

Book Reviews

K. J. DOVER, *Greek homosexuality*, London, Duckworth, 1978, 8vo, pp. x, 244, illus., £15.00.

Sir Kenneth Dover's book is the first serious study of the extent and the ways in which homosexuality was approved by the Ancient Greeks. His material is drawn from all types of sources dating from the eighth to the second centuries B.C.; they include vase paintings, archaic and classical poetry, and the writings of Ancient Greek authors. The study is remarkably comprehensive with many quotations and excellent illustrations.

The author's aim is to describe the phenomena of homosexual behaviour and sentiment in order to provide a basis for other scholars' more detailed and specialized exploration of the sexual aspects of Greek art, society, and morality. He discusses the legal restraints and the Athenian idea of beauty and manliness. There is also a section on 'Women and homosexuality'. Sir Kenneth's book will remain a definitive study for some time and will, it is hoped, stimulate others to carry on scholarly work on the subject.

GERTRUDE H. EGGERT, *Wernicke's works on aphasia. A sourcebook and review*, The Hague, Paris, and New York, Mouton; West Berlin, W. de Gruyter, 1977, 8vo, pp. xv, 307, illus., DM.45.00.

Wernicke's name is well known in neurology, and above all is associated with a type of aphasia. The first part of this book contains, amongst other considerations, a detailed review of his contributions to aphasia, with biographical information, a review of the historical background of his theory, and a full discussion of it. These are well presented and the author has handled a complex topic with ease. The second part (pp. 87–307) is a careful translation of Wernicke's major works on aphasia, including five monographs and essays and a number of shorter journal articles. Each piece has a brief introduction.

This is an excellent presentation of a difficult subject, comprising Wernicke's actual writings and an appraisal and survey of them. It can be warmly recommended.

GERHARD FICHTNER and HELMUT SIEFERT, *Medizinhistorische Reisen. Band 2: Padua*, Stuttgart and New York, Schattauer, 1978, 8vo, pp. 244, illus., DM. 16.80 (paperback).

The system of staff-led parties of medical students visiting cities of medico-historical interest has been popular in Germany for many years. The first volume of this series concerned Paris and gave an account of all buildings, museums, art galleries, libraries, etc., etc., associated with the history of medicine. The second volume does the same for Padua, another city rich in medical history. It is well illustrated, has a substantial bibliography, and an excellent index.

For anyone interested in the medical aspects of Padua this book will be essential. It seems a great pity that medical teachers in this country cannot organize similar expeditions, so as to broaden the progressively narrowing education of the medical student. Books on cities visited would be an essential by-product, but no doubt inadequate initiative and interest will prevent such daring innovations, and we shall therefore have to make do with translations of the Germans' series.