

field of care, the authors focus on war developments, including a section on the Red Cross. They also discuss the influence of the women's movement on the emergence of professional healthcare. The twentieth century, rife with complex developments, is also endowed with very little space; here the textbook mainly concentrates on the First World War and the Third Reich. In the section on medicine and National Socialism especially, the authors succeed in providing a short critical synopsis of the most important developments.

An appendix consisting of several printed sources and a bibliography, including a selection of standard works as well as new research, affords readers the possibility of exploring their own areas of interest.

On the whole, the book provides quite a good survey of developments in the history of medicine and care. However, contrary to the intent outlined in the introduction, many chapters deal with the history of care and medicine in two separate sections and the tensions between the two fields remain mostly latent. Finally, some sections are so ambitious in their scope that they must necessarily remain imprecise.

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Lesley Richmond, Julie Stevenson and Alison Turton (eds), *The pharmaceutical industry: a guide to historical records*, Aldershot, Ashgate, 2003, pp. vii, 561, £55.00 (hardback 0-7546-3352-7).

Archive surveys are not easy. It is hard tracking down the material, summarizing what there is in the absence of finding aids, and conveying the information succinctly and clearly so that it can form an essential starting point for research. A survey of the archives of the pharmaceutical industry carries heavier difficulties. A great many of the records of such businesses have been disturbed and lost with the rapid growth of the industry and multiple mergers. Where records do survive there is often ignorance about them: comparatively little cataloguing work has been done on records of

the larger firms. Finally there remains a major problem about gaining access for research; such is the industry's concern to protect information about the development of its drugs.

With these caveats in mind it is particularly pleasing to see the publication by the Business Archives Council of such a well thought out and executed guide. It is greatly to the credit of the BAC that it has already published a fine series of surveys covering brewing, shipbuilding, accountancy and banking. A sixth, on veterinary medicine is currently being published. The last two surveys had financial assistance from the Wellcome Trust. Conducted between 1995 and 2000, the scope of this guide covers "any business which manufactured, dispersed, distributed or sold ethical pharmaceuticals, patent medicines, drugs or galenicals between 1750–1968 as well as trade associations, trade unions and employers' organisations allied to the industry." Mostly it covers pharmaceuticals for human use although there are references to veterinary pharmaceutical products. In order to obtain information an arrangement was made with some of the companies that the database would be made available at the Wellcome Library only. It is to be hoped that further negotiations will change this to give access to a far wider audience via distribution of the CD Rom or mounting it on the web.

In the meantime, those who cannot visit the Wellcome Library will have to make do with this hard copy publication. The researcher's task has been made infinitely easier by the model way the data has been set out; it is sensibly indexed and backed up with invaluable supporting information. A description of the scope and use of these archives by Geoffrey Tweedale is followed by a select chronology of pharmaceutical legislation, a bibliography and a glossary of helpful terms. A guide to public records, name, place and subject indexes, and a list of archive repositories all give the researcher multiple access points to the information. J Burnby's chapter on the early years of the pharmaceutical industry notes the manufacturing of certain medicinal substances on a relatively large scale in the seventeenth century and goes on to discuss the activities

Book Reviews

of various manufacturers including Thomas Corbyn, Allen and Hanbury, May and Baker, and the London Society of Apothecaries. T Corley in his essay discusses the British pharmaceutical industry since 1851, bringing the story up to 2000 with the impact of genome research, new developments in biotechnology, and the mergers of companies to create massive international corporations, the latest, at the time the guide went to press, being Glaxo SmithKline.

The core of the work consists of guides to the records of business, trade organisations and pharmacy schools, and to minor collections (the latter alphabetically described within counties). There is a massive amount to digest. Records range from advertisements, ailment lists and apprenticeship indentures to prescription lists, photographs and poison registers. The background material puts this into context and is valuably supplemented by short histories of each firm with further reading suggestions.

A company's records can be found in several locations. Take Howard & Sons of Ilford for example. Started by Luke Howard in the 1790 in Fleet Street, Howard entered into partnership with William Allen. Had the partnership not dissolved in 1807 we might have had Allen & Howard rather than Allen & Hanbury. The Howard records are to be found in six locations: the London Metropolitan Archives, Redbridge Central Library, Laporte plc, Manchester Central Library, the Society of Friends and the Royal Pharmaceutical Society. Allen & Hanbury's records are scattered between five locations including the Royal Botanical Gardens Kew and the Museum of the History of Science Oxford: the main holding is now the Wellcome Library and not Glaxo Wellcome as it was in 2000.

Inevitably some details such as this have changed since the survey closed. Until such time as an update can be undertaken the onus is on the user to double check contact details and note the clear advice that there should be no expectation of automatic access to business records still held by the business, since these are private. The address of the BAC has also changed since publication; contact details are now: The Hon Secretary Fiona Maccoll, Records

Manager, Rio Tinto plc, 6 St James's Square, London SW1 4LD.

At £55 this guide is excellent value and will assist as well as generate ideas for research in this area. Congratulations to the surveyors and editors whose efforts have provided such an invaluable work.

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Iain Bamforth (ed.), *The body in the library: a literary anthology of modern medicine*, London and New York, Verso 2003, pp. xxx, 418, £20.00 (hardback 1-859874-534-7).

Medicine and literature criss-cross one another many times over and in many forms in western history. Iain Bamforth's anthology, *The body in the library*, offers a rich selection of such moments. Drawing upon examples of poems, stories, journal entries, Socratic dialogue, table-talk, clinical vignettes and aphorisms, Bamforth demonstrates how medicine and literature of various forms come together to produce telling, humorous and sometimes painful accounts of what it is to be human.

The bringing together of two disciplines calls into question how each is defined. Judging by the variety of literary styles included, Bamforth considers modern western literature in its broadest sense. Democratic in his selection, canonical works sit next to lesser-known writers in a manner which is both provocative and refreshing. There is, one could argue, a geographical bias to Bamforth's choices, with the greatest proportion of authors included being English, French, German, American and Russian, in that order. It is also notable that the female voice is scarce, with only six of the seventy-one excerpts written by women.

Bamforth is much more specific in his definition of modern medicine. He understands the French Revolution to be the political and geographical moment of modern medicine's inception, and thus all the passages included date from after this event. In his introduction he argues that 1800 marked a turning point in the history of medicine, where for the first time, state