

# THE INTERCALARY YEAR 157/6 B.C.

IT IS NOW generally agreed that the Athenian archon Anthesterios held office in the year 157/6 B.C.,<sup>1</sup> but there has been incorporated into the extensive literature on the problem of the Athenian calendar no evidence which will show conclusively whether the year of Anthesterios was an ordinary year or was intercalary. W. B. Dinsmoor has, it is true, reasoned that the year 157/6 B.C. was intercalary, but he was not able to find epigraphic evidence to support his opinion.<sup>2</sup>

There is, however, a passage in the inscriptions of Delos which proves conclusively that the year 157/6 B.C. was intercalary.<sup>3</sup> *Inscr. de Délos*, 1416, B, col. I is concerned with new leases that were issued during the archonship of Anthesterios for various properties owned by the Temple of Apollo, and records among other things the months in which the new leases were assigned. The entry recording three leases that were issued in the month of Metageitnion (lines 57-74) begins with the words *Μεταγευτιῶνος· τὸ χ[ωρίο]ν κ.τ.λ.*, and the entry recording five more issued in Maimakterion (lines 74-96) also begins with the name of the month (*Μαιμακτηριῶνος· συννοκίαν κ.τ.λ.*). The conclusive evidence for an intercalary year is contained in lines 110-115, which read as follows: *Ποσιδεῶνος ἐμβολίμου· [τῆν] οἰκίαν ἣν εἶχεν Σωσθένης Αἰθαλίδης δραχ. [.]ΔΔ, διὰ τὸ δὲ ἀπε[λ]ηλυθέναι Σωσθένην ἐμισθώσατο Ἀπελλῆς Κάλου Κοθωκίδης δραχ. [.]Δ εἰς τε τὸν ἐπίλοιπον χρόνον τοῦ ἐνιαυτοῦ καὶ εἰς πέντε τὰ μετὰ Ἀνθεστηρίων· ἔγγυ. Πόπλιος Αἰμύλιος Ῥωμαῖος οἰκῶν ἐν Δήλῳ.*

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SOUTHWESTERN AT MEMPHIS

## CORRIGENDUM

In *Hesperia*, XVI, No. 2, 1947, plate XXII, middle picture, at the end of the legend delete the word "Dystos."

<sup>1</sup> Cf. P. Roussel, *Délos colonie athénienne*, pp. 358-359; W. B. Dinsmoor, *The Archons of Athens*, pp. 222, 262; W. S. Ferguson, *Athenian Tribal Cycles*, pp. 30, 165-168; W. B. Dinsmoor, *The Athenian Archon List*, pp. 191-192; W. K. Pritchett and B. D. Meritt, *The Chronology of Hellenistic Athens*, p. xxx.

<sup>2</sup> Dinsmoor (*The Athenian Archon List*, p. 242) found no evidence for ordinary or intercalary years between 160/59 and 155/4 B.C. However, on page 243 he reduced the possibilities to three schemes, all of which made the year 157/6 B.C. intercalary. Pritchett and Meritt (*Chronology*, pp. xxix and 129; cf. *Hesperia*, IX, 1940, p. 130) adduced evidence to show that the year 159/8 B.C. was ordinary, but they did not discuss the year 157/6 B.C.

<sup>3</sup> Strictly speaking, the proof applies only to the year at *Delos*, but it seems an entirely plausible assumption that under Athenian rule the intercalary years at Delos were identical with intercalary years at Athens.