

for example drawn up a list of some 150 notable biologists who do not appear in the present work. The list includes:

B. S. Albinus, Allman, Martin Barry, P. J. van Beneden, Berengarius Carpentis, Bojanus, Bonnet, Borelli, Camper, Casserius, Charleton, delle Chiaje, Coiter, Cowper, Dalyell, Erasmus Darwin, Delage, Dohrn, Dufour, Dujardin, G. J. Duverney, John Ellis, Estienne (Stephanus), Fernel, Frederick II Emperor of the Romans, Isidore Saint-Hilaire, Goethe, Goodsir, J. S. Haldane, Head, Hernández, Highmore, Kowalevsky, Lacaze-Duthiers, Ledermüller, Leidy, Leuckart, Martin Lister, Looss, Lower, Lyonet, Maupas, J. F. Meckel, Mundinus, Monro Secundus, Walter Needham, Newport, Oken, Oudemans, Pallas, Perrault, Piso, Pliny, M. G. Retzius, Roessel v. Rosenhof, Romanes, Rudolphi, Ruini, Rumphius, Ruysch, Salviani, the two Sars, Schaeffer, Seba, Severino, Siebold, Strauss-Dürckheim, Theophrastus, D'Arcy Thompson, Tyson, Vejdovsky, Vicq-d'Azyr, Vieussens, C. F. Wolff, E. Wotton, and Zittel.

Nevertheless Mr. Howard's dictionary contains 1,300 biographies and 70 portraits, many of the latter having an unfamiliar appearance. There is also a very useful subject index, and a list of Nobel Laureates from 1901 to 1950. Our author may justly claim that his work is concise, authoritative, and even unique, since it is in a way an outline history of scientific discovery and theory distilled from the lives of the men who did the work.

The following corrigenda should be included in subsequent editions of the book: Agricola, b. 1494. Alcmaeon, fl. 510-480 B.C. Anaxagoras, b. probably 500 B.C. Beneden, b. 1846. Belon, b. 1517. Cesalpini, b. 1525. Cushing, d. 1939. Erasistratus, 304-257 B.C. Eustachio, b. 1524. His important *Opuscula* were published during his lifetime in 1563-4. Fabricius, b. 1533. Faber suggested the name *microscope* in 1625. Fontana, 1580-1656. Godlee died at Whitchurch, Oxon. Harvey was not knighted. Herophilus, b. at Chalcedon. Hippocrates died c. 360 B.C. According to Singer there is no evidence that any of the writings forming the Hippocratic Corpus were written by him. W. His, add senior. Jansen should be Janssen. Kircher, b. 1602. Lécuse, b. 1526. Libavius, b. 1546. Magendie, b. October 16. Manson was not a bacteriologist but a parasitologist. Mayow, b. December, 1641. "Milne-Edwards" not a hyphenated name—he was of Welsh descent and should be catalogued under Edwards. Fritz Müller, b. 1822. J. Müller's birth certificate gives his name as Johann Peter. He dropped the Peter, and preferred the German-Latin Johannes to Johann. The naturalist who "revealed to the world the new animal kingdom of Infusoria" was Leeuwenhoek and not O. F. Müller. Paré, b. 1510. Ray, b. 1627 (Wray until 1670). Redi, d. 1696. Steno, d. November 25, 1686. W. Turner, b. 1508. Vallisneri is the correct spelling.

We congratulate Mr. Howard on the completion of his novel and valuable work, which will doubtless pass through many revised and extended editions.

F. J. COLE.

NAIROBI DOCTOR

Under the Sun. (A Memoir of Dr. R. W. Burkitt, of Kenya.) By J. R. Gregory. (Pp. 109. 10s. 6d.) Kenya: The English Press, Ltd.

The doctor's bookshelves are filled for the most part with works of reference. Here is one which, for its entertainment value and the glimpse it gives into a world of exploration and adventure, is well worth the modest price asked for it.

Dr. Gregory recounts the life of his friend and senior colleague, "Kill or Cure Burkitt," the first and for many years the only doctor in private practice in Nairobi, and one of the most colourful characters in the history of the development of British East Africa. He has the Irishman's gift for telling a story, and takes us into history, politics, botany, zoology and ethnology. He tells us of Burkitt's uncompromising views on religion and the treatment of malaria; of his journeys into the wilds when roads were non-existent and motor-cars were open and unreliable; of early experiments with crops; of the old harbour of Mombasa, into which the Arab dhows come crowding in

the north-east monsoon, the white flag of peace flying at their mastheads, and their decks echoing to songs of thanksgiving as their colourful crew furl the large lateen sails; of a zebra hunt by lions and a lion hunt by Masai. *Under the Sun* has the spontaneous charm of a traveller's yarn told by the fireside, and it is at the fireside at bedtime that it should be read.

HENEAGE OGILVIE.

TESTS AND TABLES

Clinical Pathological Data. Compiled by C. J. Dickinson, B.A., B.Sc. With foreword by C. E. Dent, Ph.D., M.D., M.R.C.P., F.R.I.C. (Pp. 32. 4s. 6d.) Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1951.

The aim of this slim notebook is to provide in a simple but convenient form tables for the interpretation of clinical pathology data. These are arranged in eight convenient tables. Next, there is a section of practical notes on tests which can be performed without elaborate equipment. This contains some tests which might have been superannuated, such as Haldane's method for haemoglobin estimation, Loewi's test for pancreatitis, and the tests for bile acids and salts in the urine; I cannot believe that these last are of practical value in the investigation of a case of jaundice. Finally there is an index to disease conditions which provides a quick reference to data for the diseases listed in the tables.

The dangers of a book of this kind are easy to see and to overestimate. The advantages are the great saving in time in having information so easily available. An improvement would be to punch a hole in the top left-hand corner so that the book could be hung on the wall in the test-room or consulting-room.

L. J. WITTS.

HISTORY OF NURSING

The Story of the Growth of Nursing as an Art, a Vocation, and a Profession. By Agnes E. Pavey, S.R.N. With foreword by Sir John Weir, K.C.V.O. Third edition. (Pp. 498. £1.) London: Faber and Faber. 1951.

This book tells the story of "the birth and development of each phase of nursing from its earliest beginning to its present form." It is obviously based on wide reading of the literature of the history of medicine and of nursing. The author recognizes that nursing may be an art, a vocation, or a profession, and she has rather artificially divided the subject into three parts concerned with three periods of time. From the dawn of history to the fourth century A.D. is the first period, during which nursing is called an art. This we consider rather unjustified, for there is no evidence that there was any nursing care in prehistoric or early historic times. Garrison gives a more likely account when he states that "the spirit of antiquity towards sickness and misfortune was not one of compassion." The second part is on the period from the beginning of Christianity to A.D. 1850, and during this period nursing is called a vocation. The military and secular nursing orders and the various religious nursing foundations fully justify this title, though the period also covers a time in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries when nursing was neither an art nor a vocation nor a profession, but merely a lowly and sometimes low occupation. The third part of the book is on nursing as a profession; it starts with an account of Florence Nightingale and brings the subject up to date. In this third part the author gives much useful information, even tracing the effect of the National Health Service on the nursing profession.

The book contains much more than an account of nursing. The reader will find a short history of early medicine in the first 82 pages, and in the second part will learn much about the origin of hospitals. The variety of information provided may have contributed to the popularity it enjoys.

V. ZACHARY COPE.

The column "Books Received" has been discontinued.