

The British Journal  
for the  
History of Science

July 1977

Volume X Part 2 No. 35

Published by  
The British Society for the History of Science

OFFICERS AND COUNCIL OF THE BRITISH SOCIETY  
FOR THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE

1976-7

- President: LT-CDR D. W. WATERS
- Vice-Presidents: PROFESSOR A. R. HALL  
PROFESSOR M. B. HESSE  
PROFESSOR P. M. RATTANSI
- Hon. Secretary: H. G. L. BEVAN, Esq.
- Hon. Treasurer: G. L' E. TURNER, Esq.
- Hon. Editors: DR R. FOX  
DR N. W. FISHER
- Hon. Programme Secretary:  
DR A. M. DUNCAN
- Council: DR W. F. BYNUM  
A. CHAPMAN, Esq.  
J. R. R. CHRISTIE, Esq.  
DR W. V. FARRAR  
DR E. G. FORBES  
DR F. GREENAWAY  
PROFESSOR S. F. MASON  
DR R. M. MACLEOD  
PROFESSOR A. J. MEADOWS  
J. B. MORRELL, Esq.  
DR R. S. PORTER  
DR G. K. ROBERTS

Ex-libris

WILLIAM C WAKE

# The British Journal for the History of Science

July 1977

Volume X Part 2 No. 35

## CONTENTS

Presidential Address: History of Science in a National Context. MAURICE CROSLAND . . . . .	95
From Abacus to Algorithm: Theory and Practice in Medieval Arithmetic. GILLIAN R. EVANS . . . . .	114
Richard Owen, William Whewell, and the <i>Vestiges</i> . JOHN HEDLEY BROOKE . . . . .	132
Note: Wilhelm Ostwald's 'The Bridge'. NILES R. HOLT . . . . .	146
Essay Reviews:	
Prophets and Patrons . . . . .	151
Human Genetics, Eugenics and Race . . . . .	156
Book Reviews (for details see next page) . . . . .	160
Books Received . . . . .	183
Inquiries . . . . .	185
Notes on Contributors . . . . .	186

Published by  
The British Society for the History of Science

## ESSAY REVIEWS

	PAGE
TERRY N. CLARK, <i>Prophets and patrons: the French university and the emergence of the social sciences</i> : rev. by G. WEISZ	151
JOHN S. HALLER, JR., <i>Outcasts from evolution. Scientific attitudes of racial inferiority, 1859-1900</i> : rev. by R. C. OLBY	155
KENNETH M. LUDMERER, <i>Genetics and American society. A historical appraisal</i> : rev. by R. C. OLBY	156

## BOOK REVIEWS

### HISTORIOGRAPHY

JACQUES BARZUN, <i>Clio and the doctors. Psycho-history, quanto-history, and history</i> : rev by TREVOR McCLAUGHLIN	160
--	-----

### SOCIOLOGY OF SCIENCE

BARRY BARNES, <i>Scientific knowledge and sociological theory</i> : rev. by J. B. MORRELL	161
---	-----

### ASTRONOMY

STANLEY L. JAKI, <i>The Milky Way: an elusive road for science</i> : rev. by P. A. H. SEYMOUR	162
---	-----

### MEDICINE

KARL E. ROTHSHUH, <i>History of physiology</i> : rev. by KARL FIGLIO	163
--	-----

MICHEL FOUCAULT, <i>The birth of the clinic. An archaeology of medical perception</i> : rev. by KARL FIGLIO	164
---	-----

### AGRICULTURE

G. E. FUSSELL, <i>Crop nutrition: science and practice before Liebig</i> : rev. by C. A. RUSSELL	168
--	-----

### ANTIQUITY

ROBERT HALLEUX, <i>Le problème des métaux dans la science antique</i> : rev. by A. R. WILLIAMS	169
--	-----

NACHUM L. RABINOVITCH, <i>Probability and statistical inference in ancient and medieval Jewish literature</i> : rev. by RICHARD LORCH	170
---	-----

### SEVENTEENTH CENTURY

MARIN MERSENNE, <i>Les nouvelles pensées de Galilée</i> : rev. by A. RUPERT HALL	171
--	-----

ALLEN G. DEBUS (Ed.), <i>Medicine in seventeenth century England</i> : rev. by GWENETH WHITTERIDGE	171
--	-----

HOWARD M. SOLOMON, <i>Public welfare, science, and propaganda in seventeenth century France. The innovations of Théophraste Renaudot</i> : rev. by TREVOR McCLAUGHLIN	173
---	-----

PIERRE COSTABEL, <i>Leibniz and dynamics: the texts of 1692</i> : rev. by CAROLYN ILTIS	176
---	-----

### NINETEENTH AND TWENTIETH CENTURIES

DONALD AULT, <i>Visionary physics. Blake's response to Newton</i> : rev. by P. M. HEIMANN	177
---	-----

DAVID DE GIUSTINO, <i>Conquest of mind: phrenology and Victorian social thought</i> : rev. by STEVEN SHAPIN	177
---	-----

FREDERIC LAWRENCE HOLMES, <i>Claude Bernard and animal chemistry</i> : rev. by SEYMOUR H. MAUSKOPF	179
--	-----

LUCIENNE FÉLIX (Ed.), <i>Message d'un mathématicien: Henri Lebesgue</i> : rev. by PIERRE DUGAC	181
--	-----

FREDERICK SODDY, <i>Radioactivity and atomic theory</i> : rev. S. B. SINCLAIR	182
---	-----