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#### FROM THE EDITORS

A reminder to our foreign readers concerning their subscriptions to Nestor seems in order. We will be forced to discontinue unpaid subscriptions as of March 1, 1979, if we have not received either payment or a request for special arrangements. Please pay through International Money Order only. Please remember the availability of the air mail subscription rate (\$10).

#### EDITORIAL CONSULTANTS

We would like to announce the addition of Prof. Anna Sacconi, of the Istituto per gli Studi Micenei ed Egeo-Anatolici, Rome, to our board of Editorial Consultants.

#### COMMUNICATIONS

Among the papers read in Athens during the fall of 1978 were the following: Åke Åkerstrøm, "Berbati" (Oct. 18, Swedish Institute); John T. Killen, "The Mycenaean Labour Force" (Dec. 1, British School); John T. Killen, Informal Seminar on the textile tablets and related matters (Dec. 13, British School); Mrs. E. Protonotariou-Deilaki, seminar on "New Excavations at Dendra", concerning especially the tumulus burials and connections with grave circles and tholoi (Dec. 15, Swedish Institute).

A symposium "Approaches to Homer" will be held at the University of Texas at Austin, Feb. 28 - March 2, 1979. For further information contact Prof. Carl A. Rubino or Prof. Cynthia W. Shelmerdine, Dept. of Classics, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas 78712.

Another meeting has been announced by Cornell University: "The Origin and Transmission of the Alphabet -- New Discoveries" to be held April 1 - 3. Papers will be presented by A. Demsky, Bar-Ilan University; L.H. Jeffery, Oxford University; P. Kyle McCarter Jr., Harvard University. The designated respondents are M.K. Langdon, University of Washington; J. Naveh, Hebrew University of Jerusalem. For further information contact Prof. Kevin Clinton, Chairman, Department of Classics, Goldwin Smith Hall or Prof. David Owen, Chairman, Department of Near Eastern Studies, Rockefeller Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York 14853.

John Chadwick and Oliver Masson for the International Permanent Committee of Mycenaean Studies inform us that on the occasion of the VIIth Congress of the International Federation of Associations of Classical Studies (F.I.E.C.), which will take place in Hungary from

3rd to 8th September 1979 (Budapest), a Mycenaean section will be organised by John Chadwick.

Please take note of the following change in planning: the international colloquium following that held at Chaumont (Neuchâtel) will take place as expected in Western Germany, not in the autumn of 1980, but at Easter 1981. This "Seventh International Colloquium on Mycenaean Studies" will be organised by Alfred Heubeck (University of Erlangen-Nürnberg) and Günter Neumann (University of Würzburg), in association with a committee of linguists and archaeologists of the German Federal Republic. Membership will be by invitation only.

#### FORUM

To the Editors:

#### Some New Mycenaean Functional Gods?

Minor Greek gods with a restricted function seem to have been a rarity. Martin Nilsson mentions only Taraxippos and Myiagros. New material and revised readings of the tablets offer three new possibilities. The texts were all written by a single scribe (135) and were found close together at Knossos (Magazine 9 and the adjoining part of the Long Corridor). The sets are Ga (1) and Gg (2), but the products of other scribes from the same area show the same preoccupation with offerings to divine recipients of korijadono, kuparo, and honey, all these being subsumed under the term tuwea = thuea in PY Un267. It may be said that the main interests of the West Magazine Quarter are thuea and textiles. This overall context is vital for the interpretation of the names concerned.

Functional gods tend to have transparent names. A recent interesting development (TH II, 93) has been the emergence of a god marineu with industrial connexions, particularly textiles. At TH the marinewejai receive wool; at MY (X 508) marine is preceded by pukatarija, a cloth designation; at KN marineu possesses a woikos (apparently an industrial complex with divine connexions) and he receives spices and honey. Etymologizing proper names, where there is no semantic control, is hazardous. But if marineu is rightly diagnosed as the God of Textiles, an interesting possibility presents itself. Was his name Mallineus 'God of Woollens', formed with the suffix -eus from (ta) mallina, the substantivized material adjective in -ino- from mallos 'fleece'? This might be rated as no more than an amusing idea but for the support of two tablets by the same scribe found in the same space.

Ga 676 has the genitive tuwinono as recipient with the nominative tuwino in Ga 517. Here we have the competing suffix -ōn (cf. Ploutōn X Plouteus). The stem is tuwino- and this may be the material adjective from thuos (s-stem!). Was Thuinōn the functional god concerned with thuea and their processing? In such matters judgment is simply common-sense assessment of plausibilities. Could it be an accident that two

names in a small set of tablets in an overall context of divine offerings should reflect the main concerns of the Palace quarter in which they were found?

The same suffix appears in yet another recipient recorded by the same scribe: in Gg 995 makirone receives jars of honey just like marinewe in Gg 713. This readily interprets as Magirōnei (dat.), magīros being Dor., Ion., and Aeol. for mageiros 'butcher, cook'. Diagnosis as a divine name, suggested by the parallelism with marinewe, is strengthened by the occurrence of Magiros as an epithet of Apollo in Cyprus (J. Killen and J.-P. Olivier in *Mycenaean Studies*, 63). The echo is suggestive. Did the major gods absorb earlier functional gods which are reflected in their various epithets? The question is not unfamiliar to Religionsforscher and their answer has been on the whole negative. Still, Nilsson affirmed that Paieōn had no independent existence, but this was before it was known that KN V 52 records pajawone along with atana, enuwarimo, and posedaone. The new examples may prompt reconsideration of Usener's 'Sondergötter' and also of Anogwasija, possibly a divinity connected with the Lawagetas of Pylos (Ea 805, see *Mycenaean Studies*, 278).

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Yours, &c.  
L.R. Palmer

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