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The Sequence of Tenses in Plautus. By Edward Hoch Heffner. A University of Pennsylvania Dissertation, privately printed, at Philadelphia (1917). Pp. 52.

Here is a reminder of "old unhappy far-off things and battles long ago", when the jousting knights of the Philological Association, then young, forgot lunch time in their concern over relative and absolute time. The dissertation is serviceable in bringing together in brief compass the sentences of Plautus that might provide ammunition for the Apollodorean regularists as well as for the Theodorean liberals. Dr. Heffner in the end declares for a rule of mechanical sequence.

The time has indeed arrived for a thorough study of the sequence-rule, but I fear that most readers will find this dissertation—limited perhaps by the exigencies of the war—somewhat too brief. It does not define what is meant by 'sequence', which may of course be conceived of as mechanically imposing violence upon the dependent verb, or as merely excluding from close subjunctive dependence such verbs as do not harmonize in time with the main verb. It does not apply the very serviceable criteria first employed by Professor Walker (The Sequence of Tenses in Latin: A Study Based on Caesar's Gallic War [privately printed, at Lawrence, Kansas, 1899; published also in The Kansas University Quarterly, Volume 7, No. 4]) to determine how far constructions permitting the indicative were preferred to those requiring the subjunctive when a shift in the time-sphere was necessary. It makes no attempt at giving full statistics for the rule of sequence in Plautus. It gives no clear statement of the theories that have been held by important foreign scholars. Finally, I fear the reader will frequently question Dr. Heffner's interpretation of various usages of the subjunctive where something more than the sequence-rule is involved. I will refer to a few illustrations of what seem to me inadequate interpretations.

Amph. 464, Amovi a foribus maximam molestiam, patri ut liceret tuto illam amplexarier, Dr. Heffner writes (40): "The act of *liceret* is clearly future relatively to the speaking and the secondary is therefore mechanical". Dr. Heffner has several instances like this. If we call this mechanical sequence, we shall have to include hundreds of instances that we usually consider 'past futures' in purpose clauses; for surely we have no right to judge by our English usage of the 'present perfect' whether *amovi* is primarily a present or a past perfect.

On page 38, Dr. Heffner discusses Most. 182-183; SC. Ita tu me ames, ita Philolaches tuo' te amet, ut venusta es. PH. Quid ais, scelesta? quo modo adiurasti? Ita ego istam amarem?

Of this he says: "*Ita* . . . *amarem*, which is the reported form of *ila Philolaches tuos te amet*, a wish for something in the future, is thrown into the secondary sequence because it is made to depend on *adiurasti*. But *amarem* is apparently nothing but *amem* quoted in scorn and would naturally stand in the imperfect tense quite apart from the interposition of *adiurasti*."

Again, on page 38, of Poen. 681-682, CO. Videre equidem vos vellem quom huic aurum darem. ADV. Illinc procul nos istuc inspectabimus, Dr. Heffner says: "*Vellem* is a potential subjunctive in the present. The temporal clause dependent on *vellem* refers therefore to the future, although we actually have the imperfect, which is due to mechanical sequence. *Darem* cannot possibly refer to the past. Note also *inspectabimus*, which is synchronous with *darem*". This is of course an instance of attraction of mood, and obviously it is

futile to discuss the tense apart from the mood when the subjunctive of 'unreality' is involved.

Dr. Heffner has, however, made a good beginning. The reviewer hopes that, with the knowledge of the problem attained in this effort, he will proceed to treat all phases of the intricate question in some later author, say Cicero's Epistulae ad Familiares, that we may at last have a definitive statement of the case.

THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY.

TENNEY FRANK.

PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY FOR THE PROMOTION OF LIBERAL STUDIES

The Seventh Annual Meeting of The Philadelphia Society for the Promotion of Liberal Studies was held in the New Century Club, on March 19.

Under the direction of Miss Edith Rice, of the Germantown High School, a play, The Tragical Interlude of Pyramus and Thisbe, was presented in Latin. A group of pupils of the Germantown High School then gave a dance, The Pipes of Pan.

Following this Professor Paul Shorey presented a paper, Patriotism and the Classics. To listen to his perfect sentences was an aesthetic and intellectual treat. It was a strengthener of the faith, also, to hear so eminent a scholar advocate the Classics as the bulwark of patriotism in this country. Professor Shorey preaches no patriotism which is ashamed or apologetic. He shows that America must become a country of one language, that the tendency of different foreign communities to preserve their native speech has been a foe to Americanism. In this respect our case is different from that of the homogenous countries of Europe, where the native language is not threatened by the learning of a foreign. In America the teaching of a foreign language has often been a foe to American patriotism, both by encouraging foreigners to retain their own language, and also by presenting the ideals and customs of their native countries in such a light as to make America seem worse by contrast. Therefore the one foreign language to be taught in this country should be Latin. This, instead of being a disintegrating force, tends to strengthen the effective unity of the English speech.

The officers elected for the following year are: President, Reverend J. A. MacCallum; First Vice President, Dr. Laura H. Carnell; Second Vice-President, Dr. Francis Brandt; Secretary, Dr. Bessie R. Burchett; Treasurer, Mr. Fred J. Doolittle.

The President's annual report showed an unusually successful year for the Society. Two public meetings were held in Houston Hall. Under the auspices of the Society a series of six readings from the Classics was given at Houston Hall, by Professors of the Latin and Greek Departments of the University of Pennsylvania. The Lectureship Committee, under the Chairman, Miss Jessie E. Allen, arranged for several lectures. Under its auspices, also, Professor McDaniel presented to teachers of ancient history in the Public Schools some of the striking points in Roman history (see THE CLASSICAL WEEKLY 13, 168). Another innovation was, the presentation of the moving picture, Julius Caesar in Witherspoon Hall. This performance was given especially for School children and the demand for tickets was so great that two performances were given.

Under the leadership of the President, Professor Hadzsits, a committee is now preparing a bibliography of articles on the value of the Classics.

BESSIE R. BURCHETT, Secretary.