

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In the course of the past few years, 1958-1961, thirty-six of the forty-nine local Societies of the Archaeological Institute of America have heard one or more of the following lecturers, speaking on one of the listed subjects: George Bass, A Bronze Age Shipwreck.

Carl W. Blegen, Recent Excavations at Nestor's Pylos.

John L. Caskey, Excavations at Lerna in the Argolid; Lerna, the Cyclades, and Troy.

Lloyd Cotsen, Excavations at Lerna.

Henry G. Fischer, The Orientation of Egyptian Writing and Drawing.

Cyrus H. Gordon, Discoveries at Ugarit: New Light on the Origin of the Greek and Hebrew Classics.

J. Walter Graham, Palaces of Crete; Crete and Its Antiquities; Palaces and Tombs of Homeric Heroes.

Clark Hopkins, Mycenaean Megaron, Peculiarities and Problems.

Spyridon Marinatos, Norton Lecturer for 1959/60, An Unplundered Tholos
Tomb at Nestor's Dominion at Pylos; Mycenaean Tombs and Heroic Tradition (with Cult of the Dead) at Nestor's Dominion in Pylos; An Industrial
Mansion of the 16th Century B.C. at Vathypetron in Crete; Mycenaean
Tholos Tombs near Pylos; Treasures from Royal Tombs at Pylos.

William A. McDonald, Rediscovering Nestor's Kingdom.

Machteld Mellink, Ancient Lycia and the Sea Peoples.

George E. Mylonas, Eleusis, Its Sanctuary and Cemetary; Mycenae, Capital City of Agamemnon.

James A. Notopoulos, The Creation of Heroic Poetry.

Stanton Waterman, Underwater Archaeology, 3000 Years Under the Sea.

Saul S. Weinberg, Earliest Greece.