

Book Reviews

childhood and adolescence left by male historians such as John Gillis, whose chapter on Victorian adolescence in *Youth and history* (1974) is tellingly entitled 'Boys will be boys'. Gorham provides a thorough summary of recent secondary material, and an illuminating introduction to the use of autobiographical sources. The complex and sometimes contradictory requirements of the feminine role as it developed throughout the nineteenth century are well-illustrated and wittily described. But I was left with a feeling that little new had been said, and that deeper and more subtle historical explanations of the creation of gender differences are needed than those contained in a model of prescription and conformity.

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JONATHAN BARNES, JACQUES BRUNSCHWIG, MYLES BURNYEAT, and MALCOLM SCHOFIELD (editors), *Science and speculation. Studies in Hellenistic theory and practice*, Cambridge University Press, 1982, 8vo, pp. xxvii, 351, [no price stated].

This collective volume (in English and French) confirms a mounting interest among classicists in the philosophy and science after Aristotle. Its range is wide, from astronomy to law, and from mathematics to medicine, to which two essays are specifically devoted. But medical historians would be unwise to pass over Burnyeat and Sedley's arguments on signs and indications, Lloyd's investigation of observational error in late Greek science, or Long's exposition of the debate on astrology (although medical examples here would have given added substance, see A. Wear in V. Nutton (editor), *Galen: problems and prospects*, London, 1981, pp. 245–250). Jonathan Barnes discusses the origins and employment of the sorites argument, particularly among doctors in reaction against the Empiricist sect (cf. also Burnyeat in *Studies presented to G. E. L. Owen*, Cambridge, 1982). Perhaps the essay most directly on medical theory is Michael Frede's defence of the philosophical basis of ancient Methodism, which, in contrast to Edelstein, he brings close to a type of Academic and undogmatic scepticism that can be found in authors like Cicero, Favorinus, Plutarch, and Sextus. But some reservations are in order. Frede, by combining texts from different periods of Methodism, gives an apparent coherence that does injustice to early developments within it. The relationship of, say, Soranus to other Asclepiadeans, Democriteans, or even Methodists like M. Modius Asiaticus and Stalilius Attalus, is by no means certain, and, at times, we are given what Frede would have said, had he been a Methodist, rather than any specifically ancient argument. This is not to say that such speculation may not be correct – and it is certainly provocative – but his defence of the Methodists' "undogmatic" belief in atoms and pores, and the three states of the body, as opposed to elements and humours, is not entirely convincing. There was more at stake for Galen and the Hippocratics than a debate about the status of knowledge and certainty, and their accusations about the Methodists' logical inconsistency seem to be justified. A parallel with the Sceptics' attitude to life, on which see Barnes, *Proc. Camb. Philological Soc.*, 1982, goes some way to support Frede's putative Methodist arguments, but still leaves some very awkward medical phenomena to be explained away.

Students of ancient medicine will benefit greatly from reading this collection, and scholars in other areas of medical history would do well to follow the editors in examining the relationship between medicine and contemporary philosophies.

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SAMUEL KOTTEK (editor), *Proceedings of the First International Symposium on Medicine in the Bible, Jerusalem, 1981*, (*Koroth*, 1982, 8 (5–6) Special Issue), Jerusalem, Israel, Institute of Medical History, 1982, 8vo, pp. 274, \$12.00.

On 23–27 August 1981, the First International Symposium on medicine in the Bible was held at the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities in Jerusalem. The proceedings of this symposium have now been published as a special issue of *Koroth* under the editorship of Dr Samuel Kottek, who so successfully organized the event. Thirty-three papers contributed to the symposium are included with abstracts of a further three. The chairman's introductory remarks, the editorial, and a list of addresses of contributors are also included.