

Book Reviews

razzmatuzz quackery hardly developed before the rapid expansion of commerce, advertising, communications and the press after the 1740s. Benes also shows that, at least up to the War of Independence, many of the showbiz-style quacks were paying brief visits to Europe, including the pioneer electro-therapist and sex-therapist, James Graham.

In one final way, this volume documents the different course taken by New World medicine, by exploring the intimate links between healing, holiness—and business! American religious sects, it is well known, continually begat new medical doctrines, including the powerful Thomsonian movement. What is less well known, though intriguingly revealed in two absorbing papers on the Shakers (David Richards' 'Medicine and healing among the Maine Shakers, 1784–1854', and Margaret Moody Stier's 'Blood, sweat and herbs: health and medicine at the Harvard Shaker community, 1820–1855') is the development of the manufacture and sale of medicinal herbs as an early form of highly profitable agri-business.

Now that pre-industrial community healing practices are being better understood, it is time that their comparative history was more fully explored, so that common elements and local diversities can be appreciated. It is on the basis of admirable collections of research papers like *Medicine and healing* that it will soon be possible to investigate such parallels.

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MICHEL MORANGE (ed.), *L'Institut Pasteur: contributions à son histoire*, Histoire des sciences, Paris, Editions La Découverte, 1991, pp. 321, FF 150.00 (2-7071-2054-5).

L'Institut Pasteur: contributions à son histoire is primarily based on the International Symposium held in Paris from 6th to 10th June 1988 on the history of the Pasteur Institute, a celebration of its centenary in October 1987. The writings were chosen and presented by B. Fantini, M. D. Grmek, M. Morange and E. Wollman. The book consists of 19 chapters, divided in 3 parts. The first part (chs. 1–6), 'De Pasteur à l'Institut Pasteur', deals with classic topics about Louis Pasteur and his Institute, a centre originally conceived for teaching and for research into infectious diseases. The second (chs. 7–13), 'Succès et limites de la recherche pasteurienne', covers the scientific highlights from microbiology and immunology (Duclaux, Roux, Ramon, Metchnikoff, Oudin, etc.) up to the establishment of the French School of molecular biology (Wollman, Jacob, Monod, and Lwoff). Perhaps the most exciting event at this meeting was the round table encouraged by the Nobel Prize winner Daniel Bovet on the history of the discovery of sulfamides by Jacques and Thérèse Trefouël, Federico Nitti and Bovet himself ('Le laboratoire de chimie thérapeutique, de l'arsenic aux sulfamides'). The last part (chs. 14–19), 'Les prolongements de l'oeuvre pasteurienne dans le tiers monde', puts the emphasis on overseas colonial branches of the Institute (Australia, China, Africa, Rio de Janeiro), these being the least known and main novelty of its work. In no particular chronological order, the authors use instructive episodes in the Institute's history to provide new insights on the Pasteurian legacy. This timely book is written in the belief that the history of this humanitarian and scientific institution is of great importance and that this endeavour should not be seen as its full history. It will appeal to all those concerned with the bio-bibliographic resources of the history of leading contemporary biomedical research institutions.

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L'image et la science, Actes du 115e Congrès national des Sociétés Savantes, Avignon, 1990, Colloques du C.T.H.S. 8, Paris, Editions du Comité des Travaux Historiques et Scientifiques, 1992, pp. 425, illus., FF 400.00 (2-7355-0263-5).

In 1990 the annual French national congress of learned societies was held in Avignon; its theme was 'Images in science and science in images', and this volume prints 28 papers that were presented there. They are diverse in content and uneven in quality, even by the usual standards of conference volumes: given the theme, it is astonishing that some papers are entirely textual, and many others sparsely illustrated. The papers are arranged by subject: five on geographical topics, five on