

ungen in den älteren Handschriften (s. Einleitung S. XV-XVI). Es ist ein grosser Vorteil, dass die überflüssige Normalisierung unterlassen ist. In der Bibliographie findet man auch solche Titel, die nicht nur die Textaustattung behandeln. Bei dieser Gelegenheit ist das ja ganz zweckmässig. Eigentlich hätte man noch mehr Hinweise auf den sachlichen Zusammenhang gewünscht, weil die kommentierte Ausgabe von Najock (Göttinger musikwissenschaftliche Arbeiten 2, 1972) nicht für alle leicht erhältlich ist. Die Datierung der Schriften in das 2.-6. Jahrhundert (S.VI) ist nicht präzise genug. Gibt es wirklich keine inhaltlichen Kriterien für eine genauere Datierung? Die Edition ist mit einem Index nominum et rerum versehen. Ein vollständiges Wörterverzeichnis dürfte nicht unangebracht sein.

Jaakko Frösén

Maja E. Pellikaan-Engel: Hesiod and Parmenides. A new view on their cosmologies and on Parmenides' Proem. Verlag Adolf M. Hakkert, Amsterdam 1974. 110 p. Hfl. 30.-.

This dissertation by a pupil of C.J. de Vogel amounts to a new interpretation of the Theogony, especially vv. 736-766 (taken to be authentic) and of Parmenides, especially B 1. The results, if reliable, are highly interesting. Not only is the Hesiodic background of Parmenides again emphasized. Particularly far-reaching is the suggestion that Parmenides visualized a spherical hollow earth inside his spherical hollow sky, and that he put True Being as well as the second 'pyrodes stephane' and 'daimon' in the cosmic centre. The possible consequences of this for the 'Philolaic' model are not discussed. The argumentation is not always convincing, but must be taken seriously. Pellikaan-Engel may be right, after all, regarding Parmenides. But Hesiod is probably over-interpreted: for instance, the geometrical model of a spherical sky looks decidedly more Anaximandric than Hesiodic.

H. Thesleff

Aeschylus: Prometheus Bound. Translated by *James Scully* and *C.J. Herington*.

Suppliants. Translated by *Janet Lembke*. — The Greek Tragedy in New Translations (general editor William Arrowsmith). Oxford University Press, New York and London 1975. 117 & 104 p. £ 3.95 each.

This is a new series of translations of the complete Greek tragedies, intended to give the modern reader — with or without a knowledge of Greek — a fresh and vigorous interpretation of the plays. Instead of word-for-word translations, its aim is to give the reader good poetry in the modern idiom without losing the originality and "otherness" of the Greek world. In the Prometheus Bound, this aim is achieved by exploiting the combined skills of a poet and a classical scholar and Aeschylus-specialist. The result is very good indeed — as the editor, with unnecessary profusion, himself states in his foreword, p. IX-X. This monumental play is presented to the reader in all its fierceness of impact. The diction is idiomatic and easy to follow, and at the same time surprisingly faithful, even reverential, to the original. The only thing I found unattractive was the use of capital letters as a stylistic device. The introduction by C.J. Herington discusses the problems of the play from many angles. One interesting feature, for instance, is the comparison between the actions and speeches of the party of Zeus and contemporary brainwashing techniques (p. 12). In addition to notes to the translation and glossary, there is a useful appendix containing the fragments of the other plays of the trilogy in English.

Janet Lembke's Suppliants represents another type of translation. More than with the Prometheus Bound, it is a recreation of Aeschylus' work by a modern poet. In this case the choice of poet as translator, responsible both for the poetic and for the scholarly interpretation of the work, is due more to the

extreme difficulty of presenting this strange play to a modern reader as something more than a mere archaic curiosity. The translation is inspired and often brilliant, and, in spite of certain licences taken, has a truly Aeschylean ring. As an example of deft treatment of a desperately corrupt passage, mention may be made of the scene 825ff. between the Danaids and the Egyptian herald. In this free interpretation, the scene has the dramatic life and vigour it certainly must have had in the original. One should be aware, however, that a certain interpretative tendency is at work in this version of the Suppliants, a tendency which the translator explains at greater length in her introduction and notes, but which, nevertheless, has a rather strong flavour of unaeschylean psychologizing. Maarit Kaimio

The Proem of Empedocles' Peri Physios. Towards a new edition of all the fragments. Thirty-one fragments edited by *N. van der Ben*. B.R. Grüner, Amsterdam 1975. 230 p. Hfl. 50.-.

In this Amsterdam thesis, the author argues with considerable competence that thirty of the fragments that Diels (following the edition of H. Stein from 1852) assigned to the Katharmoi of Empedocles, together with fr. 30 DK, do in fact belong to the Proem of Peri Physios. And further, e.g. fr. 128 DK would seem to come from the long-since forgotten 3rd book of Peri Physios. So the Katharmoi begins to vanish into the unknown, and the Peri Physios begins to take firm shape. The volume contains a substantial introduction with substantial notes, a new edition of the thirty-one fragments together with lemmas and apparatus criticus, and a great number of interpretative notes. In a case like this it is easy to disagree on single points, and some of van der Ben's arguments are indeed of doubtful value. He has not proved that all the fragments are necessarily from the Proem of Peri Physios, though he may have proved that their provenance from the Katharmoi is unlikely. He could have made his interpretation much more full (for instance, he largely neglects the recent discussion of 5th century Pythagoreanism). But the basis of his criticism is, I feel, sound, and he tackles a really worth-while problem. The reader is looking forward to his new edition of all the fragments of Empedocles. It is this kind of re-examination and reconsideration that is needed before the Vorsokratiker can be properly re-edited. H. Thesleff

Aristotle and Xenophon on Democracy and Oligarchy. Translations with introductions and commentary by *J.M. Moore*. Chatto & Windus, London 1975. 320 S. £ 4.25.

Dieses nützliche Buch über griechische Verfassungsgeschichte entspricht den Bedürfnissen derjenigen Interessenten, die nicht griechischkundig sind. Mit seiner Auswahl will Moore vor allem zeigen, wie sich verschiedene politische Doktrinen im praktischen Staatsleben auswirkten. Da kommen in erster Linie in Frage Aristoteles' Staat der Athener und Xenophons Staatswesen der Lakedämonier sowie auch die pseudoxenophontische Schrift über Athens Staatsverfassung ("Old Oligarch"). Völlig motiviert ist ferner, dass auch der kurze Abschnitt über die böotische Konstitution aus den Hellenica Oxyrhynchia aufgenommen ist, und zwar als "the only surviving account of a Greek oligarchy" (was mit dem Titel des Buches in gewissem Widerspruch steht). Den gewandten Übersetzungen sind sehr instruktive und eingehende Kommentare angeschlossen, die souveräne Beherrschung des Materials und der Einzelfragen zeigen. Auch den Fachleuten bieten sie vielfach Belehrung.

Das Buch will ausdrücklich die politische Praxis beleuchten. Als theoretischer Hintergrund hätten dennoch einige repräsentative Auszüge aus den Politika des Aristoteles aufgenommen werden können. Henrik Ziliacus