PASTEUR'S AND TYNDALL'S STUDY OF SPONTANEOUS GENERATION, ed. by James Bryant Conant, 61 pp., Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1953.

As the title indicates, this is one of the famous case histories produced by Conant in the Harvard series. This is Case 7, and only two others directly refer to biology. The introduction is an excellent survey of the methods of science and scientists utilizing famous examples to illustrate the points of the author. There are not too many editorial comments to interrupt the text of Pasteur's and Tyndall's original work. The translation is good. Throughout, the editor points up the development of the concepts of Pasteur and Tyndall in an illuminating way. Biologists interested in the historical development of the science will want this series.

P. K.

LAENNEC—HIS LIFE AND TIMES, Roger Kervran, 213 pp., $3.50, Pergamon Press, New York, 1960.

There is little to be added to the introduction by Professor Heaf, except to say that in transliteration the work reads easily and with a charming wistfulness. An apt sub-title would be, "How to become and remain a good physician."

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PIONEER MICROBIOLOGISTS OF AMERICA, Paul F. Clark, 369 pp., $6.00, University of Wisconsin Press, Madison, Wisconsin, 1961.

The history of microbiology has been written in a variety of ways, but this volume is unique. It is written by an outstanding microbiologist. It confines itself largely to the United States. It is full of fascinating detail. It tells its story in a unique way.

The latter point needs expansion. The author divides the country into large regions, and he tells the history of microbiology within the framework of these areas. These are further broken down into schools and institutions and/or major research interests. This leads into some very interesting situations. For instance, Michigan State University comes out Michigan Agricultural College. Descriptive histories of some important diseases are scattered, depending on the geographical location of the researchers.

The book is charmingly written and yet full of detail. Its organization, however, does not appeal to this reviewer. Unfortunately it will be primarily used by microbiologists and miss the larger readership it deserves. An important book for those interested in this field and useful source book for others.

P. K.

THE HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF PHYSIOLOGICAL THOUGHT, Ed. by Chandler McC. Brooks and Paul F. Cranefield, xiii + 401 p., $6.00, Hafner Publishing Co., New York, 1959.

This book contains the papers presented at a symposium held at the Downstate Medical Center of the State University of New York. There is an emphasis on human physiology and its medical aspects. Essentially each paper is a unit although there is an introductory chapter for each section which attempts to give continuity. The papers range from relatively simple "after dinner speeches" to quite technical reviews. One of the best of the latter is Sir John Eccles' paper, *The Development of Ideas on the Synapse.*

This volume will be useful to the biologist who teaches a history of science class on a seminar basis. The chapters can be used for student reports or as background reading by the class in preparation for more specialized reports on research papers.

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MILESTONES IN MICROBIOLOGY, Thomas Brock, 275 pp., $3.95, Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, 1961.

Another paperback valuable for the biology student and teacher. This is a collection of the edited and translated papers of famous microbiologists, beginning with Leuwenhoek, and going to Stanley and Fleming. After each paper there is an editor's comment which is quite valuable. The editor has also placed a valuable introduction which surveys the history of microbiology before the actual papers. The papers are arranged under the headings of spontaneous generation and fermentation, germ theory of disease, immunology, virology, chemotherapy, and general microbiology. Some of the most important papers are carried in the appendix in their original languages.

The value of this book is in its use by students who wish to read original scientific research papers. In any historical treatment of biology this will be a "must" book. The papers have a clarity and lucidity of expression which will be good object lessons.

P. K.

THE LIFE OF SCIENCE, George Sarton, 197 pp., $1.50, Indiana University Press, Bloomington, 1960.

A paperback reprint from the writings of a famous historian of science. However, the subtitle has greater significance for it is more accurate: "Essays in the history of civili-

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