

COMMUNICATIONS

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Papers read at the Meeting of the Archaeological Institute of America, December 28-30, 1962, included "The Minoan Cult" by Cyrus H. Gordon; "Excavations at Mycenae, 1962" by George E. Mylonas (read by Mrs. T. Leslie Shear, Jr.)--in which was shown a photograph of the inscribed sherd found this season, whose text was pi-ra-ki, in careful and fine forms, and whose broken edges framed the inscription with remarkable symmetry; "New Explorations of the Palace at Mycenae" by T. Leslie Shear, Jr.; "Imitation Metal Vases from Mycenaean Tombs" by Sara A. Immerwahr; "Mycenaean and Proto-Geometric Tombs in Caria" by George F. Bass; and "Surface Exploration in Messenia, 1962" by William A. McDonald.

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Chapitres: I, Les textes et les éditions. II, Les index et les lexiques. III, Description des tablettes linéaires B. IV, Le classement idéographique et la numérotation des textes. V, Le déchiffrement de Michael Ventris. VI, Les valeurs des phonogrammes. VII, L'emploi du syllabaire et l'orthographe. VIII, Les flexions nominale et verbale. IX, Le dialecte grec mycénien. X, L'onomastique. XI, Les scribes. XII, Bibliographie mycénologique.

Minutes of the London Mycenaean Seminar, 21 November, 1962, 269-273.

Summary of a paper by J. Killen, "The Knossos Sheep Tablets and Economic History."

Alexiou, S., A New Museum in Western Crete, Archaeology 15 (1962) 249-251. At Canea, and with materials representing all prehistoric periods in Western Crete, Neolithic, Minoan, and Mycenaean.

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The available evidence indicates decisively that Homer, in describing the burials of his heroes and warriors had in mind the burial customs of the Mycenaean Age. These customs he knew from the traditional oral poetry from which he drew his information regarding the Trojan War. The assumption that Homer used his contemporary customs is proved untenable. The evidence indicates that a cult of the dead did not exist in Mycenaean times. A sacred character should not be attributed to the graves of the Mycenaean period.
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