

### Book Reviews

excellent account of the general scene at Glasgow and Edinburgh, against which the pioneering work of Cullen, whose chemical doctrines are considered in Part One, and of Black, took place. This was part of a remarkable phase of Scottish culture when the advancement of science was of both philosophical and practical concern. Thus science, economics and technology found common ground in philosophy which was of great moment to Scottish society. Edinburgh was the centre of this endeavour, which in part accounts for the remarkable progress and stature of the Medical School then and later, when chemistry was becoming an essential topic for medical students to be acquainted with.

Dr. Donovan has provided us with an important contribution to the analysis of eighteenth-century Scottish science and medicine, its origins and the factors influencing it, drawn against the background of the Scottish Enlightenment. It deserves wide attention, and it is to be hoped that others will be stimulated to examine in the same scholarly detail the many other problems of this general topic which await consideration.

J. DUPAQUIER (editor), *Annales de démographie historique 1973. Enfant et sociétés*, Paris, Mouton, 1975, 8vo, pp. 488, illus., Hfl.36.00.

Since 1964 the Société de Démographie Historique, which has its headquarters in Paris, has published its proceedings each year. This number first appeared in 1973 and is now reprinted, indicating an increasing interest in its important topic.

There are forty communications, ranging in size from large articles such as the one by R. Étienne on 'La conscience médicale antique et la vie des enfants' together with the discussion generated (pp. 15–61), to the brief presentation of documents like that of F.-Y. Le Moigne on 'Remède infaillible contre les vers des enfants' (p. 394). The arrangement is chronological: antiquity, the Middle Ages (including a paper on the attitude of the Church), seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, and the nineteenth century (here Peter Laslett's paper on 'L'attitude à l'égard de l'enfant dans l'Angleterre du XIX<sup>e</sup> siècle, d'après les sources littéraires, politiques et juridiques', pp. 313–318, should be noted; of great value also is A. Armengaud's 'L'attitude de la société à l'égard de l'enfant au XIX<sup>e</sup> siècle. Elements de bibliographie' (pp. 345–352). Each article is a scholarly contribution with full documentation and often containing tables, graphs and illustrations; the bibliography to the papers covers pp. 433 to 479.

The French school of historical demography has been the pioneer in this field and it demonstrates in this collection that it is still the foremost. There is here a great deal of most valuable and important information on a subject that has been much neglected, but is now receiving more attention. It is natural to contrast this type of history of childhood, characterized by a careful, scientifically controlled approach, with the somewhat less precise romancing of the American psycho-historians.

This issue of the *Annales*, like its nine predecessors, can be welcomed as a significant contribution to the history of paediatrics and to historical demography. It deserves widespread attention and will, it is to be hoped, stimulate other scholars to apply these approaches and techniques to similar material in their own countries.