

Book Notices

Anargyros Anastassiou, Dieter Irmer, *Testimonien zum Corpus Hippocraticum. Teil II: Galen. 1. Band: Hippokrateszitate in den Kommentaren und im Glossar*, Göttingen, Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 1997, pp. xxxix, 535, DM 240.00 (3-525-25807-0).

The Hamburg-based group that produced the invaluable *Index Hippocraticus* has now embarked on an equally ambitious project, to provide properly edited testimonia to the Hippocratic Corpus in Antiquity. One volume will cover citations from works written before Galen, and one for those after him, while three volumes will be devoted to the Galenic Corpus. The first is concerned with citations in his Hippocratic Commentaries and Glossary. Each Hippocratic citation (but not, obviously on grounds of space, the actual lemmata of the commentary) is given with its surrounding context, and with an apparatus criticus. This is an enormous labour, and one can only be grateful that this task is being performed so well. Textual scholars will find this especially useful for *Aphorisms* (which still lacks a modern edition of the Galenic Commentary), and for *Airs, waters, and places* (where Galen's Commentary survives only in Arabic). Others can note the rarity of quotations from *Sacred disease* and *ancient medicine*, treatises highly prized today for their allegedly Hippocratic origin, but not regarded by Galen as coming from the pen or from close associates of Hippocrates himself. The collection of material dealing with the origins of the Hippocratic Corpus and Hellenistic scholarship is also of potential value beyond the merely textual.

Hewan Dewar, *The story of cardiology in Newcastle*, Bishop Auckland, Durham Academic Press, 1998, pp. xiii, 123, illus., £8.50 (1-900838-07-9).

In the early twentieth-century Britain led the world in cardiology, as witnessed by the

number of North Americans coming to study with Thomas Lewis at University College Hospital, London. A clutch of physicians from various parts of the country, using the newly invented electrocardiograph, deciphered rhythmical irregularities of the heart and in 1922, aware of their joint interests, formed the Cardiac Club. One of these physicians was William Hume (father of Cardinal Basil Hume), physician to the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle upon Tyne. Hume was a major figure in the history of cardiology, not least for being among the first describers of atrial flutter. When Hume retired in 1939 Hewan Dewar took his place. This slim volume is a very personal account of the practice of modern cardiology in Newcastle to the present. It is packed with a mixture of reminiscences and factual data covering the early 1920s to today. A lot of the book is devoted to cardiology since 1950 and to explaining technical issues, so the student of the pre-war voluntary hospital will not find much here. There are several useful appendices. In addition, the insider's perspective on Tyneside medicine and asides, such as the fact that Hume could remove a heart through the rectum (for post-mortem not therapeutic purposes), will keep the reader engaged.

BOOKS ALSO RECEIVED

(The inclusion of a title does not preclude the possibility of subsequent review. Items received, other than those assigned for review, are ultimately incorporated into the collection of the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine.)

Franco Calascibetta (ed.), *Atti del VII Convegno Nazionale di storia e fondamenti della chimica, L'Aquila, 8-11 ottobre 1997*, Rome, Accademia Nazionale delle Scienze detta dei XL, 1998, pp. 499.