

Book Notices

MARIE-PAUL DUMINIL, *Le sang, les vaisseaux, le coeur dans la collection Hippocratique*, Paris, Les Belles Lettres, 1983, 8vo, pp. 348, Fr. 230.00 (paperback).

This is a well-argued study of the anatomy and physiology of the heart and the blood vessels in the Hippocratic Corpus, which goes beyond the account of C. R. S. Harris, *The heart and the vascular system* (Oxford, 1973), particularly in its consideration of the role and function of blood and in its discussions of the anatomical schemata that underlie many Hippocratic texts. But at times its arguments seem dated – little is heard of the writings of G. E. R. Lloyd or of Vegetti and Manuli's provocative *Cuore, sangue e cervello*, 1977, to say nothing of Lonie's recent work on Hippocratic embryology – and a totally inadequate index of topics will forestall any easy access to the many valuable insights contained in this book.

JACQUES JOUANNA (editor), *Hippocrate: Maladies II*, Paris, Les Belles Lettres, 1983, 8vo, pp. 313, Fr. 140.00.

This is an excellent edition of a difficult Hippocratic tract, with clear and concise notes both at the foot of the page and, for the more difficult passages, in an appended commentary. Jouanna's mastery of Hippocratic text and language is clear. His introduction discusses the development of this text, probably as a compilation from two separate nosological works, and its possible sources. He is rightly cautious in seeing it as a purely Cnidian work, although few will deny his suggestion of some influence from the notorious *Cnidian opinions*, even if the extent and nature of that influence remains impossible to determine for certain.

CHARLES B. SCHMITT, *Aristotle and the Renaissance*, Cambridge, Mass., and London, Harvard University Press, 1983, 8vo, pp. x, 187, illus., £14.80.

The fortunes of Aristotle in the Renaissance, here roughly defined as lasting from 1370 to 1650, were perhaps even more influential than those of Plato, yet until the appearance of this book, they had received no general introductory treatment. In these Martin lectures, Dr Schmitt elegantly sets out the various types of Aristotelianism that then flourished, expounds the literature that they produced, and puts the Renaissance Aristotle in the context of philological debates about proper translations and of learned scientific enquiry. The broad sweep of these lectures has not allowed the author much space to discuss the role of renaissance Aristotelianism in medicine, but he offers many hints and suggestions that future scholars will acknowledge with gratitude.

GERI BERG (editor), *The visual arts and medical education*, Carbondale and Edwardsville, Southern Illinois University Press, 1983, 8vo, pp. xxii, 147, illus., [no price stated].

Can the visual arts make a real contribution to the quality of medical practice, and if so, how? These are the conundrums attempted by the essayists in this volume. None of them, except perhaps Charles Rusch in his provocative piece on architecture, wants to change things very much; the tone is rather to enrich them. Though addressing visual materials, the essays are definitely in the Oslerian tradition of attempting to wed the doctor to the humanities in order to make him more humane. Whatever preconceptions one has about "Art" or "Medicine", these essays will probably do little to dislodge them.

FRANK M. SNOWDEN, *Before color prejudice; the ancient view of blacks*, Cambridge, Mass., and London, Harvard University Press, 1983, 8vo, pp. ix, 164, illus., £14.00.

Building on his earlier writings on Negroes in Antiquity, Professor Snowden now studies the ancient evidence for colour prejudice, and concludes that it played no significant part in ancient social relations. The Hippocratic theory of environmental determinism is, however, only briefly considered, and the evidence of Galen, cited in this journal, 1982, 26: p. 214, seems unknown. There Galen, commenting on the Hippocratic theory, expressly links the Negro's physical

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appearance to an emotional inferiority, which is explained on environmental grounds. Together with hints in the dream books and in the ancient texts on physiognomy, this passage suggests that all might not be the idyll of harmonious co-existence that the author proposes.

JAMES H. TREBLE, *Urban poverty in Britain 1830–1914*, London, Methuen, 1983, 8vo, pp. 216, £4.95 (paperback).

This is a very welcome reprint of Dr Treble's comprehensive and scholarly study of urban poverty, first published by Batsford in 1979 (see review in *Med. Hist.*, 1980, 24: 236).

ANNE HUDSON JONES (editor), *Literature and Medicine*, vol. 2: *Images of healers*, Albany, State University of New York Press, 1983, 8vo, pp. xiv, 160, \$12.95 individuals, \$25.00 institutions.

This volume is concerned with many kinds of healers, both orthodox and unorthodox, in many kinds of literature – from poetry to postage stamps. The essays are dedicated to William Carlos Williams (1883–1963), one of the best known of America's physician-writers.

BOOKS ALSO RECEIVED

(The inclusion of a title in this list does not preclude the possibility of subsequent review. Items received, other than those assigned for review, are ultimately incorporated into the collection of the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine.)

Bulletin of the Indian Institute of History of Medicine, vol. 11, Hyderabad, Institute of History of Medicine, 1981, pp. 172, annual subscription Rs. 40.00 (Rs. 30.00 in India).

EPHRAIM FISCHOFF, *William Beaumont, frontier army surgeon and physiologist*, (Pearson Museum Monograph Series), Springfield, Ill., Department of Humanities, Southern Illinois University School of Medicine, 1983, 8vo, pp. 20, illus., [no price stated], (paperback).

EDWARD M. SHOEMAKER (compiler), *Index to Food and Drug Administration annual reports 1950–1974*, Madison, Wis., American Institute for the History of Pharmacy, 1983, 8vo, pp. 71, \$4.00 (paperback).

H. W. STOLK-VAN DELEN, *Wijkverpleging in historisch perspectief*, Amsterdam, Rodopi, 1983, 8vo, pp. 75, [no price stated], (paperback).

Zürcher Medizingeschichtliche Abhandlungen (Zurich, Juris Druck, 1983):

No. 156. ANGELIKA PFARRWALLER-ST EVE, *Friedrich von Müller (1858–1941) und seine Stoffwechseluntersuchungen*, pp. 58, SFr. 16.00.

No. 157. KATHARAINA V. FABER-CASTELL, *Arzt, Krankheit und Tod im erzählerischen Werk Theodor Fontanes*, pp. 97, SFr. 25.00.

No. 158. HANS-RUDOLF SCALABRIN, *Heinrich Ludwig Attenhofer 1783–1856. Arzt und Politiker*, pp. 66, SFr. 66.00.

No. 159. ERNST FASOL, *Der Internist Hermann Eichhorst 1849–1921*, pp. 98, SFr. 25.00.

No. 160. WENZELMARIA DUFEK, *Der Internist Otto Naegeli 1871–1938*, pp. 76, SFr. 20.00.

No. 161. GEORG STOFFEL, *Christian Friedrich Fritzsche 1851–1938. Erster Glarner Spitalarzt und Beschreiber der Akromegalie*, pp. 65, SFr. 17.00.

No. 162. ALOIS GEIGER, *Lorenz Heister als Geburtshelfer und gynäkologischer Chirurg*, pp. 140, SFr. 36.00.