
Medicine and History

QUANTIFICATION AND THE QUEST FOR MEDICAL CERTAINTY

J. Rosser Matthews

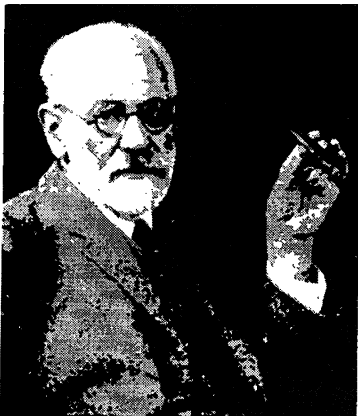
Since its inception in World War II, the clinical trial has evolved into a standard procedure in determining therapeutic efficacy. However, the use of comparative statistics in a therapeutic context has a much longer history. Here J. Rosser Matthews discusses three crucial debates: that among clinicians before the Parisian Academy of Medicine in 1837, the debate in the German physiological literature during the 1850s, and, in the early twentieth century, the debate over the bacteriologist's diagnostic technique involving the "opsonic index."

Matthews demonstrates that despite the differences separating clinician, physiologist, and bacteriologist, they all shared an antipathy toward the methods of the statistician. Only when "medical decision-making" moved from the cloistered confines of professional medical expertise into the arena of open political debate could the medical statistician (and the clinical trial) gain the upper hand.

"A perceptive book. . . . A most illuminating study. . . ."—Roy Porter, *Nature*

"An extremely thorough, revealing, and well-written account of the long-standing fight between the numerate and the innumerate; between those who saw themselves as down-to-earth practical doctors and those regarded by such men as airy-fairy theorists. . . ."—Irvine Loudon, *The Lancet*

Cloth: £32.00 ISBN 0-691-03794-9



New in paperback

FREUD, RACE, AND GENDER

Sander L. Gilman

" . . . the most convincing account of how Freud's anxiety about being Jewish is reflected in his work."

—Howard Eilberg-Schwartz, *New York Times Book Review*

"Gilman [is] one of the most original and stimulating cultural historians of his generation."

—*New Statesman & Society*

" . . . original and penetrating. . . display[s] all the familiar hallmarks of Gilman's formidable scholarship. . . . richly erudite in the small print of medico-scientific writings of the fin-de-siecle era, showing Freud as a child of his times."—Roy Porter, *The New Republic*

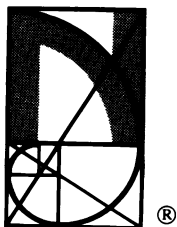
Now in paper: £10.95 ISBN 0-691-02586-X

Available February 1996

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY PRESS

AVAILABLE FROM YOUR BOOKSELLER OR DIRECTLY FROM THE PUBLISHER: (609) 883-1759 U.S.
(1243) 779777 U.K./EUROPE • WORLD WIDE WEB SITE: [HTTP://AAUP.PUPRESS.PRINCETON.EDU/PUPRESS](http://AAUP.PUPRESS.PRINCETON.EDU/PUPRESS)

*Rare Books & Manuscripts
in the history of
Medicine & the Sciences*
Bought • Sold • Appraised



Send for our latest catalogue
Jeremy Norman & Co., Inc.
720 Market Street
San Francisco, California 94102
(415) 781-6402
FAX (415) 781-5507

Nigel Phillips
RARE BOOKS

Antiquarian books in the history
of medicine and the health
sciences.

Please send for my catalogue, or
telephone for an appointment
when in London.

5 BURLEIGH PLACE
PUTNEY
LONDON SW15 6ES
ENGLAND
Tel: 0181 788 2664
Fax: 0181 780 1989

*Books concerning the
History of Medicine, Natural,
Pure and Applied Science*

Catalogues issued—desiderata lists welcome

MICHAEL PHELPS
ANTIQUARIAN BOOKS

9 CHELVERTON ROAD · PUTNEY
LONDON SW15 1RN · ENGLAND

Telephone: 0181-785 6766
Fax: 0181-785 6944

