

# *News, Notes and Queries*

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## EDITORIAL BOARD FOR *MEDICAL HISTORY*

The Editors are pleased to announce that a distinguished international Editorial Board has been assembled to assist them in the refereeing of papers and to encourage the continual flow of high-quality new scholarship to *Medical History*. The Editors will, of course, continue to use other specialists to help assess submitted papers and to review new books, but the existence of a formal Board broadens considerably the range of expertise involved in the production of this journal. The initial Board consists of the following scholars:

Dr W. R. Albury (University of New South Wales); Prof. T. Brown (University of Rochester, New York); Dr R. K. French (Wellcome Unit for the History of Medicine, Cambridge); Prof. A. R. Hall, FBA (The Wellcome Trust); Prof. H. M. Koelbing (University of Zurich); Dr I. S. L. Loudon (Wellcome Unit for the History of Medicine, Oxford); Prof. P. Mathias, FBA (All Souls College, Oxford); Prof. Sir William Paton, FRS (University Department of Pharmacology, Oxford); Prof. C. G. Roland (McMaster University, Ontario); Dr C. Webster, FBA (Wellcome Unit for the History of Medicine, Oxford); Prof. E. A. Wrigley, FBA (Cambridge Group for the History of Population and Social Structure).

Papers should continue to be submitted to the Editorial Office at the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine (183 Euston Road, London NW1 2BP).

## ACADEMIC PROGRAMME AT THE WELLCOME INSTITUTE FOR THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE

The Wellcome Institute's active Academic Programme will be continued during the coming months. Two one-day and one two-day symposia will be held during the autumn. A symposium on "New Light on Ancient Medicine" is planned for Friday, 16 September 1983, and a symposium in memory of Dr Walter Pagel will be held on 2 December 1983. A two-day symposium on "The British Contribution to the Neurosciences" is scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday, 2-3 November 1983. In addition, the fortnightly research seminars on "The Patient's View: Lay Attitudes to Medicine, Disease, and Doctors" will continue until Christmas, as will the fortnightly discussion group examining the history of syphilis. Plans for 1984 include a symposium on "Samuel Johnson and Medicine" (jointly with the Johnson Society and the History of Medicine Section of the Royal Society of Medicine) on Friday, 10 February 1984; and symposia on the "History of Nursing", "Medicine and Demography", and "The History of Specialization in Medicine". The research seminars will be concerned with "The History of Medicine in London", and there will be several public lectures. These events are open to interested individuals, and inclusion on the Institute's mailing list may be obtained by writing to Ms Frieda Houser, Academic Unit, Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine, 183 Euston Road, London NW1 2BP (telephone: 01 387 4477 ext. 3253).

## THE ROSS GRANVILLE HARRISON PAPERS

Ross Granville Harrison was the leading embryologist of his generation and a pioneer investigator of the problems of molecular biology. Through his studies of organic symmetry and asymmetry, he laid the ground work for understanding how the molecular configuration of cells determines the organization of living matter. The papers of Dr Harrison form a large and complete record of his scientific, departmental, and administrative endeavours. They are now arranged, described, and open to research in the Manuscripts and Archives Department of the Yale University Library. The arrangement maintains the classification of material established by Harrison.

Of particular interest are the "Protocols – Research Records" which contain detailed histories of all of Harrison's microsurgical grafting operations and tissue culture experiments, performed at Johns Hopkins and Yale, with analytical tabulations, summaries, and drawings. (These papers were studied by Dr Jan A. Witkowski in preparation of his article published on pp. 269–288 of this issue of *Medical History*.) The research protocols record the eight-year intensive programme of study of the origin and development of the nervous system which culminated in the crucial experiment of isolating animal tissues outside the body and definite proof of the out-growth of the developing nerve fibre from a single nerve cell. Carefully planned study of amphibian embryonic development of a number of organs is included in the protocols with emphasis on the analysis of developmental growth processes, localization, and symmetry of the limb and ear. X-ray preparations and experiments with W. T. Astbury and K. M. Ruddall are also described in the protocols.

The papers include a large quantity of Harrison's writings and lecture notes. Among them are descriptive material and other records used in the preparation of the complete series of normal stages of *Amblystoma punctatum* and the original drawings of the live embryos.

The correspondence in these papers is international in scope and spans the years after Harrison's arrival at Yale in 1907 with his appointment as head of the Zoology Department and Bronson Professor of Comparative Anatomy. Some earlier correspondence goes back to his student days at the Johns Hopkins University and the University of Bonn (1892–93, 1895, 1898, 1899). References to his important work in tissue culture and the preparation of the normal stages of *Amblystoma punctatum* are included. The papers also contain a large collection of photographs of American colleagues, eminent foreign scientists, and of Harrison himself.

Sally Wilens, Harrison's long-time research associate, has prepared an exhaustive guide to the papers. Requests concerning the guide or use of the collection should be addressed to: Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library, Box 1603A Yale Station, New Haven, CT 06520, USA.

## HISTORY OF DERMATOLOGY SOCIETY

Entries (and requests for information) for the Fourth Samuel J. Zakon Prize in the History of Dermatology should be sent to John Thorne Crissey, MD, 960 East Green Street, Pasadena, California, USA, prior to 1 October 1983.

## THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE

The first Poynter Lecture will be given by Mrs D. Poynter at the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine, 183 Euston Road, London NW1 2BP, on Tuesday, 27 September 1983, at 6 p.m. The Lecture will be followed by a cheese and wine party.

The British Society for the History of Medicine will be holding its Tenth British Congress on the History of Medicine on the general theme of the 'History of Paediatrics' in conjunction with the History of Medicine Society of Wales at Clyne Castle, Swansea, from 6 to 8 April 1984. Further particulars are available from the Congress Secretary, Dr John Cule, Abereinion, Capel Dewi, Llandysul, Dyfed SA44 4PP, Wales.

## SCIENCE IN EGYPTOLOGY

A second symposium, organized by the Manchester Egyptian Mummy Research Team, is to be held at the University of Manchester, England, from 26 to 30 June 1984. Themes will include: (1) the use of scientific techniques in examining ancient Egyptian mummified remains (radiology, pathology, serology, endoscopy, dental examination, etc.); and (2) analytical methods of examining pottery, wood, and metals. Further details from Dr A. R. David, Manchester Museum, The University, Manchester M13 9PL, England.

## ASSOCIATED MEDICAL SERVICES INCORPORATED

Dr John B. Neilson, who has been President of the Corporation since 1976, retired in March 1983. His successor is Dr Donald Richards Wilson, MD, FRCS(C), who has a long-standing interest in the history of medicine and has been a participant in history-making from the early days of cardiovascular surgery. He was a pioneer in the fields of thoracic and abdominal aortic surgery, femoral artery grafting, and renal artery and carotid artery surgery. For several years, he has been gathering information about early members of the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Toronto, many of whom came from the United Kingdom.

The Hannah Institute for the History of Medicine, which is the part of the Corporation concerned with the advancement of knowledge of, and interest in, the history of medicine, will continue to function under its Executive Director, Dr G. R. Paterson.

## HANNAH VISITING PROFESSOR (HISTORY OF MEDICINE)

The Hannah Institute for the History of Medicine wishes to appoint a historian of medicine (holding a doctorate and having taught the subject at university level) to a Visiting Professorship for a six- to nine-month period during the academic year 1984–85. The successful applicant would take up residence at one of the five Hannah Chairs in the History of Medicine (Western Ontario, Toronto, Ottawa, McMaster, and Queen's). While the position is essentially a research opportunity, nevertheless it involves some contributions to the Hannah Chairs' programme (guest lectures or

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seminars). The application deadline is 1 September 1983, and further information may be obtained from Dr G. R. Paterson, Executive Director, Hannah Institute for the History of Medicine, 101–14 Prince Arthur Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5R 1A9.

#### RESEARCH IN PROGRESS – HISTORY OF MEDICINE

The American Association for the History of Medicine has recently issued a new compilation of worldwide “Research in Progress” in the history of medicine and related fields (i.e., List No. 6, 1982). Interested scholars may obtain copies of this publication for \$5.00. Write to the Secretary of the Association, Robert P. Hudson, MD, History of Medicine Department, University of Kansas Medical School, Kansas City, KA 66103, USA.

#### AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE

The 1984 annual meeting will be held in San Francisco, 2 May to 5 May. Persons wishing to have papers considered for the programme are requested to submit an abstract (original and five copies) of approximately 300 words typed on a single page to the Chairman of the Programme Committee: Dr Dale C. Smith, Section of Medical History, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, 4301 Jones Bridge Road, Bethesda, Maryland 20814 *by 5 November 1983*. Please also include a coversheet with mailing address, telephone number, and information on occupation, degrees held, and institutional affiliation. Papers may deal with any aspect of medical history, but should not represent work that has been published or is in press. Presentation will be strictly limited to a time of twenty minutes, but may be followed by a discussion period at the discretion of the session chairman. Participants are reminded that the *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*, the official organ of the Association, reserves the right to consider for publication any paper delivered at the meeting.