

Als Ergänzung zum normativen monastischen Schrifttum des 1. Bandes kommen im 2. Band die Lebensgeschichten, d.h. fünf Mönchsbiographien, in denen sich die Lebensform der Mönche personalisiert und exemplarischen Wert bekommt: das Martinusleben des Sulpicius Severus, das Leben des Germanus von Auxerre, dessen Verfasser Constantius von Lyon ist, die Lebensgeschichten der sog. Juraväter, das Leben Kolumbans und das Leben des Gallus.

Ich kann das Werk von Karl Suso Frank allen warm empfehlen; ich glaube, dass die Lektüre dieser wertvollen Textstücke auch das Interesse derer erwecken kann, die sich nicht früher damit beschäftigt haben.

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Bruno Snell: Die Entdeckung des Geistes. Studien zur Entstehung des europäischen Denkens bei den Griechen. 4., neubearbeitete Auflage. Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, Göttingen 1975. 334 p. DM 28.-.

Snell's classical book (first published as a single volume in 1946) has undergone considerable changes in this fourth edition. The text and the notes have been corrected, and up-to-date references have been added to some extent. Two old chapters have been dropped (XVIII and XIX), and three new ones have come instead: "Zur Entstehung des geschichtlichen Bewusstseins" (published separately in English in 1972), on the development of the specifically Greek view of history traced from Homer to Herodotus; "Das Symbol des Weges", remarks on the idea of the 'path of virtue'; and a "Nachwort 1974" where Snell, somewhat apologetically, discusses his conception of 'development' and Greek 'achievement' in relation to some more recent views. I am not sure, after all, if this partial re-moulding of a standard collection of essays, with the bibliographical confusion this inevitably will lead to, was a better solution than an ordinary reprint of the 3rd edition had been. The learned and intelligent exposition of Snell, lucid and suggestive at the same time, will still find plenty of readers anyway, and without any doubt deserves them. *H. Thesleff*

G. J. D. Aalders: Political thought in Hellenistic times. Adolf M. Hakkert, Amsterdam 1975. 130 p. Hfl. 38.-.

Aalders has mapped out, in clear lines as he did in his book on the mixed constitution (1968), the complicated layers of Hellenistic political thought. He gives some new emphasis to various points, and the pseudo-Pythagorean texts are now for the first time fully utilized within this context. Considering the conventional nature of most of the literary manifestations of political views, it would have been interesting to have the dissenters (Epicureans, Cynics, etc. p. 39-73) presented in greater detail. Political thought outside the established philosophical schools is touched upon in different connections. Because of its modest size and its systematic concentration upon fact, the book is particularly welcome as an introduction for readers not well acquainted with the subject. *H. Thesleff*

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Inscriptiones Italiae. Vol. III, regio III, fasc. I: Civitates vallium Silari et Tánagri. Curavit *Victorius Bracco*. Istituto Poligrafico dello Stato, Roma 1974. XLV, 208 p. Lit. 25000.

Inscriptiones Italiae, initiated 1931, has to date not progressed very far. Apart from Volume XIII, the valuable edition of the Fasti and Elogia by Degrassi, only some minor areas have been covered. It is doubtful whether the series will ever achieve any kind of completeness.