NOTICES OF BOOKS


The latest addition to the extensive collected works of Leibniz sponsored by the East German Academy of Sciences; it comprises his voluminous correspondence for a single year, 1694, written in Latin, French, and German. Huygens’s name appears a score of times, Newton’s twice in passing.


Gauquelin’s extensive statistical studies debunk traditional astrology, although the French psychologist mentions his strange positive correlations in a brief final chapter.


This superbly illustrated coffee-table book includes, inter alia, several historical essays: Evan Hadingham on ancient man and the Sun, Owen Gingerich on milestones in understanding the Sun’s place, John Eddy on the history of solar variation, Silvio Bedini on timekeepers, and E. C. Krupp on ancient Sun gods.


Professor Westfall draws on his detailed knowledge not only of Newton’s physics, but of his theology and alchemy, to present what promises to become the standard biography.


The “Gemini syndrome” is a cute but unexplained term apparently referring to believers in astrology, who are put down by the two astronomer authors. How-it’s-done astrology, logic, ancient and modern astronomy, and a rather wide awareness of the inconsistencies of modern astrologers, are all combined in this fascinating, if at times rambling account. Richer but not as simply organized as Roy Gallant’s Astrology: Sense or nonsense (1974), the present volume is one of the best anti-astrology works available. O.G.