

### Book Reviews

- (i) *Medical Reference Works 1679–1966: a Selected Bibliography*, ed. by JOHN B. BLAKE and CHARLES ROOS, Chicago, Medical Library Association, 1967, pp. viii, 343, \$10.
- (ii) *Bibliography of the History of Medicine, No. 3*, Washington D.C., National Library of Medicine, 1968, pp. vi, 316, \$2.75.
- (iii) *World Medical Periodicals, Supplement to the 3rd Edition*, prepared by C. H. A. FLEURENT, London, World Medical Association, 1968, pp. xi, 68, 20s.

Medical librarians and historians of medicine—but especially the former—will be grateful for the new bibliography by Blake and Roos. It is a complete revision of the annotated booklist which appeared as an appendix in the 2nd edition of the *Handbook of Medical Library Practice*, and is in fact a companion volume to the 3rd edition of that work now in preparation. The compilers have organized their material in a uniform manner under the various medical specialties, making it easy for the reader to discover which reference works (bibliographies, dictionaries, abstracts, reviews, directories and histories) ought to be available in his medical library. Most of the entries are annotated. In addition there is a whole section devoted to general medical history, subdivided by period, nation and form.

The National Library of Medicine has now brought out the third annual volume in its series of historical bibliographies. It is a vast improvement on volume 1 both visually and practically. Arrangement is more or less as before, with a few subjects added and the subdivisions happily rationalized. At the end appears a list of recent sixteenth-century book acquisitions, forming a supplement to R. J. Durling's published catalogue.

The Supplement to the 3rd edition of *World Medical Periodicals* indicates that about 700 new and changed titles have appeared since 1961. This number includes—according to the index—seven historical journals, which is rather short of the truth. The fact that at least two titles have been omitted (*Episteme; Annales de la Société d'Histoire des Hôpitaux*), leads one to suspect the validity of this list for the medical historian. *Clio Medica* appears in the main section but is not indexed as a historical journal.

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- (i) *Catalog of Books in the Library of the Washington University School of Medicine*, St. Louis, Missouri, 1968, pp. 239, no price stated.
- (ii) *Index to the Wm. Beaumont, M.D. (1785–1853) Manuscript Collection*, compiled by PHOEBE A. CASSIDY and ROBERTA S. SOKOL, St. Louis, Missouri, University of Washington School of Medicine, 1968, pp. 165, no price stated.

For the past few years certain American libraries have been blazing the trail in the matter of applying computers to library routines. Dr. Brodman at Washington University is one of the pioneers in this field, and by now her regular automated lists of new accessions are well known to most staff members in the Medical Faculty at St. Louis. She now wishes to extend the service by means of an annual catalogue which can be posted to people afar and which can also be used by national and international bibliographical centres. The catalogue and the concept behind it must