

## Book Reviews

when the relationship of planets to events on earth and the birth of individuals and to parts of the body is studied; (2) divinatory astrology, when from astronomical calculations prognostications for the development of diseases or of epidemics are deduced; (3) "artificial astrology". Here tables and calendars are used without reference to or even knowledge of the philosophical background. During phase 2 the term *iatromathematics* was introduced to exclude the idea of demonic magic which would make this kind of medicine suspect to the religious establishment. Nevertheless, the attitude of religious authorities fluctuated a good deal. This is one of the chief themes of the book under notice. It is an excellent source-book for the astro-medicine of the fifteenth to the seventeenth centuries, from Ficino through the syphilis debate down or up to Kepler.

Marianne Winder  
Wellcome Institute

MING WONG, *Les massages en médecine traditionnelle chinoise*, Paris, Masson, 1984, 8vo, pp. x, 128, illus., £16.50.

Massage belongs to the manual methods of treating ailments, which have a long history in Chinese medicine going back to the fifth century BC. The view of the body underlying it is the traditional one that compares man with the universe. The vessels convey fluids along the body the way channels irrigate the earth. The acupuncture points are like stars in the sky. There are five humours, five colours, five seasons, etc., and massage aids their harmonious interaction. The first twenty-nine pages tell the history of the development of these ideas and their application by way of massage into an empirically valid system advocated today by the government hospitals and institutions in different districts of China, each having developed its own variety of treatment by massage. The next few pages are devoted to diagnosis concerned with functions such as energies, breaths, and an intricate pulse lore. The rest of the book demonstrates with line drawings what massage is to be given for specific complaints. Points along the acupuncture "meridians" are stimulated and sometimes points above, below, or to the left or right of them. For certain complaints additional treatment by acupuncture and herbal injections is recommended. Any person trained in Western massage may benefit from this book. To the rest of us it affords the spectacle of the possible variety of human responses to pain.

Marianne Winder  
Wellcome Institute

BURGHARD WEISS, *Wie finde ich Literatur zur Geschichte der Naturwissenschaften und Technik*, Berlin, Arno Spitz, 1985, 8vo pp. 289, DM 36.00 (paperback).

According to the author, this work is not intended as a specialized introduction to the problems, foundations, and methods of the history of science and technology, nor is it a bibliography which lists systematically and with a certain completeness titles of books on the subject. Its aim is to provide information on the means of finding books and articles relevant to the study of the history of science and technology. It is true that this guide does not deal in depth with the methodology and foundations of the subject, but the author is unduly modest when he claims that the bibliography, which occupies three-quarters of the book, may not be considered systematic. It may lack comprehensiveness and completeness (it does not include articles, nor is it annotated), but it seems to be astonishingly up to date and should prove very useful to the student and newcomer to the subject, whatever his or her native language.

The book falls into two parts: the first four chapters deal with the methodology and aims of the subject, the material available for study in libraries, the West German libraries where this material can be found and the way the literature can be located (in fact, a short guide to bibliographical organization and library technique). This part is aimed at the student or newcomer to the subject in West Germany. There is an interesting account of the origin and