

Prof. Meritt will come in Monday at 11:30. He wants to talk with you about publication support for his prosopographical index. Has a good chunk of it done, and cost from publisher of \$5000.

Re said
OK
Total work

A NOTE FROM
BENJAMIN D. MERITT

October 28, 1967

Dear Carl,

This is in response
to your memo to the
Faculty of October 19.

Sincerely,

Ben

In 1969, Professor Meritt retired to Austin, Texas. His bibliography is not up-to-date.

PROFESSOR BENJAMIN DEAN MERITT

Born, Durham, North Carolina, March 31, 1899.

A.B., Hamilton College, 1920
A.M., " " 1923
LL.D., " " 1937

A.M., Princeton University, 1923
Ph.D., " " 1924
Litt.D., " " 1947

D. Litt., Oxford University, 1936
M.A., " " 1945

LL.D., University of Glasgow, 1948

L.H.D., University of Pennsylvania, 1967

L.H.D., Brown University, 1974

Litt. D. University of Athens 1970

Instructor of Greek, University of Vermont, 1923-1924.

Instructor of Greek, Brown University, 1924-1925.

Assistant Professor of Greek, Princeton University, 1925-1926.

Assistant Director, American School of Classical Studies at Athens, 1926-1928.

Associate Professor of Greek and Latin, University of Michigan, 1928-1929.

Professor of Greek and Latin, " " 1929-1933.

Visiting Professor, American School of Classical Studies at Athens, 1932-1933.

Director, Athens College, 1932-1933.

Francis White Professor of Greek, Johns Hopkins University, 1933-1935.

Professor, The Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey, 1935-1969.

Lecturer, Oxford University, 1935.

Annual Professor, The American School of Classical Studies at Athens, 1936.

" " " " " " " " 1954-1955.

George Eastman Professor, Oxford University, 1945-1946. " " 1969-1970

Lecturer, Oberlin College, 1939

Father Professor of Classical Literature, University of California, 1959.

Lecturer, University of Cincinnati, 1942

Member of the Managing Committee and the Publications Committee of the American

School of Classical Studies at Athens.

Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Fellow of the British Academy.

Associate Member of the Flemish Academy (1962-)

Member of the German Archaeological Institute.

Honorary member of: The Society for Promotion of Hellenic Studies

The Michigan Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters

Honorary Councillor of The Greek Archaeology Society

Commander, Order of the Phoenix (Greece) Foreign Member Academy of Athens

Member of: The American Philological Association (President, 1953)

The American Philosophical Society

The Archaeological Institute of America

Sigma Phi

Phi Beta Kappa

Former Editor of the American Journal of Philology

Commander, Order of George I (Greece)

Visiting Professor, University of Texas at Austin 1972

Visiting Scholar, " " " " " " 1973-

Martin Classical
Louise Taft Sampson



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1926

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1965

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1967

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1968

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"Greek Inscriptions," *Hesperia* XXXVII 266-298
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Review of Jacques Tréheux, *Études sur les inventaires Attiques*, *AJP* LXXXIX 105-108

1969

- "Metonic Intercalations in Athens," *Hesperia* XXXVIII 107-113
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1970

- "The Election of Athenian Generals," *Klio* LII 277-282
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"Ἡ Ἀπάντησις τοῦ κ. B. Meritt εἰς τὴν προσφώνησιν τοῦ κ. Κοσμήτορος," *Ἐπιστημονικὴ Ἐπετηρὶς* XX, 1970, 389; also *Ἐπίσημοι Λόγοι* XIV 195-196

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1977

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BENJAMIN DEAN MERITT

Member of the I.A.S. 1935--1969

Speaking as a member of the School of Historical Studies, I find this moment an occasion for some sorrow but also for much satisfaction. With my colleagues I regret that time is about to rob our group of its longstanding formal ties with Benjamin Dean Meritt. At the same time we are filled with fraternal pride as we pause to contemplate Ben's career as a member of our School and of this Institute.

Benjamin Meritt was appointed to membership in 1935. This means that he is now the senior member of the whole faculty. He was one of the group of four scholars who constituted the faculty of the School of Humanistic Studies, as our school was then known, in its initial year of 1935/36. His contemporaries were Erwin Panofsky, Elias Lowe and Ernst Herzfeld; but in point of time Meritt's appointment, I believe, came first.

Meritt was one of the fourteen faculty members chosen by the first Director of the Institute, Abraham Flexner. I do not know the exact circumstances of the appointment, but I'm sure that Meritt measured up to Flexner's ideal of an Institute member. He was an outstanding scholar who had both a past and a future in the all important matter of contributing to the progress of knowledge. He was a man likely to attract other able scholars to work in his company under the special conditions of life at the Institute. He shared Flexner's dislike, or rather detestation, for committee meetings. His was an economical appointment, for he needed little in the way of equipment apart from squeeze paper for making impressions of the ancient Greek inscriptions on which he was working. And this squeeze paper was little more costly than the blackboards and chalk which

Mr Flexner doled out to his mathematicians and theoretical physicists.

Flexner was attracted also, I suspect, by the fact that Meritt was a Greek scholar. Flexner himself had studied Greek at the Johns Hopkins; he had taught Greek in his first position at Louisville High School, and for many years, as he notes in his memoirs, Greek was his chief intellectual occupation. Whether or not Meritt's proficiency in Greek influenced his appointment to the Institute, it certainly affected his private life. Mr Flexner once told me that some years before appointing Meritt to the Institute he (Flexner) had been consulted by Miss Elizabeth Kirkland, daughter of the Chancellor of Vanderbilt University, as to which of two proposals of marriage she should accept. The one had come from a young banker, the other from a young Greek scholar. Flexner advised her by all means to choose the Greek scholar. This she did, and soon thereafter she was happily married to Ben Meritt. The following year, Mr Flexner continued, the banker went to jail on a charge of forgery!

Benjamin Meritt has fully justified Flexner's confidence, for he has used the resources of the Institute in very much the way that Flexner envisaged for the ideal realization of his dream. Of the many contributions that Meritt has made to our knowledge of classical civilization one achievement towers above the others. This is his study of the Athenian tribute lists. Working from a few dozen battered marble inscriptions and from a few hundred allusive references in the ancient authors he and his associates have given us an amazingly vivid and reliable picture of the financial basis of the Athenian Empire. This achievement is justly regarded as one of the great triumphs of classical scholarship

in modern times. If you will look into the four tight-packed volumes of the Athenian Tribute Lists which appeared between 1939 and 1953 you will realize that the study required a degree of concentration possible in few places, perhaps nowhere, outside this Institute. It was the policy of the Institute, moreover, that enabled Meritt to have close beside him during the critical years the ablest collaborators to be found in this country and in England.

Next to Meritt's work on the Tribute Lists may be ranked his editing of the marble inscriptions found in the excavation of the Athenian Agora. These documents now number over 7000. They range in date over the millennium from the 6th century B.C. onward. They comprise laws, treaties, dedications, lists of civic officials, records of mortgages, boundary stones, sepulchral epigrams,-- in short they afford an illuminating cross section through Athenian life both public and private. Here again the Institute has supplied the atmosphere needed for a concentrated effort, and it has brought to Princeton a succession of talented associates from far and wide. The preliminary publication of this vast lot of new material has proceeded more or less pari passu with its unearthing. This part of the operation is now virtually completed. There remains the task of reviewing the documents in the light of the comments elicited by the first publication. Then the various categories must be presented in corpus form for the convenient use of all those interested in the history of Athens. In the course of the past winter Meritt has laid out a program and has organized a team of congenial young associates to assist him in the preparation of the projected five volumes of such a corpus.

Once more the Institute is playing a vital part. Not only will Meritt on retirement continue in the enjoyment of the Institute facilities; he will also continue to profit from immediate association with the other members of the team.

In working out the arrangements our present Director has shown great understanding and a lively appreciation of the significance of the enterprise.

This project, the definitive publication of the inscriptions from the Agora, will occupy Ben during the first year of his formal retirement. Such congenial labor, we trust, will help to console him for his exclusion from faculty meetings and the deliberation of committees. His colleagues rejoice that they may continue, under these circumstances, to enjoy for long his wisdom and good fellowship.

PROFESSOR BENJAMIN DEAN MERITT

Born, Durham, North Carolina, March 31, 1899.

A.B., Hamilton College, 1920
A.M., " " 1923
LL.D., " " 1937

A.M., Princeton University, 1923
Ph.D., " " 1924
Litt.D., " " 1947

D. Litt., Oxford University, 1936
M.A., " " 1945

LL.D., University of Glasgow, 1948
L.H.D., University of Pennsylvania, 1967

Instructor of Greek, University of Vermont, 1923-1924.

Instructor of Greek, Brown University, 1924-1925.

Assistant Professor of Greek, Princeton University, 1925-1926.

Assistant Director, American School of Classical Studies at Athens, 1926-1928.

Associate Professor of Greek and Latin, University of Michigan, 1928-1929.

Professor of Greek and Latin, " " 1929-1933.

Visiting Professor, American School of Classical Studies at Athens, 1932-1933.

Director, Athens College, 1932-1933.

Francis White Professor of Greek, Johns Hopkins University, 1933-1935.

Professor, The Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey, 1935--.

Lecturer, Oxford University, 1935.

Annual Professor, The American School of Classical Studies at Athens, 1936.

" " " " " " " " , 1954-1955.

George Eastman Professor, Oxford University, 1945-1946.

Sather Professor of Classical Literature, University of California, 1959.

Member of the Managing Committee and the Publications Committee of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens.

Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Fellow of the British Academy.

Associate Member of the Flemish Academy (1962-)

Member of the German Archaeological Institute.

Honorary member of: The Society for Promotion of Hellenic Studies

The Michigan Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters

Honorary Councillor of The Greek Archaeology Society

Commander, Order of the Phoenix (Greece)

Member of: The American Philological Association (President, 1953)

The American Philosophical Society

The Archaeological Institute of America

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Phi Beta Kappa

Former Editor of the American Journal of Philology

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AJP = American Journal of Philology
ABSA = Annual of the British School at Athens
CP = Classical Philology
CQ = Classical Quarterly
HSCP = Harvard Studies in Classical Philology
TAPA = Transactions of the American Philological Association

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In addition to writing the above articles and books, Professor Meritt has long been in charge of supervising the editing and publication of the more than seven thousand new inscriptions found by the American excavators in the Agora of Athens. He himself edited and published large numbers of these inscriptions in the following issues of Hesperia (publication of the American School for Classical Studies at Athens):

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	7 (1938)	77-146
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	10 (1941)	38-64
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	16 (1947)	147-183
	17 (1948)	1-70 (with A. G. Woodhead)
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	26 (1957)	24-97 (with M. L. Lethen and G. A. Stamires) 198-270 (with A. G. Woodhead and G. A. Stamires)
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	30 (1961)	205-292
	32 (1963)	1-56
	33 (1964)	168-227
	34 (1965)	89-99
	36 (1967)	57-101; 225-241

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY 08540

SCHOOL OF HISTORICAL STUDIES

May 8, 1969

Dear Carl,

The enclosed xerox sheets
cover my bibliography for the
last few years.

Sincerely,

Ben

"A Suggested Text for IG II² 420, AJP 85 (1964) 304-306.

"The Year of Kydenor," Χαριστήριοι εις 'Αναστάσιον Κ. 'Ορλάνδου, I (1964) 193-197.

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PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE
AMERICAN SCHOOL OF CLASSICAL STUDIES
c/o INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
PRINCETON, N. J.



March 30, 1966

Dear Dr. Oppenheimer,

It is my very pleasant privilege to convey to you the deep appreciation of the Publications Committee of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens (voted at a meeting on March 27, 1966) for the generous support offered by the Institute for Advanced Study to the publication of Professor Meritt's Epigraphical Index to Volumes XI - XX of Hesperia. Your contribution of \$6000 has quite literally made possible this volume which will be of inestimable value to Greek historians, and we of the School's Committee are very grateful to you and to the Trustees of the Institute.

Sincerely

Lucy Shoe Meritt
Editor of Publications

Meritt - publications

25 August 1953

Memorandum to Miss Trinterud:

Dr. Oppenheimer has approved payment by the Institute of \$3,641.96 to the J. H. Furst Company, in accordance with their invoice to Professor Meritt attached and Professor Meritt's letter to Dr. Oppenheimer of July 7, 1953. This sum covers the final payment on the fourth volume of the Athenian Tribute Lists.

Rosanna W. Jaffin

AMERICAN PHILOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
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Magnetawan via Burke Falls,
Ontario, Canada,
July 7, 1953.

Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer,
Institute for Advanced Study,
Princeton, New Jersey.

Dear Robert:

The fourth volume of The Athenian Tribute Lists is now printed, and the bill is in. I have had copies sent to the library of the Institute, and I hope you think, as I do, that it makes a good-looking book.

We had estimated two and a half years ago that the cost of the book would run to about \$6000, and you will remember that the Institute was to pay up to \$4000 of the total, while the University of Cincinnati paid \$2000. I have had a contribution of \$583.44 from the School at Athens, so that the amount payable from the Institute to the J. H. Furst Company amounts to \$3641.96.

I enclose the total bill here, and beg you to authorize this payment. I am writing now also to the University of Cincinnati so that they can make their complementary payment.

This done, I am turning to other things that can be managed from here. I hope you are having a good summer, and send best greetings, as ever,

Sincerely yours,

Ben

BDM/dd

OK
BDM