

Society Reports

The Secretary announced that the library of the Society had received more gifts and that *Medical History* had been recognized as the official organ of the Society.

The President, Professor Axel Strøm, gave a most interesting survey of the life and work of Sir Edwin Chadwick. He said that to dedicate one of the first meetings to a lawyer might seem rather odd, but pointed out that Chadwick was one of the great pioneers in the struggle for better sanitary conditions. Professor Strøm left his audience with a vivid impression of Chadwick's complex character and of the widely differing views as to his achievements and influence. He also gave a vivid description of social and sanitary conditions in the first half of the last century.

Dr. Bernhard Getz, in an address dedicated to the life and work of William Harvey, spoke about the history of the circulation and about the doctrines of the various medical schools at different periods.

There were short discussions following both presentations.

BERNH. GETZ

THE OSLER CLUB OF LONDON

THE 146th meeting of the Osler Club was held on 24 January 1957 at the Royal College of Physicians of London, with the President, Dr. W. S. C. Copeman, in the chair. Nearly 100 members and visitors were present. The President of the College, Sir Russell Brain, Bt., read an erudite and delightful paper on Thomas Lawrence, M.D., F.R.C.P. (1711–83): scholar-physician, president of the College for seven years, physician to, and friend of Dr. Johnson. Sir Russell presented some striking extracts from Lawrence's letters and writings, and gave a vivid account of the 'siege' of the College in Warwick Lane by a party of its rebellious Licentiates in 1767. His paper will be published in this journal.

The discussion was opened by Dr. S. C. Roberts, Master of Pembroke College, Cambridge, and distinguished Johnsonian, and was continued by Professor Geoffrey Tillotson, Professor of English Literature, Birkbeck College, and President of the Johnson Club; Sir Harold Boldero, Registrar of the College; Sir Sydney Littlewood; and Sir Robert Young.

An exhibition of Lawrenciana had been arranged by the College's Assistant Librarian, Mr. L. M. Payne.