

## Book Reviews

had to base himself in part on the earlier studies of Kornfeld (1905), Kraepelin (1918), and Zilboorg and Henry (1941). He has orientated himself chronologically around what he considered representative 'great men'. Some of course would have made a different choice, but in so small a book one cannot complain if one finds many a favourite author missing.

Although it would be ungrateful to criticize in detail such a welcome effort in this fascinating and virgin field, it may be helpful to mention a few factual errors and discrepancies if for no other reason than that they may be amended in a future edition or translation. Thus, some authors are mentioned by their full name, others by surname only, others again by initials and surname, sometimes Latinized and sometimes mixed: for instance, 'Reginald Scotus' (p. 18) for Reginald Scot(t). This leads to an unevenness of presentation which is irritating to those who know and confusing to those who do not: as when Daniel Hack Tuke appears as D. H. Tuke (p. xii), Tuke (p. 70), and Hack Tuke (p. 89). Sometimes the year of an author's most important publication is given (almost never the title), in other places it is not given, even when a text is quoted (e.g. Kinsey, p. 4). On p. 2 Prichard is misspelt 'Pritchard' (but correctly spelt on p. 49). On p. 22 the title of Paracelsus's book—the main subject in the chapter 'Renaissance psychiatry'—is not 'Von den Krankheiten die der Vernunft berauben' but 'so die', even allowing for modernization of spelling. The date of the first edition of Robert (not Richard) Burton's *Anatomy of Melancholy* is 1621, not 1624 (p. 27). 'McBride' should be Macbride, and he was not the inventor of the strait-waistcoat, an error traceable to Kraepelin (1918). Falconer (1789) and Haslam (1798) can hardly be claimed to have practised psychotherapy; nor is it true that 'Pinel banished fear from the psychotherapeutic arsenal' (p. 35), as he himself records the powerful quieting effect of threatening patients with the strait-waistcoat. In fact, what some of these later eighteenth-century and early nineteenth-century workers introduced was not psychotherapy in the modern sense of individual treatment but kindness as opposed to harshness in management. The first book on psychiatry for the use of students in England was written by William Battie in 1758, not 'Beattie, 1785' (p. 36). Perfect's first collection of case-histories was published in 1778 not 1787, nor was he remarkable for electrifying his patients (pp. 36, 97), a treatment established some twenty years earlier by John Wesley. Faulkner's tract (1789, not 1790) is hardly a 'systematic book' (p. 36), but was the blurb of a private madhouse keeper in London advertising his skill and establishment. On p. 49 'Gardner Hill 1829' should be 'Robert Gardiner Hill 1837'. The statement that in the middle of the nineteenth century 'asylum doctors were largely concerned with hopeless material' (p. 50) cannot be accepted; contemporary annual reports of asylums, at least in this country, show a rate of cure of up to 60 per cent of admissions. Feuchtersleben's book was published in 1845 not 1844 (p. 58). Fractures and dislocations resulting from electroshock can hardly be called 'spontaneous' (p. 98); however, the author's attitude to 'new physical treatments' is refreshingly historical, that is to say, unenthusiastic.

There are a number of printing errors, among which 'furchtbare' for 'fruchtbare' (p. 75) unhappily converts 'fruitful' to 'frightful'; and there is no index.

RICHARD A. HUNTER

*Storia dell'Iconografia Anatomica*. LORIS PREMUDA; pp. 235, with 138 plates; also Martello, Editore, Milan, 1957; price L4500.

The history of anatomical illustration has received, in recent years, less attention than

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it deserved, and this handsome volume, the work of the Professor of History of Medicine at the University of Padua, who, incidentally, has recently published the first Italian translation of Harvey's *De Motu Cordis*, is therefore all the more welcome. The classical treatise by Johann Ludwig Choulant appeared in 1852 in the original German edition, but was not translated into English until 1920. It is hoped that a translation of the present work will not be so long delayed, although, even to those who do not read Italian, it may well be of great value as it stands. A clear account is given of the means of depicting anatomical structures; the longest of the nine chapters, naturally enough, being those devoted to Leonardo and Vesalius. Not only is each chapter furnished with a series of references, but there is also, at the end of the book, a general bibliography and an index of names. The clear print and adequate spacing make it a pleasure to read. As for the plates, they alone are well worth the very reasonable price of the book. Some of them, as may be expected, are familiar, but the majority are new, and of much interest.

To anatomists and artists, to all medical historians, and to medical readers in general, this work may be cordially recommended, and Professor Premuda is to be congratulated for having shown that the name of Padua, which stands so high in medical history, still holds a leading place in the dissemination of anatomical knowledge.

DOUGLAS GUTHRIE

### BOOKS ABOUT BOOKS

The *Directory of Medical Libraries in the British Isles* (Library Association, Chaucer House, Malet Place, London, W.C.1, 1957; pp. viii+91, 13s.; 9s. 6d. to Members of the Association), which has been compiled by a subcommittee of the Medical Section of the Library Association, gives information on 147 of the more important medical, dental, pharmaceutical and veterinary libraries and lists about 400 smaller libraries. The information provided relates to staff, hours of opening, class of reader provided for, subjects covered, special collections, number of books and periodicals held, seating accommodation, bibliographical and other services provided, microfilm facilities, catalogue, classification and policy regarding co-operation with other libraries. This invaluable publication reflects the enormous progress made by medical librarianship in this country, especially since the end of the Second World War. It will be indispensable for every library and for everyone concerned with medical literature. The information concerning historical and other special collections should serve to remind the historically minded of the vast stores of virtually untapped material which exist in our medical libraries—and not only in the larger institutions.

Two books which appeared almost simultaneously in England and America respectively are designed to provide instruction for medical men in the use of the medical library. *The Physician's Own Library, its Development and Use*, by Miss Mary Louise Marshall, Librarian of the Rudolph Matas Medical Library, Tulane University (Blackwell Scientific Publications, 24-25 Broad Street, Oxford, 1957; 87 pp., 22s. 6d.), is an excellent little book in which the soundest advice is presented in the most pleasing form. Miss Marshall's work is beautifully printed and bound, and is a model of book production. The British production is *How to Use a Medical Library: A Guide for Practitioners, Research Workers and Students*, by Mr. Leslie T. Morton,