

27 November 1968

Dear Emmett,

1) Your request for my biography. I take it you know the details down to 1964, but briefly: born 1920, educated St. Paul's School,\* Cambridge University; war service in R.N. 1940-5; Oxford Latin Dictionary 1946-52. Lecturer at Cambridge 1952-66; Reader in the Greek Language 1966- (so this can be put down as consequent upon my spell at Madison). The only other recent event is my election in 1967 as Fellow of the British Academy. If you want any other information let me know; you have as good a list of my publications as I could prepare myself. But let me say I appreciate this interest in former members of the Institute.

2) I am not too sure that you haven't jumped the gun with your request for Postcode from British subscribers. It has recently reached Cambridge, and many of the bigger towns and cities appear to have codes now; but I think there is still quite a large area which has not yet been informed of these numbers. No doubt we shall see, if and when the replies reach me; I am quite willing to act as your agent in this. The system is quite illogical, for it is not automatically two letters, two figures and two letters; all sorts of variants occur.

3) I have started work in earnest on a new Glossary for the second edition of Documents. This will be a photographic reprint, but with a combined Glossary (covering place names, personal names, and vocabulary words, and not forgetting this time the gods and oxen). Then I shall write a long Appendix commenting on the text and bringing it up to date so far as can usefully be done. My aim will be to make the book usable still as an introduction to the subject. The deficiencies of Interp. for this purpose become daily clearer. For this I am using PTT, and find it tiresome since there is no index of prefixes, and where you have made a change I can't always find where a tablet has gone; quite lost Ae 889. In Sb 1314.3, I thought we had agreed that the right reading was pa-ra-we-'jo'; even if you don't agree I am sure of it, so the numeral 20 vanishes. What I don't know is whether the circle at the end is a 100; surely not a KA.

4) Tegethoff is a new name to me; but not one I want to meet. There has been a lull in the decipherment front for a bit, except for sporadic activity by Miss Gwynne. She is now pestering other people and trying to get her rubbish printed.

5) I find it hard to suggest a suitable thesis subject for M. Xiroyanni. Too much has been pre-empted, and she won't have time for a really major job, like I am sure the personal names are. I wonder if she would be interested in Mycenaean syntax and word-order. I know there are few sentences long enough to show any real syntax; but what I have in mind is methods of expression - why do we always have ta-ra-si-ja e-ko-te never e-ko-te ta-ra-si-ja. In Cn3 are there any rules which show which is the subject and which indirect object? Why do verbs usually stand first after (j)o-? How consistent are scribes in using the correct inflexional forms in lists? Putting all the examples together might reveal some patterns that have escaped us.



6) You have probably heard from JPO that Alexiou has eventually sent him packing, though with good will on both sides. Further researches must wait until next year, when the staff position is improved. He says the Nat. Mus. is being more cooperative - a reversal of the old position - except that the heating system has broken down.

7) I go to Newcastle next week to lecture on Minoan scripts; have got some new slides made of pictographic and Linear A.

Yours

*John*

FIRST FOLD HERE

Sender's name and address:

J. Chadwick

Downing College,

CAMBRIDGE CB2 1DQ ENGLAND

AN AIR LETTER SHOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY  
ENCLOSURE; IF IT DOES IT WILL BE SURCHARGED  
OR SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.

SECOND FOLD HERE



REMEMBER  
TO USE THE  
POSTCODE



Professor F. L. Bennett

The Old Observatory

Madison, Wisconsin,

53706

U. S. A.