

Book Notices

FREDERICK SUPPE (editor), *The structure of scientific theories*, 2nd ed., Chicago and London, University of Illinois Press, 1977, 8vo, pp. xiv, 818, \$10.00.

This book appeared first in 1973 as an outgrowth of a symposium held in 1969. It received a warm welcome, and it now appears in a second edition with an 'Afterword' which brings up to date the editor's excellent introduction, 'The search for philosophic understanding of scientific theories'. The bibliography has been considerably expanded and there are certain minor emendations.

The book has already become established as an authoritative work in this field, and of outstanding value for teaching. Its updating will further increase its popularity among students and teachers of the philosophy of science, as well as among scientists interested in a clear and comprehensive introduction to contemporary philosophy of science. Fortunately its price is exceedingly modest, when the quality of the contents and the 818 pages are taken into account.

H. A. SNELLEN, *A disorder of the breast. Collection of original texts on ischaemic heart disease*, Rotterdam, Kooyker Scientific Publications, 1976, pp. 96, illus., Dfl.50.00.

Professor Snellen has collected together a most useful selection of texts: Heberden, Fothergill, Parry, Hammer, and Herrick. There is a general introduction followed by a discussion of the authors and their work. The original texts are well produced in facsimile. The end-result is an elegant book and an important contribution to the history of cardiology. It was produced for the Seventh European Congress of Cardiology in Amsterdam, and it will be of great value to teachers and students alike, and all those interested in the history of ischaemic heart disease.

JOSEPH J. SPENGLER, *Facing zero population growth. Reactions and interpretations, past and present*, Durham, North Carolina, Duke University Press, 1978, 8vo, pp. xiv, 288, \$18.75.

The author states that his major concern is how scholars, especially economists, have interpreted the supposed consequences of cessation of population growth, and how economies can best adjust to the latter. He deals with modern man's reaction to limits to economic growth and to population growth under differing conditions. He is mainly concerned with the economic implications of cessation of population growth, and, although his data are mostly from America, his book has world-wide application and will be eagerly sought after by demographer, economist, and historian, for the modern material is considered from a historical viewpoint. It is a work of high scholarship and includes a useful bibliography of thirty-six pages.

PETER BAILEY, *Leisure and class in Victorian England. Rational recreation and the contest for control 1830-1885*, London, Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1978, 8vo, pp. x, 260, £5.75.

The author examines the transformation of popular leisure from 1830 to 1885, in particular the "rational recreation" schemes of the middle classes and the reform of working-class leisure habits and amenities. It draws on a large amount of primary

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material, which has been accurately documented, and is an important contribution to English social history. The medical significance of the topics discussed is obvious, and historians of nineteenth-century medicine will find it invaluable. It can be strongly recommended.

PAT THANE (editor), *The origins of British social policy*, London, Croom Helm, 1978, 8vo, pp. 209, £7.95.

At a conference held in 1976 on the history of British social policy 1870–1945 the eight essays printed here were presented. Topics include the workhouse (1890–1929), non-contributory versus insurance pensions (1878–1908), social control, unemployment, and family allowances. They provide impressive evidence of the development of the Welfare State, and they underline the complex processes and influences involved in its evolution. Those concerned with many aspects of the social history of medicine in Britain during the period covered by this scholarly book will find it essential for their studies.

ERIC J. EVANS (editor), *Social policy 1830–1914, Individualism, collectivism and the origins of the Welfare State*, London, Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1978, 8vo, pp. xvi, 302, £3.95 (paperback).

The complex process by means of which the State has taken on increased responsibility for the health and welfare of its citizens is illustrated here by an extensive range of documents, some appearing for the first time. There are brief extracts from debates, reports, speeches, newspaper articles, reviews, etc., which cover the whole field of social policy. Public health, housing, poverty, and factory legislation are included, and the book represents a comprehensive span of primary sources, valuable especially to students.

JEFFREYE WEEKS, *Coming out. Homosexual politics in Britain, from the nineteenth century to the present*, London, Quartet Books, 1977, 8vo, pp. x, 278, £3.95 (paperback).

The original of this reprint appeared in 1977 and deals with “the gradual emergence and articulation of a homosexual identity and public presence”. There are five parts: ‘Definitions and self-determination’; ‘Pioneers’ (J. A. Symonds (1840–1893), Edward Carpenter (1844–1929), and Havelock Ellis (1859–1939)); ‘Invisible women’, on lesbianism; ‘Approaches to reform’; and ‘The Gay Liberation Movement’. Despite the title, most of the book deals with the late nineteenth and the twentieth centuries, but it is an important contribution to an increasingly popular topic. Its reappearance in paperback will, therefore, be welcomed.

VERN BULLOUGH, MARGARET DEACON, BARRETT ELCANO, and BONNIE BULLOUGH (editors), *A bibliography of prostitution*, New York and London, Garland Publishing, 1977, 8vo, pp. x, 419, \$38.00.

There are about 3,500 entries in this book, listing works dealing with prostitution which range in time from 1600 to 1975. Books, articles, government papers, and occasionally newspapers are included, and a standard reference system is adopted

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with very occasional brief comments. The entries are arranged by subject, with an author index at the end. This is the first bibliography of its kind and should be widely popular with those in the history and practice of the health sciences, and in social history.

GEORGE STURT, *A farmer's life*, [facsimile of 1922 ed.], Firlie, Sussex, Caliban Books, 1979, 8vo, pp. xvi, 208, illus., £7.50.

Another study of country life during the nineteenth century written by Sturt. He first depicted his grandfather, William Smith (1790–1858) (see *Med. Hist.*, 1979, 23: 245), and this one is a biography of his uncle and aunt. The location is the countryside of the Hampshire-Surrey region, and the book contributes valuably to this publisher's series of useful social documents. It provides fascinating reading, as well as a background to the development of nineteenth-century, English, provincial medicine. Like its predecessors, it can be strongly recommended.

MARGARET M. COFFIN, *Death in early America. The history and folklore of customs and superstitions of early medicine, funerals, burials, and mourning*, Nashville and New York, Thomas Nelson, 1976, 8vo, pp. 252, illus., \$7.95.

A book for the popular market on an increasingly popular topic. Aspects of the funeral, mourning, burial, memorials, etc., are dealt with, as well as the demise itself. The author claims that "the sick often died more from the doctoring itself than from a lack of it", but seems to offer no convincing evidence to support this statement. The chapter on 'Reasons for early death' is superficial and anecdotal, but covers all the main diseases and injuries. There are no notes and only a brief bibliography. However, the book will be of considerable interest to a wide variety of readers, in addition to thanatologists.

CHARLES O. JACKSON (editor), *Passing. The vision of death in America*, Westport, Conn., and London, Greenwood Press, 1977, 8vo, pp. xi, 258, [no price stated].

There are four parts to this collection of fourteen essays: 'Prepare for death and follow me', Colonial America; 'Reading for the choir invisible', the nineteenth century; 'Death shall have one dominion', the twentieth century; and the epilogue. The aim of the book is to provide historical perspectives on death in American culture, and it caters for undergraduate courses on death and dying, for American studies courses, and for history courses concerned with social and cultural aspects. It will thus cater for the growing field of thanatology, a topic that until recently was taboo in the United States.

The essays are of uneven quality and documentation, but the book will be valuable for those seeking details of how one nation has, over the centuries, handled death.

GRACE L. DELOUGHERY, *History and trends in professional nursing*, 8th ed., St. Louis, C. V. Mosby; London, Henry Kimpton, 1977, 4to, pp. vi, 277, illus., £6.80 (paperback).

The popularity of this book is attested by the number of editions that have been called for. However, most of it deals with the modern period and, despite its title,

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concerns American nursing predominantly. The earlier part is very superficial and contains a number of errors and misinterpretations. Nevertheless, as a history of twentieth-century American nursing the book will be useful.

JOSEPHINE A. DOLAN, *Nursing in society, a historical perspective*, 14th ed., Philadelphia, W. B. Saunders, 1978, 4to, pp. viii, 402, illus., \$17.50.

The popularity of this book as a teaching aid is attested by the large number of editions that have appeared. It is a concise yet systematic history of nursing intended for the student and practitioner of nursing, and all those involved in health care. The evolution of the profession is surveyed against the social, cultural, and scientific background. However, as so often happens in recent American books on the history of nursing, the earlier periods are less successfully handled and the later chapters deal too extensively with nursing in the U.S.A. It is copiously illustrated and each chapter has a further-reading list.

THOMAS J. S. PATTERSON, *The McDowell series of plastic surgery indexes, vol. II: The Patterson index 1864–1920*, Baltimore, Md., Williams & Wilkins, 1978, 8vo, pp. viii, 609, \$82.50 (£56.10).

The series to which this book belongs now consists of five volumes, representing altogether a nearly total index of the plastic surgical literature of the world from 900 B.C. through A.D. 1976. Books and periodical articles are indexed by author and subject in a continuous alphabetic sequence. The authors and their publications listed under subject also appear under the author's names. Titles of journal articles are translated and those of books likewise but with the original language also. As the Editor states, no other specialty has the luxury of such a series of source-books.

FREDERICK VINTON HUNT, *Origins in acoustics. The science of sound from antiquity to the age of Newton*, New Haven, Conn., and London, Yale University Press, 1978, 8vo, pp. xv, 196, £10.00.

A scholarly survey by an outstanding American physicist of a topic that has not so far been adequately examined. He analyses carefully the recorded experiments on the dynamics of sound and hearing so that the reader can understand them more readily. But he is also much concerned with broader issues, and the book is said to be "an enquiry into man's development through the dimensions of his acoustical experience". There is a great deal of interest here for the historian of medicine, including an examination of the stethoscope, as well as for the historian of science.

ALEXANDER GRINSTEIN, *Sigmund Freud's writings. A comprehensive bibliography*, New York, International Universities Press, 1977, 8vo, pp. xxvi, 181, \$22.50.

Freud's publications are arranged in sections: early, primarily non-psychological; psychological; introductions and prefaces; abstracts and reviews, translations, and letters. There are also chronological and alphabetical (English titles) listings of them. The entries are unannotated, and all translations are included, although of small value. This will prove to be a most useful reference book.

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JACQUES M. QUEN and ERIC T. CARLSON (editors), *American psychoanalysis: origins and development*, New York, Brunner/Mazel, 1978, 8vo, pp. xii, 216, \$15.00.

The editors have collected together twelve essays which cover a wide range of topics, dealing with the psycho-analytic movement in America, the institutions which fostered it, and the men who pioneered it. In the final two articles the future of psycho-analysis is discussed. The editors provide only the introduction of three pages, but they have produced a useful contribution to a subject which at the moment is receiving perhaps an excess of attention.

HERTHA RIESE (editor), *Historical explorations in medicine and psychiatry*, New York, Springer, 1978, 8vo, pp. xxiii, 232, \$22.95.

Dr. Riese has collected together eighteen essays, which commemorate her husband, the late Professor Walther Riese. They reflect his wide interests in neurology and psychiatry and their histories, and are arranged in four groups: 'Historiography, methodology, and classification'; 'Modern medicine and messages from the past'; 'Medical historians study their masters and great men of the past'; 'Mind-brain relation in historical and philosophical perspective'. The quality of the articles is uneven, but they will be of interest to a wide audience of psychiatrists and historians.

VINCENT BROME, *Jung. Man and myth*, London, Macmillan, 1978, 8vo, pp. 327, £6.95.

The author is a professional writer with a special interest in psychology and psycho-analysis. He presents here an objective account of Jung, his thought, and his achievement, and having no professional axe to grind he is more successful than some of his predecessors. His book is eminently readable, with no documentation, and it will be deservedly popular.

JEROME FRIEDMAN, *Michael Servetus. A case study in total heresy*. Geneva, Droz, 1978, 4to, pp. 149, [no price stated].

The story of Servetus (1509 or 11–1553) is well known, but not so the details of his religious beliefs in the setting of contemporary theology. Most aspects of his life have aroused controversy, but it is clear that his radical ideas and the vehemence of their expression provides "a case study in the making of heresy" (p. 20). He was the complete heretic and this book shows why. It is a scholarly treatise (but with a useful glossary of terms and concepts used in the text) that provides an excellent analysis of the part of Servetus about which the medical historian knows least. There is now no excuse for this ignorance.

LEON PEARL, *Descartes*, Boston, Mass., Twayne, 1977, 8vo, pp. 228, front., [no price stated].

Although written primarily for the non-philosopher, the author claims that this book is scholarly enough to be of value to students of Descartes, and seven of the eleven chapters constitute a commentary on the *Meditations* (1641). There is a brief account of his life and his *Rules for the directions of the mind*; preceding this and

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following it, chapters deal with problems about mind and body, and with the physical world. The book is well written and without doubt will be popular with those who are seeking a clear exposition of Descartes' thought without philosophical technicalities.

OLIVER RANSFORD, *David Livingstone. The dark interior*, London, John Murray, 1978, 8vo, pp. xi, 332, illus., £8.50.

Despite the number of books and articles on Livingstone, his character remains enigmatic. Dr. Ransford is a consultant anaesthetist in Rhodesia, and also a great traveller who has been to most of the places visited by Livingstone. He believes that the latter was a manic-depressive, which is not too difficult a diagnosis to make on the evidence already available. It certainly accounts for the well-known extremes of behaviour and passion which characterized Livingstone's personality, and probably made him a better explorer than missionary. The author is able to interpret most of his activities in the light of his mood swings, and has produced an excellent and readable book, which is an important addition to Livingstonian studies. It would have benefited from more documentation, but as it is it will have wide appeal.

JOAN FISHER BOX, *R. A. Fisher. The life of a scientist*, Chichester, John Wiley, 1978, 8vo, pp. xii, 512, illus., £16.00.

It is claimed that Sir Ronald Fisher (1890–1962) was one of the greatest scientists of the present century. In the fields of statistics and genetics he made outstanding contributions (1912–1962), and his role in developing scientific theories and methods influences all who conduct research in science today. His daughter has written an excellent account of him, together with a semi-technical description of his work. It is readable, sympathetic, and documented, but the author has not been altogether successful in placing his work accurately in historical context. This will be for a future writer to attempt, but meantime the present book provides a personal account of the man with the recording of details that might have been lost. It will attract a large audience in science, mathematics, agriculture, and in the history of these topics.

PETER UNDERWOOD, *Dictionary of the supernatural*, London, Harrap, 1978, 8vo, pp. 389, illus., £5.50.

The author is a well-known authority on psychical research and all varieties of the supernatural, including spiritualism. His dictionary covers the occult, the supernatural, and the whole realm of psychic phenomena. It is an authoritative guide to a vast subject, and most entries have useful references for further study. Although aimed at a popular readership, it will, nevertheless, prove a useful source of information and a valuable reference work for others.

ROLF WINAU, *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Geschichte der Medizin, Naturwissenschaft, und Technik 1901–1976*, Wiesbaden, Steiner, 1978, 8vo, pp. 164, illus., DM.36.00 (paperback).

This book comprises mainly a list of officers of the Society, its laws, special and ordinary lectures, and names of members. It is, therefore, a useful work of reference.

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LUIS S. GRANJEL, *Historia general de la medicina Española*. Vol. 3: *La medicina Española del siglo XVII*, Salamanca, Instituto di Historia de la Medicina Española, 1978, 4to, pp. 250, illus., 780 pesetas.

Professor Granjel has produced a scholarly work dealing with all aspects of seventeenth-century Spanish medicine. First of all, he considers various aspects of the medical profession, including medical education, societies, and popular medicine. In the second half of his book he discusses in turn the various pre-clinical and clinical subjects, ranging from anatomy to hydrotherapy. The book is lavishly illustrated, and this is mainly by means of facsimile reproductions of books' title-pages. There is a good bibliography, but the index refers only to individuals' names. Professor Granjel's treatise is the first to be published in a new sequence of books on Spanish medicine. If they are all of the quality of this one, it will be a notable series.

FRANCISCO MENDEZ ALVARO, *Historia del periodismo médico y farmacéutico en España*, Valladolid, Ediciones de la Universidad de Valladolid, 1978, 8vo, pp. 179, [no price stated], (paperback).

A descriptive list of serial publications from the *Efemérides Barométrico-Médicas Matritenses* (Madrid, 1734 to 1747) to the *Revista Extremeña de Medicina*, etc. (Cacares) which appeared in 1882. It is a most useful guide to Spanish periodical literature.

CHARLES M. SNYDER, *The lady and the president. The letters of Dorothea Dix and Millard Fillmore*, Lexington, University Press of Kentucky, 1975, 8vo, pp. 400, \$9.50.

At about the same time a few years ago the letters from Dorothea Dix to Millard Fillmore (thirteenth President of the U.S.A.), and from Miss Dix to him, became available. There are 150 letters ranging over a period of nearly twenty years (1850–1869), and they have all been brought together and edited. Dorothea Dix is renowned for her crusade for the humane treatment of the insane, so that the letters are of importance as social and political documents reflecting contemporary conditions and events. But they also reveal a great deal about the writers, much of which was previously unknown.

I. K. STEELE (editor), *Atlantic merchant-apothecary: letters of Joseph Cruttenden (1710-1717)*, Toronto, University of Toronto Press, 1977, 8vo, pp. xxv, 135, \$10.00.

Cruttenden was a London merchant-apothecary who traded with Colonial America and the British West Indies. He was a small trader and it is, therefore, important that his letters have survived and are reproduced here. Knowledge of more important men is more readily available, but those lower down the social scale are very elusive. Cruttenden's correspondence provides information on the pharmacy of his time, particularly the types of drugs bought and their uses, and also on business methods and objectives, insurance, smuggling, payment, etc. This book is, therefore, a useful social document illustrating the history of pharmacy, the drug trade, business, and trading.