

Book Reviews

Armistice, he had been advocating 'nothing less than the world's greatest university' to the end, and Professor Birge, who succeeded him, set his sights equally high. Dr. Evans managed to persuade the Governors to induce the State Legislature to devote a million dollars of the Soldiers' Bonus (the provision for the demobilised) to rebuild the Wisconsin General Hospital as a War Memorial. This skilfully made a complete medical course possible, and the opportunity was used by Bardeen and Evans, in spite of incredible opposition, to start proper medical education. Its success is largely to be attributed to Bardeen's vision of the value of direct clinical teaching in doctors' practices, and close contact between first-class physicians and pupils which had been the best feature of the old apprenticeship system. This was developed, as the Wisconsin Preceptorial Plan, into a system which has underlain thirty-seven years of outstanding success.

The story of the astonishingly rapid rise of the School is well told. It seems extraordinary, but there are well-known instances of other schools rising to surprising heights in a very short time. Bardeen's principle 'Don't buy big names, but choose young men of promise' is usually the reason. Dr. Clark's descriptions of the widely differing personalities of Bardeen, Evans and Middleton, the three men who made the School, are most interesting. The School achieved its greatest stroke of fortune in having Dr. Middleton as Professor of Medicine and Dean in the 1930s, just at the time when the pace of change started to increase rapidly; he was just the man to seize the opportunity of a radical revolution in medical practice and to carry the School on to, and with, the crest of the wave. It was also from that moment that the Wisconsin General Hospital changed from a steady state of, to a logarithmic increase in, activity.

It is always an interesting, indeed an exciting and significant experience, to read the complete story of a phenomenal rise to the highest rank, and of how such an achievement was brought about.

CHARLES NEWMAN

Drugs and Pharmacy in Prints, by WILLIAM H. HELFAND (Catalogue of an Exhibition of Prints and Drawings from the Collection of William H. Helfand on the occasion of Canada's Centennial, Toronto, 1967), West Point, Penna., Merck Sharp & Dohme, 1967, pp. 53, illus., no price stated.

The one hundred and twenty prints and drawings listed in this Catalogue range widely from those emphasizing the tremendous public impact of Morison's vegetable pills to trade cards, political satires and a Michael Ciry lithograph from Flaubert's *Madame Bovary*. This pleasantly produced booklet with its many judicious annotations performs a valuable service in underlining the role which illustrations have as a research tool as well as helping to 'bring to life' single events. Helfand's collection of medical/pharmaceutical illustrations is one of the largest in private hands and he has further enhanced its research potential by formulating a punched-card system for listing details of each print (see 'A classification method for illustrative pharmaceutical material', *Pharm. Hist.*, 1968, 10, 3-11).

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