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THE CLASSIFICATION OF THE KNOSSOS TABLETS

The first editors of the Linear B tablets realised the need for a classification which would bring together like documents. This was admirably achieved by E. L. Bennett for Pylos, but J. L. Myres kept the selection of tablets published in *Scripta Minoa* II in Evans's rather arbitrary order, and appended only the complicated classification of A. E. Kober. Bennett subsequently extended his Pylos system to the Knossos material, and this has been applied likewise to Mycenae.

The early classification, however, was undertaken in advance of the decipherment, and was based primarily upon the presence of ideograms. In some cases incomplete tablets could be assigned to classes on the basis of similar formulas, but a great many were left in the limbo of the X class, simply designated as unclassifiable. The decipherment changed very little in this system, but some tablets that had been separated were now seen to belong together, and the system has been slowly modified to take account of new discoveries. It is a proof of the soundness of the system that so little has needed to be changed.

One of the basic principles, however, can now be challenged. Since the classification was based upon the ideograms, a separate category (V) had to be established for tablets without ideograms, i. e. where the numeral immediately follows the syllabic text. This could occur simply because there was no accepted ideogram available; thus in the Pylos furniture tablets neither tables nor chairs are represented ideographically, though footstools are. But now that we understand better the contents of the tablets, a difficult question arises.

There are numerous V tablets which are exactly parallel to A tablets, in that they consist of a list of personal names with the numeral 1 after each, whereas the corresponding A types insert the classifiers VIR or MULIER before each numeral. In theory the

V type might be distinct, if they record not a number of persons, but the fact that each person possesses, has received or has contributed one of a specified object. In such cases the object would need to be named in the preamble, at least on the first tablet of a set, but all too often this is where the tablet is damaged. But in some cases it is likely that no preamble existed, and a list of names such as PY Vn 865 is very difficult to separate from lists with the ideogram VIR such as An 192.

MY V 659 is another such example, for apart from the omission of MULIER, it closely parallels the structure of Au 102, a list of men. It might seem desirable to bring these tablets together; but in view of the difficulty of distinguishing such lists of persons from lists where the persons are merely possessors, recipients or contributors, it seems best at present to retain this mechanical separation.

Thus the changes that are being made in the new edition of the Pylos Tablets (*The Pylos Tablets in Transcription* by E. L. Bennett and J.-P. Olivier) are minor and superficial. Sn 64 and An 218, which have long been recognised as forming a diptych, have been brought together under the new class Aq. The three tablets listing deer (CERVUS) have been collected in a new class (Cr). The four Eb tablets (236, 317, 847, 901) which clearly make an abstract of the series and are in a different hand have been re-classed Ed, as proposed by M. Lejeune. Xb and Xc have been abandoned, and Xn is used for all unassignable fragments which have more than one line. For the rest the classification of *PT I* and subsequent publications by Bennett and Miss Lang has been followed with minor modifications.

The situation with regard to the Knossos tablets is more complex, and the problem of arranging the material so as to present the most coherent grouping is extremely difficult. Whereas at Pylos the vast majority of tablets was clearly stored in the Archive Room and its Annexe, with only small groups in other parts of the buildings, at Knossos five main centres of archives can be distinguished, with still other groups scattered about the Palace. These main centres are:

- (1) The North Entrance Area, hereafter referred to as the North Archive.

(2) The Western Wing, mainly consisting of tablets from the West Magazines, but also including some from the rooms between the long corridor of the magazines and the Central Court; some of these must have fallen from an upper storey, and it is not unlikely that we have here two archives which have become superimposed as the result of the destruction.

(3) The Room of the Chariot Tablets, a large and peculiar group displaying remarkable similarities of handwriting.

(4) The East Wing, where the office mainly concerned in the management of flocks of sheep seems to have been located.

(5) The Arsenal, containing, as might be expected, records of chariot-frames, wheels, and other military equipment, though the swords belong to (4).

But an arrangement of the edition based on find-spots, so far as these can be determined, would lead to inconvenient separations of tablets. For instance the chariot and wheel tablets would be divided between (1) and (5); the women and children series (Ak) between (1) and (2). And in all cases there are inevitably tablets of uncertain provenance. Hence location had to be abandoned as the leading criterion of arrangement, though it has an important part to play in the scheme finally adopted.

A much more reliable criterion is the scribal hand, which we now know thanks to the excellent analysis of J.-P. Olivier (*Les scribes de Cnossos*, Rome 1967). Here too there are many unclassifiable fragments, but the authorship of the main classes is usually easy to see, and this criterion has the advantage of allowing a more detailed division than location. Two sets written by different hands but filed in the same office were doubtless often two separate files relating to different situations. All the same, cases occur when a single tablet by another hand obtrudes into an otherwise homogeneous set. Thus a new classification needs to reconcile the various claims and can at best be only partially successful. Fortunately many sets are easily identifiable.

A further problem is the method of presentation to be adopted in a new edition. It is my intention, with the assistance of J. T. Killen and J.-P. Olivier, to put in hand during 1970 a fourth edition of the *Knossos Tablets in Transcription*. Apart from the numerous joins, many improvements in readings have been made

and it seems to us important to make these available without waiting for the major edition which remains our long-term aim. Dr. Olivier has been able to work for considerable periods in Iraklion Museum, and much of the epigraphic work is his.

For the purpose of *KT*⁴ we have drawn up a revised classification. This starts from the premise that the present system is now familiar to all scholars working in the field and ought not to be scrapped, but rather modified. Hence the new scheme is something of a compromise. The main structure of letter prefixes is retained, with some transfers of tablets from one class to another, and in particular a large reduction in the formerly unclassified residue (X). A few new classes have been created for special purposes. It is intended that tablet references should continue to be given in the same form, and the new edition will follow the practice of its predecessors in arranging the texts in serial order under each prefix. But to assist those who wish to study the grouping of tablets within the series, a small numeral will be added to the prefix to indicate membership of a set. Thus the Ak tablets will be designated as Ak¹, Ak² or Ak³ if assigned to a set; texts of the same type which cannot be assigned to sets will bear the plain Ak prefix. It has been agreed that to avoid confusion or in typescript these numerals may be shown in parentheses, thus: Ak(1).

In preparation for *KT*⁴ the editors have drawn up a list of tablets arranged by sets, which is printed as part of this contribution to the Fifth International Colloquium. It must be emphasised that this is not the order in which the texts will be printed, and further modifications may become necessary as the work proceeds; but those who wish to work on this material will find it useful to have the relevant numbers for each set collected together. Brief notes are added to some sets to indicate obvious features; and in all cases the find-spot and hand, if readily ascertainable, is given according to the system used by Olivier in *Les scribes de Cnossos*. It should be noted that the sets regularly include tablets whose attribution to the relevant hand is doubtful; these will easily be found by reference to Olivier's list, and the same information will be repeated in the edition.

In two cases the principle of making scribal hand the main criterion has been abandoned for special reasons. All sheep tablets

classified as Da through to Df are in the same hand (117) and come from the East Archive. Yet they fall into such obviously different types that it would be unhelpful to destroy the division started by Bennett and already improved by Killen in *KT*³. We ought of course to remember that all sheep tablets in this hand were probably meant to make up a single set of documents. It is possible that for filing purposes they were broken down into geographical or other groups which are not now recoverable. There are thus no set numbers in this section, and the prefix Dv has been assigned to fragments of this type which cannot be further classified.

The other difficult group is that of textile tablets (L). So many scribes are involved here that classification on this basis would lead to a great number of sets, and these would obscure more important likenesses in subject matter. There is even a group with the verso inscribed in a different hand from the recto. Here therefore a division has been attempted into stock records, disbursements of wool to weavers and finished goods received from weavers. Since this is the subject of a separate communication from J. T. Killen, no more will be said on this subject here.

The treatment of tablets made up by the joining of a number of fragments requires a comment. The basic principle is that the lowest number among those involved in a join is selected as the reference for the whole text. This sometimes leads to a change of category, as for instance X 1495 joined to Da 5175 + 5563; the complete tablet now becomes Da 1495. The numbers of fragments contributing to a text will be printed in the edition, but in quoting references only the first should be cited.

The following are some of the major changes. Ce has been revised to include all records of livestock in hand 124; 902 is therefore moved to the general C class, and a number of scattered tablets are assembled here. C(3) contains the group of tablets which list places, official titles and sus 1. The D section has not been extensively revised, but a number of changes are due to joins. A striking feature which emerges from the division of Dk into hands 120 and 119 is that the latter group consists exclusively of tablets bearing the place name *ku-ta-to* and the associated name *da-mi-ni-jo*. Do is a closed group for sheep at *se-to-i-ja*. Here

at last is evidence for a geographical basis for the arrangement of the archive; but the majority of sets bring together sheep in many different parts of the island. Fragments dealing with sheep in hands others than 117 are now listed as D. A new series Dq has been created.

The E tablets are too mixed a group to fall easily into sets. Nor does there seem to be any point in breaking the unity of the Fh class, all in hand 141 and located in the Room of the Column Bases (*E* 1), despite the fact that a few tablets are reported as coming from other parts of the Palace. 462 from the West Magazines could be a stray; but I am not sure what to make of 1056, 1057 and 1059, which are supposed to be from the Room of the Clay Signet to the south of the Central Court (*K* 1).

The Fp series can be divided into two types, answering to a difference of hand: the main group in hand 138 and found in the Room of the Clay Chest, the others in hand 222 and found in the Room of the Column Bases.

Some general reorganisation has been necessary in F and G. As far as possible without disturbing well-known series, an attempt has been made to bring the tablets dealing with spices into G, the remainder into F. Unfortunately this principle has not been followed logically at Pylos, and it seemed best in creating a new prefix for wine tablets (840, 5788) to select Gm, to stand with Gn at Pylos. F(1) belongs to the Room of the Chariot Tablets and lists barley and other rations. F(2) is perhaps not a true set, but brings together tablets from the North Archive listing various grains and fruits.

The division of the Ga series on the basis of hand leads to interesting results. Ga(1), hand 135, is a group of spices from the West Magazines. Ga(2), hand 136, lists deliveries of coriander, which is measured, and of *po-ni-ki-jo*, which is weighed. Ga(3) concerns *ku-pa-ro* or ideogram *124, both implying the same commodity, cyperus. Ga(4), hand 137, further deliveries of *po-ni-ki-jo*; these are closely connected with B(2), sharing both the hand and the location. Ga(5), hand 221, lists deliveries of *ki-ta-no*. Is it possible that these sets correspond to the different areas or different transactions by which these goods reached the Palace?

The area covered by the Gg tablets is not very large, though they lay on both sides of the major wall bounding on the east

the corridor giving access to the West Magazines. They may all have fallen from an upper storey. Gg(1) is in the same hand as Ak(1) and there may be a connexion; see below on Od(2).

The J class has been limited to two tablets in hand 124. 693 is now reclassified as L, since its subject is connected with textiles, despite the ideogram AES, and hand and find-spot connect it with, e. g., 695 and 698. The K class divides into two clear sets; hand 102 recording various vessels, and hand 224 listing buckets (SITULA + U): three tablets do not belong to either of these sets.

The Mc set remains largely the same apart from joins and the addition of fragments. It should, however, be noticed that despite the fact that this set is located in the Arsenal, two tablets are alleged to have been found in the East Wing. Mc 1508 (headed *da-*22-ti-jo*) may be in some sense a duplicate of Mc 4456 (*da-*22-to*), though the figures do not exactly agree. Could these be relics of another annual series of the same returns?

The Nc set was the subject of a paper by J. T. Killen (*Cambridge Colloquium*, pp. 33-38).

The «saffron» tablets (Np) divide clearly into two sets; one from the Room of the Chariot Tablets, the work of hand «124»e, the other from the North Archive in hand 134, a scribe who seems to have written nothing else. It is remarkable, but possible, that Knossos possessed an official whose sole duty was to oversee the supply and use of saffron; and perhaps this kind of organisation would explain some of the more obscure titles of officials which we find, such as *o-pi-su-ko* «overseer of figs?», *me-ri-du-ma(-te)* «superintendent of honey».

In Od there is a clear set (1) in hand 103, located in the west Magazines, and associated with Ak(1) and Ap(1), the women textile workers, Am(1) and As(1) the men textile workers, and Lc(1), Le, Ln 1568, L(1) and L(2), the cloth produced by them. Od (2) is an interesting small group, recording offerings of wool for Eleuthia at Amnisos, which associates with offerings of honey in Gg(1), as well as the textile workers of the preceding set. Dr Killen has made the interesting suggestion that these are possibly thank-offerings for child-birth, sent on behalf of the women in the textile labour force.

The nucleus of the Pp tablets (493-499) were found in such close association that it is even possible to deduce that they were

originally stored in this order, though we cannot be sure whether 493 or 499 stood first. The other three tablets which have been previously classified with them differ in many respects, and have now been banished to U. But the interpretation of Pp, found in West Magazine VIII, remains obscure, and is not much helped by the discovery that its hand is shared only with Dk(2) from the North Archive, the record of the *ku-ta-to|da-mi-ni-jo* wool-clip.

The sword tablets (Ra) have been divided into two sets as the result of the identification of the same ideogram in inverted position on other tablets. 1562 has been moved to R, since it is not clear that this ideogram is a kind of sword, though its associations suggest a weapon or tool.

The Sc series is a coherent set, now augmented by the attribution of some new fragments. It remains remarkable that here alone do we find chariots fully equipped with wheels. The chariot-frames divide into Arsenal (Sd, Sf) and North Archive records (Se, Sg); Sf is further divided between hands 128 and 129. The provenance of Sk is still obscure, though it appears to be a coherent set. 789 is said to come from the North Archive, 8149 came definitely from the Arsenal area, while 8100 was found in a box marked «Little Palace». Possibly there was originally a similar distribution to the chariot-frame tablets. On the other hand the wheels appear to be all recorded in the Arsenal with the exception of So 894 and Sg 1811, which as the result of joins lists wheels as well as chariot-frames, both from the North Archive. Differences of spelling can be seen to correlate with scribal hand: e. g. *o-da-ku-we-ta* hand 128, *o-da-*87-ta* hand 130, *o-da-ke-we-ta* hand 131. A new set Sp has been created for two tablets formerly classified as M.

778 has been moved to K, since it begins with a vessel entry, leaving two Uc tablets as a set (160, 161). In Uf three sets can be distinguished: (1) Room of the Chariot Tablets, (2) North Archive, hand 122, (3) North Archive, hand 123.

Vc can be separated into the large set from the Room of the Chariot Tablets and a small set from the West Magazines in hand 115. This scribe's activity seems to be confined to wool or cloth records, and it is tempting to assume that these isolated names and the longer lists of names in V(3) are persons employed in this trade. It is possible that the name of each man was recorded

on a small tablet as he made his contribution (or received his pensum), and these were then copied out on to larger tablets containing a number of names (e. g. *da-*83-jo* Vc 7517 is repeated on V 479).

A noteworthy set in the V series is V(5) in hand 125. This can now be seen to have a consistent formula (*a*) a feminine ethnic, (*b*) the word *po-ti-ro* in the upper register and raised above the line, (*c*) two men's names, each followed by the numeral 1, the second having the suffix *-qe*. Since the places indicated by the ethnic adjectives are not the principal towns, several being otherwise unknown, perhaps these are groups of slave-women (cf. Pylos Aa, Ab) to which two men are allocated as supervisors; but this does not lead to any interpretation of *po-ti-ro*.

On the Ws tablets (sealings), see now J.-P. Olivier, *Minos* 9, 1968, pp. 173-183.

It seems worth while distinguishing among the unassigned fragments those in hands of the 124 type, and a new prefix Xd has been allocated to them. Similarly the fragments in hand 103 are listed as Xe. The fragments not otherwise listed or joined will be simply classified as X, and there is no point in supplying here the list of their numbers.

One interesting possibility opened up by the grouping into sets is that it may make it easier to deduce facts about the geography of Crete. The Co set already contains six place names which are elsewhere rare; of these two, *ku-do-ni-ja* and *a-pa-ta-wa*, are located in the far west of the island (Kydonia = Khania, Aptera). Two more, *wa-to* and *[o-]du-ru-wo*, are names found on the inscribed jars from Thebes and associated by the analysis of their clay with the products of Palaikastro and Zakro respectively; both these sites are in the far east of the island. This means that *si-ra-ro* and *ka-ta-ra-i* are also likely to belong to the remote parts of the island. Now the place names of Lc(1) are the normal type; but those of Lc(2) seem to fit those of the Co group: *ku-do-ni-ja*, *si-ra-ri-ja*. But C 902 is a warning against seeing this as a major administrative division, since it associates five of the six Co names with others which belong to the regular list. It is perhaps permissible to speculate whether the control of Knossos over the far ends of the island was as direct as over the central areas. There

may well be more geographical information to be gleaned in this way.

A more complete understanding of the Archives is undoubtedly possible, though many problems are probably insoluble. We may be sure that the North Archive is analogous to the Archive Room at Pylos, situated similarly at the main entrance. But whereas Pylos had only minor groups of tablets outside this area, Knossos has several subsidiary archives. It is remarkable how little specialised these other archives are, though this may be an erroneous impression due to our imperfect understanding of the texts. The Room of the Chariot Tablets continues to offer a major problem, both in regard to the diversity of subjects covered and the laconic style adopted. The hypothesis of a scribal school which I advanced earlier (*Studia Mycenaea*, pp. 11-21) is only one suggestion, and I am willing to abandon it as soon as a better one can be found. What I will not accept is emotional pleas not to tamper with the evidence (as by C. Camera, *SMEA* 7, 1968, pp. 116-128); the truth will emerge from deeper understanding of the archives. In the meantime, the peculiarities I have demonstrated are enough to call for the exercise of caution in the deductions to be drawn from such evidence. Until a satisfactory explanation of these peculiarities can be given, we must continue to explore the possible explanations.

I have little doubt that research into sets, especially the connexions between sets of different classes, will lead to advances in the understanding of the archives. It is our hope that the presentation of this list of sets will enable others to contribute to that advance.

Ag C h «124» a

Man's name VIR (*101) 1, optionally women and children

87	88	89	90	91	1654
7000					

Ai (1) C h «124» b

Formula ends: MUL nn *ko-wa* nn *ko-wo* nn

63	115	190	194	321	7023
7029					

Ai (2) I 1 h 102?, 205
 MUL nn *ko-wa* nn *ko-wo* nn GRA...

750	751	752	754	762	5543
7014	7017	7026	7027	7883	7890
7952	7962				

Ai (3) I 3 h 204
 Women and sub-divided children, probably slaves, often with
qi-ri-ja-to

824	825	966	982	1012	1036
1037	5976	7745	7867		

Ai

338	632	739	1805	5849	
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Ak (1) F 14 h 103 2-4 lines (divided at right)
 Women and sub-divided children with abbreviated annotations

610	611	612	614	619	620
624	626	630	634	638	643
5009	5553	5604	5611	5648	5655
5741	5876	5884	5893	5896	5907
5918	5926	5940	5948	8218	8334
8338	8341	8441			

Ak (2) F 7 (F 14?, M?) h 108 2-3 lines (divided at right)
 As Ak (1)

613	615	616	617	621	622
627	631	636	1807	2126	5879
7002	7009	7010	7012	7013	7020
7021	7022	7024	7028	7030	

Ak (3) I 2,3 h 102 3 lines (not divided at right only)
 As Ak (1)

780	781	782	783	784	828
830	7001	7003	7005	7007	

Ak

640	6048	7006	7008	7015	7016
7018	7019	7031	7858	8337	8340

Am (1)	F 13, 14	h 103	1-2 lines			
	Lists of men	Cf. As (1)				
	568	597	600	601	2009	5755
	5882					
Am (2)	I 3	2-3 lines				
	Lists of men					
	819	821	826	827		
Ap (1)	F 14 (F 19)	h 103	Groups of women			
	618	628	629	637	639	694
	5748	5864	5868			
Ap						
	769	5077	5547			
As (1)	F 13, 14	h 103				
	Men and textiles	(cf. Am (1))				
	566	602	603	604	605	607
	608	609	625	645	5542	5549
	5557	5605	5609	5719	5880	5888
	5908	5932	5941	5944	5956	5981
	6038	8161	8342			
As (2)	J2, J3	h 101, h 102?, h 105			Page shape	
	1516	1517	1518	1519	1520	
As						
	40	4493				
B (1)	I 1, I 2, I 3, I 4	1-2 lines	Men			
	755	772	779	809	811	812
	822	823	988[+]5761	1025	5984	7034
	7036	7037	7041	7044		
B (2)	I 3	h 137	1-2 lines			
	Men and deliveries of spice	cf. Ga(4)				
	810	813	817	818	5584	
B (3)	I 3 (F 18?)	h 106	<i>po(-ku-ta)</i>			
	808	814	815	816	985	5749
	5752	7035[+]7704	7042	7043	8006	
B (4)	C	h «124»				
	101	164	213			

B (5)	I 3	h 104	Large vir not followed by 1			
799		800	801	802	803	804
805		806	5025	5026	5028	5029
5132		5133	5134	5172	5799	7859
8206						
B						
41		798	807	1055	6042	
Ca	I 3	Horses and asses				
895		7788				
Ce	C	h 124	Livestock			
50		59	61	76	113	139
144		152	156	162	163	283[+]7250
7061		8345	8346			
Ch	I 3	h 110	1 line			
Named yokes of oxen						
896		897	898	899	900	972
1015		1029	1034	5724	5728	5754
5938		7047	7065	7066	7100	7937
8222						
Co	I 3	h 107	2 lines			
<i>a-ko-ra-ja(-jo)</i>						
903		904	906	907	909	910
7056		8347				
C (1)	I 3	h 107	1 line	Cows		
901		989	5544	5753		
C (2)	I 3	h 112	1-2 lines			
Sheep and goats <i>pa-ro</i> (person)						
908		913	914	915	922	941
5765		7064	8225	8578		
C (3)	I 3	h 109	1 line			
Place name(s), official, 1 pig.						
905		967	979	1030	1039	7057
7058						

C (4) I 3 h 111 Page tablets Sheep and goats
 911 912 917[+]918

C

33	394	767	902	954	973
1044	1561	1582	1902	5089	5669
5734	5985	6021	7048	7054	7059
7060	7062	7067	7088	7515	7516
7698					

Da J 1 h 117 Rams

1078	1079	1080	1081	1082	1083
1087	1091	1098	1108	1114	1116
1123	1127	1132	1134	1135	1137
1143	1147	1156	1161	1162	1163
1164	1170	1172	1173	1189	1194
1195	1197	1202	1221	1238	1253
1268	1273	1275	1276	1277	1288
1289	1293	1299	1313	1314	1315
1317	1321	1323	1333	1338	1339
1341	1343	1350	1351	1352	1353
1355	1363	1365	1378	1379	1382
1384	1390	1392	1396	1401	1415
1435	1445	1461	1485	1495	1509
1588	2005	2027	5038	5179	5192
5195	5204[+]5345	5205	5214	5217	5218
5220	5223	5225	5234	5244	5245
5251	5270	5295	5308	5317	5354
5356	5427	5576	5709	6061	7080
7081	7090	7109	7165	7185	7186
7213	8201	8228	8355	8377	8400

Db J1 h 117 Rams and ewes

1097	1099	1105	1110	1115	1126
1140	1155	1159	1160	1165	1166
1168	1185	1186	1196	1198	1204
1208	1211	1212	1225	1227	1232
1236	1241	1242	1245	1246	1247
1250	1261	1262	1263	1265	1274

1279	1282	1295	1297	1302	1304
1305	1324	1327	1329	1340	1344
1367	1368	1372	1373	1389	1423
1426	1464	1507	1610	2020	5041
5212	5231	5272	5274	5310	5352
5359	5367	5385	5390	5399	5680
5714	5715	7107	7108	7118	7164
7172	7211	8352	8360		

Dc	J 1	h 117	Rams with <i>o</i> , <i>pa</i> and <i>pe</i> entries			
	926	1117	1118	1122	1129	1130
	1148	1154	1167	1203	1220	1228
	1270	1298	1303	1337	1359	1364
	1369	1419	1515	5030	5190	5228
	5250	5392	5587	5677	5687	5771
	7161	7163	8080	8354		

Dd	J 1	h 117	Rams and ewes with <i>pa</i> entries.			
	659	1106	1144	1149	1150	1157
	1171	1193	1201	1207	1218	1244
	1271	1281	1283	1284	1286	1291
	1296	1300	1306	1342	1366	1374
	1376	1380	1402	1425	1429	1468
	1579	1592	2010	5012	5174	5262
	5268	5344	5383	5692	7105	7106
	7170					

De	J 1	h 117	Rams and ewes with <i>o</i> entries			
	1084	1109	1112	1136	1138	1141
	1151	1152	1153	1231	1254	1260
	1264	1269	1287	1294	1301	1307
	1322	1361	1362	1371	1381	1383
	1398	1409	1424	1510	1585	1618
	1648	5018	5032	5336	5353	5405
	6060	7096	7203			

Df	J 1	h 117	Rams and ewes with <i>pe</i> entries			
	1119	1120	1121	1187	1210	1219
	1222	1223	1229	1230	1233	1285

1290	1325	1360	1469	1589	1591
1602	5182	5211	5238	5260	5275
5391	5406	7173	7188		
Dg	J 1	h 117	Complex		
1101	1102	1107	1158	1235	1278
1280	1316	1318	1438	5280	
Dh (1)	J 1	h 117	Lambs		
1240	1243	1406			
Dh (2)	h 120	Lambs			
1646	7128	7231			
Dk (1)	I 3 (671, 2129 from elsewhere?)	h 120	sheep and wool		
671	920	925	931	936	945
951	964	969	1049	2129	5183
5464	5731	5733	5768	7117	7144
7295	7297	7299	7300	7301	7303
7304	7306	7308	7311	7313	7314
7315	7316	7322	7323	7325	7328
7329	7781	7899	7902	8018	8463
8464					
Dk (2)	J 1 (1567 F 20!)	h 119	<i>ku-ta-to, da-mi-ni-jo</i>		
1064	1065	1066	1067	1068	1069
1070	1071	1072	1073	1074	1075
1076	1077	1320	1399	1491	1565
1567	1613	5201	5233	5566	7204
8209	8403				
Dk					
727	5403	7327			
Dl (1)	I 2, I 3 (463 alleged to be F 3)	h 118	Sheep and Lambs' wool		
412	413	414	463	790	791
792	794	916	928	930	932
933	934	935	938	939	940
943	944	946	947	948	949

	950	952	1046	7072	7076	7085
	7086	7092	7132	7138	7141	7147
	7238	7249	7283	7287	7288	7503
	7721	7771	7905	7959	8103	8177
	8217					
Dl						
	47	937	1060	2021	5530	5535
	7071	7075	7114	7116	7125	8216
	8229					
Dm	J 1	h 117	<i>a₃-mi-re-we, e-ka-ra-e-we</i>			
	1174	1175	1176	1177	1178	1179
	1180	1181	1182	1183	1184	5181
	5226	5237	5323			
Dn	J 1	h 117	Sheep totals			
	1088	1089	1090	1092	1093	1094
	1095	1096	1200	1209	1319	2016
	5014	5015	5286	5318	5559	5668
Do	Mainly	I 3	h 106	Sheep at <i>se-to-i-ja</i>		
	919	923	924	927	929	996
	1054	5010	5720	5740	5770	7079
	7087	7093	7120	7239	7613	7740
Dp	Sheepskins					
	43	699	997	1061	2004	5508
	7135	7280	7742			
Dq (1)	h 121					
	439	440	441	447	448	449
	672	1803	8208			
Dq (2)	h 216					
	1234	1377	1603	5595	7113	7177
	7260					
Dq (3)	h 217					
	42	45	46	442	445	1026
	7119	7126	7137	7852	8351	
Dq (4)	h 106					
	438	686				

Dv	J 1	h 117	Fragments			
1085	1086	1100	1103	1104	1111	
1113	1124	1125	1128	1133	1139	
1142	1145	1146	1169	1188	1190	
1191	1192	1199	1205	1206	1213	
1214	1215	1216	1217	1226	1237	
1239	1248	1249	1255	1266	1267	
1272	1292	1308	1309	1310	1312	
1328	1330	1331	1332	1334	1370	
1386	1388	1394	1403	1410	1411	
1412	1416	1417	1418	1420	1422	
1427	1428	1430	1434	1436	1439	
1441	1442	1443	1447	1449	1450	
1451	1454	1457	1459	1460	1462	
1465	1466	1470	1471	1472	1478	
1479	1487	1490	1492	1493	1496	
1500	1501	1502	1503	1504	1505	
1506	1511	1601	1607	1621	2019	
5049	5052	5054	5075	5178	5193	
5197	5198	5200	5203	5209	5213	
5219	5224	5232	5235	5236	5241	
5248	5252	5253	5256	5258	5259	
5271	5278	5279	5285	5287	5291	
5294	5296	5297	5301	5302	5312	
5315	5322	5328	5335	5346	5349	
5350	5357	5368	5372	5398	5407	
5412	5413	5414	5416	5512	5517	
5579	5580	5593	5603	5618	5640	
5663	5667	5675	5689	5690	5694	
5696	5704	5735	5775	5812	5826	
5839	5841	5843	5934	5989	6018	
6022	6025	6045	6054	6056	6057	
6059	7098	7124	7140	7142	7149	
7152	7167	7176	7181	7190	7195	
7200	7202	7223	7240	7245	7246	
7248	7262	7267	7269	7270	7272	
7617	7678	7690	7694	7697	7736	
7777	7785	7863	7904	7908	7911	
7934	8111	8151	8193	8197	8203	

8232	8236	8239	8241	8278	8280
8287	8288	8289	8290	8294	8302
8308	8332	8356	8357	8361	8362
8363	8366	8367	8368	8369	8370
8381	8382	8383	8384	8385	8387
8391	8392	8394	8395	8396	8398
8401	8404	8405	8406	8409	8410
8413	8419	8420	8421	8422	8423
8429	8432	8433	8434	8585	8636
8637	8715	8716	8717	8742	

D Sheep fragments other than h 117

411	747	1615	1650	2130	5094
5519	5520	5545	5810	5919	5954
7101	7102	7103	7122	7127	7130
7134	7146	7242	7243	7251	7252
7254	7334	7541	7727	8174	8333
8349	8350				

E (1) C h «124» Wheat

71	132	165	288	8122	8435
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E (2) F 14 h 103 Masc. ethnics, rations of wheat and olives

668	669	670			
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E

36	749	777	842	843	845
846	847	848	849	850	971
1035	1569	1574	4466	5000	5556
7338	7339	7340	7350	7354	8040

Fh E 1 (odd tablets alleged to have other locations; 462 F 3; 1056, 1057, 1059 K 1) h 141 Olive oil

339	340	341	342	343	344
345	346	347	348	349	350
351	352	353	355	356	357
358	359	360	361	362	364
365	366	367	368	369	370
371	372	373	374	375	376
377	378	379	380	381	382
383	384	385	386	387	388

389	390	391	392	393	462
1056	1057	1059	2013	2014	5246
5337	5428	5429	5430	5431	5432
5434	5435	5436	5437	5440	5442
5443	5444	5446	5447	5449	5450
5451	5452	5453	5455	5456	5457
5458	5459	5463	5465	5466	5467
5468	5471	5473	5475	5476	5477
5479	5481	5483	5486	5487	5490
5493	5494	5497	5498	5501	5502
5503	5505	5506	5614	5722	5723
5970	6001	7336	7571	8297	8299
8436	8504	8646			
N. B.	Sub-set	1056	1057	1059	7571
Fp (1) A (48 alleged to be C) h 138 1-3 lines, (except 1)					
Olive oil, usually with <i>me-no</i>					
1	5	6	7	13	14
15	16	18	30	48	
Fp (2) E 1 h 222 2-4 lines Perhaps closer to Fh than Fp (1)					
354	363	5472	5504		
Fs A h 139 (3 has different hand) Mixed offerings					
2	3	4	8	9	11
12	17	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	29	32
F (1) C h «124» Barley and other rations					
51	153	157	193	5079	7356
7359	7360	7362	7748	8437	
F (2) I 3 Various grains and fruits; probably not a true set					
841	844	851	852	853	854
866	5001	5005	5043	7050	7343
7345	7346	7357			
F (3) H 3					
741	8242				
F Oil (and liquids generally)					
452	726	7337	7542		

Ga (1)	F 8, F 17, F 18	h 135	1-3 lines, often a/b			Spices
	517	518	519	674	675	676
	677	678	679	680	685	7365
	7594					
Ga (2)	E 5 (also G 2, F 15)		h 136	1-2 lines		
	Masc. ethnic or man's name; deliveries of <i>ko-ri-ja-do-no</i> (measured) and <i>po-ni-ki-jo</i> (weighed) [N.B. former Og tablets here]					
	34	415	416	417	418	419
	420	421	422	423	424	425
	426	427	428	673	1335	7286
	7367[+]	7368	7425	7426	7429	7431
	8439					7446
Ga (3)	F 3	h 223	<i>ku-pa-ro</i> /*124			
	454	456	464	465	8005	
Ga (4)	I 3	h 137	Deliveries of <i>po-ni-ki-jo</i> (weighed)			
	834	992	1020	1021	1040	5736
	8438					
Ga (5)	J 4	h 221	Deliveries of <i>ki-ta-no</i>			
	1530	1532	1533	1534	1535	1536
	5020	5021	5780			
Ga						
	461	738	953[+]	955	1058	5088
	7344	7347	7358	7496		5672
Gg (1)	G 1	h 103	Offerings of honey, cf. Od(2).			
	702	704	5552	7369	8053	
Gg (2)	F 18	h 135				
	713	995	5184	7371	7372	
Gg (3)	G 1	h 140				
	705	717	5185			
Gg (4)	F 7	h 220				
	706	707	708	7232		
Gg						
	10	521	701	703	709	710
	711	5007	5548	5637		

Gm	Wine					
	840	5788				
Gv						
	862	863	864			
G	Spices, barley, etc.					
	760	820	5528	7352	7355	7364
	7509	7525				
K (1)	I 3	h 102	Various vessels			
	740	829	872	873	875	877
K (2)	I 4, I 5	h 224	Mainly 1-line <i>srr</i> + <i>U</i>			
	773	774	775	776	778	1810
	5526	7353	7363	8440		
K						
	93	434	700	8244		
Lc (1)	F 10	h 103				
	525	526	527	528	529	530
	531	532	533	534	535 536[+]	7383
	540	541	543	546	547	548
	549	550	551	552	553	555
	557	558	560	561	582	646
	1580	5053	5612	5746	7285	7289
	7318	7321	7376	7392	7394	7549
	7901	8572				
	The following show certain abnormalities:					
	525	557	558	561	646	7549
Lc (2)	F 6, F 7	h 113/115	<i>to-u-ka</i>			
	446	481	483	504	512	581
	7319	7377	7433	7438		
Ld (1)	F 14, F 19	h 116				
	571	572	573	574	575	576
	577	579	583	584	585	587

	591	595	598	599	649	656
	5601	5615	5647	5845	5894	5916
	5955	8245				
	(N.B. sub-sets: (a) 571-579, 583, 585, 649, 5601, 5647;					
	(b) 587, 598; (c) 584, 591, 5615, 5845, 5894, 5916,					
	8245).					
Ld (2)	I 2, I 3 bis		h 114			
	785	786	787	788	8192	
Le	F 14	h 103	Receipts			
	641	642	654	5629	5646	5903
	5930	6014				
Ln	F 14	h 103	Large tablet			
	1568					
L (1)	F 13, F 14	h 103	<i>ri-ta</i>			
	567	594	648	5927	5949	8159
L (2)	F 14	h 103	<i>e-ni-ge</i>			
	593	647	5108	5909	5910	5924
	5961	5998				
L (3)	F 3, (869 I 3)	h 207	<i>o-pe-ro</i> , TELA + PU			
	455	473	869	1616		
L (4)	F 4, F 6, F 7	h 208	TELA + PU, KU			
	475	480	484	489	515	516
	7413	7415	7416	7578		
L (5)	F 7	h 209	<i>ge-te-o</i>			
	513	5092	7380	7393	7834	8441
L (6)	F 3	h 210	TELA + PU			
	460	469	472			
L (7)	F 3, F 14	h 211				
	471	474	592			
L (8)	h 212	TELA + KU, PU				
	1647	7404	7411			
L (9)	I 1	h 213	<i>to-mi-ka</i>			
	761	764	7400			

L (10) H 2? h 214 *a-ro₂-e*
 735 7409

L

104	178	192	433	470	491
501	514	520	523	564	565
578	586	588	590	651	693
695	698	758	759	771	868
870	871	1599	1649	2127	5090
5284	5561	5569	5582	5599	5607
5660	5745	5757	5805	5914	5917
5987	6002	7382	7387	7389	7390
7391	7396	7399	7401	7403	7405
7406	7407	7408	7410	7414	7497
7514	7833	7866	8058	8105	8160
8163	8246	8443	8503		

Mc L (1508 and 5187 alleged to be from East wing) h 132
 1508 4453 4454 4455 4456 4457
 4459 4460 4461 4462 4463 4464[+]8305
 5107 5118 5187 5809 5818 5820
 8447 8448 8452 8705 8708

M (1) F 10, F 18, G 1, G 3 h 103 Wool and *146
 559 683 720 729 1645

M

467	719	724	729	757	7373
8170					

Nc L h 133 Weighed quantities, some with SA

4470	4473	4474	4475	4479	4480
4484	4485	4488	4489	4490	5100
5103	5109	5110	5112	5117	5120
5121	5122	5126	5128	5129	5130
5772	5787	8106	8144	8145	8146
8172	8173	8175	8176	8181	8183
8186	8187	8188	8276	8300	8309
8313	8315	8317	8318	8453	8454
8455	8456	8586	8728		

Np (1)	C	h «124»e	Saffron			
85		267	268	269	270	271
272		273	274	276	277	278
286		5013	7422	7423	7424	7441
7445		7508	7923	7967	8059	8123
8458		8459	8462			

Np (2)	I 3	h 134	Saffron			
855		856	857	858	859	860
861		1000	5002	5008	5725	5945
5980		5982	7417	7418	7420	7421
7439		7442	7447	8003	8249	8457

Np
2138

Oa	H 1	Ingots				
730		731	732	733	734	878
1808		7374				

Od (1)	F 8, F 9, F 10, F 11, F 13, F 14, F 18, F 19	h 103	Wool			
539		562	563	570	667	681
682		687	688	689	690	696
5511		5966	7309	7310	7324	

Od (2)	G 1	h 103	<i>e-re-u-ti-ja</i>		
714		715	716	718	

Od (3)	B 1?, K 1?	LANA PE			
1062		1063			

Od						
485		486	487	502	666	765
2026		5003	5082	5558	5620	5711
5758		5846	7298	7302	7305	7307
7312		7317	7326	7388	7779	7927
8202		8465	8722			

Og (1)	C	h 124	Weighed quantities			
180		1804	5095	7432	8038	

Og (2)	L					
4467		8150				
Og						
833		1527	5019	5515	5551	5778
7430		7435	7440	7443	7504	8466
Pp	F 7a	h 119	*168 + SE (cf. Dk (2))			
493		494	495	496	497	498
499						
Ra (1)	J 3	h 126	Swords			
1540		1541	1542	1543	1544	1545
1546		1547	1548	1549	1550	1551
1552		1553	1554	1555	1556	1557
1558		1559	1814			
Ra (2)	I 3	h 127				
984		1028	7498			
R						
1562		1815	4482			
Sc	C	h «124»	Chariots, etc.			
103		135	217	218	219	220
221		222	223	224	225	226
227		229	230	231	232	233
234		235	236	237	238	239
240		241	242	243	244	245
246		247	248	249	250	251
252		253	254	255	256	257
258		259	260	261	262	263
264		266	1644	1651	5046	5057
5058		5059	5060	5061	5062	5065
5066		5068	5070	5071	5072	5073
5083		5084	5085	5086	5087	5136
5137		5138	5139	5141	5142	5144
5146		5148	5150	5151	5153	5154
5155		5156	5157	5158	5159	5160
5161		5162	5163	5164	5165	5166
5167		5168	5169	5170	7444	7452
7453		7454	7455	7456	7457	7459
7460		7461	7462	7463	7464	7466

7467	7468	7469	7470	7471	7473
7474	7475	7476	7478	7479	7480
7481	7483	7772	7782	7798	7821
7849	7882	7889	8081	8124	8125
8253	8271	8467	8468	8469	8470
8471	8472	8474	8475	8476	8478
8479	8480	8481	8482	8483	8723
Sd	L	h 128	Chariots		
4401		4402	4403	4404	4405
4407		4408	4409	4412	4413
4416		4422	4450	4468	5091
					8544
Se	I 3	h 127			
879		880	881	882	883
891		892	893	965	1007
5729		7449	7920	8477	1048
Sf (1)	L	h 128	Chariot-frames		
4421		4423	4427	4428	
Sf (2)	L	h 129	Chariot-frames		
4418		4419	4420	4424	4425
4465		4491	5106		4426
Sf					
7450		7451	7723		
Sg	I 3	Chariot-frames (as Sf, but from N. Entrance area).			
884		885	886	887	888
1811		8484			889
Sk	I 2 (789) or L (8149)?	h 206 (not 7751)	Armour		
789		5670	7751	8100	8149
					8254
So (1)	L	h 130	Wheels (<i>o-da-*87-ta</i>)		
4429		4430	4432	4436	4437
4441		4448	4449		4440
So (2)	L	h 131	Wheels (<i>o-da-ke-we-ta</i>)		
4431		4433	4434	4438	4439
4443		4445	4446		4442

So						
	894	1053	4435	4447	5789	8251
Sp	L					
	4451	4452				
Uc	C	h 124				
	160	161				
Uf (1)	C	h «124»	1 line	DA, PA		
	79	120	121	198	311	7488
	7489	7490	7491	7492	7493	7494
	7495	8141	8486			
Uf (2)	I 3	h 122	DA, PA			
	836	837	838	839	980	990
	1023	5721	5973	7486	7487	
Uf (3)	I 3	h 123	DA, PA			
	835	970	981	983	987	991
	1011	1022	1031	1038		
Uf						
	432	1522	5726	8485		
U (1)	C	h «124»	1-line	Obscure Ideograms		
	49	95	96	109	124	172
	7507					
U						
	436	437	736	746	797	876
	1812	1813	4478	5186	5592	5653
	5717	7063	7501	7505	8210	
Vc (1)	C	h «124»	1-line			
	53	54	55	64	65	66
	67	68	72	73	74	81
	102	106	108	125	126	129
	171	173	174	175	176	181
	183	184	185	188	195	199
	201	203	205	206	208	211
	212	215	285	290	291	293

	295	303	312	316	317	7529
	7531	7532	7534	7540	7575	7612
	7837					
Vc (2)	F 13	h 115	1-line			
	569	5510	5523	7517	7518	7520
	7533	7537				
Vd	C	h «124»				
	62	136	137	138		
V (1)	C	h «124»	1-2 lines			
	56	57	77	114	118	150
	210	7049	7839			
V (2)	C	h «124»	large tablets			
	60[+]151	117	145	147	159	280
	337	7523				
V (3)	E 5, F 6, F 7, F 14, F 16	h 115	2-4 lines			
	429	431	466	479	482	488
	492	503	655	7512	7513	7519
	7524	7539	7620			
V (4)	F 14	h 103				
	652	653	5536	5872	5946	
V (5)	I 1, I 3	h 125	<i>po-ti-ro</i>			
	756	1002	1003	1004	1005	1043
	1583	7577	7670	7797	7964	
V (6)	I 3	Various hands				
	831	832	865	958	960	961
V (7)	J 3?	h 101, 105				
	1521	1523	1524	1526		
V						
	52	684	1631	5113	5575	7527
	7940	8487				
Wb						
	1576	1714	1816	1817	2001	2133
	5131	5282	5283	5527	5662	5664

5665	5697	5822	5824	5830	5831
5835	5836	5837	5857	5858	5860
6058	7139	7713	7907	8207	8488
8489	8490	8491	8492	8711	
Ws					
1701	1703	1704	1705	1707	1708
8152	8153	8493	8494	8495	8496
8497	8498	8499	8500	8712	8713
8752	8753	8754			
Xd	C	h	124		
58	70	75	78	80	82
83	84	86	92	94	97
98	99	100	105	107	110
111	112	116	119	122	123
127	130	131	133	140	141
142	143	146	148	149	154
166	167	168	169	170	177
179	182	186	189	191	197
200	202	204	207	209	214
216	282	287	289	292	294
296	297	298	299	300	301
302	304	305	306	307	308
309	310	313	314	318	319
320	322	323	324	325	326
327	328	329	330	331	332
333	334	335	336	5074	5097
5838	5969	7545	7547	7555	7558
7568	7570	7586	7588	7590	7595
7596	7597	7598	7604	7606	7607
7609	7610	7614	7615	7616	7634
7640	7646	7648	7649	7651	7654
7656	7658	7662	7663	7664	7665
7667	7674	7675	7676	7680	7701
7702	7726	7733	7756	7757	7761
7766	7780	7783	7790	7802	7807
7808	7809	7811	7813	7838	7840
7841	7842	7906	7913	7914	7933
7941	7943	7945	7948	7949	7954

7956	7961	7968	7970	7974	7975
7978	7982	7983	7986	8012	8021
8030	8032	8034	8037	8054	8056
8060	8061	8062	8082	8127	8128
8129	8130	8132	8134	8135	8137
8138	8139	8279	8501	8505	8508
8510	8511	8525	8553	8566	8583
8594	8596	8597	8605	8635	8640
8643	8653	8732	8734	8748	

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524	537	544	657	664	691
692	5361	5540	5546	5600	5630
5877	5887	5891	5899	5900	5905
5913	6011	6020	6026	7437	7711
7805	7826	7850	7857	7988	8260
8274	8291	8516	8526	8537	8546
8563	8592	8593	8598	8622	8724

DISCUSSION

Prof. RISCH acted as Chairman.

Dr CHADWICK introduced his report on «The classification of the Knossos tablets».

Prof. RISCH opened the discussion.

KILLEN.—I should like to report the identification of an ideogram on KN 984. This is listed by Chadwick as a Se (CHARIOT) tablet, mainly because of its hand: it is by scribe no. 127, who was also responsible for Se 879, etc. A few days ago, however, I had the opportunity of looking at the tablet again in the Iraklion Museum. There is in fact an ideogram visible at the end of line 2: a curved upper section, and some further traces below this. There is not, I think, much doubt what the sign is: it is the SWORD ideogram (*233) in the inverted form, with the hilt at the top of the sign rather than at the bottom, that one finds elsewhere on KN 7498. So it looks as if 984 is a record of swords bound *a*) with ivory (1), and *b*) with horn (2), though the form *ke-ra* is obviously difficult. And we can probably go on and form a new class of SWORD tablets around 984: 1028 looks as if it belongs to the same set, as also does 7498: with *de-de-me-na* on 984.1, 2 compare]*me-na* on 7498.2.

MORPURGO DAVIES.—Most of us who are not involved in direct epigraphical work find it somewhat difficult to follow what has happened. Would it be possible to have it in some circulated sheet? I would think that *Nestor* is the obvious place. May I suggest that it include a section dedicated regularly to new epigraphical findings such as new inscriptions, new articles concerned with joins, new classifications, etc., so that we could be certain that we have a regular collection of facts known to us, regularly published in the same place, without having to depend on offprints sent to us by the editors or on other pieces of information we can gather.

BENNETT.—I am quite willing to do this. So, if any information comes to me, I shall be very happy to include it in *Nestor*.

LEJEUNE.—Pour Cnossos, le système de classification avec lequel nous travaillons, comporte des groupes de tablettes, généralement hétérogènes qui sont étiquetés d'une seule lettre (par exemple, les tablettes L, les tablettes F). Ce sont des groupes qu'on n'a pas réussi à différencier, ou bien des groupes résiduels, c'est à dire, des documents qui pour des raisons diverses sont difficilement classables, une fois qu'on a distingué une ou plusieurs séries de deux lettres avec la même initiale. En somme, c'est une sorte de « tiroir de divers », qui n'existe que dans la tradition épigraphique de Cnossos, mais qui est très commode. Dans le travail qui nous est proposé ici, il apparaît par exemple, qu'on a travaillé dans le « tiroir de divers » L, et on y a reconnu une dizaine de « sets », mais il y a toujours un résidu de tablettes L qui échappent à ces classifications plus fines. Je rappelle alors le principe, énoncé par Chadwick, qu'on doit éviter, autant que possible, de créer de nouvelles séries quand ce n'est pas absolument nécessaire, et en particulier, éviter de créer une nouvelle série pour une tablette unique; et ma question est celle-ci: quelle difficulté y avait-il à laisser, par exemple, la tablette 1568 dans le « tiroir » L? Est-ce que ce document est assez extraordinaire, par ses dimensions ou pour d'autres raisons, pour ne pas demeurer dans la classe L non différenciée?

CHADWICK.—Inevitably, where we have the single letter prefix, there is, as Lejeune says, a miscellaneous classification. There are a number of reasons for which a tablet may be contributing less information (indistinct ideogram; ideogram preserved on the top only, so that we cannot tell which type it is; ideogram of an unusual type, etc.). In some cases it is even doubtful whether it should be classified, for instance, under L at all. We are fully aware that in classifying the Knossos tablets we may have taken a lot of wrong decisions. As for Ln 1568, I think it is the only case where we have created a new prefix for one tablet, because it is

an important and extraordinary one. One could go on dividing and subdividing, and so we would end with some hundreds of possible classifications, which would be useless. We have to find a balance between the extremes in order to get the maximum of information from the tablets.

OLIVIER.—Je suis entièrement de l'avis de Chadwick quand il remarque qu'il ne faut pas subdiviser à tort et à travers. Il reste le problème de la classification dans la série D de Cnossos, dans laquelle l'application du principe des «sets» (qui est de remettre les archives dans l'état originel où elles étaient) devrait viser à établir non pas s'il y a des moutons qui manquent ou s'il y a des moutons du type *pa*, etc., mais où étaient ces moutons et, éventuellement, s'il y avait un collecteur ou pas. Alors je me demande si on ne pourrait pas, dans un but de simplification, regrouper par localités les tablettes du scribe 117 de la série D, avec, en appendice, tous les morceaux où il n'y a pas de localité ou où le nom de la localité n'est pas certain et où l'information primordiale n'existe pas.

BENNETT.—The first point I would like to make is that the classification was made before the decipherment. The principal clues were to be found in the ideograms and in their combinations, and secondary clues came from the words which now are often justly used as the principal clues. Many anomalies in the present classification result from this, and can gradually be removed as the interpretation of the text proceeds. As for the several cases in which a unique class is assigned to a single document, Miss Kober's classification, from which the classification of the Knossos tablets began, had many more such unique classes, and it was felt to be a great improvement that so few were left as were eventually accepted. In general the justification for assigning a unique class to a single document was first, that it was unique, and second, that it was of sufficient length and clarity that some pattern could be seen in it, which might be recognized if another such document should turn up. Incomplete and unclear texts regularly were put in the miscellaneous classes.

A second point is that any classification is necessarily arbitrary and probably is poorly representative of the way the scribes themselves would have classified and filed the tablets in their archives. The best classification then is one in the tradition of the original classification. The indication of hands, of find-spots, of sets within larger classes is valuable, but can be accommodated within the classification only by the uneconomical assignment of several layers of classes, genera, and species. It would be a great advantage and preventive of confusion if as much of the original system as possible could be retained, with modifications for the re-inter-

pretation of original texts, and expansion to take care of new texts, and I would classify the tablets in this way for publication.

LEJEUNE.—Je crains qu'il soit difficile de baser finalement une classification sur les intentions des bureaux de scribes. C'est un objectif souvent trop ambitieux pour nous. Dans la classification traditionnelle, on a procédé empiriquement selon qu'il y avait tels idéogrammes avec tel ou tel déterminatif. Il est vrai que les tablettes peuvent être brisées à droite, et dans ce cas on n'est jamais sûr d'avoir tous les idéogrammes de la tablette. Mais est-ce que cela vaut la peine de tout refaire? On a constaté dans *KT*³ que les tablettes de moutons avaient été rebrassées par les soins de Killen et d'autres, et qu'elles se trouvaient classées différemment. J'avoue que je ne serais pas très partisan qu'on rebrouille à nouveau toutes les cartes pour les redistribuer, sans être absolument sûr d'avoir trouvé la solution idéale. Je suis plutôt conservateur et je trouve qu'il vaut mieux conserver une formule, même imparfaite, à laquelle on commence à s'habituer. Ceci dit, je pense cependant qu'Olivier peut avoir raison sur l'importance des toponymes dans les tablettes de moutons.

OLIVIER.—Il est très probable que garder l'ancienne classification de la série D de Cnossos est en contradiction avec le reste de la classification faite par le «Cambridge team». C'est le seul endroit où on ne reconstituerait pas les boîtes d'archives. On peut garder les anciens préfixes, mais ils changeront toujours et ils ne vont pas s'arrêter de changer. Il y a encore 200 raccords à faire dans la série D —Godart s'est mis à la tâche— et la classification va encore changer beaucoup. Si on appelait tout D, sans plus, et qu'on les classait par toponymes, elle ne changerait plus.

GODART.—Lorsque l'on classe les tablettes du scribe 117 par localités, on constate que tous les documents concernant un endroit déterminé (*ku-ta-to*, *tu-ni-ja* ou *pa-i-to*, par exemple) présentent les mêmes particularités physiques (même argile, même stylet qui servit à en graver le texte). Cela pourrait signifier que les documents traitant d'une même localité ont été gravés à la même date et qu'ainsi le scribe, lui-même, classait ses tablettes par localités.

CHADWICK.—I am quite sure that we could make three or four different classifications of the D-tablets (by the scribal hand, by the place name, by the appearance of the tablet, whether it is black or not, by comparison with the other tablets). I do not think that my solution is the ideal one. In fact, there will be always an objection. I do not quite agree with the suggestion that we should put all the tablets from scribe 117 in one single class.

It would be a very large one and there would not be any value in doing so. Until we are able to put ourselves back into the scribe's mind, we shall never know which would be the right solution to this problem. Whatever we might do, must be always a compromise.

BENNETT.—The first classification was indeed a classification by location.