the discovery of antitoxins (von Behring and Kitasato), the standardization of toxins and anti-toxins, the distinction between active and passive immunization (Ehrlich), bacteriolysis (Pfeiffer), haemolysis, agglutination of blood corpuscles as a diagnostic test, the opsonic index, and prophylaxis and treatment of many diseases by vaccines. In certain diseases, for example, cerebro-spinal meningitis and tuberculosis, vaccines have been superseded by the triumphs of chemotherapy. In others immunization still reigns supreme, as in the prevention of diphtheria and epidemic poliomyelitis.

Such are some of the features of the history which Dr. Parish has to tell. The book is well documented, well produced, and its interest is enhanced by portraits of the great exponents of immunization, past and present.

ARTHUR S. MACNALTY

Claude Bernard, Cahier de Notes 1850–1860, Presenté et commenté par M. D. GRMEK, Preface de R. Courrier, Paris, Ed. Gallimard, 1965, pp. 315, Fr. 18.

The 'cahier rouge' by Claude Bernard has been finally published in its complete text, drawings included. The paleography, headings to the notes, and the introduction have been the conscientious work of Dr. Grmek. The self-questioning of Bernard while proceeding with his experimental work is of permanent interest to the scholar and the student of biological sciences, because it indicates a pattern of scientific thinking. A selection of a scientist's work is unfair both to him and to the reader, because the editor always tends to select the accomplishments and to hide the failures of his idol. We are grateful to Dr. Grmek for offering us a Claude Bernard of flesh and blood, not only with his theoretical working hypothesis, his experimental tests and practical achievements, but also for his philosophical disquisitions. There are in the notes many ideas to be followed, some fancies to be avoided, and a whole book of interesting and stimulating reading.

F. GUERRA

Epidemic Disease in Ghana 1901–1960, by DAVID SCOTT, London, Oxford University Press, 1965, pp. 208, 18 fig., 3 pl., 35s.

During the first half of the twentieth century much of West Africa came into contact with western medicine for the first time. From the simplest beginnings the transition to established medical services has therefore been rapid. This epidemiological study covers the history of seven epidemic diseases in Ghana over the last sixty years. It is based on all the available local information and provides a fascinating commentary on this rapid transition, especially in the realm of rural health. During the period much original research was going on in tropical medicine and the influence of this on the evolution of control methods is well brought out, particularly in measures against yellow fever, cerebrospinal meningitis, and trypanosomiasis. Ghana, too, will always be remembered as the country from which the Rockefeller Yellow Fever Commission isolated the original Asibi strain, from which 17D was later developed and used for making a safe and effective vaccine.

The courses of many epidemic diseases reflect the social and economic changes in any nation. They are so often closely influenced by such problems as migrant labour, improving communications, movement of population, and rapid urbanisation. Ghana is no exception; the pattern of disease in that country is closely bound up with the history of its development—as this book well shows.

Dr. Scott's own unrivalled experience of rural health problems in Ghana lends particular weight to his interpretation of some of the findings and his deductions regarding future trends. It is to be hoped that the excellent pattern of this study will be copied by workers in other developing countries before so many of the early and manuscript records, of such historical and epidemiological value, cease to be available.

M. P. HUTCHINSON

Gideon Delaune and his Family Circle (The Gideon Delaune Lecture for 1964), by F. N. L. POYNTER, London, Wellcome Historical Medical Library, 1965, pp.30, illus., 3*s.* 6*d.*

This is the seventh Gideon Delaune Lecture of the Society of Apothecaries (Faculty of Medicine and Pharmacy). 'Who was Gideon Delaune?' is a question often asked. Dr. Poynter by careful research has now answered it.

Gideon Delaune (1565–1659) was the son of a Huguenot refugee, physician and preacher who settled in Blackfriars. Gideon became an apothecary and set up business on the Blackfriars Friary Estate. Two of his brothers were physicians. He married Judith Chamberlen, cousin of the Peter Chamberlen who invented the obstetric forceps. They had several children. Gideon prospered like his father, and by 1610 was apothecary to Anne of Denmark, wife of King James I. In conjunction with Francis Bacon and Sir Theodore de Mayerne he helped in the planning of the Society of Apothecaries which was founded by Royal Charter in 1617. Delaune was twice Master of the Society, namely in 1628–29 and 1637–38. He died a nonagenarian, a great age for those days. Dr. Poynter has further enriched the history of medicine by this Lecture.

ARTHUR S. MACNALTY

English Medical Humanists: Thomas Linacre and John Caius, by C. D. O'MALLEY, Lawrence, University of Kansas Press, 1965, pp. 54, $2.

All readers will enjoy the Logan Clendening Lectures on Linacre and Caius delivered by Professor O'Malley at the University of Kansas. These two humanists after studying Latin and Greek in Italy received their medical education in the famous University of Padua, when the Renaissance was bringing into being an enlightened approach to medicine through the revival of Greek philosophy and wisdom. Each returned to England with a mind well endowed and applied his knowledge to improving the status and dignity of English medicine. Linacre persuaded Henry VIII to found the College of Physicians; and, at a later date, Caius extended the College's influence and authority. Both were presidents of the College. Linacre translated