

Book Notices

Anatomie und Chirurgie des Schädels, insbesondere der Hals-Nasen- und Ohrenkrankheiten nach Ibn al-Quff, by OTTO SPIES and HORST MÜLLER-BÜTOW, Berlin, De Gruyter, 1971, pp. viii, 160, DM.46.

Ibn al-Quff was an Arabic surgeon who lived in the thirteenth century A.D. Little has so far been published about him and this book is therefore a welcome addition to our knowledge of Islamic medicine. The authors deal first with the life of Ibn al-Quff and then give a detailed analysis of his book, which was a compendium for the practical surgeon. They describe its contents, its sources, Arabic medical terminology and the instruments used, with illustrations of them. Then follow the author's sections on the anatomy and physiology of the cranium and of the structures in it and surrounding it, including the eye, brain, and spinal cord. The third section deals with the surgery of these parts, but mainly concerns fractures of the skull and nose, ear, nose and throat lesions, and, as would be expected from an Arabic surgeon, cauterization of various parts of the head.

This is a scholarly work which gives us a new picture of Arabic surgery and will serve to emphasize the importance of the Arabs in their preservation and extension of Greek medical learning.

BOOKS ALSO RECEIVED

(The inclusion of a title in this list does not preclude the possibility of subsequent review.)

Bibliographie de l'Histoire du Livre en Belgique, 1968-69, Brussels, Bibliothèque Royale Albert I, 1970, pp. 114-187, [no price stated].

Bulletin of the Institute of History of Medicine (Hyderabad), edited by D. V. Subba Reddy. Quarterly journal—annual subscription Rs.30.

A Catalog of Books before 1700 in the Moody Medical Library, compiled by Margret Gaskill, edited by Cynthia Robinson, Galveston, University of Texas Medical Branch, 1973, pp. ix, 118, \$7.00.

RUBINS, J. L. (ed.), *Developments in Horney Psychoanalysis*, Huntington, N.Y., Krieger, 1972, pp. x, 335, front., \$12.50 (\$6.50 paperback).

SAID, HAKIM MOHAMMED (ed.), *Pharmacographia Indica: A History of the Principal Drugs of Vegetable Origin met with in India*, (Hamdard, special issue, vol. XV, January-March 1972, nos. 1-12), pp. vi, 205, \$20.00.

SINGHAL, G. D., SINGH, L. M., and SINGH, K. P., *Diagnostic Considerations in Ancient Indian Surgery*, Allahabad, Dr. G. D. Singhal, 1972, pp. xxv, 250, £3.00.