

RECONSTRUCTING ARISTOTLE*

The *Protrepticus*, a lost work of Aristotle, is a systematic argument in favor of a life devoted to philosophy. Users of this attempted reconstruction may like to consult an article by the same author appearing in *Classical Philology* (1964) which traces the history of the reconstruction of the *Protrepticus* in considerable detail from its initiation by J. Bernays (1863) and substantial founding by Ingram Bywater (1869) to the recent work of I. Düring (1961). To this last the present work acknowledges a large debt, which turns out to be so great that the careful reader will feel surprise at there being no explanation of the few divergences, notably the omission of Düring's fragments 10, 22, 45, 58. But while the text, here in translation, keeps closely to Düring's, the "brief comments" which follow it assemble a wealth of scholarship which could be of great use to students of ancient philosophy. Among the most interesting is one denying Aristotelian authorship of the well-known dilemma to the effect that whether one says that one must or must not philosophize, one must philosophize. The note on its sources is not altogether exhaustive and explicit, so that in view of its ascription to Aristotle by some recent historians of logic, one could wish the author to publish a fully detailed treatment of this point. A brief introduction summarizes some historical and methodological points and gives a short synopsis of the work.

— IVO THOMAS, O.P.

* Anton-Hermann Chroust, *Aristotle: Protrepticus, A Reconstruction*. (Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Press, 1964. Pp. vi, 110. \$1.45.)

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