

## Book Reviews

In editing a unique manuscript, some scholars prefer to publish the text literally, and to give the suggested readings for nonsensical words in the margin.

A. Z. ISKANDAR

*The Evolution of Clinical Methods in Medicine*, by KENNETH D. KEELE, London, Pitman Medical Publishing Co., 1963, illus., pp. 115, 35s.

In this attractive little volume Dr. Keele shows that the practising doctor is inevitably the child of his time, for throughout the centuries, from that period when Hippocrates first gave medicine method, this has been formed and governed by the spirit and knowledge of his lay contemporaries as much as by what passes as clinical science.

He sketches the origins and follows the changing shape of clinical methods from the earliest times, showing how they have reached their present form, illustrating his book (which was compiled from the FitzPatrick Lectures given in the Royal College of Physicians in 1961 and 1962) profusely from many sources, some of them rather unusual.

The contents are divided into four parts, logically—‘The origins of clinical examination’ takes us up to Laennec’s invention of the stethoscope. We then come to ‘The Impact of Science on clinical methods; the basic sciences enter clinical medicine’—which introduces those advances which resulted from the increasing knowledge of physics, chemistry and the other basic sciences which were later pressed into the service of medicine. In the final chapter he traces the progress of the clinical scientists’ ideal of quantitative investigation and its logarithmic acceleration as the result of the advances which have been made during the past century; particularly along the paths of vision and touch which to Galileo as to the modern clinical scientist remained the only human senses which adequately and objectively contacted reality.

W. S. C. COPEMAN

*The Evolution of Psychiatry in Scotland*, by SIR DAVID KENNEDY HENDERSON, Edinburgh and London, E. & S. Livingstone Ltd., 1964, pp. viii, 300, 32s. 6d.

Sir David has done an invaluable service in writing this record of psychiatry in Scotland. Half of the book is concerned with the period before Sir David came on the scene, the rest is an account of his own experiences and of the development of modern psychiatry both in Scotland and in England. The influence of the Edinburgh School on medicine in general, and on psychiatry in particular, was very considerable during the late eighteenth century. The traditional link between France and Scotland must also have had its effect, for as Sir David shows, there was a close relationship between Scottish and French psychiatrists. His chapter on the Royal Mental Hospitals of Scotland is a useful addition to our knowledge. But perhaps the most valuable part of the book is that dealing with Sir David’s own life and career. Qualifying in 1907, he trained in the United States and in Germany, working with Meyer, Kraepelin and Alzheimer, saw military service in the First World War, and steadily advanced until in 1932 he was appointed to the Chair of Psychiatry in the University of Edinburgh. Sir David’s book is the story of a wise, forward-looking man, and of the orderly progress of his subject founded on the work of sound and sensible men such as himself.

DENIS LEIGH

*Janus in the Doorway*, by DOUGLAS GUTHRIE, illus., pp. xi, 316, London, Pitman Medical Publishing Co., 1963, pp. 316, 50s.

Dr. Douglas Guthrie, formerly lecturer on Medical History in the University of

## Book Reviews

Edinburgh, has collected in this volume a number of historical, medical and philosophical essays which will appeal to many readers. Scientists will find special interest in the following papers: 'Surgeon Apothecaries and Physick Gardens', which tells of the days when botany was more closely linked with medicine; 'The Way of the Investigator', a dissertation on research; 'The Pursuit of the Infinitely Small', treating of the development of microscopy from Zacharias Janssen and Galileo onwards, and including the other pioneers, Malpighi, Leeuwenhoek, Swammerdam, Hooke and Grew; 'Ancient and Primitive Drugs', another tribute to the botanists, to which may be added for the benefit of pharmacologists, 'A Hundred Years of Chloroform'. The general reader, also, will enjoy the following essays: 'Dr. John Brown, "Rab", and "Marjorie"', which gives an accurate account of the short life of Marjorie Fleming, 'the youngest immortal in the world of letters'; 'Dr. Francis Adams of Banchory', a profound Greek scholar; 'Coryat's Crudities', a continental tour in 1608; 'In quest of the witch-doctor', based on a visit to Africa; '*Religio Medici*'; a tercentenary tribute; and 'Sherlock Holmes and Medicine', which extols the fog, hansom cabs and the furniture of 221B Baker Street with Holmes and Watson awaiting the expected client.

Introductory papers are: 'The Search for a Philosophy of Medicine' and 'On Writing a History of Medicine', *experto crede*. The other essays are cameos of medical history, and as examples may be mentioned, 'Harvey in Space and Time', and 'John Hunter: Surgeon and Naturalist'. The title of the book is appropriate, for like the two-faced Roman god, Dr. Guthrie looks to the past as well as to the future.

### CONTRIBUTORS

- BROCK, W. H., M.Sc., Department of the History of Science, University of Leicester, University Road, Leicester.
- BRYN THOMAS, K., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., F.F.A.R.C.S., Garth Field, Mumbery Hill, Wargrave-on-Thames, Berkshire.
- COPEMAN, W. S. C., O.B.E., M.D., F.R.C.P., 129 Harley Street, London W.1.
- DURLING, RICHARD J., M.A., A.L.A., National Library of Medicine, Bethesda, Maryland, U.S.A.
- EARLES, M. P., B.Pharm., M.Sc., Ph.D., F.P.S., School of Pharmacy, Chelsea College of Science and Technology, Manresa Road, London, S.W.3
- FORBES, THOMAS R., Ph.D., Department of Anatomy, Yale University School of Medicine, 333 Cedar Street, New Haven 11, Conn., U.S.A.
- ISKANDAR, A. Z., D.Phil., 193 Ramses Street, Cairo, Egypt, U.A.R.
- LEAKE, CHAUNCEY D., M.D., School of Medicine, Department of Pharmacology, San Francisco 22, California, U.S.A.
- LEIGH, DENIS, M.D., F.R.C.P., The Maudsley Hospital, Denmark Hill, London S.E.5.
- PRIDAN, DANIEL, M.D., M.P.H., Department of Social Medicine and Public Health, Health Education Unit, The Hebrew University, Hadassah Medical School, Jerusalem, Israel.
- ROBERTS, R. S., B.A., Flat 3, Canberra Court, 102 Fordwych Road, London N.W.2.
- STANNARD, JERRY, Ph.D., Department of History of Science and Medicine, Yale University, New Haven, Conn, U.S.A.
- WHITTET, T. D., B.Sc., Ph.D., F.P.S., F.R.I.C., D.B.A., Pharmaceutical Department, University College Hospital, Gower Street, London W.C.1.
- WILSON, T. G., Litt.D., F.R.C.S.I., Hon. F.R.C.S. Eng., Hon. F.R.C.S. Edin., Hon. R.H.A., 3 Fitzwilliam Square, Dublin, Eire.