

Book Reviews

To celebrate her achievement, fifty-five scholars from West Germany, from other European countries, from Asia and the USA have contributed essays to the present volumes. It would be too much to expect either that all the contributors should manage to attain here the combination of adventurousness and precision which characterizes Professor Putscher's best writings, or that the reviewer should be given space to summarize all their papers, however interested by them he personally may have been. Their variety is in itself a tribute to the open interests of the *Jubilarin*, and if many of them focus on what looks like obscurity, it is because the paths which connect fields of light are often obscure for no good reason. Reinterpretation by illuminating connexions is one of the genres favoured by the contributors, and justifies one sense of the title of the volumes. One of the subjects discussed is the use, by Dutch microscopists in the seventeenth century, of very small glass balls as strongly enlarging microscopes: it is tempting to see this device as a physical counterpart to the *petites perceptions* which can unexpectedly serve to magnify the interest of a superficially minor theme, and which are abundant throughout these volumes. Neither are bold theoretical arguments eschewed, even in the small compass to which the contributors have had to be limited. Students of almost all kinds of medical history from ancient Assyria to within living memory will find here something pertaining to their interests, as well as a worthy tribute to a vigorous promoter of their subject.

William Schupbach
Wellcome Institute

WILLIAM LEFANU, *A bibliography of Edward Jenner*, 2nd ed., Winchester, St Paul's Bibliographies, 1985, 8vo, pp. xvi, 160, illus., £24,00.

Since its publication in 1951, William LeFanu's bio-bibliography has been an indispensable starting-point for Jenner studies. It is a standard work, and, after the passage of more than three decades, a second edition is welcome. LeFanu makes numerous additions to his list of publications. Mysteries of 1951, such as the whereabouts of one of Jenner's manuscript notebooks (the Hellman notebook) are now solved. In addition, we are now provided with a biographical introduction (though the "bio-bibliography" title of the first edition has been dropped), and fuller, more discursive introductions to the various chapters, giving a more complete outline of the development of Jenner's thought. The second edition, which also has new illustrations, thus emerges as a more elegant and readable book than its predecessor. Surprisingly, it is also slimmer. This has been achieved mainly by shedding the location list of Jenner letters. This is disappointing, though LeFanu's view that such information could now be better collected by an institute with a computer may be correct. The brief notes on correspondence which replace it are less satisfactory and tend to inaccuracy (the Wellcome collection, for instance, does not include much of Jenner's correspondence with L. Davids and James Moore as stated on p. 113). As before, the bibliography is strongest on Jenner's own writings. We should not expect to find in this invaluable little work a complete guide to publications relating to him or to the history of vaccination.

Richard Palmer
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Koroth, vol. 8, 11–12, summer 1985, volume commemorating the 90th anniversary of Joshua O. Leibowitz (part I), 8vo, pp. 256, illus., \$10.00.

This special anniversary volume of *Koroth*, the journal of the Israel Institute of Medical History, has been published on the occasion of the ninetieth birthday of Joshua Leibowitz, the internationally respected and loved Emeritus Professor of the History of Medicine at the Hebrew University, Hadassah Medical School, Jerusalem.

A biographical sketch by the guest editor, Samuel Kottek, is followed by a comprehensive bibliography of Professor Leibowitz' publications over a period of fifty years, amounting to

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more than 260 articles, most on Jewish aspects of medical history, Maimonides being a favourite subject; as well as six books, the *magnum opus* being *The history of coronary heart disease* (1970).

There follows a *Festschrift* with contributions from numerous friends and colleagues, the list reading like a "Who's Who" of the great names in the field of medical history. Fifteen articles are on general aspects of the history of medicine and especially notable are those by Vivian Nutton on 'Harvey, Goulston and Galen'; John Scarborough on 'Galen's dissection of an elephant'; Harold Segall on 'Osler and Sir Thomas Browne'; and Hans Schadewaldt on 'Franz Kuhn and peroral intubation'.

Appropriately, there are also six articles on the theme of Jews and Medicine. Special mention may be made of those by Jean Théodoridès on 'Maimonides and rabies' (not Rabbis!) and J.J. Barcia-Goyane's scholarly piece on 'Mediaeval Hebrew anatomical names'.

This splendid volume is only Part I of the *Festschrift* and we look forward to the publication of Part II. All Professor Leibowitz' many admirers will wish to possess a copy of this commemorative volume of *Koroth*, which Professor Leibowitz himself co-founded in 1952 and edited thereafter.

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