

### Book Reviews

Micro-structural data are obtained from a survey of scientists born between 1700 and 1845, and the macro-structural from the history of Geneva, especially its educational systems and social levels. Analysis reveals clearly that socio-cultural factors are of prime importance. Thus most of the outstanding scientists came from the higher classes, and the emergence of scientific activity could be shown to relate to a combination of local and general social factors.

This is a scholarly work with full documentation. Extensive use is made of tables, graphs and diagrams, and the author provides a model that others can perhaps employ when focusing down on a comparable community elsewhere in the world. It can be highly recommended and should be consulted by all those carrying out research in science or medicine in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

G. RUTHVEN MITCHELL, *Homeopathy. The first authoritative study of its place in medicine today*, London, W. H. Allen, 1975, 8vo, pp. viii, 200, illus., £4.95.

Homeopathy considered historically is a most interesting and important phenomenon. Its origin, growth and modification reveal a fascinating aspect of medicine, especially in the nineteenth century, and, as the dust-jacket proclaims, it is "... an ancient healing art that is an ever-growing force in medicine today". The historian, who must link his studies with the present day, will, therefore, welcome an authoritative book by a medically qualified, practising homeopathist that surveys the modern practice of the art and its relationships to what most people would prefer to call the more orthodox type of medicine. As one of the few modern expositions on the subject, Dr. Mitchell's book can be recommended. Not only does it present the state of homeopathy today, but it also deals with its history, the author's whole approach, in fact, being historical. However, not all the history is reliable and statements such as "the speculative philosophising of Galen" do not increase our confidence in the author as an historian.

It is still not clear, however, how homeopathy achieves its claimed successes and we need now a non-homeopathist to evaluate its contribution to the medicine of today. Perhaps it is playing a useful role as a counterbalance to its increasingly scientific and expensive rival, allopathic medicine.

EILER H. SCHIÖTZ and JAMES CYRIAX, *Manipulation past and present, with an extensive bibliography*, London, Heinemann, 1975, 8vo, pp. vi, 222, illus., £4.25.

Dr. Schiötz is a distinguished Norwegian physician and Dr. Cyriax is equally well known as an orthopaedic physician, coming from a family renowned for its contributions to manipulative medicine. Their book has two distinct parts, and the first by Dr. Schiötz deals with the history of manipulation from the earliest times to the twentieth century (pp. 3–63). Manipulators, bone-setters, osteopaths, chiropractors and modern therapists are dealt with and a great deal of interesting and original material is presented. The associated bibliography (pp. 187–216) is extensive and will be of the greatest value to historians of medicine and to those concerned with the history of manipulation. It covers all periods and many languages.

The second part, by Dr. Cyriax, deals with the present-day position and in so doing he provides additional historical information on orthodox and unorthodox