

concern for administrative details, so preventing the medical historian from gaining enthusiasm, until the subject of the search for Kala-azar is introduced. Here the gradual transfer from the Western Faculty to their Chinese students is illustrated well and the achievement of the College's students in the vast realms of public health, preventive medicine, and obstetrics is a real highlight. Extensive, meticulously indexed references and bibliography suddenly become vital, when you read of Marian Yang's "retort to the concept that the Nurses Association of China could reserve to itself the responsibility for safely delivering nearly 12 million Chinese babies a year" being "a bold call to legitimize the midwifery profession", but by Western standards "for 80% of deliveries to be done by midwives, the problem is to produce 64,000 of the latter." So our concern and that of the Rockefeller Foundation is engulfed by people and politics, even by war and peace.

Having just shown Chinese obstetricians on their way to the Johns Hopkins something of the British NHS and its maternity medical services, I share with Dr. Bullock's epilogue that events have come full circle, with a concern for quality training both East and West. Whilst I applaud her scholarship and arresting titles, I would regard this full circle as necessarily including some reference to the tissue typing for this American transplant. In 1950 K. Chimin Wong (of Wong and Wu) reminded us that the Peking Union Medical College was established originally before Rockefeller in 1906, when it was called the Lockhart Medical College, in memory of the British medical missionary pioneer, William Lockhart. In an epilogue to another book, another missionary reflecting on the past pioneers, as he too went to China on the Empress of Asia, described the Rockefeller deputation as "coming out to China to express unselfish interest in the people and to dedicate in Peking a great institution which was being given to China for the relief of suffering and the promotion of Christian sympathy and progress." One fears that this book, which had to mention this institution's faults, has become too much of an American apologia at the expense of scant reference to the international tissue typing, of reflecting on the medical missionary pioneer work for this American transplant. Nevertheless, having been inspired by the "quality training" of the British 1935 PUMC Codirector, Preston Maxwell, this reviewer is pleased to add this book to Professor Maxwell's library to enhance this international medical training.

Simon S. Brook
Cambridge

JOAN S. EMMERSON, *Catalogue of the Pybus Collection of medical books, letters, and engravings 15th–20th centuries held in the University Library, Newcastle upon Tyne*, Manchester University Press for the Library, 1981, 4to, pp. xvi, 271, illus., [no price stated].

Professor F. C. Pybus (1883–1975) gave to Newcastle University his magnificent collection of books, manuscripts, and prints in 1965. Among its 2305 titles, its great strengths lie in the history of anatomy and surgery (especially from 1570 to 1700) and medical illustration. It has important holdings of the writings of Celsus, von Esmarch, Harvey, Scarpa, Simpson, Stokes, Sydenham, and R. L. Tait, and has several volumes not found in the British or the Wellcome Library. There are over a thousand prints (mainly portraits of medical men), and about 100 letters, here given a brief description of their contents. In short, the Pybus Collection is of exceptional value and interest.

Miss Emmerson's catalogue is a record worthy of her charge, and my criticisms and corrections should not detract from her considerable achievements. Many of the difficulties arise from the (Committee?) decision to use the collection as a "guinea pig" in computerized cataloguing and printing. To judge from the preface, there has been a considerable expenditure of effort over many years in devising and altering computer programmes, and, perhaps in consequence, the Greek of the text is vilely printed. Manuscripts and incunabula are catalogued indiscriminately with other books, without even a separate index. For convenience, I list both groups here: MSS.: Arabic: 885 Haly Abbas, *Kāmil aṣ-ṣinā'a*; 1703 Rhazes, *Kitāb al-mansūrī*; Latin: 553 *Anon.* lectures on fevers, 1606 (at Pisa?); Latin and French: 78 Arderne, surgery, c. 1380; English: lectures and notes from Cullen, 523–4; Andrew Duncan, 615; John Hunter,

Book Reviews

1015–6; Wm. Hunter, 1031–2, 1034; Monro *primus*, 1387–8; Monro *secundus*, 1389–90; Pott, 1618. Incunabula: 394–5, Celsus, 1478, 1493; 1690, Regimen Salernitanum, 1480; 176, Bartholomaeus Anglicus, 1485 (in contemporary binding); 1564, Pietro d'Abano *et al.*, 1487; 1815, M. Savonarola, 1497; 708, Ficino, 1497 (in contemporary binding).

More seriously, thanks to the computerized delays, the catalogue has a very dated look. No secondary literature after 1966 is mentioned, and the NLM catalogue of eighteenth-century books (1979) and the F-L volume of the Wellcome 1641–1850 catalogue are passed over. More surprising is the failure to use Renate Burgess's catalogue of portraits in the Wellcome Institute (1973) or Richard Durling's NLM catalogue of sixteenth-century books (1967). Cross-reference to the former would have enabled the user to see what some of the Pybus prints look like, and the latter would have corrected many (minor) dating errors and two major blunders. No. 788, from *De balneis*, 1553, is in fact by the celebrated Hieronymus Cardanus (the catalogue's use of Latinized forms is also oddly inconsistent). Nos. 376–7 are not by the fifteenth-century writer on plague, Rolandus Cappellutus, but by the thirteenth-century surgeon, Roland of Parma (not cross-listed under Roland or Parma). This error, which derives from an ambiguously correct statement in the Wellcome catalogue, should have been avoided by a glance at any history of surgery. There is the occasional disconcerting loose end, or casually transcribed foreign annotation. At n.2085, the Italian reads "Arivai a Todi io franco. Oradei e fui elletto per cirusico di detta citta e cominciai esercitare l'ofitio a di sudetto. Stetti quatro anni."; and an owner of Alessio of Piedmont's *De secretis*, n.41, Václav Ryšan, a law officer in Moravia (an identification I owe to Dr. R. Evans), leads us at once to the circle of humanist cognoscenti of the courts of Maximilian and Rudolf II.

I would also gladly have given up at least a couple of the plates (some of which need substantial explanation) in favour of an account of the donor's life (of which almost nothing is said) and of the origins of the collection (note that many volumes came from Sir Alexander Ogston).

But no catalogue is perfect, and Miss Emmerson has done her job well. The Pybus Collection is now accessible and has been splendidly restored by the munificence of the Pybus Club. Together with the rival collection left to Durham by Dr. C. E. Kellett and now being catalogued there, it forms a nucleus of primary texts in the history of medicine, especially for the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, that would be the envy of any department of the history of medicine in the world. Even in these difficult times, it is not too much to hope that Newcastle University will recognize its obligations to its benefactor and to medical history in general and have the vision to ensure that these books and prints do not remain as elegant wall-furniture but play a part in the instruction of students of many faculties. The opportunity is here to create a rare centre of excellence.

Vivian Nutton
Wellcome Institute