

and it would have been of great advantage to the user if the matter had been re-arranged so as to bring together tables dealing with the same function. Thus the reader of Table 30 of Part I is not told that, under a different title, sixty pages of Part 2 (Tables 8 and 9) contain a fuller and more accurate table of the same function.

The utility of some tables would have been greater had their nature not been disguised by the special terminology of the Biometric Laboratory. Thus a good, though truncated, table of the derivatives of the normal probability function (Table 7) is termed "Table of the First Twenty Tetrachoric Functions", owing to the accident that these functions were at one time used in the Biometric Laboratory for estimating the correlation coefficient from a 2×2 table. Others, such as the fifty-seven crowded pages devoted to Table 3 (more than 70,000 entries), seem like elaborate

attempts to make available a cumbersome method of approach to problems already more simply solved.

Among the more useful tables should be mentioned Table 2 of the second part, giving the abscissæ and ordinates of the normal curve, and certain important ratios, arranged as in Prof. Kelley's textbook of "Statistical Method". The table is to ten figures and based on Sheppard's extensive tables, as yet unpublished, of the probability integral. Table 7, which we have already mentioned, will also be useful, though in the introduction the reader is warned against this heresy, in constructing curves from their Charlier expansions.

As a collection of the labours of the Laboratory the work is monumental. Like other ambitious monuments, however, it invites criticism at a number of points.

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Short Reviews

Man and Medicine: an Introduction to Medical Knowledge. By Dr. Henry E. Sigerist. Translated by Margaret Galt Boise. Pp. x+340. (London: George Allen and Unwin, Ltd., 1932.) 12s. 6d. net.

DR. HENRY SIGERIST, who in 1925 succeeded the veteran Sudhoff as professor of the history of medicine in the University of Leipzig and has recently followed Dr. W. W. Welch in the corresponding chair at Johns Hopkins, has written a work which will be of value not only to the medical student for whom it is primarily intended but also to the layman interested in medical history and doctrines.

The work is divided into seven chapters. The first deals with man in his anatomical, physiological and mental and spiritual aspects with special reference to the work of Vesalius, Harvey, Freud and Jung. In the second chapter the sociological aspects of disease and the behaviour of the sick man are considered, with a comparison between the conception of disease in ancient and modern times. In the following chapter, entitled "Signs of Disease", the author shows that symptoms and disease are not identical conceptions but that symptoms are manifestations of disease, occurring in combination or following one another successively during the course of the disease. The fourth chapter is devoted to the consideration of the development of the various conceptions of disease throughout the ages, general theories of disease, the study of special diseases, the course of the disease, and its incidence and mortality. In the fifth chapter the causes of disease are discussed under the headings of external causes such as physical influences, food and drink, bacteriological and mechanical agencies, and internal causes, such

as disposition, constitution and heredity. Medical aid, which forms the subject of the sixth chapter, is considered from the threefold aspect of diagnosis of the diseases, treatment and prevention. The last chapter contains a short historical account of the physician in ancient Egypt, classical antiquity, the Middle Ages, the Renaissance and modern times, a consideration of the subject of sick insurance, professional secrecy and medical ethics.

A word of praise is due to Miss M. G. Boise for the excellence of her translation.

Architectural Acoustics. By Prof. Vern O. Knudsen. Pp. viii+617. (New York: John Wiley and Sons, Inc.; London: Chapman and Hall, Ltd., 1932.) 40s. net.

THIS massive volume admirably illustrates the manner in which a specialised physical subject, even in 'non-atomic' physics, may rapidly proceed from a very unsatisfactory rule-of-thumb stage to a stage in which one may obtain some definite measure of guidance from an appeal to fundamental principles. This particular subject, which owes its existence in great measure to the pioneer labours of the late Prof. Sabine, is developed by the author in a very competent and comprehensive manner.

The book is divided into three parts. The first part, consisting of about a hundred pages, is devoted to the study of physiological and physical acoustics. In the second section, the fundamentals of the special part are developed, a series of chapters being devoted to reverberation, and to the absorption, insulation and amplification of sound. This part concludes with a discussion of the acoustics of auditoriums, speech halls and music rooms. The third part deals with the application of these principles to building design.