

Society Reports

tasks, the role assigned to scholarly research may well be stated again, if only to give us some assurance that even investigations without direct, pragmatic value may lead us in new directions and provide the basis for new convictions.

I hope you will forgive me for inflicting these general observations upon you, for they help to indicate my feelings in having been chosen the recipient of one of your first Honorary Fellowships. Such personal pride as may be pardonable is enhanced by the thought that in selecting me you have not minded crossing the ocean.

With my thanks I would like to send my greetings to this Inaugural Meeting. The First British Congress on the History of Medicine and Pharmacy will be acclaimed everywhere as an event of great significance. Though circumstances prevent me from being present on this illustrious occasion, I feel deeply gratified by the thought that my thanks and my greetings are to be conveyed to you by a representative of my country.

Please accept my thanks, my greetings, and my very best wishes for your endeavours.

SECOND BRITISH CONGRESS ON THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE AND PHARMACY

THE theme of the Second British Congress on the History of Medicine and Pharmacy, which is being organized by the Faculty in cooperation with The Chemical Society, will be 'Chemistry in the Service of Medicine'. The Congress will be held in London from 27th–29th September 1961. Further details and application forms for membership will be available shortly from the Honorary Secretary, Dr. F. N. L. Poynter, Wellcome Historical Medical Library, The Wellcome Building, Euston Road, London, N.W.1.

BRITISH NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE

THE Council of the Royal Society has decided to set up a British National Committee for the History of Science with the following membership—Chairman: Sir Harold Hartley; Sir Gavin de Beer, Lord Fleck, Professor D. M. Newitt, Professor E. N. da C. Andrade, Professor D. McKie and Professor W. D. M. Paton to represent the Royal Society; together with representatives from the British Society for the History of Science, the Newcomen Society and the Faculty of History of Medicine and Pharmacy of the Worshipful Society of Apothecaries.

The function of the new National Committee will be to maintain contact with the Division of the History of Science of the International Union for the History and Philosophy of Science with the object of facilitating international cooperation, to recommend to the Royal Society proposals for scientific action or matters for discussion which it may be desirable to bring before the General Assembly of the Union, and also to select delegates to represent the adhering organization (the Royal Society) at the General Assembly of the Union.

Dr. W. S. C. Copeman has been nominated to serve as the representative of the Faculty of the History of Medicine and Pharmacy of the Society of Apothecaries on this Committee for a period of three years from 1 January 1961.