

News, Notes, and Queries

PERSONAL GRANTS IN THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE AWARDED BY THE WELLCOME TRUSTEES DURING 1984

Twenty-six personal grants were made during this year, each to the value of at least £2,000. In addition, a number of smaller sums were awarded as travel grants or in the form of research expenses. Two grants were made to staff members of the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine in connexion with symposia: Dr C.J. Lawrence received £2,000 to assist the publication (jointly with the Science Museum) of the papers delivered at a meeting devoted to 'Disquisitions Relating to Matter and Spirit—Joseph Priestley (1733-1804)', while Dr R. Porter was given £5,000 to finance the symposium held at Cambridge in March 1985 on 'Problems and Methods in the History of Medicine'. Twelve months of study at the Institute were provided for Mr J.H. Warner (Harvard University—'The transmission of Parisian medicine to Britain, 1816-70') and Miss D. Watkins ('The role of the preventive medicine profession in the formation of the first Ministry of Health'); Miss M. Rodriguez (University of Mexico: 'Teaching of medicine and surgery in Colonial Mexico') came for six months to explore the Institute's collection of Americana, a visit which has done much to strengthen relations with scholars in Mexico. Further, Miss S. Cavallo was awarded support for two years to study the founding and function of the voluntary hospitals in eighteenth-century England.

Research in Oxford has been supported by four awards. At the Unit for the History of Medicine, Mr D.N.H. Hamilton was awarded a fellowship for one year ('The growth of surgery and the surgical profession in the late nineteenth century'); Dr H. Jones for two years ('Occupational health policy in interwar Britain'). Mr Hamilton has since been appointed head of a new unit at the University of Glasgow. Mrs M. Swarbrick received a scholarship for three years to make a study of the botanist William Turner (1510-68). At Wolfson College, Dr R. Moscheo (University of Messina) was granted support for eighteen months for studies leading towards a critical edition of the optical writings of Francesco Maurolico (1494-1575).

The teaching of the history of medicine at Cambridge has been assisted by the half-time fellowship awarded for two years to Mr J.P. Williams ('The Victorian medical profession's response to the movement for women doctors'); Mr Williams will also undertake the supervision of undergraduate students. Dr M. Teich received support for a book codifying his studies over many years, provisionally entitled 'Biochemistry's search for an identity: a historical approach'. Scholarships for research were awarded to Mr. R.L. Kilpatrick ('The clinical revolution in London hospital medicine, 1800-40') and Mr. J. Hankinson ('A critical edition and English translation of Galen's *On antecedent causes*'), each for three years.

Work in the history of medicine has been supported in many other British universities. At Bristol, Professor P. Hagggett received an award over three years for his study of the diffusion of epidemic infectious disease in Iceland since 1885, in order to produce an atlas of its distribution. A somewhat similar study is that of Professor L. A. Clarkson, of the Queen's University, Belfast, of diet, health, and disease in Ireland, 1750-1950, also funded for three years. Two grants are concerned

with medicine and the law: Dr M.A. Crowther (Glasgow University) is to examine the history of forensic medicine in Glasgow since 1839 (for eighteen months); and Dr M.J. Clark (Lancaster University) will study 'Legal medicine in Britain since 1830' for three years. Miss E. Allen, Curator of the Hunterian Museum, received a grant over two years for the study of the contributions of John Hunter to surgical pathology. Manchester, under the leadership of Dr John Pickstone, is an established centre of interest in the history of medicine: an award to Miss C. Murphy for twelve months enables her to complete a study of 'Radiotherapy in Britain, 1900-60'. At Newcastle upon Tyne, home of the Pybus Collection, formal study of the history of medicine is more recent; a fellowship for three years, to Dr L.S. Jacyna ('The Hunterian School and its legacy in British medicine') has enabled him to take up a post in the History Department. A similar northward move has taken Dr N. Morgan (also from the Wellcome Institute) to the University of Leeds, where he will be associated with Dr R. Olby on an examination of the relationship between medicine and chemistry in the twentieth century, with reference to protein denaturation. Mr I.R. Winship of Newcastle Polytechnic received an award to assist his preparation of a 'Bibliography of science, technology, and medicine in Northern England, 1660-1939'. Dr A. Digby (University of York) has received a grant for her study of patient-practitioner relationships in Britain, 1720-1850. Mrs C. Petty at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine was awarded a scholarship for three years to prepare a thesis on 'Nutritional science and its application, 1939-48', directed by on 'Nutritional science and its application, 1939-48', directed by Dr C. Webster.

Only one grant has been made to the United States in this period, and only one in aid of a publication: to Dr K.E. Mott (Cornell University Medical Center, New York), for the publication of *Tropical medicine and parasitology: classic investigations*. Dr Mott is a rare example of a medical scientist formerly engaged in a Wellcome programme who also possesses developed historical interests.

The total cost to the Trustees of the twenty-six awards outlined above was £355,951, an average of about £13,800 each.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF THE HISTORY OF PHARMACY

Two PhD students have been selected to receive grants-in-aid for their dissertation research for 1985, as part of a new programme that encourages academic research related to the history of pharmacy. Recipients are David P. Adams of the Department of History at the University of Florida, and Ronald C. Sawyer of the Department of the History of Science at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The Institute's Grants-in-Aid Toward Thesis Research will be held annually, with up to \$5000 available to support thesis projects of merit in fields specifically relating to the history of pharmacy. More information and guidelines for application are available from the American Institute of the History of Pharmacy, Pharmacy Building, 425 N. Charter Street, Madison, WI 53706-1508; USA.

FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE HISTORY OF ARAB-ISLAMIC HEALTH SCIENCES

The Yarmouk University, Faculty of Public Health and Allied Health Sciences,

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Irbid-Amman-Jordan, announces the convening of its first international conference on the history of Arab-Islamic health sciences. It will be held from 4 to 8 October 1986, celebrating the 700th anniversary of an Arab pioneer of public health, the physician-therapist-surgeon, Ibn al-Quff al-Karaki (1233–89). Invitation to participate is extended to all professionals in the fields of history and philosophy of public health, medicine, pharmacy, and the allied life sciences. Abstracts, of no less than 400 words, should be sent as soon as possible. The suggested deadline is 30 November 1985. The completed papers (in English by all participants) must be received no later than 30 June 1986. This will allow time for possible publication of the proceedings (for the English-language volume) before the date of registration on 4 October 1986. All communications regarding the conference should be addressed to : Prof. Sami K. Hamarneh, Faculty of Public Health, Yarmouk University, Irbid, Jordan.

WELLCOME INSTITUTE FOR THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE

The following symposia will be held at the Institute (183 Euston Road, London NW1 2BP):

27 September 1985—Surgical Theory, Medical Practice

17 December 1985—The History of Clinical Trials

25 April 1986—Hospitals and their Architecture in the Victorian Period

6 June 1986—The Development of Biochemistry in Britain

19/20 June 1986—The Interest of the Natural Philosophers in ‘Arabick’ in
Seventeenth-Century Britain

The research seminar will study ‘The History of Hospitals’; the seminar and reading group will discuss ‘Readings in Ancient Medicine’; and the Islamic seminar will consider ‘Science, Medicine, and Technology in Islamic Civilization: the Formative Period’. Details of these and other events may be obtained from the Secretary of the Academic Unit at the above address.

EXHIBITION: “SCIENCE AND PROFIT IN EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY LONDON”

A temporary exhibition on this theme is now on show at the Whipple Museum of the History of Science, Cambridge. The exhibition is complemented by a useful publication, which lists the objects on display and reprints biographies of the instrument-makers. The book also contains short essays by Roy Porter, Simon Schaffer, Jim Bennett, and Olivia Brown. The exhibition is on display until 6 December 1985. The museum is open, free of charge, Monday to Friday, 2–4 p.m., during university terms.

THE OSLER CLUB OF LONDON

The 393rd meeting of the Osler Club of London, held at the Medical Society of London on 6 June 1985, took the form of a special “Family Meeting” dedicated to the memory of the late Dr Alfred White Franklin, who died on 20 September 1984 in his eightieth year. Alfred White Franklin was the co-founder (with the late Dr Walter Reginald Bett) of the Osler Club of London, the first meeting being held on 30 April 1928.

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In the presence of Mrs Anne Franklin and members of the family, tributes were paid to Alfred White Franklin by Sir Peter Tizard, who spoke of his many contributions to paediatrics; by Dr Christine Cooper, who emphasized his pioneer work in the social and family aspects of sick and handicapped children; by Dr Alastair Robb-Smith, who related the history of the birth and early days of the Osler Club of London; and by Professor Neil McIntyre, who continued the story of Alfred White Franklin and the Osler Club of London until the present time. From the various contributions there emerged the portrait of a beloved physician dedicated to the care of the sick child and inspired by an idealism derived from the teachings of Sir William Osler, which he hoped to be able to perpetuate by the creation of the Osler Club of London.

Alex Sakula
President, Osler Club of London

SOCIETY FOR THE SOCIAL HISTORY OF MEDICINE

A series of seminars on 'Medicine and the Poor Law' will be held at 5.00 p.m. at the Institute of Historical Research, Senate House, Malet Street, London WC1 7HU, beginning 11 October 1985. Speakers are John Walter (University of Essex), John Walton (University of Lancaster), Irvine Loudon (University of Oxford), Stephanie Blackden (University of Edinburgh), and Anne Crowther (University of Glasgow). Full details from Roy Porter, Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine, 183 Euston Road, London NW1 2BP.

A series of seminars on 'The Popularization of Medical Knowledge' will be held at the Institute of Historical Research at 5 p.m., beginning 17 January.