

healing miracles were suffering from what would now be called functional disease, but seeks to support his thesis that these works of Christ were in accordance with natural laws, by quoting cases (not always convincing) of the effect of psychotherapy on organic disease.

The general impression of the book is that while the author has made out a plausible and even probable argument that the miracles were not supernatural phenomena, his parallels are not sufficiently exact to carry absolute conviction. Such exactitude could never be obtained in view of the unscientific observations of the New Testament cases by men who certainly thought these works were supernatural and were quite untrained in medical knowledge. As the author points out, even Luke "the physician" uses terms rather less exact from the medical point of view than do the others. The book is certainly readable and interesting, but belief that the ministrations referred to in it were miraculous is not likely to be disturbed by the author's scientific consideration of the evidence upon which it is based.

*A Book about Sweden.* Pp. 183. (Stockholm: A.-B. Nordiska Bokhandeln, 1922.) n.p.

WE have received through the Swedish Consulate-general in London a copy of "A Book about Sweden," published in Stockholm by the Swedish Traffic Association. It is a compact guide, very fully illustrated, written in English for those who may wish to visit Sweden, or for those who have not yet realised what a charming and novel field awaits the tourist, accustomed to think of Europe as centred in Grindelwald or Assisi. The photograph of the s.s. *Saga*, now running between London and Gothenburg (Göteborg), invites the Englishman by a reminder of his Viking blood. The description of the country and its human occupations is geographical, and many of the views, such as those in Lappland, are difficult to obtain from other sources. That of the iron-mountain of Kiruna, lit up electrically for work in the long winter night, illustrates one of the great romances of Swedish industry. The account of power-developments in general will interest scientific readers. We are shown the fascination of Abisko, remote within the Arctic Circle; but nothing is said about the summer mosquitoes, and the happy tourists at Torneträsk seem to be going about unveiled. The manifold charm of Stockholm, a city unlike any city, the sweet clean beauty of the forest country, the rush of waters at Porjus and Trollhättan, are here simply set before us. If one knows Sweden already, it is all the more delightful to turn these pages, and, as the Dalarna poem says, to long for her again. This little handbook may be recommended to British teachers of geography.

G. A. J. C.

*14,000 Miles through the Air.* By Sir Ross Smith. Pp. xii + 136. (London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd., 1922.) 10s. 6d. net.

THIS small volume by the late Sir Ross Smith marks an epoch in the history of flying, for it is a record of the first flight from London to Australia. Sir Ross Smith and his brother, Sir Keith Smith, accompanied by two air-mechanics, Sergeants J. M. Bennett and W. H. Shiers, entered a Vickers-Vimy aeroplane for

the prize of 10,000*l.* offered by the Commonwealth Government in 1919 for a flight from England to Australia in 30 days. As is well known, the two brothers won the race. They left Hounslow on November 12, 1919, and reached Darwin on December 10, 1919. From there the flight was continued to Sydney, Melbourne, and Adelaide. The actual time spent in flying between London and Adelaide was 188 hours 20 minutes. The longest spells in the air were 730 miles from Bundar Abbas to Karachi, and 720 miles from Karachi to Delhi. The brevity of the book makes it all the more vivid, and helps the reader to realise the speed of travelling by air. The author gives few incidents and certainly dwells lightly on the difficulties encountered. But there are some exciting passages, of which one of the best is the flight through the clouds between Rangoon and Bangkok, and the groping descent with the fear of collision with the heights of the Tenasserim Ranges. The book is well illustrated, the pictures of cities taken from the air being very striking. It is much to be regretted that this high-spirited airman lost his life at the very start of his next great adventure, a few years later, of the flight round the world.

*Evolutionary Naturalism.* By Prof. R. W. Sellars. Pp. xiv + 349. (Chicago and London: The Open Court Publishing Co., 1922.) n.p.

THE author of this book is one of the "critical" realists. The difference between a neo-realist and a critical realist would seem to be that the former regards the datum of perception as identical with the object of knowledge, while the latter distinguishes between them. The neo-realist says that we know the physical existence in perceiving it, the critical realist says we know the existence of the physical thing but what we perceive is its essence. Objects exist, but only their content and not their existence is perceived. The special theory which Prof. Sellars names evolutionary naturalism is based on this distinction. Its two great enemies, we are told, are Platonism and Kantianism, both of which are supernaturalistic. The theory is worked out in laborious detail and applied to the different problems of philosophy.

*Greek Biology and Greek Medicine.* By Dr. Charles Singer. (Chapters in the History of Science, I.) Pp. 128. (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1922.) 2s. 6d. net.

DR. SINGER here gives a succinct account of the general evolution of Greek biological and medical knowledge. The biological portion of the book is arranged in three sections, "Before Aristotle" (18 pp.), "Aristotle" (36 pp.), and "After Aristotle" (24 pp.); the remaining 50 pp. being allotted to Greek medicine. The section on Aristotle appears here for the first time; the others are reprinted, with slight amendments, from "The Legacy of Greece." All who are interested in the biological sciences will be glad to have in this cheap and convenient little volume an authoritative account of the works of Aristotle, Galen, Hippocrates, and others who laid the foundations of the science of life; and the majority of readers will be amazed at the extent of our indebtedness to Greece.