

COMMUNICATIONS

Leon Pomerance has kindly sent a few notes on the season's work at Zakro. "About a half mile from the palace site on a hillside overlooking the harbor there was found by accident a necropolis dating to EM III-MM I. In the two graves opened it was difficult to determine the number of skeletons that had been interred because the bones had been brushed aside for later burials.

A (family?) ossuary of terra cotta with pitched cover contained four skulls. Another burial was on a large terra cotta plate with four stump legs. Over 150 terra cotta vessels, a number of stone vessels, a bronze tweezer and a number of beads in bronze, carnelian, egyptian blue, one of silver, and three seals, one in rock crystal, two in sardonyx represented the contents.

At the palace site a broad stone stairway was uncovered, leading possibly to the sea road. Excavations on the north side revealed fills of MM III and LM I sherds and collapsed rooms that had been leveled off, containing much pottery of this same period. On the eastern side, earlier drainage systems were uncovered along with a complete terra cotta bathtub thrown into the fill. The south area revealed only sherd fills of an earlier period, MM III B. A fragment of a seal, the first found in the palace area, was uncovered on the stone stairway."

Minas Nisiotis also has a report, from N. Platon, of the work in Eleftheros Kosmos 26 November 1967.

Reports of the discoveries in a large Neolithic cave near Porto Cheli made by the Indiana University-University of Pennsylvania expedition this summer appeared in Hestia, 3 August 1967, and in Eleftheros Kosmos (M. Nisiotis), 30 July 1967. The cave produced remains of all phases of the Neolithic period, beginning with the aceric.

In excavations conducted for the British School by P. Warren at Myrtos Ierapetras, a cluster of some 40 houses has been found, belonging apparently to EM II. Among the finds there is pottery, some of it of the Vasiliki style, three seals, and a bronze knife. M. Nisiotis, in Eleftheros Kosmos, 5 November 1967.

A conference will be held by the British Association for Mycenaean Studies in London on 24-25 September 1968, on the theme of "The Minoans." Information on the conference may be had from J. Chadwick, Downing College, Cambridge.

The rudiments of a new or developing universal script were presented recently at UNESCO House in Paris by Jean Effel (whose work has already appeared in Nestor). To represent the first person subject of a verb he has adapted an "ancient symbol for man" and so simplified it that it is impossible to say whether it might not originally have been Mycenaean. John L. Hess, in the New York Times, November 27, 1967.

The Minoan-Greek Chess Set is again advertised, by Brentano's, N. Y. The price is less, \$146.00, but the board seems to be absent, so maybe it's more.

A Nordic Committee for Mycenaean Studies, i. e. NKMS, i. e. Nordisk kommitté for mykenska studier, is being formed with participants from Sweden, Denmark, Norway, and Finland. Secretary: Dr. Paul Åström, Via Omero 14, 00197 Roma, Italy.

### WORK IN PROGRESS

Part Two of the Bulletin of the Institute of Classical Studies 14 (1967) reports the following theses as in progress for higher degrees:

At Edinburgh: Banerjee, S. R., "A comparative study of Greek and Indian verbal system, with special reference to the Homeric dialect," Hodgson, M. J., "Vernacular element in the vocabulary of archaic Greek poetry."

At Leicester: Gregg, W. G., "Myths of Crete."

At London: Mensch, J. C., "Aegean seals," Paraskevaidou, H., "The use of synonyms in Homeric formulaic diction."

At Sheffield: Postlethwaite, N., "Formulaic composition in the Homeric hymns."

The following theses have been completed: Branigan, K., "Copper and bronze working in early Bronze Age Crete" (Birmingham), Warren, P. M., "Minoan stone vases" (Cambridge), Knox, M. O., "Homeric houses and towns compared with the archaeological evidence" (London), Mensch, J. C., "Combats between humans and animals on Mycenaean seals" (London), Garbrah, K. A., "A linguistic analysis of selected portions of the Homeric Odyssey" (Oxford).

In Die Sprache 13 (1967) 137-141 there is initiated a new gathering of work in progress, "Aus dem sprachwissenschaftlichen Leben," from which a somewhat random selection follows. Kommende Bücher des Winter-Verlages, Heidelberg: Annalies Kammenhuber, Die vorderorientalischen Arier; Wolfgang Kastner, Die griechischen Adjektiva zweier Endungen auf -os. C. J. Ruijgh is preparing "Etudes autour de l'emploi épique de la particule τεε." Günter Neumann is preparing a "Lykisches Glossar." Shortly to appear are J.-L. Perpillou, "Les formations nominales en -εύς du grec," and Cl. Brixhe, "Les inscriptions dialectales de Pamphylie." Carlo de Simone is preparing "Die griechischen Eigennamen im Etruskischen." Ernst Risch plans a "Griechische Dialektographie."

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Kahn, David, The Code-Breakers, Macmillan, New York 1967, pp. xvi, 1164, 12 pp. of "photographic inserts." \$14.95

Chapter 25 is devoted to the decipherment of ancient scripts, with Linear B's described, 917-937.

Ruijgh, C. J. Etudes sur la grammaire et le vocabulaire du grec mycénien. Amsterdam, Hakkert 1967, pp. 439. 50 hfl.

Tegyey, Imre, Some problems of the political history of SW Peloponnese in the Late Helladic Age, Acta Classica Universitatis Scientiarum Debreceniensis 3 (1967) 13-21.

Vermeule, Emily, The Promise of Thera, A Bronze Age Pompeii, The Atlantic 220:6 (December 1967) 83-94.

Åström, Lena, Studies on the Arts and Crafts of the Late Cypriote Bronze Age, Lund, 1967, pp. x + 165. Sw. Crs. 50.

Ostenberg, Carl Eric, Luni sul Mignone e problemi della preistoria d'Italia [Acta Instituti Romani Regni Sueciae, 1967], with Appendices: N. -G. Gejvall, Esame preliminare del materiale osseo reperito negli scavi effettuati a Luni (Provincia di Viterbo, Comune de Blera) a cura dell'Istituto Svedese di Studi Classici in Roma. H. Helbaek, Agricoltura preistorica a Luni sul Mignone in Etruria. L. Engstrand, N. -G. Gejvall, H. Sellstedt, Datazioni radiocarboniche sulla base del collagene. Pp. 306. Sw. Crs. 140.

There are published here five Mycenaean sherds found in Apennine layers, the westernmost discovery of Mycenaean sherds so far made.

Berlot, Anton, Eine Studie über die Sprachen der Rassenen oder der Etrusker, Zürich, 1966, pp. 196 (ronéographié).

Donat, Friedrich, Old Tongues and Scripts.

A collection of items, dated from 1965-1967, including an introduction, a map of Migrations of the Old Anglo-Saxon Tribes, a comparative table of these scripts: Runic letters, Etruscan, Lydian, Umbrian, Kaunian, Tyrrhenian-Pelasgian-Alphabet, Old Semitic, Ugarit-Cuneiform-Alphabet, Greek, interpretations of the texts of the Praeneste fibula, Etruscan Magliano leaden tablet, Etruscan dice, an Umbrian (Pesaro) tombstone, and a Lydian inscription from Sardis. Available from the author.

Walcot, P., Hesiod and the Near East, Cardiff, Wales Univ. Press, 1966, pp. xiii + 154. 25 shillings.

Marinatos, S., Some hints about Eastern Mediterranean mythology, 'Αρχαιολογική 'Εφημερίς 1964 (1967) 1-14.

Mythological elements in Mycenaean art as part of the common intellectual background of the Eastern Mediterranean world.

Μαρινᾶτος, Σπ., "Ερευναί ἐν Σάμῃ τῆς Κεφαλληνίας, 'Αρχαιολογική 'Εφημερίς 1964 (1967) 15-27.

Δοντᾶς, Γ. Σ., Εὐρήματα ἀπὸ τὸ παρὰ τὴν Σάμην τῆς Κεφαλληνίας σπήλαιον Μελισσάνη, 'Αρχαιολογική 'Εφημερίς 1964 (1967) 28-35, εἰκ. 1-8.

Grossmann, Peter, Zur Unterburgmauer von Tiryns, Archäologischer Anzeiger 82 (1967) 92-101.

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