

COMMUNICATIONS

Papers presented at the Fourth International Congress of Classical Studies in Philadelphia, August 24-29, 1964, included several with some or much reference to Mycenaean civilization. Among these were Rhys Carpenter's "Discontinuity in Mediterranean Civilization," Vincent R. D'A. Desborough's "Dark Age Laconia," Chester G. Starr's "The Credibility of Early Spartan History," Geoffrey S. Kirk's "Stylistic Variations in the Homeric Poems," Albert Severyns' "Homère et l'histoire: Nature et limites de son témoignage," Sterling Dow's "History in Homer," Emily Townsend Vermeule's "Religion and Aesthetics in the Late Mycenaean World," Porphyrios Dikaios' "The Late Bronze Age Excavations at Enkomi and the Historical Background," and Giovanni Becatti's "Art Criticism and Historical Research." Of particular interest also was Massimo Pallottino's account of the discovery of three gold plates, one with inscription in Punic and two with inscriptions in Etruscan, at Pyrgi in very recent excavations. The transparencies made a magnificent impression. On exhibition in the University Museum were several items from private collections, among which a Mycenaean terracotta sarcophagus with mourning women, a figurine of a remarkable animal, and a kylix might be mentioned.

CORRESPONDENCE

To the Editor:- I am grateful for your scrutiny of the text of DM/Pot i, 1901, 55-6 (Nestor, 324). One change is wrong and nonsensical: read "Also Schliemann Tiryns" for "Crete, Schliemann Tiryns." Your "Crete" for "Also" will serve as a timely reminder of the difficulty of the hands.

I comment on your "collation" of On the Knossos Tablets (Nestor, 329-32). Here, too, there are "corrections" which are unacceptable. P. 121-19u you would read: "with horses in profile," but my reading "bulls" is entered as a correction above horses deleted. P. 123.19 you correct wrongly my "this floor" to "the floor." This may seem a ludicrous triviality, but in fact no fewer than 64 of your points concern forms of the article/demonstrative. I have gone through your list carefully, and I am glad to subscribe to your (privately given) assurance that the majority of the "errors" will not conceivably alter the sense of the passages in which they occur. But it is desirable that the minority should be specified. Here is my list of those points which affect the main theme of the book, the find-places of the Knossos tablets.

p. 96: unimportant fragments of inscription tablets

p. 99: almost from the surface (in any case made clear by Evans' corresponding entry printed next).

p. 112: doorway in the middle Westward

p. 119: The pencilled Daybook gives "2.50," but the ink version is more easily read as "2.80 E of the W wall"; but the point is of little importance since Mackenzie's sketch plan (my Plate XVIII) gives the position of the "Great Deposit" (cf. Evans' plan Plate XV).

This will seem a modest addition to the picture throughout the palace, but I should like to put on record my appreciation of the immense care and trouble you have taken in checking the text against the microfilms. This is a thankless and unrewarding task,

but the very triviality of the yield has its positive importance. Once you have specified the material changes by additions to my list, scholars will be able to use this archaeological source book with confidence in its factual accuracy. It may be thought in any case a guarantee of objectivity that the material has been presented simultaneously by two scholars with diametrically opposed views about its interpretation. This confidence may be increased by your intervention: a scholar who records "inclosed" for "enclosed" and lists as "errors" tacit corrections of obvious slips of the pen such as "so thin has to" will hardly be suspected of having overlooked much of material importance. I shall look forward to your additions to my list.

22 August 1964

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Yours, &c.

L. R. Palmer

To Professor Palmer:- In reply I must apologize for attempting to save space in the transcription of the text of the Pottery Notebook by a bit of contaminatio. The text of your note read exactly, 'S (2) in the text refers to the drawing on the opposite page. On this Mackenzie refers to "F. & L. Myk. Vases Text p. 23, fig. 10 also Schliemann Tiryns XXVII a almost half of bowl with handle." He draws...' I had hoped by my changes in this note to give a compendious indication of the following facts.

The microfilm of the notebook shows pasted in between 55 and the opposite page two pieces of tracing paper marked I 55 (1) and I 55 (2), each containing a drawing of a sherd, presumably from the lot being examined. At the bottom of the piece marked (2) is the note "Cf F & L Myk Vasen Texte p 23 fig 10 Crete

Schliemann Tiryns XXVIIa." On the facing page there is the note, "(2) cf. F & L Myk. Vasen Texte p. 23, fig. 10", followed by a sketch not of the sherd on tracing paper but copied from that figure; the note "Also Schliemann Tiryns XXVII a Almost half bowl with handle", followed by a sketch not of the sherd on tracing paper but copied from that plate, omitting, however, the handle; and a final comment "Our example more stylized than either of these."

My expansion of S<ketch> was probably over-ingenuous for simple S<ee>.

I have re-examined the microfilm for the passage 121.19u (for 11 May 1900). I now see very faintly the crossing out of "horses" and the writing in of "bulls" above. I believe this must have been done in pencil. I did not see it before, and fear that if there are other similar pencil-corrections in the notebook I have missed them as well. In fact, it is so faintly shown on the microfilm that I cannot check up on my impression that "bulls" may be written in Evans' rather than Mackenzie's handwriting. You know, but it may interest others without access to the notebooks or the film, that in the original pencil notebook Mackenzie wrote "with oxen," and this I believe was never changed. At the same day Evans recorded the find (AE 1900 p. 69), drew the seal very clearly, but did not name the animals. This drawing is copied as PM IV fig. 542a. It is fun, but probably profitless, to wonder why the sequence "oxen - horses - bulls" was produced.

I have also re-examined the microfilm for 8 April 1901 (123.19), and regret that I continue to see there only "The W part of the floor was all..." I am glad, however, to accept your precision of the entry for 5 May 1900 (119.1u). I should not have taken the clear reading of the pencil version as a crutch for the interpretation of the indistinct number in the pen version.

I quite agree that the errors in the quotations from the notebooks I so minutely corrected are trivial, and that except in the rarest instances they cannot mislead one from the intended sense of the passages in which they occur. Had I used the form, "for them read these" this would have been as obvious to the casual reader as it is to any who have entered these corrections in their copies.

30 August 1964

Sincerely yours,
Emmett L. Bennett, Jr.

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3 Perati 21-27, fig. 23-33; 4 Sesklo 27-35, figs. 34-39; 11 Mycenae 64-74; figs. 65-72; Mycenae, outside the citadel 74-81, figs. 73-79; 13 Pylos 81-88, figs. 80-91; 16 Elis 115-125, figs. 121-132; 17 Aitolia, Aghios Elias 126-137, figs. 133-151; 22 Crete, Kato Zakro, 159-177, figs. 175-188; 23 Crete, Katsambas, 177-184, figs. 189-192; 24 Crete, Gazi, 184-185; 25 Achaia, Teichos Dymanon, 186-191, figs. 193-201.

Χάλκινος μυκηναϊκὸς θώραξ στὸ Μουσεῖο τοῦ Ναυπλίου, Ἐλευθερία, 18 July, 1964.

The thorax is now on display in the Nauplia Museum.

Καλογεροπούλου, Αθηνά Γ., Μυκηναϊκὸς συνοικισμὸς ἀπεκαλύφθη στὴ Θεσσαλία, Ἐλευθερία, 19 July, 1964.

1963 excavations at Megalo Monastiri (near Larisa), D. Theocharis.

Παρασκευαΐδης, Μ., Ἀποκαλύπται ἡ παναρχαῖα Εὐρόπολις ποὺ κατέστράφη κατὰ τὸν Ἀηλαντικὸν πόλεμον, Καθημερινή, 19 July, 1964.

With an illustration of an LH III C alabastron. Remains of periods from EH through Geometric are found in excavation conducted by M. Popham and H. Sackett, 1964.

Παρασκευαΐδης, Μ., Ἀπεκαλύφθη εἰς τὴν Κέα ἀνακτορικὸν συγκρότημα συνεχόμενον μὲ τὸν μοναδικὸν ναὸν τῆς Β' χιλιετηρίδος π.Χ., Καθημερινή, 30 July, 1964.

Παρασκευαΐδης, Μ., Τὰ ἡμίγυμνα στεφανηφόρα ἀγάλματα τῆς Κέας, Καθημερινή, 2 August, 1964.

Among the more important finds of the 1964 season are a terracotta lamp (ca. MH III) with three signs, resembling Linear A, incised before firing on the rim, a fragment of a marble slab with an incised drawing of the head of a warrior in the familiar Mycenaean helmet, an excellent necklace, a puzzling two-compartmented clay dish found below a MC tomb, and some further fragments of the clay statues already well known.

Παρασκευαΐδης, Μ., Τὸ μυστικὸν τῆς καταγωγῆς τοῦ Κάδμου,
Καθημερινή, 6 August, 1964.

With an impression of another of the Theban cylinders--an agate with the design of a Mycenaean eagle-lion.

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19 August, 1964.

The excavations directed by A. Orlandos and N. Yalouris. Two Mycenaean pieces are illustrated from a necropolis near the village Kladeos, one a stirrup-vase, one a three-legged, two-handled, and covered jar.

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There were three tablets found, one complete with nine sign-groups (this is illustrated by both a photograph and a drawing), the others are less well preserved. "While some letters have affinities with the Phoenician Byblos script of Aḫiram, there is probably a South Semitic element in this writing." A report of this discovery appeared in the New York Times, 19 April, 1964.

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"une statue de bronze, haute au total de 35 cm., figurant un dieu posé debout et nu-pieds sur un lingot de type chypriote en forme de peau d'animal. Coiffé d'un casque à cornes de taureau et portant des jambières ou cnémides, le dieu brandit de sa main droite une lance pointée en avant et se protège d'un bouclier ovale légèrement conique, tenu au bout de son bras gauche (planche XVI)."

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