

Book Reviews

also guide him to success. Fourth, to examine the practical consequences of scientific work for the advancement of scholarship in the history and philosophy of science and for the better understanding of the place of science in our culture and for educational programmes.

Professor Holton has written a thought-provoking book, parts of which, however, will be opaque to non-physicists. Nevertheless, it has a great deal to offer to all scientists, and those in the biological and medical fields will be able to test the author's interpretations by applying their own case studies to them.

ALBERT ROTHENBERG and BETTE GREENBERG, *The index of scientific writings on creativity. General: 1566–1974*, vol. 2, Hamden, Conn., Archon Books; Folkestone, Dawson, 1976, 8vo, pp. xx, 274, £18.50.

There are 6,823 entries in this interdisciplinary book, culled from the world literature on the natural, social, and administrative sciences, medicine, and education, and it is intended "to facilitate study, learning and research on factors involved in the achievements of science, art and positive human growth". "Creativity" is interpreted widely, and items deal with the creative person or process, and these in relation to the product created. Each entry has a detailed bibliographical citation, but is not annotated.

The coverage is indeed wide, psychology and psychiatry being especially richly represented, and the indexes are lengthy and valuable. The labour involved must have been enormous, but one wonders if it will be justified. The book's price will certainly deter most private buyers.

EUCHARIUS RÖSSLIN [the younger], *On minerals and mineral products. Chapters on minerals from his "Kreutterbüch"*, Berlin and New York, W. de Gruyter, 1978, 8vo, pp. xxxvii, 418, DM.240.00.

Rösslin's herbal was published at Frankfurt-am-Main in 1535, and a critical edition of its chapters on minerals and mineral products has now been prepared by Professor Belkin, a Germanist, and Professor Caley, a chemist. It is thus a splendid example of the interdisciplinary collaboration of a philologist and a scientist. The text (pp. 52–205) is arranged with the original German on the left and the translation on the right. This is introduced by a discussion of philological, biographical, and bibliographical matters, and of Rösslin's editorial procedures and practices used in preparing the 1535 edition. The philological and scientific commentary on the text is extensive (pp. 207–326); Rösslin's sources, immediate and more remote, are considered, and all problems are discussed in great detail. There are a number of appendices, and an index to the German text and one to names and subjects.

The editors offer this remarkably scholarly work as a contribution towards a better understanding of late medieval German medical works. It is of special importance because it comes at the end of the traditional, medieval manner of describing nature. It is to be warmly welcomed, and the announcement of a new series of *Ars medica*, consisting of medieval medical texts in Latin and the vernacular, is especially good news for the many who are ill-equipped to tackle the primary sources of this period unaided.