

News, Notes, and Queries

British Society for the History of Medicine 1998 Poynter Lecture

This year's Poynter Lecture, entitled 'Government, Charities and the Fundraising of Medical Research, 1948–1998', will be given by Dr Bridget Ogilvie, DBE, ScD, Director of

The Wellcome Trust, on Monday, 11 May 1998 at 6.00 pm in the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine, 183 Euston Road, London NW1 2BE.

Call for papers 'Homoeopathy and its Patients'

The Second Conference of the International Network for the History of Homoeopathy in the EAHMH will take place at the Institut für Geschichte der Medizin der Robert Bosch Stiftung, Stuttgart, in the spring of 1999. As in the history of medicine in general, patients have received little attention in the history of homoeopathy. The aim of this conference is to focus on historical aspects of the patient in

relation to homoeopathic practice. Papers may be presented in either German or English. Please send your proposals by the middle of May to: PD Dr M Dinges, Institut für Geschichte der Medizin der Robert Bosch Stiftung, Straussweg 17, D-70184 Stuttgart, Germany. Fax 0711-461755; e-mail: igm.bosch@t-online.de

Oldest Midwifery Journal closed after 110 Years

The last issue of *Midwives*, the official journal of the Royal College of Midwives, was published in December 1997. The history of this periodical is a fascinating one, not least in that its production on a monthly basis continued unbroken through two world wars and several episodes of industrial action in the printing

trade. Original copies of every issue since 1887, as well as all the associated papers, photographs and archives, are being transferred to the Library of the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine, London, and will be made available shortly.

Call for papers American Society for Bioethics and the Humanities Student Paper Competition

The American Society for Bioethics and the Humanities (ASBH) announces its annual competition for the best paper written by a graduate or professional student from any discipline on a designated topic in the medical humanities (including ethics). Any pre-doctoral student currently enrolled in a graduate or professional programme or any medical resident is eligible to submit a paper. The winner will present his or her paper at the

ASBH annual meeting in Houston, Texas, 17–22 November 1998. The winning author will receive a \$1,000 award, and the 1998 winning paper will be considered and reviewed for publication in *Medical Humanities Review*. Papers must be documented, original, scholarly work of a single author, and must not already have been published or accepted for publication. ASBH reserves the option not to award a prize, or to divide the prize.

Submissions must not exceed 15 typed, double-spaced pages and **must be received no later than 3 July 1998** at the following address, to which inquiries may also be sent: Alexandra Bambas, Student Interest Group program

Chair, ASBH, Ste 2.210 Ashbel-Smith Bldg, Institute for the Medical Humanities, UTMB, Galveston, Texas 77555-1311, USA. Tel.: 409/737-4012; e-mail: abambas@marlin.utmb.edu

Latin American Medical History

The Rare Books and Manuscripts Division of the Ohio State University Library has acquired a sizeable, unique collection in Latin American medical history. This acquisition is the entire Donald B Cooper collection on nineteenth- and early twentieth-century Brazil. The collection consists of more than 600 printed items, including books, monographs, journals, government reports, biographies, etc., some of them quite rare. There is also a large microfilm collection of rare journals and archival sources, and thousands of xerox copies of further scarce items. The strength of

the collection is in epidemiology, public health, and medical history of Brazil for the years 1840 to 1920 with notable holdings on Dr Oswaldo Cruz. Most materials are in Portuguese. The Cooper collection also includes some books and manuscripts for Mexican medical history and other miscellaneous items from Latin America. For further information contact: Dr Geoffrey Smith, Head, Rare Books and Manuscripts, The Ohio State University Library, 106 Dulles Hall, 230 West 17th Avenue, Columbus, OH 43210-1367, USA.

Three Free Public Lectures on Sir John Simon (1816–1904)

Gresham College is commemorating the 150th anniversary of the appointment of John Simon as First Medical Officer of Health of the City of London with the following three lectures in November 1998: 9 Nov., 'Simon as Surgeon and Scientist' by Dr Christopher Lawrence, Chair: Sir Alexander Graham; 16 Nov., 'Simon the Administrator' by Professor

Rudolf Klein, Chair: Dr Sandy Macara; 23 Nov., 'Simon and the Politics of Poverty' by Dr Jennie Popay, Chair: Professor Peter Hennessy. All lectures will take place at 5.30 pm at Gresham College, Barnard's Inn Hall, Holborn, London EC1N 2HH. Tel.: 0171 831 0575; Fax: 0171 831 5208; email: enquiries@gresham.ac.uk

International Network for the History of Hospitals

The Network is supported by the European Association for the History of Medicine and Health. It exists to promote studies related to the historical evolution of hospitals from their beginnings to the present day by providing an international forum for communication and discussion among scholars interested in the subject. Particular encouragement is given to newcomers to the field. It is hoped that collaborative research among members will be encouraged and the Network works to facilitate this in a number of ways: (a) A data-base of researchers and their projects; (b) Regularly

updated membership lists; (c) A newsletter to keep members informed of developments; (d) Regular conferences, workshops, and seminars under the auspices of the Network; (e) The establishment of a list of archival sources of interest to researchers is being considered. Membership is free. For further information contact: Dr Keir Waddington, Centre for Medical & Dental Education, Robin Brook Centre, St Bartholomew's Hospital, West Smithfield, London EC1A 7BE, UK. E-mail: k.waddington@mds.qmw.ac.uk