

Preventive medicine and public health. Wilson G. Smillie. New York: Macmillan, 1946. Pp. xvi + 607. (Illustrated.) \$6.00.

Among teachers of the preventive, community, and public health aspects of medicine there are few who have been satisfied with the texts available in the field. Most of the members of this group will welcome this new work by Smillie. The book is so well planned and has such content that the graduate, too, will gain from it an appreciation of the import of these concepts of medicine in his own practice.

Too frequently these aspects of medicine have been presented in the curriculum as subjects quite apart from medicine per se—as distinct courses, related to and recognized as parts of medicine in the broader concept but looked upon by teachers and even by other members of the faculty and students as special fields in themselves. Obviously, this viewpoint is untenable. The medical services of the military forces, during World War II and before, demonstrated the importance and effectiveness of the preventive viewpoint as a part of medicine and as of equal import with the curative viewpoint. Although not new, the concept of correlation and coordination of the preventive and public health aspects with the clinical aspects of medicine, emphasizing these and epidemiologic knowledge concurrently with instruction in history taking, physical examination, laboratory studies, diagnosis, therapy, and prognosis, is a principle operative in but few American centers in medical education. Smillie's new work, however, provides the teacher with a textbook which will permit the teaching of the preventive, community, and public health areas in close relation to the clinical areas of medicine, utilizing the same methods. The student will find in this book individual case histories and epidemiologic analyses of outbreaks of communicable disease and thus may widen his perspective beyond the communicable diseases to include nutritional deficiency states, mental affections, metabolic disturbances, neoplastic diseases, etc. Through the material presented he may acquire a working knowledge that will enable him better to meet his responsibilities and to take advantage of his opportunities in the community.

The plan of the book is excellent. From an introductory section dealing with general concepts, population, and quantitative methods used in medicine, the subject is developed to include sections on environmental factors, communicable diseases and methods used in attempts at their control, child and adult health problems, and public health administration. The content is presented in a style permitting of easy reading, the thesis being developed in logical sequence. More careful editing would, however, have improved the text definitely. In spite of wartime restrictions, the publishers have produced an interesting and attractive publication for which they and the author need make no apologies.

From the adverse viewpoint, this reviewer was disappointed to find certain avoidable inaccuracies, some of them recurring frequently, and the occasional use of older terminology and of terms in ways that might serve to produce erroneous impressions. For example, the terms

"death rate," "mortality rate," and "case fatality rate" are used interchangeably, even to expressing the "death rate" and the "mortality rate" in per cent; "trichinosis" is used for trichiniasis, or, preferably, trichinellosis; and such statements as the following are made: "Diphtheria is caused by the Klebs-Loeffler bacillus" (p. 216); "Serum . . . may agglutinate suspensions of both *B. tularensis* and *B. abortus*" (p. 134); ". . . insects such as ticks" (pp. 152, 183); "Large cities are now virtually immune (to milk-borne disease) because of universal pasteurization ordinances" (p. 129).

Notwithstanding these and other editorial deviations of greater or less import, however, it is emphasized that in this reviewer's opinion the book is a splendid addition to the armamentarium of the student of medicine, be he graduate or undergraduate, generalist or specialist, and should find profitable use on a wide scale. Those engaged in the teaching of the preventive, community, and public health aspects of medicine owe a great deal to Dr. Smillie for this, his latest contribution.

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The Indians of the Southeastern United States. John R. Swanton. (Smithsonian Institution, Bureau of American Ethnology Bull. 137.) Washington, D. C.: Government Printing Office, 1946. Pp. xiii + 943. (Illustrated.) \$2.75.

The present monograph is a capstone crowning the structure of historical ethnology that Dr. Swanton has built for the North American Indian Southeast. It culminates more than 40 years of anthropological field work and library research, well over 30 of which have been devoted to the area which has come to be so largely identified with this scientist. In size of volume, geographical area covered, and range of problems considered, this is his most extensive study. It completes the history and ethnology of the area begun in 1911 with his first major southeastern monograph, *Indian tribes of the lower Mississippi*.

Swanton joined the Bureau of American Ethnology at the turn of the century; his first publication carrying the imprint of the Bureau was in 1905; he published his first paper on southeastern ethnology in 1907. Since this date his bibliography includes over 100 monographs and articles (exclusive of reviews, obituaries, and similar brief pieces), approximately three-fourths of which deal with the Southeast. Some 30 of the southeastern studies, in addition to several of his Northwest Coast and more general papers, are Smithsonian publications. Not only at the Smithsonian but also among American anthropologists in general, his name has become virtually synonymous with southeastern ethnology. It is, in fact, doubtful if another person in American anthropology has made as large a singlehanded contribution to the history and ethnology of a culture area of aboriginal America.

The present volume is in the same scrupulously exact, meticulously detailed, cautiously inductive historical tradition of its major predecessors. It reveals the author's

creative qualities for capturing the historical past: a controlled and critical ethnohistorical imagination, an unrivaled ability to extract ethnological juice from early nonethnological sources, and an almost uncanny flair for plausible if unverifiable toponymic identifications. At the same time, on the more critical side, it shows his judicious evaluation of the extravagant ethnographic description and exaggerated population estimates so characteristic of contemporary narrators. In perhaps no other culture area of native America north of Mexico is such critical capacity more necessary. Like its predecessors also, this study combines the ethnology of the early historical writers with materials, including the author's own notes, gathered by more recent field workers.

This volume, however, departs from its author's preceding papers in several respects. Nearly half of the text (pp. 242-629) describes material culture, a topic disproportionately treated in earlier efforts. The southeastern ethnological picture thus becomes better balanced and more fully rounded. On the other hand, discussions of linguistic classification and population are considerably contracted, doubtless owing to the author's more complete treatments of these subjects elsewhere. Conforming with the universal tendency toward reduction of stocks, the linguistic classification now offered revises certain earlier statements. The author now finds six linguistic families within the "primary" area (Muskogean, Tunican, Siouan, Caddoan, Iroquoian, and Yuchi). The Algonkian group of culture bearers is considered marginal to the Southeast proper, emerging from a "clearly different culture center" (p. 242), having "developed a somewhat independent pattern" (p. 10). It is, however, included within the "expanded boundaries of the Southeastern cultural province" (Map 1), and the material cultural résumé contains, for the first time in Swanton's writings, extensive discussions of Virginia and Carolina Algonkian traits and complexes.

A large and useful section (pp. 81-219) is devoted to brief sketches of over 170 tribes, tribal groups, and confederations of the "extended" area. These synopses, varying from a few lines to several pages per tribe, succinctly discuss the location, population, principal towns, political affiliations, and contact history of each group. They are done in a modernized *Handbook of American Indians* manner, though without the latter's detailed bibliographical citations. The unusually complete and excellent topically arranged index is quite adequate for towns, tribes, and culture groups, but a tribal synonymy for the Southeast is still badly needed. In the meantime this unusual section of Swanton's monograph will serve as the indispensable reference.

A 170-page section on "Societal and Ceremonial Life" augments the author's previous papers on the nonmaterial culture of the Southeast. Introductory chapters briefly describe the geography of the area and rather boldly relate aboriginal population and culture to the natural divisions. A striking departure from the author's previous rather close commitment to North America is a comparison of the North American Southeast with

"corresponding" southeastern areas in South America, Asia, Africa, and Australia (pp. 7, 9, 823-827). In addition, there is a Swantonian succinct section (pp. 21-81) on the complicated history of the entire area. This summary of prehistoric migrations, historic tribal movements, and native-white relations in general adequately covers developments to the end of the westward removal. Two short paragraphs bring the general situation down to date, but one misses a comparably detailed treatment of the postremoval period, with information as to the current locations, numbers, and cultural status of the surviving groups. The section as a whole is a masterly collation of tribal traditional, linguistic distributional and historical documentary data, and frequently suggests what should be fruitful leads for archeological investigation.

A concluding section (pp. 799-827) considers the area's aboriginal cultures from the point of view of their common characteristics and local specializations. Subareas are basically linguistic, with "constant difficulty" experienced in drawing more inclusively cultural boundaries. Tribal cultures of the area are considered "basically the same," with minor variations in material culture and larger ones in social, political, and religious life interpreted as due to natural environmental differences, importations from specific outside sources, and peculiarities of tribal origins and early historic associations. The so-called "Southeastern Algonkian" are seen as southeasternized northerners; the Algonkian Michigamea and Siouan Quapaw are considered culturally as well as geographically marginal at the area's northwestern corner, and toward the west the Southeast province is described as abruptly ending with the Caddo and Chitimacha. In spite of lack of cultural shading toward the southwest and the decided southeastern rather than Antillean orientation of the Florida tribes, it is claimed that the "great underlying cultural factors" of the Southeast "belong clearly" to Middle America and Peru. "Southeastern culture is an outlier of the culture there. It is a suburb of the American (cultural) capitol." Though these relational interpretations are not copiously culturally documented in this monograph, one feels that few students are better prepared to make them than Swanton and that his conclusions will doubtlessly be largely accepted by the majority of his colleagues.

One never knows when an unsuspected historical manuscript or further field work, even among remnantal peoples, will add to ethnographic data in hand or materially modify accepted ethnological interpretations. However, one closes the present study sharing the opinion of the author that, though students of culture "still have work to do" in the Southeast, the future study of the Indian inhabitants of this area almost surely must "rest mainly with the archeologists." The author's reason for this conclusion, of course, is that he sees few unused non-archeological resources on the horizon; the reader's reason must be that this is because Swanton has already erected his monument.

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