

COMMUNICATIONS

The strikes affecting shipping on the coasts of the United States have also affected the postal service, and irregular or no delivery of Nestor may be expected until the interruption is over. But through the kindness of friends it has been possible to use alternate routes and circumvent some of these difficulties. We are very grateful to them.

Papers read at the Third International Cretological Congress, Rethymno, 18-23 September 1971, included: Siegfried Kuss, "Die pleistozänen Säugetierfaunen der Insel Kreta." Eleftherios Platakis, "Ὅστ' ἀνθρώπου καὶ θηλαστικῶν ἐκ τοῦ σπηλαίου "Μικρὸ Κατωφύγι" Σητείας." M. S. F. Hood, "The eruption of Thera and its effects in Crete in Late Minoan I." Stylianos Alexiou, "Νέα παράστασις πλοίου ἐπὶ ὑστερομινωϊκῆς σαρκοφάγου." Ernst Kirsten, "Préparation d'une nouvelle Carte historique de la Crète grecque et romaine." David J. Blackman, "The neosoikos at Matala." Theodoros Papadopoulos, "Ἀνθρωπολογικὰ ζητήματα τοῦ μινωϊκοῦ πολιτισμοῦ." Spyridon Marinatos, "Excavations on Thera." Georgios Korres, "Ἐπιβιώσεις μινωϊκῆς τέχνης." Konstantinos Davaras, "Νέαι ἔρευναι εἰς τὴν ἐλλειφοειδῆ οἰκίαν τοῦ Χαμαζίου." Gerald Cadogan, "Clay tubes in Minoan Religion." Nikolaos Platon, "Ἡ χρονολογία τῶν Ἀποθετῶν τοῦ Ἱεροῦ (Temple Repositories) τοῦ Ἀνακτόρου Κνωσοῦ." Katerina Mavriyannaki, "Τὸ πρόβλημα τῆς σπανιότητος ταφικῶν μινωϊκῶν λαρνάκων εἰς τὸν νομὸν Χανίων." Basileios Lamprynoudakis, "Τὰ ἐκδύσια τῆς Φαιστοῦ." Maurice W. M. Pope, "Recent work on Linear A." William C. Brice, "The extent and Nature of the Minoan Linear Script A." John Chadwick, "Relations between Knossos and the rest of Crete in the Linear B Tablets." Luigia Achillea Stella, "Le tavolette dei carri di Cnosso come problema storico." Leon Pomerance, "The Phaistos Disc - An Astrological Text?" Ioannis Sakellarakis, "Über die Echtheit des sogenannten Nestorrings." Vronwy Hankey, "Late Minoan Finds in the South-Eastern Mediterranean." Jean-Claude Poursat, "Découvertes récentes à Malia: le quartier Mu (1966-1971)." Giovanni Rizza, "Nuove scoperte a Prinias." Luisa Banti, "Haghia Triada (Crète) au Minoen récent III." Clelia Laviosa, "Excavations at Iasus in Caria." Cyrus Gordon, "The Greek Inscriptions from Praisos and Dreros and their Bearing on Eteocretan." Mervyn R. Popham, "Sellopoulo Tomb 4; some aspects of the finds." Louis Deroy, "A propos du minoen kuro 'Somme'." Johann Knobloch, "Griechische Worterklärungen." Vladimir Georgiev, "Les trois couches toponymiques de la Crète ancienne." Henri van Effenterre, "A propos de l'usage des sceaux dans l'administration crétoise à l'époque minoenne." Ingo Pini, "Einige nichtminoische Siegel von Kreta." Paul Faure, "Le problème du minerai d'argent dans la Crète antique." F. J. Tritsch, "The Judgement of Minos." Joseph W. Shaw, "The Chysolakkos Façade." Peter Warren & Ioannes Tzedakis, "Recent excavations at the EM site of Debla near Khania." Vincent Desborough, "Crete in twelfth century B.C.: some questions." Peter Warren, "Myrtos. A New Early Bronze Age Settlement in Crete (2600-2200 B.C.)." Gönül Tankut, "An attempt to develop

a methodology in the research of Minoan towns." Keith Branigan, "Crete, the Levant and Egypt in the Early Second Millennium B.C."

Auch, ein von Archäologen aus England, Frankreich, Griechenland, der Türkei, den USA und der Bundesrepublik Deutschland besuchtes Symposium über die Probleme der minoischen und mykenischen Siegel des 2. und 3. Jahrtausends v. Chr. fand auf Einladung der Deutschen Forschungsgemeinschaft vom 1.-3. Oktober des Jahres in Marburg statt. Es vereinigte die Mitarbeiter am Corpus der Minoischen und Mykenischen Siegel, das von der Akademie der Wissenschaften und der Literatur (Mainz) mit Unterstützung der Deutschen Forschungsgemeinschaft und der Stiftung Volkswagenwerk herausgegeben wird, mit anderen auf diesem Gebiet tätigen Forschern und steckte die Aufgaben dieser auf 25 Bände berechneten Denkmälerpublikation, von der sechs Bände bereits vorliegen, für die kommenden Jahre ab. Im Mittelpunkt der Diskussion standen die folgenden Fragen: 1. Verbindungen mit der altanatolischen Glyptik; 2. Chronologische Gliederung des Materials; 3. Unterscheidung zwischen der minoischen und der helladischen Glyptik.

Papers read at "Cyprus: Work in Progress," a Symposium in honour of Vassos Karageorghis, at Brock University, October 16-17, 1971, included: Saul Weinberg, "The Early Bronze Age Cemetery at Phaneromeni (Episkopi), Cyprus." Ellen Herscher, "New Light from Lapithos." Jean des Gagniers, "Survey of excavations at Soli." Sarantis Symeonoglou, "Excavations at Phlamoudhi and the Form of the Sanctuary in Bronze Age Cyprus." James D. Muhly, "Near Eastern Chronology and the Date of the Late Cypriot I Period." Y. Lynn Holmes, "The Foreign Trade of Cyprus during the Late Bronze Age." Barry M. Gittlen, "Cypriot White Slip Pottery in its Palestinian Stratigraphic Context." Edith Porada, "Cypriot Seal Iconography." Peter P. Kahane, "The Cesnola Crater from Kourion: an Iconological Study in Greek Geometric Representations." Robert S. Merrillees, "Problems in Cypriot History." Jack L. Benson, "Birds on Cypro-Geometric Pottery." Javier Teixidor, "Early Phoenician Presence in Cyprus: Analysis of Epigraphic Material." Andrew Oliver, "The Cypriot Collection at The Metropolitan Museum of Art." Vassos Karageorghis, "Perspectives in Cypriot Archaeology."

CLIPPINGS

Estia, 4 Oct. 1971. News from the Franchthi cave.

Estia, 6 Oct. 1971. A neolithic house, with a workshop for beads of bone and stone, is found near Kyrenia, Cyprus.

Estia, 7 Oct. 1971. An International Homeric Symposium was held at Nauplia, 6 Oct. 1971. Papers were given on "Megara skioenta," "Homer and Gibraltar," "The Odyssey of Nikos Kazantzakis," and "Homer and recent Greek authors."

Estia, 21, 22 Oct. 1971. Excavations at Thera, and the frescoes found.

CORRESPONDENCE

To the Editor: - In a recent paper (Minos 10, 166-176) I suggested interpreting e-ke-qe in the Pylos E Tablets as 3rd sg. pres. ind. of a verb equivalent to en(n)épei with a different preverb (i.e. ekhékwēi). To the data then available I now find it necessary to add a further point of fundamental relevance. Dr. J.-P. Olivier has kindly informed me that, as a result of a join he has made, there appears once e-ko-si-qe contrasting with e-ko-si. This is the new text of Eb 321--as has been made available to me by Dr. Olivier:

Eb 321 [+] 327 [+] 1153

.A ki-ri-te-wi-ja, e-ko-si-qe, o[-]na[-to ke-ke-]me-na-o

.B ko[-to-na-o pa-ro da-mo to-so-]de, pe-mo GRA 1 T 9

In the above-mentioned article in Minos (174), I was aware of the fact that the interpretation of e-ke-qe would automatically be decided one way or the other if a 3rd pl. form e-ko-si-qe or *e-ke-qo-si would be attested; hence the fundamental importance in this question of the evidence provided by the join. There exists, it is true, the possibility that another verbal form is missing in the fragmentary tablet, in which case e-ko-si-qe could perhaps be explained as e-ko-si + the coordinative particle -qe (as must be the case with e-ko-si-qe in An 724. 11; cf. Ep 617. 6 ka-ma, e-ke-qe, wo-ze-qe and . 7 o-na-to, e-ke, wo-ze-qe); but this solution does not stand a fair chance when confronted with the "twin" text of Ep 704. 4.

This new reading of Eb 321, therefore, confirms the "communis opinio" that e-ke-qe = e-ke + qe, whatever the solution to the -qe may be.

Salamanca, Spain

7 August 1971

Yours, &c.

Manuel G. Teijeiro

To the Editor: - On reviews of CMS 7 in AJA and Gnomon. Notices of archaeological books tend to fall into three categories. The factual and objective appreciation of a work, with a note of thanks or praise, is rare. Some notices consist of an effete description of the subject matter, with a few *ex parte* judgments appended in conclusion which may misrepresent the author's purpose completely. Others, with the prejudice of an entrenched position, proceed to apply criteria irrelevant to the subject, and thus find it incomprehensible and without value. A reply which might elucidate some of the difficulties is usually impractical.

Detailed criticism may show that the work at least has been studied. This conscientiousness, however, does not justify the use of criteria of a category alien to the cultural character of the subject under discussion. Training in classical archaeology is valuable as a discipline. There is probably none better, as long as the resultant concepts are not regarded as ultimate or universal criteria. The general application of such concepts, indispensable in the earlier stages of Aegean Bronze Age Archaeology, must at some time yield to criteria derived from the Aegean Bronze Age culture itself, otherwise the mistakes of the earlier decades of this century will be repeated.

Sometimes reviewers seem to regard everything as subject to criticism,

except the published conclusions of excavators. They tend, like journalists, to regard them as infallible. Provided an excavation is scientifically controlled and as carefully recorded, the evidence of the archaeological material discovered is fundamental. The material however has a two-fold aspect, its value for chronology, its ancient use and its historical or cultural value. These must be separately and jointly evaluated. The chronology of a closed deposit is chiefly derived from the evidence of the object considered latest within the deposit; but external evidence must also play its part. For example, in the Phaistos deposit of sealings, dated by the excavators to MM II, one sealing bearing the imprint of one end of an ivory cylinder of a type used in other parts of South Crete in MM I or the 1st Transitional phase was found (CMS II: 5 No. 281). Other sealings bearing advanced patterns of the Façade motif (Nos. 242, 243), in the Knossos area are datable to MM III. The evidence of these sealings suggests, at the very least, a discrepancy in the Middle Minoan Chronology of North and South Crete.

The probable moral is that the conclusions of all scholars, whether in the Field or in the Museum, are like those of the Critics, hypothetical.

Tolland, Taunton, Somerset, England

Yours, &c.

22 October 1971

V. E. G. Kenna

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. . . qu'il est permis de rire
entre mycénologues

New Scientist 3 September 1970
Tantalizer

No. 166 Ancient Greeks

While excavating the lower slopes of Mt Hymettus, Professor Peabody has found five very similar pots. Each has an inscription of five words.

Transliterated they read:

1st pot:

SUGAR AWKWA OUPAT IENTS LOVER

2nd pot:

SUGAR ONETH PLUMS HIZER OLVER

3rd pot:

WELLD AWKWA QUERU GRAMP OLVER

4th pot:

WELLD SLUMP RDAYE IENTS VEROL

5th pot:

WELLD EASTE NWTES GRAMP OLVER

Peabody claims this to be a version of the Linear A Proto-Minoan language and expects research to prove that the language is Greek. Meanwhile the similarity of the inscriptions makes him think they are all variants of the same message, copied by illiterate slaves. He daringly conjectures that each inscription has just two of its five words correct.

On that hypothesis, what is the master message?

Martin Hollis



Associated Press

"I'm not quite ready for this."