

Book Reviews

different teaching methods favoured in the same medical school by successive staffs. The mark left by the teacher upon the student body has been studied with particular care by the authors, as also the changing balance between research and teaching programmes. For those unfamiliar with certain links between European and American pharmacology in the last century and the role played in recent years by the pharmacological industry, it would probably have been desirable to offer an introductory chapter analyzing those events and their bearing, if any, on pharmacology at the University of Virginia.

F. GUERRA

The Development of Medicine as a Profession, by VERN L. BULLOUGH, Basel, S. Karger, 1966, pp. viii, 125, S.Fr./DM. 29.

This is an interesting little book, beautifully produced and printed, and written by a man who has published several articles in American journals about aspects of medicine in the medieval period. In fact, apart from the catchpenny title, which is not justified by the contents, the book is really a résumé of the material he has published previously. Briefly it is an outline of medical history covering primitive cultures, Greek and Roman medicine, but weighted heavily on the medieval side. Surprisingly it does not touch the Arabic tradition, except *en passant* when Constantinus Africanus had to be mentioned, nor has it any reference to the Roman *collegia*. Some of his remarks show too great a reliance on secondary sources, for consultation of the original texts would have shown him, for instance, that Monderville used thirteen, not fourteen diagrams, in his book on surgery; that Bernard Gordon is not merely 'believed' to have written towards the end of the thirteenth century, but dated all his separate works exactly with day, month and year; and that 'dry healing' did not predominate, but was eliminated by the reactionary teaching of Guy de Chauliac. These are just a few of the many points that more careful investigation could have rectified. On the whole, however, the book serves a useful purpose and should be welcomed by those who wish to have a simple and straightforward introduction to medical development during the Middle Ages.

C. H. TALBOT

Descriptive Catalogue of the Pathological Series in the Hunterian Museum of The Royal College of Surgeons of England, Part I, Edinburgh and London, E. & S. Livingstone, 1966, pp. xii, 288, illus., 84s.

John Hunter's memorable collection has suffered many vicissitudes—not least, the insensate bombing of the museums in Lincoln's Inn Fields in May 1941.

In this magnificently produced catalogue there is expert documentation of a rich selection of surviving specimens; they illustrate Hunter's opinions on the nature of diseases, experiments, and observations on cases in surgery. Hunter was no ordinary man and this is no ordinary catalogue. He always had something to teach and in these pages there is an astonishing amount to be learned. Many of the 429 illustrative specimens have descriptions in Hunter's own words, which enhances their value. The knowledge possessed by Miss Jessie Dobson of the writings attributed to the maker of this unique collection, has been brought to bear on the interpretation of original sources.