Although there are several monographs dealing with the theory and practice of medicine, there are few publications which deal with the subject in such a manner that even laymen can follow them. Prof. Sigerist's lucid presentation of the subject is therefore a welcome contribution.

The book covers the entire field of science in relation to medicine. The author skips on from one section to another without losing the thread of continuity. At each stage, the subject is made interesting by historical anecdotes which bring into relief the human interest underlying each discovery referred to by the author.

If the book has any defect, it is that the author is too ambitious, that he has endeavoured to cover a vast field of knowledge in the short space of 329 pages. Even technical readers, many of whom are unfortunately unacquainted with the historical development of their subjects, would like to linger over some of the sections and learn more about the various factors, human and otherwise, that led to the great discoveries in their respective fields. It would indeed have been highly desirable if the scope of the book had been restricted to a few select branches, the others being reserved for later publications.

The book has been written in excellent style and the translator deserves much praise for her efforts.

S. V.

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ELEMENTARY SCIENCE. (Parts I & II.) By James B. Guthrie, M.A., B.SC. (Chambers Limited, Edinburgh.)

Part I. Pp. 112. Price 1*s.* 6*d.*

This is the first of a series of four books, by James Guthrie, Principal teacher of science and mathematics of Buckhaven Secondary School. These books are in accordance with the most recent circulars of the Board of Education and the Scottish Education Department. Part I deals with subjects like Expansion and Contraction, Thermometry, Solution and Crystallisation, Rusting of iron, Physical and chemical changes, Atmospheric pressure and transfer of heat. The book is written in very simple language. Experiments precede generalisations and definitions. Difficult terms are explained at length. Experiments are designed to be simple and capable of being tried by the enquiring student. Hints to the teachers are given here and there. The figures indicating apparatus used for experiments are drawn in a neat and attractive manner. The portions dealt with in the book are meant to be covered in a year with four periods a week.

Part II. Pp. 127. Price 1s. 8*d.*

This book is meant to cover the science syllabus of the second year in schools and deals with subjects like Force, Centre of Gravity, Density, Pressure, Machines Work, Latent Heat, Action of Metals on the common acids. Preparation and properties of hydrogen and composition of water, Questions and Exercises and Answers to them are given.

The language difficulty experienced by the Indian student will be minimised when a text-book like this is placed in his hands. It is a highly useful and instructive book, worthy of being tried as a text-book in our Indian High Schools. These books become more commendable owing to their attractive printing and get-up.

B. V. SASTRY.

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## Forthcoming Events.

*The Central College Mathematical Society, Bangalore.*—Fortnightly Lectures on "Introduction to the General Theory of Algebraic Numbers" by Mr. K. Venkatachala Iyengar.

Fortnightly Lectures on "Quantum Mechanics" by Prof. B. S. Madhava Rao.

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## Erratum.

Vol. III, No. 3, page 106, Col. 2, line 8, *for* P. F. MALLIK *read* P. C. MALLIK.

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