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eugenics, the psychology of learning, etc., but also for the comprehension of twentieth-century American science and culture, as well as contemporary problems. Those interested in these issues will find this thoughtful essay most rewarding. It is an outstanding contribution to the ever-active Darwin industry.

MARTHA CRAVEN NUSSBAUM (editor), *Aristotle's De motu animalium*, Princeton University Press, 1978, 8vo, pp. xxiii, 430, £18.90.

The title of Dr. Nussbaum's excellent book disguises its riches. She presents us with a new text and English translation of this little tract, defends its authenticity, assigns it to a place among Aristotle's last works, and rescues it from undeserved neglect. This would be service enough, yet her discussions of the philosophical problems therein raised make this essential reading for anyone interested in Aristotelian science and especially psychology. Her comments are divided between the commentary proper (dealing with individual passages and preceded by section summaries of the argument) and five long interpretative general essays – on teleology (stressing Aristotle's limitation of teleological explanation to living things), on scientific method, on the elusive *sumphuton pneuma* and its place in Aristotle's theory of animal action, on the "practical syllogism" and its relationship to ethics and human behaviour, and on *phantasia* as an essential element in decision-making and action (in which she emphasizes the idea of "appearances" in general rather than the more usual interpretation of concrete images). Although at times the use of philosophical jargon and academic shorthand makes this book more forbidding to the less expert reader than it need have been, the importance of Dr. Nussbaum's investigations more than repays the efforts required to assimilate them.

TREVOR I. WILLIAMS (editor), *A history of technology. Volume VII: The twentieth century c. 1900 to c. 1950*, Parts I and II, Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1978, 4to; Part I: pp. xxv, 690, illus., £25.00; Part II: pp. xix, 691-1530, £27.00.

From 1954 to 1958 the first five volumes of this vast undertaking appeared. It received universal and well-justified praise, and it has remained the definitive and authoritative source of information on the history of technology. However, Volumes I-V did not venture past 1900, and at the time of publication there were no plans to cover the first half of the twentieth century. Fortunately it has been decided to do so under the distinguished editorship of Dr. Trevor I. Williams.

These two volumes cover the years c. 1900 to c. 1950, and Part I deals first with more general topics: the setting in world history; sources of innovation; economics of technological development; and trade unions. Then follow chapters on fossil fuels, atomic energy, electricity, agriculture; the chemical, textile, glass, paint, paper, ceramic, and clothing industries; etc. Part II considers transport, civil engineering, building, the internal combustion engine, electronics, computers, instruments, printing, photography, etc.

Chapters 54 to 56 are of special interest to the medical historian. The first is on medical technology by Audrey Davis of the Smithsonian Institution; it discusses industry, dental industry, pharmaceutical industry, radiology, anaesthesia, the ECG, polygraphs, blood-pressure management, stethoscopes, hearing, the microscope,

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surgery, and prosthesis. On the whole, this chapter is disappointing, as it is almost entirely descriptive without general principles and without sufficient correlation with medicine. The next chapter is a competent survey of water supply and waste disposal; and the next, on food technology, is the best of the three.

Thus the Oxford *History of technology* is now complete up to 1950, and the two new volumes will help to enhance further the reputation it has established over the last twenty-five years.

DOUGLAS B. PRICE and NEIL J. TWOMBLY, *The phantom limb phenomenon. A medical, folkloric, and historical study, Texts and translations*, Washington, D.C., Georgetown University Press, 1978, 8vo, pp. xl, 526, illus., \$5.95 (paperback).

The authors have produced a fascinating book dealing with the folklore, superstitions, and religious aspects of this well-known phenomenon. They present the original texts and English translations of seventy-five medieval and eleven modern accounts of the miraculous restoration of bodily parts. By means of them it can be shown that the phenomenon was known before its first scientific recognition in the mid-sixteenth century. Illustrations represent the leg of Peter of Grenoble, Gunrada's nose and lip, the hand of St. John of Damascus, the leg transplant of Sts. Cosmas and Damian, and the leg of Miguel Juan Pellicero.

This collaborative, scholarly work has an extensive introduction and a large bibliography. It is elegantly produced, the presence of the original texts in particular being welcome. In this regard it is remarkably cheap. It deserves wide attention, for it should be read by all concerned with the medical, church, and general history of the medieval period. It will also be of interest to historians of neurology, psychiatry, folklore, and related fields.

CHARLES E. ROSENBERG (editor), *Healing and history. Essays for George Rosen*, Folkestone, Kent, Dawson, 1978, 8vo, pp. viii, 262, £14.00.

George Rosen, the renowned and revered American historian of medicine who held the chair in this subject at Yale University, was to retire in 1978, and his students and colleagues went about preparing a *Festschrift* to commemorate the happy day when George could begin to devote all his remarkable talents to research and writing. Unfortunately in 1977 he died suddenly during a visit to Britain, and the celebratory volume became a memorial tome.

It contains sixteen essays, including an appreciation. They deal with topics which Rosen has illuminated by his skill and scholarship: social history of medicine, medical ethics, mental health and illness, nineteenth-century medicine, hospitals, public health, and social psychiatry. They are all original, scholarly contributions written as Professor Rosen himself would have wished. Added is a bibliography of his writings, which indicates the breadth of his interests, the versatility of his approach to medical history, and the dimension of his industry. He is sorely missed.

F. B. SMITH, *The people's health, 1830-1910*, London, Croom Helm, 1979, 8vo, pp. 436, £14.95

The claim is made on the jacket of this book that "most medical history has been