

BOOK REVIEWS

Runes, D.D. *Pictorial History of Philosophy*.
New York: Philosophical Library, Inc., 1959, pp. 406-\$15.00

The author's philosophical credo "Philosophy is ethics; or it is nothing at all" (page X) is felt throughout the entire book. This volume actually represents a selected collection of short biographical and ideological characterizations of the important thinkers from ancient times to the present.

The list of the selected personalities includes not only professional, academic philosophers but psychologists, writers, politicians and other historical figures, like the "founding father", statesmen, etc. etc. whose thinking constitutes "philosophy" in the wider sense of the term. (E. g. Freud, Adler, Jung, Levin, Shaw, Michelangelo, etc. etc.) — In fact, too many of them are presented in a relatively modest-sized volume so that one has the feeling that it gives too little for the seriously interested reader and too much for the superficial reader. Nevertheless, it offers helpful information on the subject for every intelligent reader interested in the great thinkers of all times.

From the few lines about Alfred Adler, the reader will learn that Adler was a "disciple and collaborator of Freud" and that "neurosis is the effect of inferior feelings" so that the patient should be induced "to avoid conflicts with society by recognizing its dangers, to act in accordance with reality and abstain from a reversion to delusions". Adler's concept of and book on "Social Interest" are conspicuously absent from the short presentation of Alfred Adler's work.

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