

COMMUNICATIONS

COMITE INTERNATIONAL PERMANENT DES ETUDES MYCENIENNES. A l'occasion du congrès de Rome, une réunion du C.I.P.E.M. s'est tenue dans cette ville le 30 septembre 1967. Etaient présents les membres suivants du Comité: MM. E. L. Bennett, J. Chadwick, C. Gallavotti, M. Lejeune (secrétaire général); en outre O. Masson (secrétaire adjoint), ainsi que les secrétaires de plusieurs comités nationaux, MM. F. R. Adrados (Espagne), A. Bartonek (Tchécoslovaquie), L. Deroy (Belgique et Pays-Bas), V. Georgiev (Bulgarie), A. Heubeck (Allemagne Fédérale), P. Ilievski (Yougoslavie), E. Risch (Suisse); participaient également comme observateurs MM. Bilinski et J. -P. Olivier.

Les questions suivantes ont été abordées.

1) Composition du C.I.P.E.M. Sur proposition de M. M. Lejeune, ont été adjoints au groupe initial de cinq membres MM. V. Georgiev et E. Risch. Cette décision, qui prend effet dès maintenant, sera soumise à ratification lors du prochain Colloque.

2) Comités nationaux. a) Un comité pour l'Autriche est en voie de formation, avec pour secrétaire M. F. Schachermeyr. b) La formation de comités pour la Hongrie et pour les pays scandinaves a été évoquée.

Pour les pays nordiques (Suède, Danemark, Norvège et Finlande), un groupe dénommé N.K.M.S. (comité nordique pour les études mycéniennes) serait créé, avec comme secrétaire M. Paul Åström [groupe constitué effectivement en 1968].

3) Cinquième Colloque des Etudes Mycéniennes. Après un échange de vues, il est décidé de fixer le prochain Colloque à la date de Pâques 1970, la réunion étant prévue à Salamanque (Espagne) et organisée sous la direction de M. N.S. Ruipérez. Il est suggéré que cette réunion puisse comporter un certain nombre de "thèmes" de discussion.

4) Activité des revues de Mycénologie. A l'occasion de la réunion de Rome, M. Lejeune a félicité M. Gallavotti pour la publication rapide de plusieurs fascicules de la série intitulée S.M.E.A. (Studi Micenei ed Egeo-Anatolici), patronnée par le centre d'études mycéniennes de l'Université de Rome. - En ce qui concerne l'activité de la revue Minos, dont le dernier fascicule (VIII. 1) a vu le jour à la fin de 1963, des nouvelles rassurantes ont été communiquées à la fois par M. Adrados, et par M. Ruipérez, qui, empêché de se rendre à Rome, avait écrit au secrétaire général. On a pu annoncer la publication imminente du fascicule VIII. 2 [paru effectivement en décembre 1967], et la continuation de l'activité de la revue sous une forme renouvelée, avec le concours d'un comité de publication plus nombreux entourant M. Ruipérez; la numérotation sera poursuivie, à partir du tome IX (1968). Le C.I.P.E.M. se réjouit de ce projet et lance à tous les mycénologues un appel pour l'envoi prochain de nouveaux articles à la direction de Minos. O. Masson

The periodical KADMOS, founded by the late Ernst Grumach, to whom we are much indebted, will be continued under the editorship of Professor W. C. Brice, beginning with the ninth volume. To the list of Mitherausgebern has been added Günter Neumann.

Subscribers to Nestor now number more than 700. Individual subscribers outside the U.S. ca. 321, within the U.S. ca. 225, institutions and libraries outside the U.S. ca. 91, within the U.S. ca. 66.

Heinz Geiss has on cards all abbreviations and adjuncts of the Knossos tablets in Linear B and has made a set of indices of these forms, to be published shortly. In addition, Geiss has on cards the phrases on the tablets from Pylos and Mycene, with source, and expects to have available also the phrases on the Knossos tablets. Working with him is Erich Mater. Further information can be obtained from Heinz Geiss, Hönowe Strasse 171, 115 Berlin-Mahlsdorf, D.D.R. - from Calculi.

CORRESPONDANCE

To the Editor: - In his Evidence for the Minoan Language, 1966, Cyrus H. Gordon just about covers the epigraphic waterfront with his Northwest Semitic Minoan thesis. The validity of the thesis aside, comment must be made on the inclusion of the Phaistos Disk in that thesis. Ernst Schertel ("Der Diskos von Phaistos; Wege zu seiner Entzifferung," Würzburger Jahrbücher für Altertumswissenschaft 3 [1948] 334-365) advances the same arguments as Gordon for the direction of writing of the text of the disk, plus the philosophical observation that it would have been just too difficult to start from the outside and come out exactly in the center. Schertel, incidentally, fortifying himself with the trappings of mathematical graphs, emerges with an equation of the language of the disk with Latin, its provenance the island of Rhodes, and its contents modestly suggested as a double cultic hymn of some sort. Now, argumentation about the direction of writing can be granted as valid. But even valid argumentation can lead to error. Two purely mechanical facts definitively establish the direction of writing from the outside inward, right to left. First, over-cuttings. In no less than seven places part of a sign is impressed upon another sign. As with any hand printing set, the overriding stamp can only be impressed upon one previously stamped. The 45 signs of the disk are actually a hand stamp printing set and the direction of writing is thus incontrovertibly assured. No appeal to argumentation, philosophy, probabilities, comparisons, acrophonic principles, or inspired guesses can gloss over the physical fact of these overcuttings. And second, to confirm the direction of writing, we have the characteristic introduction of a text, observable in many Cretan pictographic seals, of a number of small vertical circles on both sides of the disk. Needless to say, the inclusion of the text of the disk within the corpus of "Northwest Semitic Minoan" tumbles to the ground. It is perfectly true that all other Cypro-Minoan writing reads from left to right. For this reason, it has been suggested (JNES 18 [1959] 107) that the disk may have been "a matrix for imprinting its text, hence reversal of direction." It is now respectfully suggested that, if Gordon still wishes to include the Phaistos Disk in his thesis, he start from the other end.

Lincoln University
29 January 1968

Yours, &c.
Benjamin Schwartz

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σαλαγέω-σπίνος. Mycenaean forms are noted s.vv. Σειρήν, σέλῳνον, σήσαμον, σίαλος, σῦτος, σκέλος, σπείρω.

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CORRIGENDA

P. iv. s.v. Eos, read Commentarii. Pp. 380, 450, 485, 506, read Πρακτικὰ τῆς ἐν Ἀθήναις. P. 382, s.v. Yoshida, read Grèce. P. 386, s.v. Faure, read Χρονικὰ. P. 386, read Botvinnik. P. 390, s.v. Blegen, read Excavations of 1964. P. 391, s.v. Pavano, read 44-65. P. 399, s.v. Bennett, read AJA 69 (1965). P. 402, s.v. Faure, read peuplement. P. 403, s.v. Press, read èlladskoe. P. 404, s.v. Petruševska, read (1965) 28. P. 408, s.v. Kenna, read 74-78. P. 409, s.v. Lejeune, read 14-27. P. 410, s.v. Adrados, read REA 67. P. 410, s.v. Palmer, read 321-325. P. 413, read Καραπαναγιώτη. P. 417, s.v. Bennett, read AUMLA 23 (May 1965) 124-125. P. 458, s.v. Παρασκευαΐδης, read μαρτυρία. P. 471, s.v. Bouzek, read raně. P. 508, s.v. Syriopoulos, read Álin.

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