
Editor's Notes



The emblem of *Didaskalos* is taken from a plate of engravings of coins of the emperor Tiberius. The plate appears in a book first published in 1615 and entitled: *Numismata aurea imperatorum Romanorum excellentissimi dum viveret Caroli ducis Crovi et Arschotani magno et sumptuoso studio collecta nec minore fide atque industria Jacobi de Bie ex archeleypis in aes incisa*. An expert in the British Museum affirms that de Bie was guilty of an unaccountable lapse and that the coin from which the engraving was taken was in fact neither Roman nor gold, but a silver didrachm of Corinth. The figure is, of course, Pegasus.

Charles, Duke of Arschot formerly Prince of Chimay, lived from 1560 to 1612. He traced his descent from Adam. Like his father Philip he played an important but equivocal part in the wars of Dutch independence. After Duke Charles' death the collection of coins was bought by Rubens and resold. If our coin was indeed a Corinthian didrachm the obverse showed a head of Athene.

Pegasus, readers will remember, sprang from the blood of the decapitated Medusa. With his hoof he struck out the spring of Hippocrene on Mount Helicon. While frequenting another spring, Peirene, at Corinth, he was bridled by Bellerophon with

a golden bridle given by Athene. Together Bellerophon and Pegasus overcame the Amazons, the Solymi and the Chimæra; but when Bellerophon tried to ride to Olympus, Pegasus threw him to the ground and continued the journey alone. He was well received in the Olympian stables and taken into service as a pack horse for carrying the thunderbolts of Zeus. To Pindar the story of Pegasus symbolized the folly of trying to exploit your advantages too far: to the Romans he symbolized immorality; to the Renaissance poets he symbolized aspiration; and to the Romantics inspiration. Readers of *Didaskalos* may draw what moral they like from the story of Pegasus and his coin.

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Didaskalos hopes to commission the articles it needs for the next and subsequent issues. It will however welcome the opportunity to consider any suggestions for articles, especially if the suggestion is in the form of a brief summary of the projected contribution.

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Clearly there is not much value in publishing correspondence in a journal which appears annually, but if any reader feels strongly enough about any article to write a brief and impressive denunciation, *Didaskalos* will consider publishing this, together with a reply from the author of the offending article.

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Didaskalos is the journal of the Joint Association of Classical Teachers. Membership of this Association is open to anyone interested in the teaching of Latin and Greek in schools. Details of its activities, together with enrolment forms, can be had from the Honorary Secretary General, C. W. Baty M.A., 31-34 Gordon Square, London, W.C.1. The subscription is two guineas.

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Re-prints of articles published in *Didaskalos* can be obtained from the editor at a charge of three or four shillings, depending on length. The price will be two or three shillings to members of the Joint Association of Classical Teachers.

The Joint Association of Classical Teachers received, at its inception, the following gifts:

£50 from J. Spedan Lewis, Esq.

£50 from an anonymous donor.

£15 from Mrs. Dora Pym (towards the Journal).

£200 from the Association for the Reform of Latin Teaching.

£100 from the Cambridge University Classical Faculty Board (towards the Journal).

In addition the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation generously agreed to meet the cost of the running expenses of the Association's first year with a grant of £1500.

This financial support, given at a time when J.A.C.T. had no income of its own, made possible the production of this first issue of *Didaskalos*.

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The second issue of *Didaskalos* is due to appear in May, 1964. Its contents are expected to include:

A Theory of Classical Education – E. J. KENNEY

Ancient Grammarians and Modern Linguistics – R. H. ROBINS

Sixth Form Studies: Ancient History – M. I. FINLEY and

C. M. HAWORTH

Performing Greek Tragedy in School-II – DAVID RAEBURN

There will be a number of articles discussing the place of Prose Composition in English Classical Teaching, and there will again be reviews of the O-level Latin Papers of one of the Examining Boards, with a foreword on The Efficiency of Examinations by Professor Stephen Wiseman. There will also be an article on the formation and activities of the Association des Classiques de l'Université de Liège, and an account of experiments with a Latin language laboratory at St. Bede's Grammar School, Bradford.