

as homosexual, claiming that the contrasting treatment of façades and interiors is a form of "transvestism."

There can be no simple, one-to-one correlation of literary and artistic styles, on the one hand, and gender concepts, on the other. Yet an interplay does exist, and working out its details in the case of modernism—in its several varieties—is a challenge for future scholarship.

Wayne R. Dynes

### MOLL, ALBERT (1862–1939)

Berlin neurologist who helped shape the medical model of homosexuality that was created in late nineteenth-century Germany. His first treatise on the subject, *Die konträre Sexualempfindung* (1891), differentiated between innate and acquired homosexuality and proceeded to focus on the former, describing the homosexual as "a stepchild of nature." He proposed that the sex drive was an innate psychological function which could be injured or malformed through no fault or choice of the individual himself.

Moll refined his theory in his more general treatise on sexuality, *Untersuchungen über die Libido sexualis* (1897), and placed more stress on the nature of homosexuality as an illness, often an "inherited taint." With his *Handbuch der Sexualwissenschaften* (1911), he turned his attention to the cases of acquired homosexuality, for which he offered association therapy (replacing same-sex associations with those of the opposite sex) as a cure.

As the years passed, he became increasingly hostile to Magnus Hirschfeld and his Scientific-Humanitarian Committee. Alienated in part by Hirschfeld's polemical mode of dealing with the subject, in part by certain ethically dubious sides of Hirschfeld's activity, he became the major "establishment" opponent of the Committee. At the same time, he lessened his emphasis on the innate character of homo-

sexuality in favor of one that could be used to justify penal sanctions by the state.

In his autobiography, *Ein Leben als Arzt der Seele* (1936), he stated his belief that most homosexuality is acquired by improper sexual experiences, and only a small percentage can be said to be innate. He even went so far as to attack those (especially Hirschfeld) who believed homosexuality an inborn condition and sought social and legal acceptance for homosexuals.

Although his name is largely forgotten today, his works were widely read in their time. His *Sexualleben des Kindes* and *Handbuch der Sexualwissenschaften* were the first works to appear on their respective topics. His theory on the sex life of the child had a profound (but largely unacknowledged) effect on Freudian concepts.

BIBLIOGRAPHY. Edward M. Brecher, *The Sex Researchers*, Boston: Little, Brown, 1969; Max Hodann, *History of Modern Morals*, trans. by Stella Browne, London: William Heinemann Medical Books, 1937, p. 48ff; Frank Sulloway, *Freud, Biologist of the Mind: Beyond the Psychoanalytic Legend*, New York: Basic Books, 1979, 309–15.

James W. Jones

### MOLLIS

The primary meaning of this Latin adjective is "soft," but it was also used in a secondary, sexual sense. From the first century B.C. onwards the Romans used the word as an equivalent *malakos/malthakos*, "soft, passive-effeminate homosexual." Other Latin words in this semantic field are *semivir*, "half-man," and *effeminatus*. The compound *homo mollis* ("softy") is also found. The abstract noun *mollities* meant "softness, effeminacy" but also "masturbation," with the underlying notion that "only a sissy has to masturbate." In St. Jerome's translation of I Corinthians 6:9 the *molles* (pl.) are (along with the *masculorum concubitores*, "abusers of themselves with mankind,")