

electronic devices are used is P.-A. Cahné, *Index du Discours de la méthode de René Descartes* (vol. XII, 1977). Marta Fattori and Massimo Bianchi have edited two volumes of proceedings: *Ordo. II° Colloquio Internazionale del Lessico Intellettuale Europeo* (XX—XXI, 1979). The first volume consists of papers on the notions *kosmos* and *ordo* in ancient, medieval and later authors. Computer technique is used in many contributions. The second volume contains reports from the discussions and short papers on the ongoing lexicographical works in European institutes.

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*Paul Klopsch: Einführung in die Dichtungslehren des lateinischen Mittelalters.*  
Das lateinische Mittelalter. Wissenschaftliche Buchgesellschaft, Darmstadt  
1980. VI, 194 S. DM 45.—.

The first half of the present century has seen a lively if not very wide interest in medieval poetics, an interest which is attested by the works of Edmond Faral, Ernst Robert Curtius and Paul Lehmann. In recent years, the increase in interest in medieval logic and grammar on the part of scholars, has been accompanied by an increase in the number of articles and books on medieval poetics, too. All this is closely connected with the growth of the study of medieval Latin. This is a situation which demands the production of useful handbooks and guides for students. The introductions published by Wissenschaftliche Buchgesellschaft in Darmstadt have turned out to be of great use to students of medieval history and culture. We should mention here *Einführung in die Geschichte der klassischen Philologie* by A. Hentschke and U. Muhlack and *Lateinisches Mittelalter* by K. Langosch. Paul Klopsch's work *Einführung in die Dichtungslehren des lateinischen Mittelalters* successfully continues along the same lines. The author makes a clear although limited synopsis of the classical and Christian background; he then provides a systematic survey of the general characteristics and subject-matter of medieval poetical works. Of the many aspects which Klopsch deals with, I should like to mention here only the chapter on the part played by poetics in the medieval classifications of sciences and arts (pp. 66—70). This chapter is of use to students of Renaissance poetics, too, since the Humanists usually depended on medieval classifications in this respect, as B. Weinberg has pointed out in the first part of his monumental *Literary Criticism in the Italian Renaissance*.

Klopsch's index of books and articles on medieval poetics, which includes 185 items, is also very useful. I should, however, like to add to this Birger Bergh's article *Magister Mathias och poetiktradition* (*Lychnos* 1975—1976, 68—83) as a specimen of the study of Scandinavian medieval poetics, especially because it mentions Lehmann's study *Skandinaviens Anteil an der lateinischen Literatur*. Apart from this, one may wonder at the absence of R. R. Bolgar's invaluable study *The Classical Heritage* (1954), which deals with many important aspects of medieval poetics and rhetoric.

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