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,