

in the Homeric epics is a feature of ~~oral~~ oral poetry recited by bards, generally with music accompanying, and ~~past~~ passed on from generation from (to?) generation. For comparative evidence Parry made a great many studies among the illiterate folksingers folk singers of ~~Yugoslavia~~ Yugoslavia. He copied ~~hundreds~~ hundreds of lines of poetry from these men, ~~many of them~~ some of them much longer even than the Iliad and the Odyssey. He found in them the same feature. He found that lines would be worked out having the proper ~~metre~~ meter and fitting <sup>for</sup> ~~with~~ the use of a name with a certain epithet in the last half of a line or the first half of a line, or two or three lines descriptive of a man, and a whole account of a ~~man~~ particular episode would be worked out, and then with quite a repertoire of such ~~xxx~~ sections the poet in Yugoslavia could form his own accounts of battles and other events, and thus could make the poems which he sang to lighted (?) delighted(?) in the coffee houses of Yugoslavia. Parry, and his follower, ~~As~~ Albert B. Lord, made extensive studies of this poetry ever since all Homeric scholars recognize that this that although none of this material had anything like the high literary quality of the Homeric material, yet that the principles involved are very important in throwing light on Homer and showing that the poetry in it was ~~of~~ undoubtedly <sup>composed</sup> ~~written~~ by an oral singer, rather than being originally composed on paper.

The third great advance in our background knowledge of Homer comes from the Mycenaean writing that has been discovered. As early as 1900 ~~By~~ Sir Arthur Evans ~~discovered~~ found at Knossos in Crete more than two thousand tablets ~~with~~ with peculiar writing on them. Some of them were an early form of pictographic writing, ~~written~~ but others were a linear adaptation from the pict/ographic <sup>latter</sup> writing. This ~~matter~~ fell into two ~~xxx~~ classes the more primitive of which he ~~called linear A~~ called "Linear A", and the more advanced "linear B." About two thousand tablets in "Linear B" were contained in the collection. These were dated from ~~the date of~~ <sup>by fire?</sup> the destruction of the great ~~at~~ palace at Knossos at about ~~xxx~~ 1400 B.C. It would seem that the bricks