

Book Reviews

The author shows that the objects of the College, the promotion of public health, reduction of the danger of self-administration of medicines, and the provision of a helpful service to members have been fulfilled. Members, termed 'Fellows', must have practical experience as registered pharmacists and agree to comply with both laws and ethics relating to pharmacy and with the rules of the College, now affiliated with the parent Pharmaceutical Association. Professional relations with the medical profession, with industry and with public health authorities have brought benefits nationally and to the members; for the most part this is claimed to have been 'out of proportion for the size of the organization'. One of the titles of a publication was 'We Just Didn't Know Our Own Strength'. What the strength or size of the College is we are not told: it is therefore difficult for readers to assess what number of practising pharmacists support the aims and ethics of the College, out of perhaps a total of some 70,000 pharmacists in the U.S.A.

The author has produced a history, fully documented, that should become more valuable with the growth of the College and the passing of the years.

LESLIE G. MATTHEWS

A Medical Bibliography (Garrison and Morton). An Annotated Check-list of Texts illustrating the History of Medicine, by LESLIE T. MORTON, 3rd ed., London, Andre Deutsch, 1970, pp. 872, £12.60.

The third edition of this standard reference work, first published in 1943, is notable for the substantial expansion in the sections devoted to the history of general medicine and surgery and of the specialties. This justly reflects the great increase in the publication of scholarly work in this field, some of which supersedes work noticed in earlier editions. For the first time, the number of entries (7,534) amounts to more than twice the number in Fielding Garrison's original list which formed the basis of this work. Of this total, about ten per cent (744) represent references which are given for the first time in this edition, while more than a hundred entries appearing in earlier editions have been deleted. Numbers for these entries have not been used again, except for more up-to-date histories of the subject, and the insertion of new references has been made so as not to disturb the original numbering.

All medical librarians and historians of medicine will be grateful to Mr. Morton for his revision of a work which has proved a valuable aid for nearly thirty years.

F. N. L. POYNTER

Otfried Foerster, Physician and Naturalist (1873-1941), by K. J. ZÜLCH, Berlin, Springer Verlag, 1969, pp. viii, 111, illus., DM. 24.

The contribution of neurosurgery to the elucidation of neuro-physiological knowledge remains to be fully explored. One of its early pioneers forms the subject of this tribute.

Otfried Foerster was born in 1873 and died in 1941. In his younger days he met such giants as Déjérine, Marie, Babinski and Wernicke. His most memorable meeting, however, was when he was asked by Rathenau to see Lenin in 1922. As a surgeon he will be best remembered for his operation of posterior root section for the diminution of spasticity (Foerster's operation).