


4) Zur Verbindung ἄνδρα — πόλεμοι vgl. O. 12, 4-5: Tycha steuert die λαυκήροι πόλεμοι κάθερες ὦντα. Der Gedanke von P. 8, 3-4 ist offenbar, dass die Eintracht der Bürger fruchtbar Beratungen und (dadurch) erfolgreiche Kriege ermöglicht.

5) Es fällt auf, dass die Dissertation von W. Keuffel, Der Vaterlandsbegriff in der frührömischen Dichtung (Würzburg 1942) auf der Bibliographie fehlt.


Die tragische Dichtung der Hellenen by the famous Austrian hellenist Albin Lesky (i.e. the third edition—of 1972—which Lesky himself had revised with much care, greatly enlarging and improving it) has appeared two years after his death in an English translation by Matthew Dillon. I shall not expand here on the merits of Lesky’s book, for which I refer to my review of Die tragische Dichtung in Mnemosyne 30 (1977), 197-201. Given the regrettable situation that so many students in British and American universities do not readily consult German text books, this edition will be very useful.

There are three aspects of such a publication which lend themselves to comment in a review (a) is the translation correct and faithful?, (b) has the translator taken care to bring factual information up to date?, and (c) is the new outward presentation as good as the original?

In regard to aspect (a) a reviewer whose mother tongue is not English should refrain from criticism. I have the impression that the translation has been made with much care for the nuances of the original; although to my taste, something of the courteous (Viennese) and complex style which was so characteristic of Lesky has gone. At certain points the statements have more clarity than Lesky would have wanted and/or the subject-matter properly...
allows. It will be the nature of the English language which is responsible for this (I note, however, that Michael Silk in Greece and Rome 31 (1984), 85 observed: "the English is not always idiomatic").

As for (b), it is of course true that if one had wanted to integrate into the book the results of the important new publications 1972-1982, this would have meant re-thinking and re-writing it. But publisher and translator ought at least to have corrected the mistakes or omissions of the original as signalled by the various reviewers of *Die trag. Dichtung*\(^3\): this they have done only sporadically. They should also have set themselves the task of bringing the bibliographies up to date. These are not marginal to Lesky’s book, but central: it is nothing if not a handbook and guide to further study. As it is, students who take this book as a start for their research on any problem concerned with tragedy or on a particular play will now miss vital publications. A few obvious items: in the discussion of Sophocles’ fragments on p. 184-7 the edition by S. L. Radt (TGF IV 1977) is not mentioned. On pp. 119-123 which deal with the textual tradition of Sophocles’ seven plays, neither Dawe’s *Studies on the Text of Sophocles* (1973-1977) nor his two Teubner volumes containing the most recent full edition of them (1975 and 1979 respectively) are mentioned. On page 463 in the bibliography of Eur. *Supplices* the major edition cum commentary of this play by Chr. Collard (1975) is lacking. In the list of books ‘On Tragedy’ (general) I am glad to see my diss. still mentioned, but should not S. Said’s *La faute tragique* (1978) have been added? And so on.

As for (c), I am enthusiastic. This book is much more agreeable than the original: it is beautiful. *Die tr. Dichtung*\(^3\) was a bad product from the illustrious Messrs Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht: the print was irregular, pages were crammed full with text and footnotes, and there were quite a few misprints. Much as I liked using it for what it offered, I was always irritated by the unpleasantness of the typography. Now we have a majestic volume; the main exposé is printed in a good fount with real margins, and I for one do not mind the footnotes having become endnotes. But there is one flaw which requires comment, Pp. ix-x contain a Preface to the English edition. One would expect that M. Dillon would have used it to explain his approach to Lesky’s work, his attitude to matters of bibliography etc. In fact, this is just an English translation of Lesky’s own preface to the 1972 volume (even including his thanks to E. Dönt and W. Kraus for help in proof-reading).