

19 North End, London NW3

1 December 1953

Dear Bennett,

Here is a copy of the December number of ANTIQUITY, which is rather full of scripts of one kind and another. Please excuse what may be excessive optimism in Chadwick's and my articles, which don't contain anything new to you. But you may be interested to see the new Enkomi tablet, whose script doesn't seem very closely allied to Linear B. I read about Schaeffer's new Ugarit Cypro-Minoan tablet the other day, but haven't seen a picture yet: I hope it doesn't throw the signary ~~off~~ out too much.

I expect you've had a copy of Miss Henle's book. I've just finished for JHS 1954 a combined review of it and your Linear B Index. It was only about hers that one could say anything critical, certainly: an interesting experiment, but some of her original assumptions on spelling method and on the state of the language seem as curious as some of our results.

I'm not making very good progress with my "Glossary", which I hoped to have finished by now; but I hope to have it written out in another 10 days, and with a week more photostating, a copy should be with you by Christmas. Just how useful it will be remains to be seen. Several other people are taking up what at the moment is rather a guessing game: the most useful is probably Palmer, professor of Classical philology at Oxford, whom I had lunch with last week.

If you have any time to spare (which may be a callous assumption!), would it be possible to what Chadwick's and my appetite with a dozen or so confidential transcripts of longer new-formulae tablets, say in the E-series? When the Glossary's finished, any new work on the old tablets will seem a bit unrealistic on their own.

I've been interested in the last few days in our old friend  $\text{DE}+\text{F}+\text{Y}$ , whom I think we were probably quite wrong to have included among the names of trades and occupations. Do any new tablets show it again in what seems to be a "totalling-" formula?

With best wishes,

Michael Ventris

8 December

PS: Many thanks for your excellent Christmas card!  
The Glossary has gone to be photostatted today.