financial return. Others would be a vigorous and sustained effort to raise both the quality and number of those going into the profession, to make the teaching of librarianship more attractive to promising candidates, to provide job information and candidate information in order to assure better matching of jobs and people, to bring the principles of sound personnel administration into operation in all libraries.

Criticisms of the book limit themselves rather well to criticisms of the method, since the results are interpreted with an honesty, objectivity, fidelity and restraint that are a credit to the author. The sampling method was in this case so intensive, if not extensive, in its operation that a great deal more of expressed opinion lies behind the results than is customary with the sampling method. The safeguard of anonymity in answering the questionnaire should insure a high degree of sincerity in the reply. I for one wonder how many yielded to the temptations of casualness or flippancy behind the veil of anonymity. Not many I think.—*Bernard Van Horne, Detroit Public Library.*

History of Science

A Guide to the History of Science; a First Guide for the Study of the History of Science with Introductory Essays on Science and Tradition. By George Alfred Leon Sarton. Waltham, Mass., Chronica Botanica, N.Y., Stechert-Hafner, 1952. xvii, 316p. $7.50.

The history of science is being studied and consulted more frequently by contemporary historians and social scientists than at any time since the seventeenth century. The cry that the scientist must become socially conscious is matched by the cry that the social scientist must know what science has done in order to understand what it will do. Civilization today affects scientific development and in turn is affected by it. Hence, the librarian whether in a science library or in a general library will find a demand for and a need to know the tools which serve as a key to unlock the storehouse of knowledge concerning the heritage of modern science.

Isis and *Osiris* are by-words in the history of science. To these we can now add *Horus,* the recommended citing title of Sarton's "Guide to the History of Science." This new publication will strengthen the arm of every scholar and more particularly every research librarian. It is gratifying to note the increase in the number of guides to the literature of various subjects in the sciences. Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics, Zoology, Entomology, Geology and now the History of Science are well provided with guides.

Sarton's "Guide" is in two parts. The first contains three introductory lectures explaining the purpose and meaning of the history of science. These make fascinating reading. The second part, entitled, "A first guide for the study of the history of science," is a great amplification of the bibliography which was published as an appendix to the author's "Study of the History of Science," Cambridge, 1936. It includes a critical bibliography of works on methodology, and various types of reference tools; a selective list of abstracting and review journals (by Claudius F. Mayer); a directory of societies, national and international devoted to the history of science; critical bibliographies of works on the history of science arranged by country and some forty-one special branches of science; a critical listing of journals and serials concerning the history of science (with Claudius F. Mayer); a section on institutes, museums, libraries, and a special section devoted to international congresses. The annotations which are given for most of the publications cited are written in a most interesting and entertaining manner. For example, in speaking of a publication which contains a style manual as an appendix, Dr. Sarton notes that of the principles enumerated, every student "ought to know them as well as he knows how to spell and how to blow his nose."

"A little knowledge is a dangerous thing" and it is always tempting for one on the fringes to seize triumphantly upon and to belabor some minor point which seemingly does not measure up, but Dr. Sarton charmingly disarms the reviewer by his statement on page 71, "Every bibliography contains errors by omission or by commission and at best it is bound to be vitiated by an irreducible minimum of accidental arbitrariness." I cannot refrain, however, from pointing out that the citing title "Horus" which appears only at the head of the title page is bound to cause some bibliographic confusion. Neither the publish-

er's blurb, book jacket, binders' title, nor the half-title contain the word, Horus.

This "Guide" is a must acquisition for the reference shelf of every college and research library.—*Thomas P. Fleming, Columbia University.*

Medical Bibliographers

The Great Medical Bibliographers: A Study in Humanism. By John F. Fulton. Philadelphia, University of Pennsylvania Press, 1951. xv, 107p., 37 figs. $4.00.

As the Rosenbach Fellow in Bibliography for 1950, Dr. John F. Fulton, Sterling Professor of the History of Medicine at Yale University, delivered three informative lectures on medical bibliography. These lectures, cleverly written and fully documented have now been printed in an attractive format by the University of Pennsylvania Press.

The first lecture deals with the origin of bibliography under the influence of Bishop Johann Tritheim. The first real medical bibliographer was Symphorien Champier with his *De medicinae claris scriptoribus* (Lyon, 1506). The outstanding medical bibliographer of the sixteenth century was Conrad Gesner whose *Bibliotheca universalis* (Zurich, 1545) contains an immense alphabetical listing of authors with abstracts of their publications, both printed and manuscript. With Gesner the science of bibliographical description was born.

The second lecture on the seventeenth and eighteenth century covers a period in which Dr. Fulton is particularly interested. His accounts of the first medical book sales and the first book sellers' catalogs with bibliographical descriptions are particularly intriguing. Due attention is given to the outstanding bibliographer, Albrecht von Haller (1708-1777), and the great bio-bibliographers, Eloy and Atkinson.

The third lecture covers the expanding field of medical subject indexes and the contributions of Ploucquet, Forbes and Callisen. John Shaw Billings and the great *Index Catalogue of the Surgeon-General's Library* (now the Armed Forces Medical Library) are given well justified appreciation. The medical-bibliographical works of Choulant, Osler, and Geoffrey Keynes are treated with some length. The volume contains five appendices: 1) The various editions, extracts and supplements of Gesner's *Bibliotheca*, 2) A list of early medical book sales, 3) Descriptions of the various Haller bibliographical publications. 4) A list of the works of Johann Ludwig Choulant, and 5) A full description of the twenty-two personal bibliographies compiled by Geoffrey Keynes. There is a special section of thirty-seven figures illustrating the various outstanding items discussed.

Here is another example of how the rich resources of libraries can be put to work in the hands of a skillful scholar. Dr. Fulton is fortunate in having available the rich collections of Arnold Klebs (1870-1943), Harvey Cushing (1869-1939), in addition to those of the Yale Medical Library and his own outstanding collection.

Medical bibliographers throughout the centuries have been leaders in the bibliographical field, and this publication should be present in every library concerning itself with bibliography and the broader field of documentation.—*Thomas P. Fleming, Columbia University.*

Library Literature

Library Literature. 1949-1951. Edited by Dorothy Ethelyn Cole. New York, H. W. Wilson Co., 1952. 862p. (Service basis).

Librarians have come to know that if they want to find bibliographical citations to literature relating to problems in their field they consult *Library Literature.* The current cumulation covers the years 1949 through 1951. Miss Cole, the editor, has made an effort to include foreign publications for the war years. Also, it is intended to fill in as many gaps for foreign publications as possible in future issues.

The present indexing includes 120 periodicals, as compared to 97 in the 1946-48 volume. As in past issues, it also includes a "Check-list of Professional Publications." Miss Cole notes that the library school theses indexed have greatly increased, a result of the thesis requirement for the master's degree in library schools which have changed from the bachelor's degree. Cooperation from library schools is essential for *Library Literature* to be complete in this respect, and one is somewhat disturbed to find such Columbia omissions as the essays by Budington, Bump, Martignoni, Schein, Stickle, Stripling, and