

known. Nineteen hundred patients were treated in the first year as out-patients. At the end of that time the Committee were informed that the work was too much for one surgeon. It was resolved to appoint a second. The hospital has moved five times to bigger and better sites. It reached its present building in 1884 and is now part of the United Manchester Hospitals.

The first house surgeon was appointed in 1863, but he had to act as secretary in addition. At the same time the hospital advertised for 'an active and well educated female without encumbrance as the Matron to live on the premises, salary not exceeding £25 per annum'. The number of servants was also increased to four strong and efficient females, two to work in the kitchen and 'two to act as nurses and housemaids and in particular to administer to the requirements of the surgeons and patients'. This at a time when there were twenty-four beds. Three thousand patients were treated in a year including one hundred and fifty-five in-patients and four hundred and seventy accidents. From small beginnings great things have been accomplished. The author tells his story well.

W. BROCKBANK

*Description of The Retreat*, by SAMUEL TUKE, reprinted with an Introduction by Richard Hunter and Ida Macalpine, London, Dawsons, 1964, pp. 26, 227, illus., 70s. The Retreat was founded in 1796. Samuel Tuke published his *Description of The Retreat* in 1813. That work sold out within three years and has been out of print since that time notwithstanding its importance in the development of psychiatry. When the famous Sidney Smith reviewed in 1815 Tuke's original work he remarked that 'The Retreat is situate about a mile from the City of York, upon an eminence commanding the adjacent County'. What is now clear is that the eminence of The Retreat has been, not merely geographical, but historical, not only local but international. Its influence led to the reformation of hospital practice in this country and abroad; the idea of the 'moral treatment of insanity' was an early and major revolution in psychiatry.

Samuel Tuke's classical work now, therefore, becomes, after a long absence, widely available in this present publication, photolithography reproducing his original book. Richard Hunter and Ida Macalpine have furnished an excellent introduction dealing with the history of those times which witnessed the birth of The Retreat. This present volume makes available a valuable book of interest not only to psychiatrists and medical historians but to all those concerned with ideas at once revolutionary, radical and humane.

W. A. L. BOWEN

*English books printed before 1701 in the Library of the Royal College of Surgeons of England*, by W. R. LEFANU, Edinburgh and London, E. & S. Livingstone Ltd., 1963, pp. 27, (no price given).

The Librarian of the Royal College of Surgeons has produced a helpful list of his library's holdings of English books printed before 1701. Six hundred and thirty-seven editions are noted, of which thirty-eight are previously unrecorded or variant issues. Essentially the list is a supplement to the standard works of A. W. Pollard and G. R. Redgrave, *A Short Title Catalogue of Books Printed in England, Scotland and Ireland and of English Books Printed Abroad 1475-1640*, and Donald Wing, *Short Title Catalogue 1641-1700*. Otherwise the exclusion of the Surgeons' copy of Harvey, *De motu cordis*, 1628, printed abroad and in Latin, might seem capricious. A simple form of short

### Book Reviews

title entry has been chosen with a note of relevant STC and Wing numbers. The printing is large and clear, and seems to be accurate. The sensible binding will prolong the shelf life of this useful little book.

E. J. FREEMAN

*The History of Diabetes Mellitus*, 2nd ed., by N. S. PAPANPYROS, Stuttgart, G. Thieme Verlag, 1964, pp. 104, 10 plates, revised and supplemented, DM. 19.50.

No research scholar of real value has ever understated the importance of the history of his problem. So writes the author of this excellent little book on the history of diabetes.

Diabetes, a major problem in the metabolism of the body, is here considered from the historical aspect, and perhaps in no other disease is a survey of history so essential as a background to present-day knowledge.

It was Aretaeus, in the second century A.D., who first described this morbid condition, and gave it the name Diabetes. Since that time the many aspects of the problem have been gradually solved. Willis inaugurated a new era in laying stress on the psychogenic factors in diabetes, Claude Bernard discovered the glycogenic function of the liver, Minkowski drew attention to the role of the pancreas, while Langerhans noticed his 'islets' in that organ. Naunyn, Pavy, Noorden and others devoted their lives to the study of diabetes. Then came the brilliant discovery of insulin by Banting and Best, and later still the study of the possibility of oral treatment.

The interesting story is well told by Dr. Papanpyros, who is Director of the Diabetic Centre at Athens, and a pupil of Dr. R. D. Lawrence, who contributes the Preface. This is the second edition of a book originally published in 1952 and sold out within a year. New material, illustrations and 208 references have been added, besides a good index. The contributions of chemists and physiologists to what appeared at first to be only a clinical problem, is especially noteworthy, and the whole study demonstrates how important is the past as an integral part of present-day knowledge.

Well written, and clearly printed, this work will certainly take its place as the authoritative short history of Diabetes. The reviewer can detect only two trivial printer's errors, (p. xiv), though an R has been added to his own name, and wrong initial (p. lx).

DOUGLAS GUTHRIE

*Bibliotheca Belgica: livraisons 227e-228e* (HUGO FAVOLIUS, P. VAN GOORLE, T. MONTIS, J. SAUVAGE), edited by ELLY COCKX, Brussels, Indestege, 1963, illus. (no price stated).

The *Bibliotheca Belgica*, now in its third series, lists and describes early works printed in Belgium and Holland, and books by Belgian and Dutch authors printed elsewhere. The fascicles under review are devoted to the now rare books of four obscure medical men, all of whom flourished in the sixteenth century; three of them at the town of Anvers. Hugo Favolius (1523-85) achieved some local eminence as a physician and poet. He studied at Padua and travelled in Asia Minor. His publications were miscellaneous, including an epic poem on his journeys, almanacs, and a book of plague remedies. Jacques Sauvage, a doctor of astronomy as well as of medicine, issued a series of almanacs, some of which were popular in England. Of Thomas Montis and Peeter van Goorle, both medical astrologers, little is known beyond their published astrological prognostications.

As is usual in this series, a simplified transcription of the title-page is flanked by