

## Book Reviews

treated more fully. Curiously, there is no table of the flow of donations and income, or of the structure of expenditure, so that the crucial role of the Fund as a distributor of grants is not easily grasped. It is not always clear why decisions were reached, and whether they were sensible. It is intriguing to learn, without elaboration, that the new consultant on hospital finance appointed in 1939 concluded that the Fund had “been imposing the wrong system for a generation”. Perhaps Bevan was, after all, justified in distrusting an organization whose College aimed to turn administrators into gentlemen who could meet consultants on equal terms.

M. J. Daunton, University College London

EDUARD SEIDLER, *Die medizinische Fakultät der Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg im Breisgau: Grundlagen und Entwicklungen*, Berlin, New York and London, Springer Verlag, 1991, pp. xv, 618, illus., DM 98.00 (3–540–53978–6).

In 1914 the German pathologist Ludwig Aschoff (1866–1942) asked the medical historian Paul Diepgen to write an official history of the Freiburg Medical Faculty. Diepgen, once Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist at the Freiburg Loretto Hospital, was then Honorary Professor and Director of the Freiburg Seminar for History of Medicine. He was called to Berlin soon afterwards and could not finish his project. A second attempt to prepare a complete university history was made in 1957 for its 500th anniversary. Now Eduard Seidler has produced a fully comprehensive study of the Medical Faculty of the Albert Ludwig University Freiburg/Breisgau.

Freiburg University was established 1457 by the Austrian archduke Albrecht IV (1418–1463). Right from the beginning, the operation of the university was associated with the Habsburg administration. Seidler shows that the institution of the university was motivated by Austrian political needs for territorial and cultural expansion. His portrayal of the evolution of a medical faculty from a “*consortium doctorum eiusdem artis*” to the present complex university-wide structure is not simply a local study. Eduard Seidler consciously illustrates the wider social and political contemporary context alongside regional events. For example, he depicts the local medieval administration of the medical faculty and complements it with an explanatory excursion into the complexities of medieval urban and ecclesiastical administration.

Despite its length, the work is entertaining and didactically well presented. The volume also benefits from many illustrations. Particularly impressive are two lithographs by Carl Sandhaas (1801–1859) *Melancholia* and *Asthma* from a collection “*Krankenphysiognomik*” by K. H. Baumgaertner (first edition in 1839) which was intended for teaching purposes and depicted sixty-seven patients from various hospitals in Baden. Seidler has divided his volume into five parts. Part One embraces the developments from the foundation up to the Enlightenment and the French revolution. In 1805 Freiburg came under the rule of the Karl Friedrich Elector of Baden (1728–1811), which in 1806 came under the umbrella of the Rheinbund. The second Part concentrates on the early nineteenth century and offers detailed information on the Poliklinik, and the rise of “*Naturwissenschaftliche Medizin*” in Germany. Part Three portrays the late-nineteenth-century consolidation of the Faculty and illustrates parallel political developments in the wake of the First World War. Seidler does not shy away from a description of the university during the Third Reich. The extensive reorganization after the Second World War is dealt with in the final section, where he was able to rely on oral accounts of participants.

There are still gaps and missing links in his analysis of individuals and structures. I would have preferred more detail about the formation and institutionalization of various medical disciplines during the nineteenth century, and the transition in the early twentieth century which led to an expansion of established specialities. Similarly I would have liked to know more about the various ecclesiastical hospitals which continued to grow and prosper throughout the centuries alongside the medical faculty. They are still an established and integrated part of the German health care and education system. The author, however, expressed his awareness of such “shortcomings”, which are probably inevitable in view of the enormous time scale concerned.

Bettina Bryan, Wellcome Institute