is my understanding that their "Committee A," once it has been set up, "would be charged with getting in touch with and organizing the efforts of individuals and agencies in the various regions who can work effectively at the local level." The committee has also published the statement that "adequate staffing on the national scale during the next fifteen or so years will necessitate the recruitment of enough Latin teachers to replace well over forty per cent of the present staff." In this key problem alone may lie the life or death of Latin.

We cannot delay our recruitment any longer and hope to survive. Yet I could name reputable high schools (and doubtless my readers can do likewise) where vocational counselors are repeatedly telling interested high-school students that they should not prepare for a career in classics since there will be no job openings in the near future. One avenue of approach lies in presenting to the high-school counselors and administrators the convincing facts and figures of the Committee on Educational Training and Trends. Pending further developments from this committee may I suggest unofficially that we consider establishing our own network of information centers on a state and regional basis? The state university would be the logical center in each state. Each center would keep a record of openings which may occur by reason of retirement, or other possible reasons, within a period of from one to ten years ahead. The long-term notifications, which may be made by the individual teachers themselves to this center, may be used in compiling figures which will say to guidance counselors, administrators, and high-school Latin teachers, and especially to secondary-school students, that, contrary to popular belief, at such-and-such an approximate number of such-and-such an approximate date in the future we can reasonably predict such-and-such an approximate number of openings. Therefore, job prospects give promise of being secure for a classical career. Those openings which will occur within two or three years will, of course, be of vital interest to the student already in college.

As for testing and evaluating in preparation for the expectations of college departments, the preparatory-school teachers, whether in public or private schools, could benefit greatly by having in their hands a reasonably standardized statement of the common areas of emphasis in the colleges and universities of their respective states. This suggestion goes beyond the question of what authors are to be taught in the second, third, and fourth years. For example, is the university comprehensive examination based largely on knowledge of syntax and inflections, or is it based more on reading ability and knowledge of background? How well are the various universities of a given area agreed on these basic expectations? Syllabi, such as those now existing in many states, would be helpful. Then we would not be faced with the feeling of preparing for an unknown quantity.

Obviously in a few brief comments I am able to do no more than touch upon one or two solutions to each of the problems suggested. This will be true in regard to the question of exchange of materials. However, I do know that a good high-school teacher attends the meetings of his state or regional organization in the hope that he may receive new inspiration, new materials, and new ideas from the college professors in attendance. He believes that the responsibility of attending the meetings not only of the state classical organization but also of the foreign language section of the state educational association lies upon the college teacher as well as upon himself. The Ohio Classical Conference, for example, deserves an accolade for its outstanding contribution of both college and high-school teachers through the years. The high-school teacher further believes that it is the responsibility of the college teacher to exercise leadership in his state organizations. Too often in professional meetings the high-school teacher is keenly aware of the absence of college teachers. He is also aware that vocal critics of the triteness of the "commonplace discussions," critics who are fully capable of making lively contributions to those discussions, often remain silent and aloof during the discussion period. A high-school teacher wants constructive, not destructive, criticism, and he wants it in an open remedial discussion.

Today, now, is the time for action along the lines which I have indicated.

**OH WELL, IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN A PEAR TREE**

*(For February 22)*

**By Van L. Johnson**

*Tuffs University*

O puer candoris quam miri:  
Nam illum occisse cum piri  
Incursat parens,  
Honeste pudens  
Respondet: non possum mentiri.

"SHE COULD HAVE DANCED ALL NIGHT—"

**By Lillian B. Lawler**

Hunter College of the City of New York

EPEATELDY, IN the less scholarily and somewhat hastily written books which are compiled in our day for students of the history of the dance, usually by authors who know no Greek, the statement is made that the Greeks of the fifth and fourth centuries before Christ had a form of social dance, in couples, although it was much less common than is ours.

The evidence, if any, offered for this statement is customarily of two types: (1) vase paintings, especially those reproduced in Maurice Emmanuel's *Essai sur l'Orchestique Grecque* (Paris, Hachette, 1895) or its English version (*The Antique Greek Dance*, translated by Harriet Jean Beauley, New York, Lane, 1916); and (2) passages from the *Lyisiistra* of Aristophanes.

To the scholar, the use of the vase paintings cited as evidence for a social dance among the Greeks of the classical period is ridiculous. Most of them portray the familiar combination of a satyr and a nymph, or, occasionally, a satyr and a courtesan (cf. Emmanuel, Fig. 406, p. 238). One, the illustration often reproduced in modern books on the dance (Emmanuel, Fig. 501, p. 240), is from a third-century vase; it shows Pan leading a woman, apparently a nymph, by the hand in what is frequently termed a "minuet." Needless to say, the ancient Greeks did not dance minuets; and none of these vase paintings portray what we mean by a "social dance."

From the *Lyisiistra* the modern writers of textbooks often cite the concluding portion of the play, where both Athenians and Spartans dance in joy now that peace has been made. First a Spartan dances the *dipodia* (1142-1146), a solo dance which was apparently a dignified and graceful, though joyous, dance (cf. Lillian B. Lawler, "Diple, Dipodia, Dipodismos in the Greek Dance," *TAPA* 76, 1945, 59-73). Then *Lyisiistra* (1171-1178) arranges the whole company anamix—i.e., a man and a woman alternating side by side (1273), and evidently holding hands; she bids them dance in that formation. Both Athenians and Spartans comply with her request; and all of the Athenians (1279-1294) dance as a group by the side of the Spartans (1366-1372). This intermingling of men and women in the anamix arrangement, not too common in Greece in the classical period, is certainly not the formation of a couple dance, nor is there any evi-
dence that the line breaks down into couples. The choreography of the dance is obviously similar to that of the geranos dance of antiquity, a ritual dance normally performed in gratitude to a female divinity—Aphrodite, Leto, or Artemis—for some special favor or victory. In the geranos and dances similar to it, the line of men and women, alternating, balanced back and forth, while at the same time moving to the side (cf. Lillian B. Lawler, “The Geranos Dance,” TAPA 77, 1946, 112-130); and on occasion the dancers released their hold on their companions and improvised leaps and other lively figures before clasping hands again and renewing the dance proper (cf. Lysistrata 1296-1323). An identical choreographic form may be seen today in the tratta of Greece and southern Italy, and occasionally in other Greek folk dances; these dances may even be observed in some of our own American cities which have large Greek colonies.

Another passage in the Lysistrata often carelessly cited as attesting a social dance by couples is from the speech of the Proboulos in lines 408-413. The magistrate is deploring the way in which some Athenians spoil their wives. He quotes the words of an anxious husband to a goldsmith: “That necklace you made for my wife”—he says.“While she was dancing in the evening, the peg fell out of the catch.” He says he is off to Salamin, but bids the goldsmith go to her house that night and repair the damage. There is, of course, an obscene innuendo in the husband’s words. The passage, however, contains no reference at all to a social dance in the evening, in the modern sense.

In the previous speech, the magistrate has spoken of women mourning, with piercing song and passionate dance, on the roofs of their houses, the dead divinity Adonis. It is probable, however, that this is not the dance in which the lady broke her necklace. In the first place, there seems to be no direct connection between the two speeches, and the necklace episode really stands apart. And, in any case, the magistrate specifically says that Demostratus was making a speech in the Assembly at the very time when the women were lamenting Adonis—a fact which would indicate that the dances to Adonis of which the magistrate has spoken were performed in the daytime, and not at night.

It may be but a coincidence that the word for “necklace” in line 408, hormos, is actually also the name of a dance of the geranos type (cf. Lilian B. Lawler, “A Necklace for Eileithyia,” CW 42, 1948, 1-6; also, Lucian, Salto, 12). In Aristophanes, we might suspect a pun. It may be that the dance to which the magistrate refers is of the hormos or geranos group. If so, it is definitely a ritualistic dance. Such dances could be nocturnal; this was specifically the case with the famous Samian dance to Artemis (Hesiod, iv, 48, 21), and with the geranos itself as performed on Delos.

There were other nocturnal dances, in which women alone took part. Most important of these were dances to Artemis, as both Brauronia and Chitonea—a birth goddess. We are told by Athenaeus (xiv, 668 c, d; cf. also xiv, 646 b, 647 c) that these dances were held on the tenth day of a child’s life, that they continued all night long; and that cakes, known as charisios and also as nikeria, were among the prizes given to those who managed to stay awake all night. That these nocturnal dances were a feature of Athenian life in the fourth century is attested by Eubulus, who is cited by Athenaeus. Aristophanes himself, in a fragment of the Daidaleis (quoted in Athenaeus xiv, 646 b), mentions the charisios, and uses it with the phrase es hesperan, “for the evening”—an interesting echo of the Lysistrata passage. Perhaps the lady in question was dancing in honor of Artemis, with a group of relatives and neighbors, to celebrate the birth of a child to a member of the community.

Dancing in the evening, or at night, then, did not mean the same thing to a Greek woman as it does to us today. The lady of the Lysistrata was not out dancing for amusement with a male partner, but she “could have danced all night”—!”

WANT A TEACHING POSITION?

The American Classical League maintains a very inexpensive Teacher Placement Service for teachers of Latin and Greek in school or college. For details of the plan see The Classical Outlook, page 21 or address The American Classical League Service Bureau, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio.

THE IDES OF MARCH

Julius Caesar was assassinated on March 15, 44 B.C. Why not plan a program for the Caesar class or the Latin Club or the school assembly? For material see page 57.