

Book Reviews

The American Medical Association met in Philadelphia in 1876 and the fourteen dermatologists at the congress founded the American Dermatological Association, Duhring being one of the vice-presidents. He remained active in American dermatology until 1910 and died in 1913. He had been a shrewd investor but surprised even his family when he left over a million dollars to the University of Pennsylvania.

How should we assess Duhring's achievements? To call him a 'pathfinder for dermatology' is an overstatement unless we add 'in America'. Certainly he did not achieve for dermatology as much as Willan (1757–1812) and Hutchinson did in Britain, Alibert, Biett (1781–1840) and Cazenave (1795–1877) in France, or von Hebra and Kaposi in Vienna. However, he did a great deal to establish dermatology as a specialty in the United States. Although dermatitis herpetiformis had been described by Hebra (with another name) Duhring added a great deal to our knowledge of this condition. Perhaps his greatest achievement was to teach that the skin was part of the entire body and that dermatology was concerned with more than superficial changes in the integument. It was for this reason that he preferred the term 'cutaneous medicine'.

This book is an interesting account of a remarkable man and of the development of medicine in Philadelphia in the last few decades of the nineteenth century. It is pleasantly written except for the occasional phrase such as 'chronologic peer'. 'Pityriasis' does not mean 'mild inflammation' (p. 49).

S. T. ANNING

Die historischen Grundlagen der Leberforschung, Vol. II: *Die Geschichte der Leberforschung von Galen bis Claude Bernard*, by N. MANI (Basler Veröffentlichungen zur Geschichte der Medizin und der Biologie, Fasc. XXI), Basle and Stuttgart, Schwabe Verlag, 1967, pp. 649, illus., S.Fr. 68.

In a previously published monograph in the *Basler Veröffentlichungen* Dr. Mani has already set forth ancient conceptions of the anatomy, physiology and pathology of the liver, with special emphasis on Greek and Roman antiquity (Fasc. IX, *Die historischen Grundlagen der Leberforschung*, I.). The present volume spans sixteen hundred years of anatomical and physiological investigation of the liver but omits consideration of pathology. The reader will find in Dr. Mani's book a careful and detailed presentation of the ideas and findings (interspersed with a wealth of citations drawn from the primary sources) of every hepatologist of any importance in this period. The text is further supplemented by 137 pages of notes and citations from primary sources in fine print. Another valuable feature is an extensive and well reproduced collection of anatomical illustrations drawn from the medical literature of the thirteenth to the nineteenth century.

Dr. Mani considers Galen the ancient and Bernard the modern focal point in the history of hepatology. After a long period during which Galen's doctrines were transmitted with little change from generation to generation there came the 'morphological revolution' of the sixteenth century. It was led of course by Vesalius, but Dr. Mani gives an honourable and important place to Leonardo. The seventeenth century then witnessed the integration into hepatology of the Harveian circulation and the system of lacteals and lymphatics newly discovered by Aselli, Pecquet,

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Bartholin and Rudbeck. During the eighteenth century the humours and qualities of Galenic theory were gradually replaced by physico-chemical conceptions. In the nineteenth century the rise of the cell theory was reflected in hepatology by Purkinje and Henle's description of liver cell structure and crowned by Claude Bernard's characterization of the liver cell as a chemical laboratory and centre of metabolism. After a brief eclipse of the importance of the liver—when it seemed no more than an excretory organ—it regained a position in the new physiology as important and central as that which it had once held in the old. In a curious way it even regained something of its old status as a centre of blood formation when Reichert and Koelliker described the formation of blood cells in the foetal liver.

Dr. Mani has enriched medical history with a fine and scholarly work. One hopes that his book will prove to be the first of a genre to include eventually (with the co-operation of other medical historians) all of the organs and tissues of the body. I have only some minor complaints to make. In view of the importance rightly accorded to Galen it seems a pity that he is dismissed in somewhat less than two thousand words. While it is true that some aspects of Galen's hepatology were touched on in Dr. Mani's earlier monograph, cited above, in neither work are the foundations of Galen's physiology adequately presented. Secondly, the text has been overly subdivided into a plethora of numbered and lettered sections and subsections. Many paragraphs consist of only one or two sentences and sometimes resemble notebook entries rather than a fully worked up text. This gives rise to an excess of white paper on the printed page. Together with the jerkiness of style the effect, unfortunately, is to interfere somewhat with the reader's pleasure.

L. J. RATHER

The University of Wisconsin Medical School: A Chronicle, 1848–1948, by PAUL F.

CLARK, Madison, University of Wisconsin Press, 1967, pp. xvi, 269, illus., \$10.00.

In 1848 Wisconsin was admitted as the thirtieth State of the Union, only ten years after its first beginnings, and the University of Wisconsin was constituted (on paper) on the same day. It was to have four departments, the third that of Medicine. Not until 1887 was a start made, with a special science course, antecedent to the study of medicine. It was not until 1904 that Charles R. Van Hise, who had just been made President of the University, appointed Charles R. Bardeen as Professor of Anatomy. The two between them became the determined founders of the Medical School. They started with a two-year preparatory science course, against the opposition of the College of Physicians and Surgeons in Milwaukee (who thought, correctly, that there were too many medical schools in the States, and that many of them were very bad). Such was the drive of the two men, and their skill in selecting staff, that the preliminary school was a great success. Then outbreaks of typhoid and diphtheria among the students led to the appointment of an outstanding physician, Dr. Joseph S. Evans, to run a Student Health Service (1910), which developed, through the Student Clinic, into a Department of Medicine with an enlarged staff, including that great man, Dr. William S. Middleton (1912).

The Medical School took the opportunity of the first world war to do important research work on war-gases, and although President Van Hise died soon after the