

groups; those committing property offences such as theft and fraud, sexual offences, and violence of a non-sexual nature.

Dr Grünhut tries to estimate the measure of success of medical treatment, and makes the point that success is much more likely when the doctor assessing the offender and recommending treatment is also later responsible for that treatment. There is discussion of case work by probation officers, and how it may be integrated with and continue the value of medical treatment.

This short book is so concentrated that it is not easy to summarize. It is most desirable reading for all doctors who have to do with the examination or treatment of offenders, and of great interest to all, medical or lay, who are concerned with the gradual expansion of tolerance and understanding in English social life, and its expression in legal practice.

The History of the Worshipful Society of Apothecaries of London.

Abstracted from manuscripts and notes of the late CECIL WALL by the late H. CHARLES CAMERON and revised, annotated and edited by E. ASHWORTH UNDERWOOD. Volume I. 1617-1815. London, New York, Toronto. Oxford University Press. 1963. Pp. v + 450. Price 55s.

The evolution of the general practitioner as we know him today owes more to the Society of Apothecaries than to either of the Royal Colleges; yet the origin of the apothecary lay in the grocers' and spicers' companies of the Middle Ages. The word apothecary derives from "a keeper of stores of drugs, spices, perfumes, sweetmeats and the like". In London the society only gained its independent position in 1617, though for many years before they had been recognized as an independent calling and from 1540 were subject to the inspection of their shops by the physicians who had gained their charter in 1518. It is probable that they had begun to give advice and possibly to visit patients in their homes before they received their charter in 1617, for not long after they were in conflict with the physicians on this matter. The book under review gives the fullest account to date of these early quarrels; it is valuable for that alone. It was not until the famous case of Rose in 1704 that the position of the apothecary as a medical practitioner was finally clarified.

This book contains a good account of the Society from its beginnings and in its notes on sources collected by Dr Underwood much previously unpublished and very valuable material is transcribed, in fact the notes and sources occupy more space in the book than does the story itself. This is due no doubt to the unfortunate deaths of Cecil Wall and Charles Cameron who each in turn had worked on it. Such a book must suffer disadvantages, and Dr Underwood is to be congratulated on his successful treatment of the material at his disposal.

The last part of the book deals with the events culminating in the Apothecaries Act of 1815 which handed over to the Society the responsibility for examining and licensing practitioners. These events are better known than the early struggles of the Society and are less comprehensively dealt with. By the end of the eighteenth century the Society had another

kind of practitioner to contend with in the druggists and chemists who took the apothecaries' place in the shop when the apothecaries began to spend most of their time in visiting people in their homes. For long after the House of Lords decision on Rose the apothecary was unable to charge for attention and advice, and had to make his living by adding this charge to the price of the physic he prescribed. The conflict between the apothecaries practising medicine and surgery and these new vendors of medicines and drugs was, therefore, bitter.

The history of the Society of Apothecaries of London is the history of the general practitioner in London. It would be dangerous to apply conclusions arrived at from these archives to the country as a whole, but this in no way detracts from the value of this work.

A Cottage Hospital Grows Up. The story of the Queen Victoria Hospital, East Grinstead. E. J. DENNISON. London. Anthony Blond Ltd. 1963. Pp. vii+223. Price 30s.

The middle years of the nineteenth century saw the development of a new kind of hospital. Until then there was nothing between the hospitals of the Metropolis and the provincial towns which had been founded for the most part in the eighteenth century, and the hospitals of the Workhouse unions—the development of which had been forced upon usually reluctant Boards of Guardians. In the words of Dr Andrew Wynton (1866) quoted by Dr Dennison “In large tracts of country there was no refuge to which poor creatures suffering from the terrible accidents on the introduction of steam machinery to agricultural pursuits and the railway, could be taken, but the Union Workhouse . . . If taken to the nearest Town hospital, perhaps 20 miles, in a rough cart, the injury was necessarily aggravated. If treated at home, possibly miles from his doctor, or a case requiring hourly attention, he could only get a visit once a day.” The cottage hospital movement was started in 1859 by Dr Albert Napper of Cranleigh in Surrey and spread swiftly through the country. After Cranleigh, came Fowey with five beds (now it has 12) in 1860 at Bourton-on-the-Water in Gloucestershire with six beds (now 16) and then came Iver and East Grinstead.

Dr E. J. Dennison has written a very comprehensive account of East Grinstead hospital. Situated as it is in a dormitory area for London, East Grinstead's hospital was destined in the nature of things to become more than a ‘cottage hospital,’ and two great wars have made it one of the most renowned of special hospitals. This book will interest three kinds of readers: those who are interested in the early work of the cottage hospitals; those who are interested in the development of the art of facio-maxillary surgery in particular and plastic surgery in general; and those—and there are many—who have worked in East Grinstead as doctors, nurses, and auxiliaries, as members of the staff and as postgraduate students. General practitioners will be interested to find how it has been possible, not, be it said, without an occasional struggle, to maintain their access to beds in a hospital where so much, so distinguished, and so specialized work was being done.

This book is packed with facts. Many who have not been personally