

Book Reviews

Ypelaar. Entries are arranged according to dates when books first appeared, and in cases of posthumous works (e.g. Leonardo, Eustachius) the author is sensibly placed in his period.

The result is a stage-by-stage reconstruction of medicine and zoology as they developed through 2,000 years of history. Bibliographically speaking what could be more logical! But Dr. Eales has done more than this. She has interspersed biographical material, even when this is in the form of periodical articles, with the classic texts; which means that her catalogue has taken on the character of a bio-bibliography. On occasions this practice of including what might be called secondary material highlights serious lacunae in the collection, as for instance under Paracelsus where there is a complete absence of any work by him. It might, incidentally, have been a good idea to have had these biographical entries printed in smaller type.

Many of the items are extensively annotated especially in respect of illustrations: as Dr. Eales says, 'zoological illustration is of interest to other than zoologists'. One detects, however, a few errors and omissions such as the failure to comment under Aselli's *De Lactibus*, 1628 (incorrectly transcribed in the catalogue) that the illustrations are reduced black and white copies from the 1627 coloured edition. At the end Dr. Eales has provided indexes of biographies, authors and subjects. Some of the headings in the latter section ('Satires', 'Journals', 'Technique', 'Travels', 'Museums') will be extremely useful to those who for one reason or another have to retrieve historical information.

The whole book is beautifully printed.

E. GASKELL

History of the American College of Apothecaries, 1940–1965, by ERNST W. STIEB, Washington D.C., American College of Apothecaries (in collaboration with the American Institute of the History of Pharmacy), 1970, pp. xvi, 98, illus., \$5.00.

There are many advantages in writing a history of an organization celebrating its first quarter century; its impact upon social and professional practice is apparent, documents are available, and many of its founder members are alive to recall the formative years. The author, Ernst W. Stieb, professor of the History of Pharmacy in the University of Toronto, has made good use of his sources. The idea of increased professionalism in pharmacy, with emphasis upon ethics and service rather than increased sales to the public, had been in many minds in the U.S.A. long before World War II. This idea was fostered by groups set up in a number of States and by the parent body, the American Pharmaceutical Association. In particular, a New York Association for the Advancement of Professional Pharmacy was already in being when at Richmond, Virginia, on 9 May 1940, the American College of Apothecaries was founded, so named as it was intended that its members should give wider service than was normally rendered by pharmacists. Caustic comments upon the supposed exclusivity which the new members of the College would assume gave rise to such phrases as 'The Brahmins of Medicine'. This did not deter the founders and officers: a constitution and an emblem were agreed. Two dedicated secretaries, Charles Selby and Robert Adams, seem to have carried the burden of administration for almost the whole twenty-five years.

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The author shows that the objects of the College, the promotion of public health, reduction of the danger of self-administration of medicines, and the provision of a helpful service to members have been fulfilled. Members, termed 'Fellows', must have practical experience as registered pharmacists and agree to comply with both laws and ethics relating to pharmacy and with the rules of the College, now affiliated with the parent Pharmaceutical Association. Professional relations with the medical profession, with industry and with public health authorities have brought benefits nationally and to the members; for the most part this is claimed to have been 'out of proportion for the size of the organization'. One of the titles of a publication was 'We Just Didn't Know Our Own Strength'. What the strength or size of the College is we are not told: it is therefore difficult for readers to assess what number of practising pharmacists support the aims and ethics of the College, out of perhaps a total of some 70,000 pharmacists in the U.S.A.

The author has produced a history, fully documented, that should become more valuable with the growth of the College and the passing of the years.

LESLIE G. MATTHEWS

A Medical Bibliography (Garrison and Morton). An Annotated Check-list of Texts illustrating the History of Medicine, by LESLIE T. MORTON, 3rd ed., London, Andre Deutsch, 1970, pp. 872, £12.60.

The third edition of this standard reference work, first published in 1943, is notable for the substantial expansion in the sections devoted to the history of general medicine and surgery and of the specialties. This justly reflects the great increase in the publication of scholarly work in this field, some of which supersedes work noticed in earlier editions. For the first time, the number of entries (7,534) amounts to more than twice the number in Fielding Garrison's original list which formed the basis of this work. Of this total, about ten per cent (744) represent references which are given for the first time in this edition, while more than a hundred entries appearing in earlier editions have been deleted. Numbers for these entries have not been used again, except for more up-to-date histories of the subject, and the insertion of new references has been made so as not to disturb the original numbering.

All medical librarians and historians of medicine will be grateful to Mr. Morton for his revision of a work which has proved a valuable aid for nearly thirty years.

F. N. L. POYNTER

Otfried Foerster, Physician and Naturalist (1873-1941), by K. J. ZÜLCH, Berlin, Springer Verlag, 1969, pp. viii, 111, illus., DM. 24.

The contribution of neurosurgery to the elucidation of neuro-physiological knowledge remains to be fully explored. One of its early pioneers forms the subject of this tribute.

Otfried Foerster was born in 1873 and died in 1941. In his younger days he met such giants as Déjèrine, Marie, Babinski and Wernicke. His most memorable meeting, however, was when he was asked by Rathenau to see Lenin in 1922. As a surgeon he will be best remembered for his operation of posterior root section for the diminution of spasticity (Foerster's operation).