

Book Reviews

fared no better than others in this respect. Misprints are very numerous. Not all are calculated to raise a smile, in the reading of a serious and important book, as is the following (p. xxxv). 'The doctors therefore owe it to ping the public and patients, to assist Government in stop both this rot and finding a proper solution of the manpower problem.' [Read stopping].

D. M. DUNLOP

Selected Writings of Lord Moynihan: A Centenary Volume, London, Pitman Medical Publishing Co., for The Osler Club of London, 1967, pp. xiv, 177, illus., 63s. 0d.

This book, which is designed as a centenary tribute to Lord Moynihan, who was born on 2 October 1865, includes an admirable short biography by A. White Franklin; a charming note by W. R. Bett about the meeting of the Osler Club on 19 March 1930 at which Moynihan was a guest, and made a never-to-be-forgotten contribution to the discussion; a comprehensive list of his books and articles; and a note by Geoffrey Bateman on Moynihan's biographer, Donald Bateman.

The selection of the contents, only ten out of the list of 200 publications, with the intention of presenting a comprehensive picture of Moynihan's personality and interests, must have been an unenviable task: and the small group responsible are to be congratulated on the result of their deliberations.

The Ritual of Surgical Operation was an obvious choice; the papers on *The Pathology of the Living* and *The Gifts of Surgery to Medicine* indicate his appreciation of the potential of clinical research in its earliest days; the Murphy Oration and the Hunterian Oration show his sense of history, and though he did not refer directly to it, of his own place in 'the Great Procession'; and in many of the papers there are references to his professional ideals, and his advocacy of collaboration rather than competition between physicians and surgeons in the interests of their patients. One only regrets that room was not found for the Harveian Oration to the Medical Society of London in 1926, *Before and After Operation*, since it is not generally recognized how extensively he applied physiological principles using methods which are commonly regarded as much later innovations.

It is an elegant little volume, well suited to its purpose; and it is particularly pleasing that Franklin and Bett who in 1928, while still students, founded the Osler Club of London, should participate in its production.

JAMES PATERSON ROSS

Bulletin de la Société Française d'Histoire de la Médecine, vol. I (1902), photographic reproduction, Paris, Ateliers R. Lacer, 1967, 48 F.

Recent technical progress greatly benefits historians. Due to new methods of reproduction for which the term *Reprography* has been coined, old and out-of-print texts leave the library shelves to reach the historian in his own study, thus providing working tools difficult to obtain in the past.

The Société Française d'Histoire de la Médecine is publishing in facsimile its *Bulletin* (1902–1951), which has been out of print for many years, at the rate of two volumes monthly. The first volume contains articles by such well-known historians as Paul Delaunay, Victor Nicaise and Eugène Gley. Among the thirty-four original papers

Book Reviews

and documents, no less than nine commemorate the centenary of Bichat's death. Other papers deal with Fontenelle's protégé, Daniel Tavvry, history of pre-Vesalian anatomy, history of malaria, Hindu medicine, medical bibliography, etc.

Reading through this volume, it is interesting to view how the history of medicine was conceived at the beginning of the century as compared with present trends. It does not always turn to the advantage of the latter.

JOSEPH SCHILLER

The Development of Modern Surgery from 1830, by FREDERICK F. CARTWRIGHT, London, Arthur Barker, 1967, pp. x, 323, illus., 50s. 0d.

This book, written by a distinguished anaesthetist, is a useful and interesting contribution to the history of surgery. Though written primarily for non-medical readers it should be equally or more valuable to medical students. The author has been selective in the choice of subject and material but has managed to include most of the salient facts in the history of surgery during the last hundred and fifty years, and he has inserted much that is not generally known.

The story begins with a good account of the state of surgery and the status of the surgeon at the beginning of the nineteenth century; this is followed by a short but dogmatic account of the introduction of anaesthesia by nitrous oxide gas, ether and chloroform. The parts played by Crawford Long, Horace Wells, W. T. G. Morton and Charles Jackson are described. Simpson's fight for the introduction of chloroform as an anaesthetic is related. The good work done by John Snow is mentioned, but there is no reference to Clover's ingenious inhaler.

The third chapter is devoted to an account of Lister and his introduction of anti-sepsis; the facts are well given but some of the opinions may not find universal agreement, yet it is wise to listen to both sides of a question.

Chapter four, entitled 'The Exciting Years', narrates the mixed reception accorded Lister's work in different countries. The author rightly attributes the rapid advance in surgery by Germany to the quick appreciation of the value of antiseptics by the German surgeons. The gradual evolution of the aseptic modification is described and explained. The 'nice little story' about the first use of thin rubber gloves in the operating theatre of Johns Hopkins Hospital is, of course, authentic. (See *Halsted of Johns Hopkins*, by S. J. Crowe, 1957, p. 51.)

Chapter five begins by a brief description of the advances in the basic medical sciences—physiology, pathology and bacteriology—in the middle of the nineteenth century; then tells the breathtaking stories of the discoveries of the X-rays by Roentgen and of radium by Madame Curie; and finishes by giving examples of the extension of the scope of surgery between 1877 and 1912. Good use is made of the records of King's College Hospital in showing this increased scope which is confirmed on a larger scale by an interesting account of the foundation and astonishing growth of the famous Mayo clinic.

Chapter six gives a succinct account of the advances in the treatment of war-wounds in the various wars that occurred between 1870 and 1945. In the First World War the discrediting of the ordinary antiseptics by Almroth Wright created a vigorous controversy that led to more effective measures. In the Spanish Civil War Trueta