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FROM THE EDITORS

It is with sincere regret that, due to the rising postage and production costs, we must increase the annual subscription rate of Nestor. Therefore, beginning with Volume 9 (January, 1982), the rate for U.S. subscribers will be \$3.50 and that for foreign subscribers \$5.00. The institutional rate will remain at \$7.50, at least for the present. Those who have already paid for Volume 9 and/or 10 will be affected by the new rates when their subscriptions expire.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Fifth International Cretological Congress was held at Ayios Nikolaos from 25 September to 1 October. Papers included the following: K. Zervantonakis, Contribution of mineral resources of Crete in the development of ancient civilization (Greek); N.H. Gale, Copper in Cyprus, Bronze in Crete. Some scientific problems; Z. Stos-Gale, Sources of lead and silver for Bronze Age Crete; K. Mavriyannaki, The progress of metallurgy in E. Crete in the E.M. period (Greek); R. Hägg, The bronze locks from Knossos. A new interpretation; G. Cadogan, An archaeological atlas of Crete with balloon photographs; G. Gesell, New light on the Iron Age tombs in Kavussi; I. Tzedakis, Early Minoan tholos tomb at Nea Roumata, Khania (Greek); C. Baurain and P. Darque, Recherches au Nord-Est du palais de Mallia; H. Catling and R. Jones, Analysis of Minoan pottery from Central and East Crete; I. Pini, New observations on the Zakros sealings; V. Aravantinos, Crete and Boiotia in LH/LM III. Some evidence of contact (Greek); S. Damiani-Indelicato, La place publique et le palais dans la Crète minoenne; P. Faure, Minoan legumes (Greek); E. Hallager, The Greek-Swedish excavations at Kastelli, Khania; R. Laffineur, Le trésor de Zakros: Datation et authenticité; V. LaRosa, Nuovi lavori ad Aghia Triada; C. Laviosa, I forni minoici e la città di Aghia Triada; N. Marinatou, The miniature fresco in the shrine of the West House at Akrotiri; O. Pelon, Publication d'un palais minoen: Elements pour une chronologie; L. Vagnetti, Greek-Italian excavations at Nerokourou; J.-C. Poursat, Ateliers et artisans minoens; G. Rizza, Gli scavi di Priniás dal 1976 al 1981; W. Schiering, Bemerkungen zum Dekor der Vassiliki-Vasen; M.E. Schmid, Les portes et les fenêtres du quartier Mu à Mallia; G. Walberg, Some reflections on the relations between Minoan pottery and glyptics; P. Warren, Dancing places in Bronze Age Knossos; P. Åström, Middle Minoan Chronology-again; K. Branigan, The foundations of Palatial Crete. A review; E. Fiandra, Oriente e Occidente nell'architettura e nella tecnologia del MM II a Festòs; S. Hood, Warlike destruction in Crete c. 1450 B.C.: K. Davaras, Architectural details of the Minoan villa

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of Makryialo (Greek); S. Hiller, The latest frescoes at Knossos; M. Melas, The Minoan diaspora. Stations toward the east (Greek); A. Lembesi, New facts about Cretomycenaean survivals (Greek); W.C. Brice, Minoan connections with North Syria; M. Elsaadani, Pre-Saite and Saite deities in Crete (Greek); J. Coulomb, Les boxeurs de Cnossos; A. Ioannidou-karetsou, The peak sanctuary of Jukta (Greek); E. Bennett, Linear A houses of cards; M. Popham, Inscribed stirrup jars. A different assessment; L. Godart and M. Tsipopoulou, Bronze omphalos bowl with Linear A inscription from the collection of K. and M. Mitsotakis (Greek); A. Sacconi, A proposito del Corpus delle tavolette micenee di Cnossos; W. Niemeier, The archaeological dating of the Knossian Linear B tablets reconsidered; N. Papadakis, Excavations at Kouphonisi Siteias (Greek); M. Polyojoryi, Cult caves of historical times at Khania (Greek); L. Stella, Origini cretesi della dea Atena; R.F. Willetts, Bees and bee-cults (Mallia and Ephesos); H. Van Effenterre, Damós, damioi, damiorgoi; P. Yule, Early Cretan seals and their foreign connections-again.

The New York Aegean Bronze Age Colloquium is scheduled to meet on October 21 to hear a paper by Professor Ross Halloway, "Aegean Trade with the West: How Did it Work?"

FORUM

To the Editor:

On the occasion of the VIIth International Colloquium on Mycenaean Studies, held at Nuremberg in the past April, all the participants were allowed to observe carefully the golden épingle bearing a Linear A inscription, which is just published in the Bulletin de Correspondance hellénique (J.-P. Olivier, L. Godart et R. Laffineur, "Une épingle minoenne en or avec inscription en Linéaire A", 105, 1981.)

This fibula shows on its obverse a vegetal decoration (cf. figs. 2-4) which I could examine with the help of a magnifying glass and obtain some enlarged drawings of parts of it. J.-P. Olivier told us that the identification of the plant at issue was not sure (Tamarix? Medicago?, cf. BCH pp. 7-8) and I should like to contribute on this respect.

I strongly agree with Dr. Olivier that the decoration belongs to a plant of the Rose Family. As far as I know, M. Moebius ("Pflanzenbilder der minoischen Kunst in botanischer Betrachtung", Jahrb. Arch. Inst. 1933, p. 12, Abb. 6-B) included a Minoan representation of the Rosa canina L. (R. dumetorum Thuill.), which looks

structurally like the vegetal decoration on the fibula. Nevertheless the absence of flowers and the alternating of the leaves force me to look for another member of the Rose family, and I am now almost convinced that the plant represented is a long, prickly stem of Bramble (Rubus fructicosus L, R. ulmifolius Schott), with its characteristic alternate, 3-foliolate leaves, prickly and toothed, prior its blossoming (April-June), their buds being characteristically shown at the end of the stalk.

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Yours, &c.
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