

The Classical Review

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EDITORIAL NOTES AND NEWS

THE Classical Association met at Westminster School, on January 3 to 5. The special attraction was the Presidential address on 'The Classics in France,' which the Marquess of Crewe came over from Paris to deliver. It was scholarly and fascinating, and showed profound knowledge of French history and a sympathetic understanding of the French point of view. The address which Lord Finlay has recently delivered to the Scottish Association would form an excellent complement, if the two papers could be published in pamphlet form. Miss Skeel delighted her hearers by an account of 'Medieval Travellers to Rome.' Mr. Vernon Rendall illustrated the hold Horace has always had on the best English thought, by abundance of quotation and witty comment. Mr. F. E. Adcock gave a delightful paper on 'Greek Diplomacy,' and Professor J. A. K. Thomson on 'Greek Irony' was interesting and suggestive. Mr. Stanley Casson gave a lantern lecture on 'Recent Discoveries of Greek Sculpture.' The afternoon, devoted to recent developments in school teaching, was well spent. The President and Fellows of the Royal College of Physicians kindly gave a reception to the members on Thursday evening, at which they brought out all their treasures of books and plate. It was a privilege to see their collection of portraits. As Linacre may be regarded as their founder, nothing could be more appropriate than this visit. On Saturday afternoon, Canon Westlake kindly escorted a party round the Abbey and its buildings, and proved himself as ideal a guide as he is a lecturer. The attendance was not so large as on some previous occasions; but Mr. Herbert Fisher took the trouble to come and move a vote of thanks to Lord Crewe, and the Headmaster of Westminster was a kindly host. A tone of hopeful confidence characterised the whole proceedings. It was obvious that Dr. Mackail's visit to Australia

had borne fruit in reviving classical enthusiasm there. The same keenness is reported from New Zealand. The number of local branches in England and Wales has now risen to eighteen, and the veteran teacher Professor Postgate, who was enthusiastically elected President for 1924, will find that the Association, in the foundation of which he was the prime mover, is thriving and growing every year. It ought to be a point of honour with every classical teacher in the country to belong to it. United we stand; divided we fall. If the membership is doubled — it is now over 2,000 — our opinion can no longer be ignored.

All who saw the Cambridge *Oresteia* in 1921, and many who missed that production, will be interested to learn that the Cambridge Greek Play Committee is again at work. On the evenings of February 26, 27, 28, 29 and March 1, and on the afternoons of Thursday, February 28, and Saturday, March 1, the *Birds* of Aristophanes will be acted by members of the University in Greek, with Sir Hubert Parry's music. The costumes and scenery will be designed by Mr. Duncan Grant, the musical directors will be Dr. Charles Wood and Mr. Bernhard Ord, and the producers will be Mr. J. T. Sheppard and Mr. J. Burnaby, who were jointly responsible for the *Oresteia*. The acting edition, with a verse translation by Mr. Sheppard, will shortly be published by Bowes and Bowes (price 3s. 6d., English only 2s.). Reserved seats—Stalls and dress circle, 4s. 9d., 5s. 9d., 7s. 6d., and 10s. 6d., pit stalls, 3s. 6d.—can be booked by post. Letters, with remittances, should be addressed to the 'Box Office Manager, New Theatre, Cambridge,' and should reach the Theatre on or before Monday, February 18. Readers will do a service to the Committee if they will make this performance widely known.