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Sommario/riassunto	John S. Haller, Jr., provides the first modern history of the Eclectic school of American sectarian medicine. The Eclectic school (sometimes called the ""American School"") flourished in the mid-nineteenth century when the art and science of medicine was undergoing a profound crisis of faith. At the heart of the crisis was a disillusionment with the traditional therapeutics of the day and an intense questioning of the principles and philosophy upon which medicine had been built. Many American physicians and their patients felt that medicine had lost the ability