

Notes

General

Some Priorities in Medical Anthropology. Witchcraft, Sorcery, Indigenous Medicine and Medical Anthropology (GEORGE T. NURSE). – Recent years have seen the emergence of medical anthropology as a new sub-discipline within anthropology. It is important to recognize that it is within anthropology, and not within any of the proliferating branches of medicine, that it has come to the fore. Health beliefs and health practices in developing and similar countries have hitherto been discussed, principally as aspects of witchcraft, or sorcery, mainly either by anthropologists with little knowledge of medicine or by medical men of conservative or histrionic bent. Little has been done until recently towards abstracting these beliefs and practices from their contexts and treating them as subjects for generalization. Indigenous medicine is not always associated with the witchcraft/sorcery system. In a number of societies it is not unlike the indigenous medicine of Europe before the scientific revolution. Thus it may supplement the encroaching medicine of the West. It should be of prime concern to the medical anthropologist, but this could be most rewarding in association with an investigation of the concomitant responses of the society to medicine introduced from outside. (Bulletin of the International Committee on Urgent Anthropological and Ethnological Research [Wien] 1978: 16–17.)

Folklore, Nationalism, and Politics (FELIX J. OINAS [ed.]). – This double-issue of the *Journal of the Folklore Institute* (The Hague) 12. 1925. 2–3 consists mostly of previously published articles, all dealing with folklore, nationalism, and politics. Three continents are encompassed. As for Europe, the center of gravity of five of the essays is Eastern Europe; Asia is covered by four essays, from Siberia to the Near and Far East; America is represented by an essay about a brief, but ideologically turbulent period [from the Preface]. – The present volume includes: RICHARD A. REUSS, American Folksongs and Left-Wing Politics: 1935–56; LINDA DÉGH, The Study of Ethnicity in Modern European Ethnology; WILLIAM A. WILSON, The Kalevala and Finnish Politics; FELIX J. OINAS, The Political Uses and Themes of Folklore in the Soviet Union; ROBERT B. KLYMASZ, Folklore Politics in the Soviet Ukraine: Perspectives on Some Recent Trends and Developments; JOHN S. KOLSTI, A Song about the Collapse of the Noli Government in Albania; ILHAN BAŞGÖZ, Folklore Studies and Nationalism in Turkey; ROBERT AUSTERLITZ, Folklore, Nationality, and the Twentieth Century in Siberia and the Soviet Far East; RICHARD M. DORSON, National Characteristics of Japanese Folktales; SANDRA EMINOV, Folklore and Nationalism in Modern China. ([Indiana University Folklore Institute, Monograph Series, 30.] 189 pp. in 8°. Columbus, Ohio, 1978. Slavica Publishers, Inc. Price: \$ 8.95.)

Erkennen und Erleben. Ein Grundprinzip antiker Mysterienkulte (ALOIS KEHL). – Nach einem berühmten Wort von ARISTOTELES hatte der Myste in den antiken Mysterienkulten nicht so sehr etwas zu erlernen, als vielmehr zu erleben. Durch dieses Erlebnis