

Book Notices

The author has used archival material to good effect in her descriptions of the day-to-day running of the hospital, the treatment of patients, architectural layout, and the medical personnel employed. She also sets the changes within the hospital—moves from one building to another, its administration under different authorities—within the context of clashes between local civil and religious authorities, as well as of those between central government officials and the hierarchy of the Church. The book provides some useful insights into Mexico's history from both a medical and a social point of view.

Soranus D'Ephese, *Maladies des femmes*, vol. 3, bk. 3, translated into French by P Burguière, D Gourevitch, and F Malinas, Paris, Les Belles Lettres, 1994, pp. xxx, 179, FF 245.00 (2-251-00442-4).

The third volume of the Budé Soranus is largely concerned with gynaecological practice. The co-operation between a medical historian, a philologist, and a medical man works a little better here than in its predecessors, see this journal, 1989, 33; p. 501, but many problems still remain. The typographical layout does not always make it clear that the text on the page derives from Aetius rather than from the unique manuscript P of Soranus, and the explanatory notes are not always as helpful as they might have been. Those familiar with the Ilberg text and Temkin translation will thus be surprised to find some new sections firmly attributed to Soranus. The ending, ch. 18, is supplied from the Latin of Caelius and Mustio, although no hint is given that this suggestion was made by others before this. There is a useful additional bibliography, to which must now be added A E Hanson and M H Green, 'Soranus of Ephesus, *Methodicorum princeps*', in W Haase (ed.), *Aufstieg und Niedergang der römischen Welt*, Band 37, 2, 1994, pp. 968–1075. But, for all its weaknesses, scholars will be glad to have again an accessible Greek text of a major ancient medical author.

Elisabeth Bennion, *Antique hearing devices*, Brighton, Vernier Press, 1994, pp. vi, 58, illus., £25.00 (+£2.30 p&p) (hardback 1-898825-01-7), £10.00 (+75p p&p) (paperback 1-898825-009), postage outside UK and EC is £6.00 for the hardback, £2.70 for the paperback. Copies are available from D F Wallis, Unit F015, 13–25 Church St., London NW8 8DT.

Deaf historians of medicine especially will appreciate this short monograph in which the many, often entertaining illustrations helpfully speak louder than the text. The author is a dealer in antique medical instruments, on which she has published two earlier standard works. As more and more old hospitals are demolished, the increasing numbers of early plastic ear trumpets and the like now becoming available has opened this up as a promising new area for less affluent collectors to specialize in.

Homer mentions a speaking trumpet in the *Iliad*, but the earliest known description of a hearing device in actual operation dates from only 1624. Six broad categories can be distinguished, ranging from speaking tubes to electrical aids, while the material used for these—anything from animal horn to gold, but most often the less expensive metals—has introduced a further layer of diversity. A brief bibliography is appended along with a list of makers and the dates at which these changed their addresses and/or names.

BOOKS ALSO RECEIVED

(The inclusion of a title does not preclude the possibility of subsequent review. Items received, other than those assigned for review, are ultimately incorporated into the collection of the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine.)

Udo Benzenhöfer (ed.), *Anthropologische Medizin und Sozialmedizin im Werk Viktor von Weizsäcker*, Frankfurt am Main, Peter Lang, 1994, pp. 175, DM 25.00 (3-631-47572-1).

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Juan L Carrillo and Guillermo Olagüe de Ros (eds), *Actas de XXXII congreso internacional de historia de la medicina, Granada-Sevilla: 1-6 septiembre, 1992*, Sevilla, Caja San Fernando de Sevilla y Jerez, 1994, pp. 1239, illus., no price given (84-605-2070-6).

J L Fresquet, J A Tronchoni, F Ferrer, A Bordallo, *Salut, malaltia i terapèutica popular: els municipis riberencs de l'Albufera*, Col·lecció Josep Servès, Catarroja, Publicacions de l'Ajuntament, 1994, pp. 206, illus., no price given (84-86787-63-7).

José Luis Fresquet Febrer, *La experiencia americana y la terapéutica en los Secretos de Cirugía (1567) de Pedro Arias de Benavides*, Cuadernos Valencianos de Historia de la Medicina y de la Ciencia, no. 41, serie A, Valencia, Instituto de Estudios Documentales e Históricos sobre la Ciencia, 1993, pp. 194 (84-370-1196-5).

N B Goudswaard, *Inleiding tot de geschiedenis van de verpleegkunst*, Rotterdam, Erasmus, 1994, pp. 264, Hfl 42.50 (90-5235-077-9).

José María López Piñero and Francisco Calero, *De pulvere febrifugo occidentalis indiae (1663), de Gaspar Caldera de Heredia y la introducción de la quina en Europa*, Cuadernos Valencianos de Historia de la Medicina y de la Ciencia, no. 39, serie A, Valencia, Instituto de Estudios Documentales e Históricos sobre la Ciencia, 1992, pp. 53, no price given, (84-370-1052-7).

José María López Piñero and Thomas F Guck, *El Megaterio de Bru y el Presidente Jefferson: una relación insospechada en los albores de la paleontología*, Cuadernos Valencianos de Historia de la Medicina y de la Ciencia, no. 42, serie A, Valencia, Instituto de Estudios Documentales e Históricos sobre la Ciencia, 1993, pp.157, no price given (84-370-1195-7).

José Pardo Tomás and María Luz López Terrada, *Las primeras noticias sobre plantas americanas en las relaciones de viajes y crónicas de Indias (1493-1553)*, Cuadernos Valencianos de Historia de la Medicina y de la Ciencia, no. 40, serie A, Valencia, Instituto de Estudios Documentales e Históricos sobre la Ciencia, 1993, pp. 364, no price given (84-370-1177-9).

Christian Schwokowski (ed.), *Friedrich Trendelenburg, 1844-1924: Zeitloser Glanz seiner Verdienste un die Chirurgie*, Darmstadt, Steinkopff, 1994, pp. x, 125, illus., no price given (3-7985-0993-X).

Georgia Warner Walter, *Women and osteopathic medicine: historical perspectives*, Kirksville, National Center for Osteopathic History, A T Still Memorial Library, 1994, pp. 32, illus., \$8.00 (overseas customers), \$6.00 (U.S. customers), prices inclusive of postage, requests to: Still National Osteopathic Museum, 800 W Jefferson St, Kirksville, MO 63501, USA.