

of bad habits, rather than encourage trust in the drug, which only temporarily countervails their evil effects?

The author, in his closing paragraph, insists that drugs are natural forces, and implies that therefore they must be good. Everything in Nature may be so regarded, but it becomes a "drug" only when it affects the physiological processes in a manner that is not merely nutritional, and the question is, not whether they come direct from Nature or are prepared by art, but whether their physiological effect is for good or ill?

The concluding chapters on habit show that, in spite of long suffering, probably every drug has an ill effect. Drug-treatment resolves itself, therefore, into the question of how much evil may be done that good may ensue.

We commend the book to our readers as both interesting and valuable, and as a brilliant addition to medical literature.

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*The Relation of Medicine to Philosophy.* By R. O. MOON, M.A., M.D.Oxon. 8vo., pp. 221. London: Longmans & Co., 1909. Price 4s. 6d.

Three chapters of this book have already appeared in the *British Medical Journal*, and the author, although he does not profess to have produced a history of medicine such as that of Haesen, Withrington or Kurl Springel, may be congratulated on having produced a very finished sketch from his chosen point of view.

The first three chapters are devoted to the relation to Greek philosophy. Then follow chapters on the influence of early Christianity, of Arab philosophy, on the various influences of the middle ages, of the renaissance, and of Paracelsus, concluding with studies of the effect of philosophy on medicine in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, and of the thought of the present time.

Without any attempt at criticism in detail, the opinion may be expressed that the task of Dr. Moon has been most ably executed, as well in its literary finish as in the comprehensive grasp of the subjects treated. In his final paragraph he says that "now it will be rather the custom for philosophy to come to medicine, and taking from her all the truths which through the ages she has been slowly recovering from ignorance and chaos, gather them up into one vast generalised truth which will enable men to lead the lives of intellectual and moral beings." This is the keynote of the spirit in which the book is written.

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*Die Gehirnoberfläche von Paralytischen* [*The Brain Surface in General Paralysis*]. By PROFESSOR NÄCKE. Leipzig: Vogel, 1909. Pp. 58, large 4to.

Professor Näcke here brings, with his usual laborious care, a contribution to his study of the morphology of general paralytics from a new side. The work is mainly an atlas of forty engraved plates (after drawings) of the brain surfaces of forty-nine general paralytics, mostly represented in natural size. The author furnishes an introduction and