

women; provided that, pretty and lovable though they may be, you never lose sight of my principle: always love God, America, and me above all"

The second woman was Comtesse d'Houdetot, "the kind of woman who makes other women wonder what is it that men see in them." It was for her that Franklin planted the famous acacia, while French women recited reams of verse.

And finally, the queen of them all, Madame Helvetius, whom he wanted to marry, and to whom he wrote at the end of his life: "I cannot let this chance go by, my dear friend, without telling you that I love you always And often, in my dreams, I dine with you, I sit beside you on one of your thousand sofas, or I walk with you in your beautiful garden."

Learning French, printing his ideas in French, loving French women were only part of Franklin's secret. Franklin the scientist was respected before he came to France to work with scientists. He popularized the armonica, a musical instrument. He took part in the investigation of Mesmer. He went to banquets introducing and popularizing the potato. He saw the first balloon ascents. He symbolized America in his coonskin cap and plain clothes. By identifying with the French, he secured help for his country.

A grand man, a fascinating book, and oh, those lovely women!

Pittsburgh

FLORENCE C. McLAUGHLIN

Medicine in America — Historical Essays. By RICHARD HARRISON SHRYOCK. (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press, 1966. Pp. xviii, 332. Index. \$7.50.)

This book deals, in a general way, with "The Medical history of the American People," under various headings such as Medical Practice in the Old South, Basic Science in the Nineteenth Century, Medical Perspective on the Civil War, Sylvester Graham and the Health Movement of 1830-1870, the Historical Significance of the Tuberculosis Movement, The American Physician, Women in Medicine, Medical Thought and Research. These and other headings give in a very clear way the subject material used in the history of American Medicine. Under these headings there is told the difficulties of establishing the first hospitals in the U.S.A. and the need for more to satisfy the wants of the people, the demand for compulsory health

insurance, the problems and anxieties of the Medical profession, the part to be played by "Medicare," as to the quantity as well as the quality of medical service.

Medicine is more than a science; it is also an art, and thereby it has been related to social and cultural development at large. The term "Medical history" involves not only the history of disease but attempts to promote health and prevent, cure or ameliorate illness. The concept includes past trends in "social medicine" and medical sociology, such as medical institutions, personnel and costs of medical care. In short, medical history involves social, economic and biologic content.

The writer divides medical history into five eras: 1620-1720; 1720-1820; 1820-1870; 1870-1920; and 1920-1965, in each of which, early American, the Middle Period, The Modern Pathology and Clinical Studies, the Germanic Epoch, and the Recent Era, indicate the progressive growth of American Medicine. While many people will never read all the biographies, comments and discussions in such a history of medicine, yet most will want to know particular facts about the science, the delusions, the history of certain phases of medicine. To satisfy these wishes, the author tries to supply them in a logical, historical and interesting manner. He has managed to bring these various objects together in one small volume of 332 pages. For anyone who wishes to cover the varied phases of Medicine, especially the historical side, he will find his time well spent in reading this volume.

Pittsburgh

C. W. W. ELKIN, M.D.

Here's to Thornburg. By ALICE CRIST CHRISTNER. (Pittsburgh: Thornburg Community Club, 1966. Pp. xi, 140.)

One of the most interesting aspects of social history during the nineteenth century was the development of suburbia as a result of urban expansion and improved methods of transportation. It was chiefly because of the latter factor that this new type of residential existence also became intimately connected with the history of land speculation in America. As a dormitory adjunct to the city, the suburb was the child of transport and the land agent. That it was often in the last century a dreary bastard, neither city nor country, and in our day, a faceless monster, should, considering the numerous shortcomings of the parents, occasion no surprise. When this has been said, however, how pleasant it is to be reminded that the American suburb could, and