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stitutions regulating the relations of the Islamic state to the outside world. One of the great merits of Dr. Khadduri's book is that he attempts to discuss Moslem institutions in the field of international law within the framework of Islamic doctrines and theories. He thus avoids the pitfalls of trying to correlate Islamic practices to those Western institutions to which they bear a superficial resemblance. Attempts to make such correlations have marred a number of earlier studies on this subject. Dr. Khadduri's book is an important contribution to the field of studies in Islamic law and can be highly recommended to all who desire an introduction to Islamic thinking in the fields of constitutional theory and public international law.

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EXISTENTIALISM FROM DOSTOEVSKY TO SARTRE. Edited by Walter Kaufmann. *Meridian*. \$1.45.

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express simply the special, and rather ephemeral, form taken this time by Western disgust with war and its aftermath. So in the long perspective it may prove to be. But now, twelve years later, the existentialists are as vocal, as unhappy and as varied as ever—and apparently as much read. The most optimistic, or most matter-of-fact, of American heirs of the Enlightenment owe it to themselves to examine the thought and feelings of these very un-Jeffersonian thinkers.

They can hardly find a better introduction than in this Meridian paperback. Walter Kaufmann of Princeton is a professional philosopher with a gift for clear exposition, with a background in both Germany and the United States, and a point of view which enables him to achieve critical understanding of these existentialists. If his introductions did nothing else, they would be invaluable in making clear how broad and inclusive a label "existentialism" has come to be. What unites these

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men, from Dostoevsky and Kierkegaard through Nietzsche to Sartre, is not a metaphysics or an epistemology, or even an ethics, but a complex of emotional attitudes.

This collection is not addressed to the initiate, and it does not attempt to explore new ground; but it is an admirable, and by no means oversimplified, introduction to a state of mind and heart we must all attempt to understand.

CRANE BRINTON

THE OUTSIDER. By Colin Wilson. *Houghton Mifflin*. \$4.00.

This is an attempt to delineate a new type of man. A descendant of the romantic hero, the "Outsider," in fiction or in fact, feels himself outside the petty lives, the irritations and satisfactions of ordinary men. His isolation renders him vulnerable to despair, to states of mind in which life seems unreal, to paralysis; on the other hand, it enables him to know himself, to realize the power of his will, and to act on a super-human level.

The author traces characteristics of the Outsider in fiction through Barbusse's *L'Enfer*, Hermann Hesse's *Steppenwolf*, the novels of Dostoevsky; in philosophy and poetry; and in lives of men: T. E. Lawrence, Nijinsky, Van Gogh, Nietzsche. When he adds to the list William Blake, George Fox, D. H. Lawrence and Ramakrishna, to mention a few, we see that the "Outsider plan" can be stretched to include everything—and nothing. If one begins reading Mr. Wilson with a doubt that it is worthwhile trying to label human minds, this doubt is soon confirmed by the author's efforts to fit various quotations to his Procrustean bed. Interesting athletics, but erudition—no.

For the intelligent reader, the hollowness of Mr. Wilson's assumptions, and the wandering of his argument, will be major obstacles. His search for straw to stuff a scarecrow, his Outsider, springs from a contempt for ordinary life, "human trivialities." That these trivialities may be a foundation for spiritual experience, he does not pause to

consider. In any final accounting, Mr. Wilson lacks imagination.

LOUIS SIMPSON

LORENZO Ghiberti. By Richard Krautheimer in collaboration with Trude Krautheimer-Hess. *Princeton University*. \$30.00.

The appearance of Professor Krautheimer's monograph is a fitting climax to the excellent studies of Lorenzo Ghiberti which he has published over the past twenty years. A perceptive, lively biography and a valuable chapter on Ghiberti's reputation from the fifteenth century to the present introduce the central and greatest portion of the book, which is a detailed and incisive analysis of Ghiberti's documented works in bronze, particularly of the two sets of doors which he executed for the Florentine Baptistery. The analysis is supported by four hundred illustrations as well as transcriptions of the documents of Ghiberti's life and work. The six concluding chapters, entitled "Renaissance Problems," are of a more varied and general nature, expanding and reinforcing earlier sections of the book. They have as a common theme the waning of the literary view of antiquity among the humanists and the growing *rapprochement* between them and contemporary artists. This important change is viewed principally through the personalities of Ghiberti, Leon Battista Alberti and Brunelleschi from the various aspects of artistic theory, architecture and the collecting of antique objects.

For the scholar, Professor Krautheimer's book is a penetrating insight into artistic life and practice in early fifteenth-century Florence and an irreplaceable reference work. It is written well, with an enthusiasm and perception rare in books of this type.

JOHN PANCOAST

SOUND AND SYMBOL: Music and the External World. By Victor Zuckerkandl. Translated from the German by Willard R. Trask. Bollingen Series XLIV. *Pantheon*. \$5.00.

Professor Zuckerkandl, a Viennese who is now director of music at Saint John's College in Annapolis, has produced a book