

COMMUNICATIONS

For more than half of Nestor's subscribers there has been an unavoidable delay in sending the last issue, because of a Post Office embargo on surface mail from Atlantic and Gulf ports, the result of a long-continuing strike.

In a recent short visit to Athens it was discovered that the chess set available in New York at \$149.99 is available there at \$90.00. That is, it was available at that price. But inadvertently the New York price was reported to the proprietor of the shop, and the results are not guaranteed. Cf. p. 514.

Another result of the trip to Athens is a renewed awareness of how much information pertinent to Nestor's function is reported in newspapers around the world, without any significant trace of it coming to Nestor. Even in Athens, from which many clippings are generously sent, it was obvious from another clipping-book that much has been missed. The subscribers to Nestor would earn even more of the Editor's gratitude if they would regularly send clippings from their own cities' newspapers.

Of course, if I had read newspapers in Athens, I would have seen there what was sent me here as a clipping. In Ta Nea, 21 January, 1969 appeared the photograph of a newly found cylinder from Cyprus from Engomi, inscribed with "the first form of writing of the ancient Greek language."

On the way and back it was discovered that the decoration of Olympic Airways' City of Knossos and other Cities incorporates the lily fresco from near Amnisos (as a continuous frieze at the lights of the cabin), and the flying fish fresco from Phylakopi (as the all-over wall covering). The results are pleasing and unobtrusive.

SAFO is a "World Writing System" devised by Prof. Dr. Andre Eckardt. It is essentially a batch of arbitrary non-pictographic signs representing concepts to be combined to produce writing. But it has one remarkable interest for Linear B studies. For telegraphic purposes each SAFO sign may be represented by a digraph or trigraph. And the digraphs begin: ab, eb, ib, ob, ub, ad, ed, id, od, ud, af, ef, if, of, uf, ag, eg, ... The composition of SAFO, Dr. Eckardt says, began in 1943. But whether it was published in time to provide a coincidence with "Ventriloquism" is not clear. Brochures describing this "Sinnschrift," in many languages, are available.

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An improvement over the 4th edition: "The palace seems also to have been the religious center, with a priest-king," although he was surpassed by the Incas (or maybe the Mayas) who had "priest-emperors."

CORRESPONDENCE

To the Editor:- Io sottoscritto considero di origine libica il dio minoico-miceneo e-nu-wa-ri-jo (Enuwalios - Enyalios), al quale si offre olio a Cnossos (KN V 52, Morpurgo, Myc. Gr. Lex. 86; Doria, Avviamento 238; Palmer, Interpretation 121) (Callimaco, Roma, L'Erma 1967, I, p. 28s., II, p. 393). In un ἱερός λόγος libico era detto figlio di Posidaon e di Libya, opp. marito di Libya, secondo altra versione. Gli era attribuita l'istituzione dei Giochi ippici cirenaici, oltre che l'invenzione del famoso carro da guerra libico. Il trasferimento a Creta può fissarsi subito dopo la metà del II millennio a.C., quando divenne ἀνδρειφόντης e πολεμιστής come lo conosce l'epos.

Io respingo (op. cit. I, p. 281) l'interpretazione corrente dell'aggettivo minoico-miceneo pe-ko, falsamente equiparato a πεικός "ispido, irsuto" (Morpurgo, p. 237s., Doria, p. 197). Infatti esso deve corrispondere a

πηγός "nero, scuro," secondo lo scholiaste omerico BL a I 124 πηγούς· μέλανας, riferito a cavalli. Questa nuova interpretazione si accorda con un passo del III Inno ad Artemis di Callimaco (v. 90), in cui πηγούς è applicato al colore scuro delle macchie sulle orecchie (παρουαίους) dei cani di Artemis. Che πηγός sia l'opposto di λευκός, cioè che pe-ko sia contrapposto a re-u-ko, riteniamo dimostrato da parecchie iscrizioni cnosie (KN Dw 162, D 7067bis, D 7098) e pylie (PY Cn 418.3.7).

11 November 1968

Crespano del Grappa

Yours, &c.

Giovanni Capovilla

BULL DANCER OF CRETE. Legend holds that Theseus, wishing to liberate the Athenian tribute youths and maidens from King Minos, taught them this acrobatic skill and, in a bargain with the King, redeemed their liberty. One of a collection of Sterling Silver and 18 Karat Gold Sculptures commissioned and exhibited by F. J. Cooper, Inc., which has generously provided this photograph. The artist is Tauni de Lesseps. 21 inches. In silver with gold horns, mounted on rose quartz. \$15,000.

