
The character of this "Contribution" is announced in a sub-title, "A History of the Pittsburgh College of Pharmacy, 1878-1958," that the publisher, rather strangely, puts only on the preliminary half-title page. This welcome volume chronicles the evolution of a well-known institution of higher education in pharmacy, from its modest beginning as one of many association-schools founded after the Civil War, to its present phase, inaugurated by merger with the University of Pittsburgh in 1948.

The account by Dr. and Mrs. Reif finds a special place for at least two reasons: First, relatively few published studies of individual pharmacy schools are substantial enough to reveal and preserve their history and how they made their contribution toward creating adequate health services for the citizens of various states. (The only comprehensive history devoted to American pharmaceutical education has never been published.) Secondly, the present book gives us a more balanced picture of pharmaceutical education in Pennsylvania, whose history heretofore has been dominated by the first American school of pharmacy (1821) at Philadelphia.

This focus can be attributed not only to the eminent pioneer role played by the Philadelphia College in American pharmacy, but also to the voluminous First Century of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, edited by Joseph W. England (1922). A comparable volume frequently consulted is Curt Wimmer's The College of Pharmacy of the City of New York—A History (1929). It is beside such volumes that the work of Dr. and Mrs. Reif will stand as a contribution significant not only for Western Pennsylvania, but for the record of pharmaceutical education.

The four sections of the narrative account are titled: (1) Events Which Led to the Founding of a School; (2) Affiliation with the Western University of Pennsylvania; (3) A School in the University of Pittsburgh; and (4) Integration with the Health Professions. A minimal topical organization, in favor of fundamentally a chronologic approach, makes the publisher's omission of an index especially distressing to anyone who hopes to use the book for reference purposes.

The main text (121 pp.) is supplemented by valuable appendices, but not by documentation. The voluminous appendices in-
clude historical tables of the faculties, students, and officials associated with the school; biographical sketches of the three deans and of the teachers who served the school for ten years or more; outlines of the history of organizations associated with the school; tables of awards and scholarships; and transcripts of some of the most significant documents concerned with the development of the school.

The authors seem to have held to a high level of objectivity, which gives the book a lasting usefulness. On the other hand, the historical method of "let the facts speak for themselves" begs some questions of how educational policies were arrived at and how administrative problems were dealt with. The challenges and controversies that so often help explain historical change often drop out of sight.

Yet, the book is a remarkable achievement, considering the many duties of the distinguished senior author. Edward Reif, dean of the College from 1945 to 1958, had Thelma Reif, his wife, as co-author. The Reifs long have had respect for and knowledge of the historical and cultural background of the pharmaceutical profession. This helps explain their persistence, over many years, in collecting the materials out of which they fashioned this book. It is a rich source of information on how the Pittsburgh College of Pharmacy made its contribution to the Western Pennsylvania community and serves as an example of the life cycle of the association-schools that typify the initiative and self-help of would-be professions during an earlier stage of American education.

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This book is made up of three eyewitness accounts, hitherto unpublished, describing the ambush of General Braddock and his army by the French and Indians, July 9, 1755. Charles Hamilton, a dealer and collector of autographs, literary, and historical manuscripts, lists the three documents as: (1) The Journal of Captain