

# THE WATERMARK

Newsletter of the Archivists and Librarians in the  
History of the Health Sciences

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## REFERENCE BOOKS IN THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE: THE STATE OF THE ART

### Report of the ALHHS Luncheon Workshop at the 1994 AAHM Meeting

On Friday 29 April — a glorious spring day in Gotham — over sixty people crowded into a windowless room on an upper floor of the Park Central Hotel, for a mediocre meal and a series of talks by three leading medical history librarians and a major scholar. The session was organized by Phil Teigen of the National Library of Medicine and Nancy Zinn of the University of California, San Francisco. Since both of them were on the program as speakers, Phil and Nancy asked me, as outgoing President of the ALHHS, to moderate the meeting. The two other speakers were Chris Hoolihan of the University of Rochester, and Bill Bynum of the Wellcome Institute.

The talks made it worth putting up with the mildly unpleasant ambience, the uninspiring and terribly expensive lunch, and a poorly organized buffet that led to a delay in the start of the workshop itself. Though pressed for time, and therefore also unable to take questions, each speaker managed to convey a significant message about the role of reference books in the history of medicine. Nancy Zinn, drawing on her extensive experience, described several reference works produced over the course of centuries, and explained why they have come to achieve the status of classics in medical history. Chris Hoolihan, who had just completed a stint as chair of the ALHHS reference work award committee, followed Nancy with an overview of what goes into making a useful contemporary reference tool. Lacking the time to examine a wide range of genres, Chris instead drew lessons by contrasting older and recent exemplars of just a few. He concluded by mentioning some other important recent reference books, and considering the growing value of electronic reference tools.

Phil Teigen, for some time a promoter of increased reviewing of reference books, then offered the results of his modest empirical study of the reviewing practice of six journals in our field. He concluded that not enough reference material is reviewed, and that librarians and historians would also be well served by having more than one journal review any given reference tool. A means to achieve this end would be greater use of short, unsigned, "book notes" in place of full-scale reviews, a form that Phil suggested might even be particularly conducive to evaluation of reference books. Finally, Bill Bynum gave us the inside story on the compilation of a large-scale collaborative reference work — *The Companion Encyclopedia of the History of Medicine* that he and Roy Porter recently edited. Bill discussed several problems in the design and execution of this two-volume set, and the satisfactions that came from positive interactions with both the contributors and the publisher. He offered a frank assessment of the encyclopedia's virtues and some of its failings.

Librarians need to be particularly aware of new reference sources, their uses, and their flaws. This luncheon workshop helped bring to the broader community of historians of medicine a sense of the significance of this type of literature, and what goes into producing and evaluating it. Perhaps we should take advantage of the momentum we now have by following up on Phil's suggestion that *The Watermark* have a regular column devoted to reference reviews. This requires the initiative not only of our editors, but also the membership at large.

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## CLASSICAL REFERENCE WORKS IN THE HISTORY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

As practitioners in this field are well aware, there has been a long history of attempts to organize information about the literature of medicine. And the early efforts, designed to aid the practitioner-writers of their contemporary medical literature, serve us by providing access to literature now historical in nature. The story of this process, particularly after the genesis of periodical literature in mid-seventeenth century and its unfolding through the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, is familiar to all who have used Estelle Brodman's seminal work *The Development of Medical Bibliography*.<sup>1</sup> There she listed some 250 bibliographical works; among their compilers were physicians, librarians, historians: some of the names are now obscure, some familiar to all: van der Linden, Lipenius, Haller, Plouquet, Callisen, Thomas Young, John Shaw Billings, Fielding Garrison. Ultimately, the growth of the literature elicited a new, somewhat related genre, digests and guides which attempted to evaluate the classic and contemporary literature, and to provide students with access to the best/most useful literature in the judgement of the compiler. But that is another story.

Since the earliest period, reference tools have continued to multiply — in the recent past they seemed to do so with geometric speed. Although it may be bringing coals to Newcastle (or, as someone else put it more felicitously, bringing owls to Athens), perhaps it would be helpful to define here what I understand by the broad general terms "reference

tools": compilations of information which provide guidance to those seeking answers to questions of fact, of location, of verification. In other words, who, what, where, when; how and why, perhaps. These are compendia which facilitate the work of librarians in the field, which offer students and scholars a handy source of information, an avenue into the original or secondary literature.

And, we should include as well, those works not directly designed for reference, but serving very well in that capacity, particularly histories of specific subjects by known experts. However, the newest class of such tools — those created and accessed electronically — will not be addressed here, even though they also are proliferating and bringing ever more substantial worlds of information across unimaginable distances to everyone everywhere. My topic is classic reference tools, and the words "classic databases" do not spring readily to the lips — at least not yet!

But how do I define "classic"? We hear the term constantly: i.e., "classic" cars, "classic" fashions, not to be confused with the "classical" period in history, or "classical" music. I culled a few (from several databases!) used in such current titles as Chinese classic novels; classic comedies; classic readings in... (you fill in the blanks); classic & iatrogenic Kaposi's sarcoma; classic nephropathic cystinosis; classic articles in medical computing...(!)

*The American Heritage Dictionary*, 3rd ed. (1992)<sup>2</sup> offers several meanings for the term "classic": "Belonging to the first rank or class; serving as the model or standard; having lasting significance or

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worth; enduring", all of which I believe, singly or together, describe the character of the works I will address here. Ralph Major, in his *Classic Descriptions of Disease* (1932; 1939; 1957),<sup>3</sup> defended his selections as being the "first known", the "earliest", or the "most interesting". Immergut, in his *Classical Articles in Urology* (1967),<sup>4</sup> sees his selections as the "cornerstones of our diagnostic and therapeutic armamentarium," (p. xi) echoing Willius and Keys, *Cardiac Classics* (1941; 1961),<sup>5</sup> who noted that "the classics of medical antiquity form the basis of modern medicine." (p. xi). All confessed to the weight carried by personal preference in the identification of the selections. That is also the case here. Certain of these reference titles almost everyone can agree on; others may be raised to classic status by fewer, but perhaps fiercely loyal adherents; i.e., we all have our own favorites. I hope we can agree on most of those which follow; and I would expect some dissenting votes for mine, and proposals from you for others.

What are some of the criteria required for "classic" status in history of health science reference works? There are no standard criteria as such (that I know of) but there are also no surprises here. Most of these measures are used to judge reference books in general. Brodman discussed those works she felt to be "most important...for the history of medical bibliography" in her book.<sup>6</sup> John Shaw Billings, in an address on "Medical Bibliography", given to the annual session of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland 110 years ago (April 1883),<sup>7</sup> notes four characteristics on which a bibliography should be judged: accuracy, completeness, singularity, i.e., absence of redundancy, and form. The last, Billings defined as ease of access, allowing the user to find the desired information with the least time and trouble. We might add several others for consideration: Purpose/goal — what had the author/compiler in mind? Was it worthy? Accomplished? Audience — Who are the intended users? How could they be described? Are they a large heterogeneous group or small and highly focused? Are they students? Practitioners? Is the work aimed properly? Longevity — Has it stood the test of time? Has it been continuously used since its inception? Or has it gone out of fashion or been superseded? Is it general or specific as a whole? Are the entries concise yet complete? Is it all-encompassing, comprehensive in its coverage? Along with Billings I'm interested in its organization and format — Is it alphabetical or classified? How can you rate its ease of use? Is it authoritative? Is the author/compiler knowledgeable? Experienced? Known for expertise in the subject/discipline? What is the level of detail? Comprehensive? Superficial? What is the subject focus? The chronological limits? Does it have special features (illustrations/reproductions, locations)? Lastly, what type of information does it supply? Bibliographic vs information

(facts) or a combination? Every tool can be viewed from these perspectives, though not all may apply. Some will be more significant for a particular work than others, and may dominate the evaluation.

The obverse of this list is the roll of defects which frustrate use of otherwise useful and important works: careless compilers, whose products are unreliable — misstated facts, misspelled names or words, erroneous dates. Equally annoying are typographical errors resulting from poor proofreading or total lack thereof. Poorly organized compilations, with goals and purposes not well thought out, merit demerits. Most frustrating of all, reference works poorly indexed or without indexes, most importantly, without subject indexes. Frequently, without the latter, the works sit on the shelf unused, or only approached in desperation, and the considerable effort expended in their compilation is wasted.

Finally, using these factors, can we draw a profile of a "classic" reference tool and use it to measure specific works? After thinking about this question for some time, I must admit to being less sanguine about gauging the ultimate value based solely on such criteria; even the so-called "classic" works have flaws, are less than perfect. If I had to select three or four predominant characteristics, I guess they would be authority, uniqueness, longevity, breadth, and ease of access. Still, on a pragmatic note, some of the selection criteria might also be governed by one's specific occupational situation. All library users have needs in common, but each institution's clientele will also tend to focus on specific, different disciplines, which may determine, in large measure the reference works which are found to be the most useful for them. The major subject foci of the collections will also have a significant influence here. You may remember the survey Phil Teigen and I did last year; we asked one question about "the most useful pre-1987 reference tool", and the results were all over the place, with a small number of duplications, but a majority of responses for specialized tools the respondents apparently use more heavily than most others.<sup>8</sup>

How soon was "classic" status conferred on the titles I have chosen is a question which may be difficult to answer. Of course, if users comment, in publications, it's fairly easy to determine this. Again, Billings shares his thoughts on the subject, four years later in an address titled "Methods of Research in Medical Literature," given to the Association of American Physicians (1887).<sup>9</sup> Here he gives a "List of Books Most Useful for Reference." The thirty-nine titles listed (all pre-1887) begin with four works by Haller, and include many titles familiar to us all.

TABLE A

**Responses to Teigen/Zinn Survey Question:  
Most Useful Pre-1987 Work\***

- Index-Catalogue*: 6
- Wellcome Library Subject Catalogue*: 5
- Garrison, *Introduction to the History of Medicine*: 4
- New York Academy of Medicine, *Portrait Catalogue*: 3
- Dictionary of Scientific Biography*: 2
- Holloway, *Medical Obituaries*: 2
- Index Medicus*
- Bibliotheca Walleriana*
- Garrison, *History of Neurology*
- Who's Who in Science*
- Polk's Medical/Surgical Register*
- Bibliotheca Osleriana*
- Garrison and Morton
- Starr, *Social Transformation of American Medicine*
- Chaff, *Archives of Women in Medicine*
- Miller, *Bibliography of the History of Medicine in the US and Canada*
- McGraw, *Encyclopedia of Medical History*
- Blake/Roos, *Medical Reference Works*
- Kelly, *Encyclopedia of Medical Sources*
- Cushing, *Life of Osler*
- Kelly and Burrage, *American Medical Biography*
- Oxford Companion to Medicine*

\* Listed in descending order of frequency

Notes for Collateral Reading," in his *History of Medicine*.<sup>13</sup> (Table B. Classic History of Health Sciences Reference Works in Major Bibliographic Lists, outlines those titles which appear on a number of the lists just mentioned).

Working with these lists, and consulting my own experience of twenty-eight years, I have made two lists of "classic" reference works in the history of health sciences, and one more idiosyncratic list of "special" works. These titles are unique, most have served researchers for decades, and are comprehensive for the period they cover. All are useful for bibliographic information and many include biographical information as well; some go beyond and provide factual information. They are basic tools which one would expect to find in any historical collection in a health sciences library which purports to support research and teaching in this field.

**GENERAL CLASSICS:** For my first list (see Table C: Classic History of Health Sciences Reference Works: General, Comprehensive) I have chosen twelve titles, the originals of most were published before 1958; the majority considerably before that date. Most of these are probably no surprise, and should not be controversial selections. All are general or comprehensive in nature. I have not included any covering specifically national literatures, other the U.S. And, I have chosen no biographical tools except Hirsch's *Biographische Lexikon* with all its flaws; many of the titles in my list include biographical citations, and all of the myriad of other biographic compilations not covered here are more narrowly focused. The following are the titles on my general list, with a few brief comments.

One also thinks immediately of Genevieve Miller's survey of medical school library historical collections across this country and Canada.<sup>10</sup> She rated the collections on their possession of two lists of works: "Checklist I. Standard texts, translations and reprints of classical works and landmark contributions," and "Checklist II. Bibliographic Tools."<sup>11</sup> I asked her for her reasons for selecting these titles, and while she noted that the study was a long time ago (1969/70), she believed that they were titles which she used or were recommended to her at the Institute for the History of Medicine at Hopkins. Checklist II. contains twenty titles, some of which I duplicate in my list. Others have made lists of seminal works in this area; Fielding Garrison has made several. His first list, "Texts illustrating the History of Medicine in the Library of the Surgeon General's Office,"<sup>12</sup> through many incarnations became the familiar *Garrison & Morton*, the 5th edition now titled, *Morton's Medical Bibliography*, ... (*Garrison & Morton*). He also included a fairly comprehensive list, "Appendix III. Bibliographic

To begin with the earliest work, Haller's *Bibliotheca Medicinae Practicae...* (Basel, 1776-88), it is but one of several such bibliographies of monographs, periodical articles (the others on anatomy, physiology, and pharmacology) by Haller. It provides access to the literature prior to 1790 by author in large chronological periods. The companion title, as it were, Ploucquet's *Literatura Medica Digesta* (Tubingen, 1808-1809), supersedes two earlier gatherings. Arranged by subject, it provides access to much of the same literature (and beyond) as does Haller, but this time arranged by subject. Access to the periodical literature prior to mid-nineteenth century is provided by Callisen's *Medicinisches Schriftsteller Lexicon...* (Copenhagen, 1830-45). Contained in thirty-three volumes, it is alphabetical by author, and provides some biographical information on authors as well as information on their publications, and on anonymous works.

TABLE B

## Classic History of Health Sciences Reference Works in Major Bibliographic Lists

AUTHOR/TITLE # entries	BILLINGS 39	MILLER 30	OSLER 296/737*	G&M 53/94#	T/Z 21/33§	ZINN
<b>19th Century</b>						
HALLER/Bibl. Med. Practa	X	X	X	X	—	X
PLOUCQUET/Lit. medica	X	X	X	X	—	X
CALLISEN/Med. Schrift.-Lex	X	—	X	X	—	X
Dict.ency.sci. med.	X	—	—	X	—	X
<b>19th/20th Century</b>						
Index Catalogue	X	X	X	X	X	X
Index Medicus	X	X	X	X	X	X
Hirsch-Pagel/Biog. Lex.	—	X	X	X	—	X
<b>20th Century</b>						
Garrison & Morton	—	—	X	X	X	X
Bibl Hist Med US/Can	—	X	—	—	X	X
Curr Work Hist Med	—	X	—	X	—	X
Bibliog Hist Med	—	—	—	—	—	X
Wellcome Subject Catalogue	—	—	—	X	X	X

\* Bibliotheca Osleriana, Biographical/Bibliographical sections

# Biographical/Bibliographical sections

§ Items/Responses

The *Dictionnaire Encyclopédique des Sciences Médicales* (Paris, 1864-89) in 100 volumes, is a favorite of mine. Written by a number of French authors, under the editorship of Amedee, it provides an excellent state-of-the-art view of the current theoretical and practical understanding of basic sciences and medical diagnosis and therapy. It is an excellent source of biographical material for individuals of all times, for historical bibliographical information, and includes significant historical articles or historical segments of clinical articles.

The next two titles probably need no further explanation. *Index-Catalogue of the Library of the Surgeon General's Office, 1880-1955* (monograph and periodical literature), and *Index Medicus, 1879-1926* (periodical literature); one can hardly think of doing any serious historical research without consulting the former and the latter. The two not only provide access to the monograph and periodical literature of the period, but the *Index-Catalogue* offers some biographical information, and citations to dissertations and pamphlets as well. The *Biographische Lexikon der Hervorragende Aerzte*, 2d ed. (Berlin, 1929-35), while not to be taken at face value, does offer biographical facts on medical men of all ages and cultures (prior to 1880), including publications, and some major articles on specific historical topics.

*Morton's Medical Bibliography*, (Aldershot, 1993), now in its 5th edition, is perhaps the most indispensable reference tool in the field, and familiarly known to librarians and dealers as Garrison & Morton, or G&M. Originated by Fielding Garrison in the early part of the century and first published in volume one of the *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*, it was taken over by Leslie Morton, who published the first separate edition in 1943. Organized by subject headings of the International Decimal Classification, it provides citations to the seminal literature in the health sciences, arranged by publication date within subjects.

Fielding Garrison's *An Introduction to the History of Medicine*, 4th ed., 1929 is still the major historical survey in the field, though it does not come very far into the twentieth century, and is useful for quick reference to persons, ideas, and discoveries. *Current Work in the History of Medicine*, 1954-, and *Bibliography of the History of Medicine*, 1965-, give access to current secondary literature in the history of health sciences. The former is issued quarterly by the Wellcome Historical Medical Library, and is nearly up to date with the publications it indexes. The latter, which appears annually (and often experiences a considerable time-lag—1991 is its most recent appearance), is cumulated quinquennially; it is published by the National Library of Medicine,

and is the printed version of HISTLINE, its online form.

The Wellcome Historical Medical Library (London), *Subject Catalogue of the History of Medicine...* (Munich, 1980-81), covers much of the same ground for pre-1980 publications in eighteen volumes. It is divided into subject, topographical, and biographical sections, and is a good first stop for quick subject searches.

With these tools you and your patrons should have access to much of the primary and secondary literature of the health sciences useful for historical research. Some of you may question the absence of tools dealing specifically with U.S. subjects; that should have a "classics" list of its own, which is my third list.

**SPECIAL LIST:** Now, to focus more narrowly, we look briefly at the special tools which comprise my second list (see Table D. Classic History of Health Sciences Reference Works: Special). These titles augment the general list. *Bibliotheca Osleriana*, (Oxford, 1929), is Sir William Osler's idiosyncratic catalogue of his book collection, edited by W.W. Francis, Archibald Malloch, and R.H. Hill. Osler was a well-known bibliophile, as well as physician, and his annotations of many of the entries offer anecdotal, often entertaining information on the specific item, its author, or on Osler's acquisition of it. *Bibliotheca Walleriana* (Stockholm, 1955), is a two volume catalogue of the collection of a Swedish physician book collector, Erik Waller, edited by Hans Sallender. This is another source for verifying or locating specific titles in both the original and the secondary literature. The Wellcome Historical Medical Library, *A Catalogue of Printed Books...* (London, 1966-), currently up to the letter "L", is a "classic" example of the library catalogue, which gives information on monographs published before 1850, albeit with an English proclivity.

John Blake and Charles Roos' *Medical Reference Works, 1679-1976, a Selected Bibliography* (Chicago, 1967, and supplements), covers the entire spectrum of reference works in the health sciences, including substantial numbers of retrospective and historical titles. *A Bibliography of Internal Medicine: Communicable Diseases* (Chicago, 1958); and *A Bibliography of Internal Medicine: Selected Diseases* (Chicago, 1960), by Arthur Bloomfield, provide access to the seminal literature of specific diseases, with extensive annotations, and a descriptive listing of subtopics for easier access to each subject. Although Sir William Osler also produced a similar list, the one by Arnold Klebs, *Incunabula Scientifica et Medica* (New York, 1938) offers a more comprehensive listing of the incunabula literature; like

TABLE C

Classic History of Health Sciences Reference Works: General, Comprehensive

19th Century

Haller, Albrecht von. *Bibliographica medicinae practicæ...* (Basel, Schweighausen, 1776-88). 4 v.

Plouquet, Wilhelm Gottfried. *Litteratura medica digesta...* (Tübingen, Cottam, 1808-09). 4 v.

Callisen, Adolph. *Medicinisches Schriftsteller Lexicon...* (Copenhagen, Altona, 1830-45). 33 v. Reprint edition DeGraf, 1962-65.

*Dictionnaire Encyclopédique des Sciences Médicales.* (Paris, Asselin, Masson, 1864-89)

19th/20th Century

*Index-Catalogue of the Library of the Surgeon General's Office.* (Washington, 1880-1955), 5 ser. 61 v.

*Index Medicus.* (Various places publishers, 1879-1926), 3 ser., 45 v.

*Biographische Lexikon der Hervorragende Aerzte.* 2d ed (Berlin, Urban & Schwarzenberg, 1929-35). 5 v. + supp. Reprint edition, Munich and New York, 1962.

20th Century

*Morton's Medical Bibliography, ...* (Garrison & Morton), ed. by Jeremy Norman. 5th ed. (Hants, Scolar Press, 1991).

Garrison, Fielding H. *An Introduction to the History of Medicine.* 4th ed. (Philadelphia, WB Saunders, 1929)

*Current Work in the History of Medicine.* (London, Wellcome, 1954- ) quarterly

*Bibliography of the History of Medicine.* (Bethesda, NLM, 1965- ) ann., cum.

Wellcome Institute. *Subject Catalogue of the History of Medicine...* 18 v. (Munich, Kraus International, 1980-81).

most incunabula inventories, it does not offer a great deal of information on each specific item, but is the most comprehensive on the topic.

The New York Academy of Medicine's *Portrait Catalog* (Boston, 1960-75), five volumes and supplements, guides us to the location of portraits, and frequently biographical information as well, for all times and places. Your library may not contain all the same materials, but presumably there will be a significant overlap. *Medical Books, Libraries and Collectors* 3d ed. (Aldershot, 1990), by John Thornton, rounds off this list of special works. It is a fact-filled

outline of the development of western medical literature, its dissemination and collection, and the notable individuals who pursued it.

**AMERICANA LIST:** (see Table E. Classic History of Health Science Reference Works: Americana). Finally, the last list, highlighting works focused on U. S. health science literature. Long of use to us all, Robert Austin's *Early American Medical Imprints...1668-1820* (Washington, 1961), brings together in one alphabet, by author/title, all the medical monograph and periodical publications in the U.S., up to the early years of the nineteenth century. In addition to full citations to these publications, this work has several very useful indexes. Francesco Cordasco compiled his *American Medical Imprints, 1820-1910*, 2 v. (Totowa, NJ, 1985), to take up where Austin left off. It is arranged alphabetically by decades, but lacks the subject index which would have multiplied its usefulness many times. Just the year before Austin's work, Francisco Guerra published his *American Medical Bibliography 1639-1783*. (New York, 1962), which provides access to the more ephemeral health-related literature of the colonial period.

Biographical directories there are aplenty, particularly if you're looking for information on prominent individuals. James Thacher's *American Medical Biography* (Boston, 1828), starts off in the early nineteenth century, and offers substantial historical articles in addition to the biographies. This stood alone until Howard Kelly, and then Kelly and Walter Burrage, offered us *A Cyclopedia of American Medical Biography* (1912), 2 v.; *American Medical Biographies* (1920); and then *A Dictionary of American Medical Biography* (1928). A current example of this same type of narrative biographical compendium, albeit much expanded in some cases, is Martin Kaufman, et al., *A Dictionary of American Medical Biography* (Westport, CT, 1984), again focusing on the prominent. The not-so-well-known get a break in Lisabeth Holloway's *Medical Obituaries: American Physicians' Biographical Notices...* (New York, 1981). Until the very recent advent of the AMA Library's *Directory of Physicians to 1929* (Chicago, AMA 1993), 2 v., Holloway's compilation provided the only direct access to biographical information on American physicians, which appeared in obituaries published before 1907. Lastly, there is Genevieve Miller's *Bibliography of the History of Medicine in the U.S. and Canada, 1939-1960* (Baltimore, 1964). While its chronological coverage is circumscribed, and it lacks a subject index, it is a most useful source of citations to the secondary literature.

We all have in mind prototypes for tools that don't exist that should; or tools that came close, but failed, such as Smit's *History of Life Sciences* (anno-

TABLE D

Classic History of Health Sciences Reference Works: Special

- Bibliotheca Osleriana*, W.W. Francis, R.H. Hill, Archibald Malloch, eds.. (Montreal, McGill University, 1929)
- Bibliotheca Walleriana*, Hans Sallender, ed. (Stockholm, Almqvist & Wiksell, 1955) 2 v.
- Blake, John, and Charles Roos. *Medical Reference Works, 1679-1976, A Selected Bibliography*. (Chicago, MLA, 1967); + 3 supps.
- Bloomfield, Arthur. *A Bibliography of Internal Medicine: Communicable Diseases*. (Chicago, Univ. Chicago Press, 1958); *A Bibliography of Internal Medicine: Selected Diseases*. (Chicago, Univ. Chicago Press, 1960).
- Klebs, Arnold. *Incunabula Scientifica et Medica*. (Bruges, St. Catherine's Press, 1938)
- New York Academy of Medicine. *Portrait Catalog*. 5 v. + 3 supps. (Boston, GK Hall, 1960-75)
- Thornton, John. *Medical Books, Libraries and Collectors*. 3d ed (Aldershot, Gower, 1990)
- Wellcome Historical Medical Library, London. *A Catalogue of Printed Books...* (London, Wellcome, 1966-) 4 v., A-L.

TABLE E

Classic History of Health Sciences Reference Works: Americana

- Austin, Robert. *Early American Medical Imprints...1668-1820*. (Washington, GPO, 1961)
- Cordasco, Francesco. *American Medical Imprints, 1820-1910*. 2 v. (Totowa, NJ, Rowman & Littlefield, 1985)
- Guerra, Francisco. *American Medical Bibliography, 1639-1783*. (New York, C. Lathrop Harper, 1962).
- Holloway, Lisabeth. *Medical Obituaries: American Physicians' Biographical Notices...* (New York, Garland, 1981)
- Kaufman, Martin, Stuart Galishoff, Todd Savitt, eds. *Dictionary of American Medical Biography*. (Westport, CT, Greenwood Press, 1984)
- Kelly, Howard. *A Cyclopedia of American Medical Biography*. (Phila., W.B. Saunders, 1912).
- \_\_\_\_\_, and Burrage, Walter. *American Medical Biographies*. (Baltimore, Norman, 1920)
- \_\_\_\_\_, *A Dictionary of American Medical Biography*. (New York, D. Appleton, 1928)
- Miller, Genevieve. *Bibliography of the History of Medicine in the U.S. and Canada, 1939-1960*. (Baltimore, Johns Hopkins, 1964).
- Thacher, James. *American Medical Biography*. (Boston, 1828) 2 v. Reprint ed., DaCapo, 1967.

tations, no index). It's up to us, individually and collectively, to examine and discuss the successes and failures of our reference sources, to make suggestions to publishers for new compilations, and perhaps, even, produce them ourselves! I look forward to seeing future reference works — compiled perhaps with the aid of electronic technology, but filling a special gap for us all.

Nancy Whitten Zinn  
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### Endnotes

<sup>1</sup>Estelle Brodman. *The Development of Medical Bibliography*. (Baltimore: MLA, 1954).

<sup>2</sup>American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language. 3d ed. (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1992), p. 352

<sup>3</sup>Ralph Majors. *Classic Descriptions of Disease, With Biographical Sketches*. 3d ed (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1957)

<sup>4</sup>M. A. Immergut, ed. *Classical Articles in Urology*. (Springfield: Thomas, 1967)

<sup>5</sup>Frederick A. Willius and Thomas E. Keys. *Cardiac Classics*. (St. Louis: Mosby, 1949); repr., 2 v. 1961.

<sup>6</sup>Brodman, *op. cit.*, p. iv.

<sup>7</sup>John Shaw Billings. *Selected Papers of John Shaw Billings*, Frank Bradway Rogers, comp. (Baltimore : MLA, 1965), p. 156

<sup>8</sup>Table A. Responses to Teigen/Zinn Survey Question: Most useful Pre-1987 Reference Work (1993)

<sup>9</sup>John Shaw Billings, "Methods of Research in Medical Literature," reprinted in *Selected Papers of John Shaw Billings*, *op. cit.*, pp. 204-206.

<sup>10</sup>Genevieve Miller, "The teaching of medical history in the United States and Canada; Historical resources in medical school libraries," *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*, 1970 May-Jun; 44(3):251-278.

<sup>11</sup>*bid.*, pp. 277-278.

<sup>12</sup>*Index-Catalogue of the Library of the Surgeon General's Office*, 2d ser. (Washington, 1912), v.17, pp. 89-178

<sup>13</sup>Fielding H. Garrison. *An Introduction to the History of Medicine, with Medical Chronology, Suggestions for Study and Bibliographic Data*. 4th ed. (Phila : Saunders, 1929), pp. 884-922. Repr. 1963.

### RECENT REFERENCE WORKS OF DISTINCTION AND WHY THEY WORK WELL

Walking into the reference department of almost any library, one is confronted with an array of materials so diverse in subject, in content, and format, that it may be impossible to find any principle uniting this spectacle of heavily laden shelves, groaning index tables, and ranges of computer terminals than to loosely define them as resources which we occasionally consult to find succinct bits of information—the keyword here being information as distinct from knowledge.

Their variety is astounding, and might include library catalogues, portrait catalogues, medical school catalogues; Catholic encyclopedias, Soviet encyclopedias, encyclopedias of Byzantine civilization; foreign language dictionaries, medical dictionaries, biographical dictionaries; indices of every variety; guides to eponyms, abbreviations, and national parks; subject bibliographies, bio-bibliographies, bibliographies of bibliographies, and so on.

I have chanted this litany of diversity to prepare you, or perhaps to apologize in advance, for a similar and inevitable disjointedness in the structure of this talk. I have been asked to reflect on some recent reference works of distinction, and explain why they work well.

At least two factors determine whether a reference work is "workable." Obviously, it must be soundly conceived and carefully prepared. Secondly, it has to have an audience. If a reference work "works well," it has to "work well" for someone.

So, who uses medical historical reference works? The answer to this question is not as obvious as it might seem, and perhaps confuses an already confused topic—or, perhaps it explains the diversity of these materials. Faculty consult reference resources; their graduate and undergraduate students follow suit.

Librarians consult these same materials, and if they're doing their jobs, are responsible for having introduced them to faculty and students. Librarians consult reference tools for reasons other than client assistance—to fulfill other aspects of their work. Antiquarian booksellers use reference sources for much the same purpose as librarians in preparing sale catalogues; while their customers consult subject bibliographies, bio-bibliographies and the like to aid judicious selection. Anyone who works in an academic medical library is familiar with the steady stream of clinical and research faculty who consult

our historical reference collections simply to find a citation to an article in an older journal, to trace the origin of an eponym, or to answer some other quick, and one-time historical query.

There simply are not enough recently published works that give us examples of reference tools that would satisfy the diverse clientele just described, and we would not have time to discuss them if they existed. So, let's begin with one class of medical historical reference work—collection catalogues—and see how they work and for whom.

The two folio volumes which contain the nearly 2,600 carefully prepared entries describing Haskell Norman's personal library of medical and scientific rarities, published by his son Jeremy Norman in 1991, is a work which some have already ranked with the *Bibliotheca Osleriana*, the catalogue of Sir William Osler's personal library, which was bequeathed to McGill University and published in 1929.

The Norman and Osler bibliographies are obviously catalogues of remarkable personal collections (of the variety, I might add, that no one, with the exception perhaps of a bibliophilic drug baron, is ever likely to put together again). In and of themselves these catalogues stand as monuments to a lifetime of collecting fervor and expertise. The Norman catalogue is more than a monument to one man's book collecting passion, however. It is also a reference tool of distinction.

Why is that? What kind of information does it contain, and who would consult it? The alphabetically arranged entries in the Norman bibliography were admirably prepared by Diana Hook over a period of six years. Each entry contains a short-title transcription and imprint statement; a description of the binding; detailed collation and pagination statements; a note on provenance; well-prepared annotations on the book's importance and/or bibliographic history; and a list of citations to each entry's appearance in the standard bibliographies.

Assuming that the bibliographic data in this work is accurate, who would consult these two volumes as a reference tool? Collectors and other varieties of bibliophile might drool upon their folio leaves while reading descriptions of books which seldom appear on today's market, and which few of us could afford anyway. Booksellers, who generally do not have access to the bibliographic utilities librarians enjoy, would consult these volumes as cataloguing resources.

But are they useful reference tools in an academic context? As a rare book cataloguer, I have occasionally consulted the Osler catalogue for verification of some bibliographic detail, and I feel confident that I could rely on Diana Hook's descriptions in the same way. Yet in seventeen years of providing medical historical reference service, I cannot once remember having gone to Osler or other catalogues of personal collections to assist the research of a student or faculty member.

Let me give an example of a collection catalogue that aspires to more than the provision of bibliographic data. A catalogue in many ways similar to Norman and to Osler is the recently published third edition of *Heirs of Hippocrates*, compiled by Richard Eimas for the Hardin Library at the University of Iowa. Like the Osler and Norman catalogues, it too is a collection catalogue, a collection not assembled by an individual this time, but by an obviously well-endowed library.

The entries in Mr. Eimas' bibliography are similarly structured to those in Norman: a short-title is followed by an abbreviated imprint statement, and a very basic pagination statement. Because of this very basic level of description, the bibliographic data provided here is of marginal use to anyone seeking to resolve a variation in title-page transcription, a problem in collation, or other peculiarities of the physical book. The entries are simply not oriented toward the analytic bibliographer.

Although its entries are similar in structure to other such catalogues, the similarity ends there. The entries in *Heirs of Hippocrates* are not arranged alphabetically, but chronologically by year of the author's birth. This unusual order of arrangement reflects the catalogue's greater purpose. *Heirs of Hippocrates* is intended to be read (with "read" in quotation marks) as a history of medicine as reflected in its publishing history. This is indeed an ambitious undertaking. A bibliographic catalogue is by the very nature of its format a fragmented kind of work. It is a compilation of entries for what sometimes number thousands of very distinct bibli-

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graphic entities. To transform entries and annotations for more than two thousand publications into something resembling a "history" in the ordinary sense would indeed be a remarkable achievement. Whether or not *Heirs of Hippocrates* is successful in its greater purpose, it was carefully thought out, carefully prepared, and is full of useful information.

In closing our discussion of collection catalogues, I would like to mention one final work that I think successfully combines the best of the qualities we have mentioned so far: *An Annotated Catalog of the Miner Yellow Fever Collection*, published by the Edward G. Miner Library in 1990. Its entries are similarly structured to those we have already seen. In this bibliography, however, the title-page transcriptions are full, as opposed to the short-titles which appeared in our earlier examples. The pagination statements are detailed, though no collation statements are provided (as most of the books in the collection date from the machine-press period). Most of the entries are annotated.

This reference tool is more than a catalogue of one collection's holdings, and more than a compilation of bibliographic data. Though collection-based, this work is an historically-oriented subject bibliography—something which becomes possible when a collection has been extensively developed within a given subject area. With this in mind, its annotations were written not just to provide each book's publishing history or biographical data on its author—but to give a broader perspective of the disease; to tie entries together by specific themes, such as the debate between contagionists and non-contagionists; or the controversy between those who copiously bled fever victims and those who advocated non-intervention in treatment.

There is really no way to make a logical shift to our next example, a fault inherent, I'm afraid, in a talk which examines materials with no other point of unity than that they are recently published and I happen to think they are important.

Between 1860 and 1864, August Hirsch published in two volumes *The Handbook of Geographical and Historical Pathology*, an effort to describe historically the distribution of human disease in given times and in given places. The latest edition of *Garrison and Morton* still describes the *Handbook* as "the greatest work on the subject." Perhaps the next edition of *Garrison and Morton* will pass that encomium on to our next title: *The Cambridge World History of Human Disease*, edited by Kenneth Kiple and published by the Cambridge University Press in 1993.

*The Cambridge World History* represents an undertaking similar in scope to Hirsh's monumental *Handbook*, with two important differences: first, the second half of the nineteenth century witnessed the birth of the germ theory, a development which Hirsch could not have taken into account in 1860; and second, Hirsch was solely responsible for the compilation of his *Handbook*, whereas the *Cambridge World History* is the result of the collaborative effort of 160 contributors under the aegis of the Cambridge History and Geography of Human Disease Project, initiated in 1985. The work is divided into eight parts, the first seven of which are collections of essays grouped under broad conceptual headings, such as "Measuring Health," or, "The History of Human Disease in Asia," or, "The Geography of Human Disease." The eighth is the final and largest part of this work (occupying almost half its 1,175 folio pages), and is what makes this work a reference tool rather than a collection of essays. This eighth section consists of 158 essays on "the history and geography of the most notable diseases of humankind in alphabetical order from AIDS to yellow fever."

The clarity and consistency of the essays are enhanced by being arranged under the following identical subheadings: the definition of the disease, its distribution and incidence, epidemiology, etiology, clinical manifestations, pathology, history, and geography. It is interesting to note that the majority of the ailments described in *The Cambridge World History of Human Disease* are to be found in the pages of Hirsch, with a handful of obvious exceptions.

This work has been in the history reference collection at my library six months, and has not yet attained the familiarity and utility among our clientele that I think is inevitable. It is not even that well known among many of the librarians I have queried. I have found that its size and seeming complexity of arrangement are initially a little daunting to those to whom it is shown. As a medical historical reference tool, however, *The Cambridge World History* is potentially one of the most useful volumes in our collection.

*The Cambridge World History* is intended for a potentially universal audience: scholars of every level in the biomedical sciences, the social sciences, and the humanities. In fact, I have been trying to think of a category of patron whom I could not direct to this work, and cannot.

Universality is certainly not requisite for a reference tool. We stated earlier that if a reference work is to "work well," it has to "work well" for

someone. In the example of *The Cambridge World History* that audience is potentially universal. This is certainly not the case for our next example. Richard Durling's *A Dictionary of Medical Terms in Galen*, published in 1993 by E.J. Brill, just recently came across my desk. In his brief introduction to the *Dictionary*, Durling makes no claim to have compiled the definitive Galenic lexicon, or a concordance to the complete works. He provides definitions to some 3,000 words limited to the fields of anatomy, physiology, pathology, *materia medica*, and surgery; and provides 119,000 citations to their appearance in the twenty-volume Kuhn edition of Galen, Galenic texts published as part of the *Corpus Medicorum Graecorum*, and several other textual sources.

Whatever the limitations of this lexicon, acknowledged by the compiler, there is nothing equivalent; and it will prove useful to a broader base of library patron than the obvious categories of historians of ancient medicine and classical philologists. I can think of several instances in recent years when faculty have come to me trying to find the definition of a medical term from the classical Greek that he or she found in a modern text. In addition, Durling's *Dictionary of Medical Terms in Galen* will prove invaluable to anyone who has ever had to translate even a few lines of Galen, and who has become frustrated by vocabulary with which he or she is unfamiliar, and which, more often than not, cannot be found in Liddell and Scott.

There are a number of other recent works of which I would have liked to speak this afternoon: Peter Krivatsy's 1989 *A Catalogue of Seventeenth Century Printed Books in the National Library of Medicine*, the worthy successor of Durling's sixteenth-century catalogue; J. Worth Estes' 1990 *Dictionary of Protopharmacology*, which like Durling, fills a long-standing gap in the history of pharmacological nomenclature; David Kronick's 1991 *Scientific and Technical Periodicals of the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries*, which includes hundreds of citations for medical and surgical journals, and is an important contribution to the publishing history of science; and Stanley Johnston's 1992 *The Cleveland Herbal, Botanical, and Horticultural Collections*, a monument to traditional analytic bibliography, which, more importantly, puts Cleveland on the map with New York, Pittsburgh, and St. Louis as cities to be visited for the historical study of botanical literature.

I was probably asked to give this talk because I recently served as chair of a committee of the Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences charged with selecting the best

medical historical reference work issued within the last five years, that is, between 1988 and 1993. The committee's first choice was the fifth edition of *Morton's Medical Bibliography*, better known perhaps as "*Garrison and Morton*", edited by Jeremy Norman and published by the Scolar Press in 1991. This standard bibliography of medical classics had its origins in Fielding Garrison's "Texts Illustrating the History of Medicine," which occupied less than a hundred pages in the seventeenth volume of the second series of the *Index-Catalogue of the Library of the Surgeon-General's Office*, published in 1912. Leslie Morton issued his much expanded version of Garrison's initial list of medical classics in London in 1943.

When the publication of a fifth edition of *Garrison and Morton* was first announced, many of us wondered whether another edition was really necessary. It was a relief to find that the fifth edition was not simply a re-issue of this classic bibliography. Mr. Norman has added 1,061 new entries; revised or rewritten the annotations to 2,313 entries, and deleted 119 entries from the previous edition. He also expanded the list of subject headings under which entries are arranged; and of course, made the necessary additions to the name and subject indices that are essential to the use of this work.

My colleagues on the awards committee made the following remarks justifying their selection of *Garrison and Morton* as the best medical historical reference work of the last five years:

"When seeking an overview of the important literature on a particular subject, no other work comes close."

"I have come to include *Garrison and Morton* as a regular part of a new reader's orientation to Special Collections, trusting that it will lead the researcher in the right direction."

"It is the reference source that is used the most in our library."

"*Morton's Medical Bibliography* remains the single absolute essential reference [tool], at least for dealers and collectors ... it has served to define the 'medical classic' and is the most cited and most influential work in the field."

There is something else that is very significant about this most recent edition of *Garrison and Morton's Medical Bibliography*. When Leslie Morton was compiling the first edition in the early 1940s, he kept the paper slips for each entry in shoe boxes stored beneath his dining room table at home. The

fifth edition of Morton's bibliography was compiled on a personal computer, and its "manuscript" was delivered to the printer in the form of word processing files. From these files the text was then printed in the traditional paper format.

It is likely that the sixth edition of *Morton's Medical Bibliography* will appear in an electronic format. In precisely what electronic format is as impossible to predict as when a sixth edition will be called for. If *Garrison-Morton* were to be published electronically today, it would probably take the form of a compact disk; and in some medical libraries would be mounted on a server and made available as part of the library's network.

There are an increasing number of traditionally print-format reference tools now available in electronic format, apart from the long-familiar searching databases. To my knowledge, the only medical historical reference tool that is currently being developed in an electronic format is a video disk containing 59,000 images from the print collections of the History of Medicine Division of the National Library of Medicine. NLM's original intention was to market this disk as an end product. Quite recently, however, NLM went one step further, and decided to mount the disk on a server and make it accessible through the Internet. If you have mosaic software, you may be able to access this collection of images from NLM this summer.

This is going to be the future for many if not most reference tools, including medical historical works. I can easily imagine, for example, an electronic version of *The Cambridge World History of Human Disease*, in a format that allows layering of text, tables, maps and so on. For those of us who are unfamiliar with computers and who may be uneasy about their future in historical scholarship, this transition will be gradual. We are not about to see the demise of the print format, if for no other reason than most of our libraries contain one or two million print titles, which no more lend themselves to mass digitization now than they did to translation into microforms, the preservation/miniatuerization pipe-dream of the sixties, seventies, and eighties.

Furthermore, the money is now in the development of electronic library products that promise a higher return on investments in research and development than digitizing *Garrison and Morton*. Current work is focused on integrated library systems, client-server hardware, high profile databases, and the like.

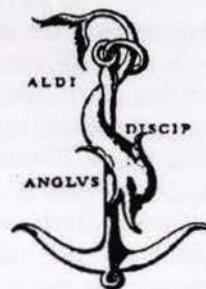
The electronic or "virtual" library (as it's called) presents some tantalizing possibilities for historical scholarship, however. Several years ago the *Patrologica Latina* was published in a set of compact disks. In other words, the entire body of Latin Patristic literature in this monumental work, all 221 volumes, can now be carried in your briefcase and read on your PC. The searching possibilities are mind-boggling: imagine being able to activate the word search function and search any name or term in the corpus? The text becomes its own concordance.

Imagine if one day the whole of the Greek text of Littré's version of the Hippocratic corpus, or Kuhn's edition of Galen were scanned into an electronic format? Imagine how this might transform the study of this literature—especially if a tool like Durling's recent dictionary of Galenic terms were made part of this product—so that one could toggle back and forth between the text and a lexicon for that text?

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## SILENT PARTNERS: REVIEWING REFERENCE BOOKS IN THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE

The following remarks are based on two assumptions. The first is that book reviewing is an essential stage in the circular process of the production and consumption of historical writing. This process involves author, publisher, reviewing journal, and reviewer, and reader. Book reviews at least publicize the appearance of relevant new books. When well prepared, they also promote debate and criticism. At their best, they explore the moral and aesthetic values informing historical research. Out of these debates come more books.<sup>1</sup> "Learning cannot progress without appreciation or criticism," wrote George Sarton in his classic essay on book reviewing.<sup>2</sup>

The second assumption is that the preceding comments apply to the reviewing of reference books as much as they do to monographs, collections of essays, editions, and the like. It is worthwhile restating the obvious here, I believe, because reference works are often the silent partners in historical research: the first to be picked up, but usually the last to be footnoted or otherwise recognized.

If the reviewing of reference books is an important part of their production and consumption, it would be useful for producers and consumers to know what are the reviewing practices of history of medicine journals as they pertain to reference books. In order to determine these practices, I examined five volumes (1989 through 1993) of six English-language medical history journals. The journals were, in alphabetic order, *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*, *Canadian Bulletin of Medical History*, *Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences*, *Medical History*, *Pharmacy in History*, and *Social History of Medicine*. I approached them with two questions in mind: how many reference books were reviewed? What did reviewers write about them?

*Pharmacy in History* devoted eleven percent of its reviews and book notes to reference books; *The Bulletin of the History of Medicine*, *Medical History*, and *Journal of the History of Medicine*, six percent; *Social History of Medicine*, two percent; and the *Canadian Bulletin of Medical History*, less than one percent. Taken together as a whole, the six journals devoted five percent of their reviews to reference books.

In terms of absolute numbers, however, the rankings are different because the six journals pub-

lished widely varying numbers of reviews and book notes. The *Bulletin* and *Medical History* published forty and thirty-eight reviews and book notes of reference books respectively, while the *Journal of the History of Medicine* published seventeen, *Pharmacy in History* fifteen, *Social History of Medicine* six, and the *Canadian Bulletin* two. During these five years, the six journals published 2,188 review or book notes, 118 of which were about reference books.

Do history of medicine journals review all the relevant reference books that are published? This question is difficult to answer, of course, because there is no annual inventory of medical history reference books to compare to the statistics just related. There is, however, an indirect means to answer this question and that is to compare the books one journal reviews to the reference books the others review. If there is a lot of overlap, that is, if many of the same books are reviewed by two or more journals, then the coverage is probably adequate. If there is little overlap between the journals, then perhaps there are relevant reference tools not being reviewed or, at least, not being reviewed widely enough. It is important that a book receive more than one review because different journals have different readerships. In addition, if book reviews are to enable dialogue and debate over historical issues and values, more than one reviewer must be heard.

From 1989 through 1993, the five years under study, the six journals reviewed or noted ninety different reference books. Twenty of them were reviewed twice; seven of them, three times; and one of them, four times. This leads me to think that the five percent of all reviews and notes devoted to reference books is low, keeping in mind especially the need for scholarly debate and the fact that readership of the six journals do not overlap.

Let me leave, for now, this simple description of the reviewing practices of medical history journals and turn to the reviews themselves. What makes a sound review of a reference book? Using the 118 reviews and notices published by these six journals as examples and generalizing from the reviewing practices revealed there, I would like to propose some minimal criteria for sound reviews of reference works. These are expressed in terms of four questions:

1. Does the review relate the reference book to a wider framework, e.g. to other works on the same subject, to the shape of the discipline as it has evolved, to current trends in the discipline, or to future directions it might take? For example, Mike Barfoot relates C. Helen Brock's, *Dr. William Hunter's Pa-*

*pers and Drawings in the Hunterian Collection of Glasgow University Library* to Michel Foucault's musing on the classification of animals. In another review, Patricia O'Brien D'Antonio relates the biographical dictionaries of nursing by Martin Kaufman, et al., and Vern L. Bullough, et al., to the entire historiography of American nursing.

2. Does the review consider the appropriateness of the form of the reference book, i.e., what makes it a reference book? For example, in his review of Bridson and White's *Plant, Animal and Anatomical Illustration in Art and Science*, Peter Murry Jones criticizes the arrangement of the work for being fragmented into so many subdivisions that it becomes laborious to search for all relevant entries on a specific topic. In another review, Christopher Hoolihan briefly compares the pros and cons of the chronological arrangement of the *Heirs of Hippocrates* to the pros and cons of alphabetical arrangement.

3. Is the review written in such a way to appeal to the interest and attention of the reader? By this, I mean besides sober reflection and analysis is there some wit in evidence in the sense of the "apt association of thought and expression, calculated to surprise and delight by its unexpectedness" (OED s.v., Wit, 8a). Now and then wit can be found, and after reading 118 reviews and notes in a brief period of time, I can say it was most welcome. For example, in complimenting Roger Cooter on his monumental *Phrenology in the British Isles*, Douglas A. Reid notes that "Dr. Cooter clearly has a well-developed bump of concentrativeness."<sup>3</sup> On the nasty side, an anonymous reviewer of an encyclopedia of medical eponyms wrote, "Misprints and elementary errors... reach, however, an almost pathological level, tempting the reviewer to suggest the need for yet another eponym: the 'Rodin and Key Syndrome.'"<sup>4</sup>

4. Is there an explicit statement evaluating the work and/or stating what type of research it can or cannot support? Peter Hirtle succinctly summarized his whole review of Margaret W. Batschelet's, *Early American Scientific and Technical Literature* by saying, "The student or intellectual historian interested in a ready overview of original American scientific activity in the eighteenth century may find Batcheler's volume useful. More serious bibliographic researchers will want to continue to rely on her source material."<sup>5</sup> In concluding her review of Francesco Cordasco's *Homeopathy in the United States*, Micaela Sullivan-Fowler writes that "truly tenacious researchers will be galvanized by this *Bibliography*, perhaps only other librarians [like myself] will be so frustrated by the index's shortcomings."<sup>6</sup>

Let me end these casual and miscellaneous remarks by making some suggestions about the reviewing of reference books in scholarly journals. It would be useful for authors, publishers, and readers if many more reference books were reviewed or noted. The more critical energy introduced into the circular publication system by reviewing, the more learning is advanced. But for more reviews to appear, everyone involved needs to contribute. Authors of books need to identify journals where review copies would be appropriate; publishers must send review copies to journal editors;<sup>7</sup> journals editors need to find reliable and competent reviewers and allocate space in crowded issues; and reviewers must review critically and promptly. One way to notice more books is to publish more notes about reference books and fewer full reviews. Of the 118 reviews I gathered for this study, 78 were signed reviews and only 40 were book notes. If the ratio between the reviews and notes came closer to 1:1 than the present 2:1, I think many more books could be critically placed in front of a journal readers. And I do not think the quality of reviewing would be lessened. Of the 118 reviews and notes I have just read, some of the most pungent and to the point were notes, where limitations of space forced a discipline and economy a full review would not had. *Pharmacy in History* and *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* are already leaning in this direction. Two thirds of the former's notices are book notes as are nearly half of the latter's.

Second, most of the reviews and notes were strong on the subject content of the books and in relating them to the field of scholarship the book was part of. At the same time, most were weak in considering reference books as reference books. To fill that need, editors might provide reviewers with a copy of Isadore Gilbert Mudge's brief comments on "How to Study Reference Books."<sup>8</sup> That classic statement would materially help those who already have a sound knowledge of a subject evaluate the form of the reference book before them.

Third, although many librarians review reference books in historical journals, they might well take a larger role in the production and consumption cycle by increasing the reviewing activity of *The Watermark*. Their training and experience in using reference books makes them especially valuable as reviewers. In saying this, however, I hasten to add that it is important not to limit the reviewing of reference books to either librarians or to historians. Every book deserves multiple reviews from varied points of view.

Finally, book review editors should be prepared to review on-line and CD-ROM reference

works relevant to historians of medicine. Jeremy Norman is giving thought to a CD-ROM version of *Garrison-Morton*; Duke University is working on an automated collection of pictures relating to the history of medicine; UCLA has nearly completed a project automating a collection of medieval medical images; at the National Library of Medicine, my own institution, 59,000 images are available online through World Wide Web and HISTLINE has been restructured and reconstituted. It will soon be available on the Internet. These are only the first of many such projects which before long may dominate what we now call reference books. They all merit prompt, thoughtful, and critical reviews which take into account both form and content.

Philip M. Teigen  
History of Medicine Division  
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#### Endnotes

<sup>1</sup>Librarians also use book reviews for selection (Patricia Y. Morton, "Medical Book Reviewing," *Bulletin of the Medical Library Association*, 1983, 71: 202-206). This practice is fairly criticized by Anne E. Bridges, "Scholarly Book Reviews and Collection Development: A Case Study in American History," *Journal of Academic Librarianship*, 1989, 15: 290-293.

<sup>2</sup>"Notes on the reviewing of Learned Books," *Isis*, 1950, 41:149-158.

<sup>3</sup>*Social History of Medicine*, 1991, 4:557.

<sup>4</sup>*Medical History*, 1990, 34:361.

<sup>5</sup>*Journal of the History of Medicine*, 1991, 46:535.

<sup>6</sup>*Ibid*, 1992, 47:506.

<sup>7</sup>At least one journal, *Medical History*, reviews or notes every reference book that arrives on the editors' desks. If it misses any, a publisher has failed to send to review copy.

<sup>8</sup>Eugene P. Sheehy (comp.) *Guide to Reference Books* 9th ed. Chicago: American Library Association, 1976, pp. xiv-xv.

#### EDITING THE COMPANION ENCYCLOPEDIA OF THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE

*The Companion Encyclopedia of the History of Medicine* (henceforth *Companion*) edited by Roy Porter and me, was published in October 1993, by Routledge. Although putting the volumes into shape was always going to be a major undertaking, Roy and I had already edited a number of books together, including (with Janet Browne) another successful reference work, *Dictionary of the History of Science* (Macmillan and Princeton University Press, 1981). A second edition of the *Dictionary* is in the planning stage, and Roy and I are also presently editing the *Oxford Dictionary of Scientific Quotations*. We are no strangers to the problems and usefulness of reference books.

The *Companion* forms part of a series of reference volumes published by Routledge, and when we were approached to consider one on the history of medicine, the *Companion to the History of Modern Science* (edited by Robert Olby et al.) and the *Encyclopedia of the History of Technology* (edited by Ian McNeil) had just appeared. We thus had models of what a similar work on medical history might look like.

At the same time, we wanted our own book to differ from other recently published reference volumes in the field, such as Roderick McGrew's *Encyclopedia of Medical History* (1985) and *The Oxford Companion to Medicine* (1986), edited by John Walton et al. In addition, Kenneth Kiple's *Cambridge World History of Human Disease* was to appear shortly and since I had served on its editorial board, I knew roughly what it would be like. We hoped that our volume would reflect the contemporary approaches and concerns of the discipline. Initially, we were particularly worried about two potential problems: 1) whether we would find colleagues who were prepared to write broadly on the topics which we selected; and 2) whether there would be too much overlap in the resulting essays. We had nightmares of being confronted with fifty brief expositions of the leading ideas of the Hippocratics, and virtually nothing on the present century. Nevertheless, we worked out what we felt was a reasonable structure for the book, signed a contract with the publishers, prepared a brief descriptive booklet and stylesheet, and set out to secure contributors. Since every chapter was being specially commissioned, we felt that it was important that contributors be paid and also receive a complimentary copy of the finished work. We agreed with the publisher that an inclusive length of 500,000 words was reasonable, to be com-

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prised of about seventy chapters, each between 5,000 and 10,000 words. Although we built in a little bit of slippage time, we determined that a year would be long enough for contributors to produce a first draft. Roy Porter is particularly good at badgering people to keep to deadlines and he practices what he preaches. In the end, most people adhered to the deadline and allowed us to deliver the manuscript to Routledge at the end of January 1992, three weeks later than our contract specified.

Inevitably, the structure of the *Companion* changed a bit during the commissioning, negotiating, and writing. Six chapters in the initial brief were deleted, four by design and two through defaulting authors. We added four chapters and wished we could have added half-a-dozen more. Nevertheless, the final manuscript bore a marked resemblance to the work described in the initial prospectus.

The editors learned a great deal during the production of the *Companion*, not least about the history of medicine itself. Going through the type-scripts two or three times each, and the proofs twice, guaranteed that. We also learned that most of our colleagues are wonderfully cooperative (only about 10% of our first-choice contributors declined); and that most people will follow stylistic and other instructions, more or less. We knew that a variety of voices and methodological stances would be represented. We made a virtue of this and have produced

a comprehensive collection of interpretive essays, rather than an encyclopedia in the conventional sense. However, the reader looking for specific information is greatly helped by Jean Runciman's magnificently full index (100 double-columned pages) and the systematic cross-referencing between chapters.

For most subjects in the field, the *Companion* provides a good place to start, and since chapters all carry their specific suggestions for 'Further Reading', serve as a guide for pursuing the subject in greater detail. Although West-

ern medicine is the primary focus, chapters on Chinese, Indian, and Islamic medicine, as well as ones on anthropology and medicine, non-Western theories of disease, medicine and colonialism, and internationalism in medicine provide a more global perspective.

As is predictable in a work by sixty-nine contributors from three continents, there is plenty of variety. Each reader will have his or her favorite (and least favorite) chapters. Private consultation between the editors came up with the verdict that there are four weak chapters and at least twice that many that one would describe as outstanding or even brilliant. The overall standard is, we believe, extremely high, in itself testimony to the vigorous health of the discipline. For that we have to thank, first, our contributors; second, the supportive environment of the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine; and, finally, the publishers, who were prepared to see a work grow from one to two volumes, and from 500,000 to 800,000 words. The final product weighs as much as an average-sized newborn, just under seven pounds. The publisher's faith has been justified, for the *Companion* has already gone into its second printing, less than a year after publication.

W.F. Bynum  
Wellcome Institute for the  
History of Medicine

## FROM THE EDITORS

In case any of you think that these two Southern belles have spent a lazy summer sipping lemonade on the veranda, the following paragraphs should help dispel that myth!

Jodi's summer worries had their genesis during the spring ALHHS/AAHM Meeting in New York. Just before going out the hotel room door to meet with John Erlen to discuss the 1995 meeting, Jodi and Joan were caught by a long-distance telephone call from Richmond. Construction workers preparing the site of the new medical sciences building on the Medical College of Virginia Campus of Virginia Commonwealth University discovered human remains. Immediately a call went out for help to the MCV archivist who just happened to be in New York! In spite of numerous inventories and guides to collections, it was difficult to direct those unaccustomed to working with archives and manuscripts to the appropriate nineteenth-century records long-distance. Fortunately, Mother Nature intervened and kept construction workers and archaeologists out of the construction site until the end the ALHHS/AAHM meeting. On her first day back from the meeting, Jodi donned a hard hat and descended into a well where the human remains were located. Many bones and other artifacts were removed over the next twenty-four hours. In the weeks following the removal of the bones we managed to learn from the college archives that the building site once held privies, wells, and stables. MCV opened a new hospital in April of 1861 and covered the well. The bones apparently are the remains from subjects used for teaching purposes in the 1850s. Because they were buried in the old well, they were well preserved and will tell us much about nineteenth-century teaching methods as well as something about the health of Richmonders. The bones will be studied by the staff of the Smithsonian Institution this fall. We hope to combine these findings with the information we have in the written records. There is the possibility that we will be able to match remains with specific cases noted in student notebooks of the time. Stay tuned for the rest of the story!

In the meantime, Joan was busy pulling together a slate of speakers for her 1994/1995 History of the Health Sciences Lecture Series, one of many responsibilities she juggles as assistant director for historical collections. She also began organizing a medical history discussion group, an informal complement to the well-established lecture series.

After completing her work, Joan set out for brief vacation in Buffalo, New York, ostensibly to check out the 1996 ALHHS/AAHM meeting site. Jodi bid Joan a fond farewell at the Richmond

International Airport before returning to the office to confront her biggest summer crisis. The nightmare began on Father's Day when an article in *The Washington Post* accused the Medical College of Virginia of performing radiation experiments on unwitting subjects during the Cold War. Like other archivists at other medical centers, she has been busy over the last several months preparing records for use and responding to questions from everyone from the President of the University to the members of the press. While this activity resulted in one brief shinning moment on the *CBS Evening News*, it did prove, in long run, to be difficult work although a tremendous learning experience.

In July, Jodi attempted to escape the radiation debacle by visiting Joan and other ALHHSers who were gathering in Charlottesville for the annual Rare Book School. Joan's class, "Managing the Past" with Nicholas Barker, was excellent. Not only did the class find the course rewarding but the instructor did as well. The class gave Joan an opportunity to show off the historical collections of the Health Sciences Library at the University of Virginia and to learn from a noted bibliophile some interesting details about medical works in her collection. For some in the class, it was their first exposure to rare medical books. Rare Book School has turned out to be a mini ALHHS reunion. This year Eric Albright, Richard Behles, Lois Fischer Black, Carol Clausen, Tom Horrocks, Margaret Anne Irwin, Elton Kerr, Shaw Kinsley, Jeff Martin, Howard Rootenberg, and Susan Rishworth came to Charlottesville.

Jodi left her brief visit in Charlottesville to return to the radiation hunt in Richmond as Joan was embarking on her summer vacation to the great Pacific Northwest. Although she did not anticipate having a busperson's holiday, Joan learned much about the orthopedic specialty and the delivery of health care in a rural setting during her visit to the Olympic Peninsula. En route to Seattle to show her husband the site of the 1992 ALHHS/AAHM meeting, she slipped and broke her left ankle. Undaunted by her latest misfortune, Joan returned home to Charlottesville and continued as gracious hostess welcoming Tom Horrocks, Ed Norman, Julie Solomon, and Jodi to her home in August.

*The Watermark* deadline found Joan adjusting to her new, fashionable, "Terminator"-style fracture boot while Jodi continued to deal with the "fallout" from radiation. As you can see, we have had a busy and varied three months. Now that we've let you know what we've done on our summer vacation, won't you tell us about yours?

Joan Echtenkamp Klein  
Jodi Koste

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Over the past decade, the roles of archivists and librarians in the history of the health sciences have been changing. Where once our primary focus was research-oriented, today more and more time and energy are spent as advocates for medical history collections. Fiscal considerations and the need to justify services and expenditures have made it necessary for us to continue demonstrating the value of historical resources to decision-makers. With the introduction of technology into libraries and the escalation in journal subscription fees, library budgets have not kept pace with increasing costs, especially in state-affiliated institutions and non-profit organizations. While this is not the case in all medical libraries, especially those with generous endowments, it is a reality in others.

In the face of such an environment, I believe we need a positive attitude and re-energized commitment as guardians of medicine's documentary heritage.

To meet the challenge before us, it is necessary to go beyond traditional advocacy approaches which have been effective in the past. New areas must be identified where we can influence positively the future of historical collections. Such a commitment requires rethinking short-term priorities, developing strategies, and implementing plans. As Ed Mormon, then ALHHS president, wrote in the November 1993 issue of *The Watermark*: "... we need to be creative in approaching all possible constituencies and in demonstrating the relevance of collections and our skills to the social world we live in."

While institutions differ, the following are a few suggestions to consider as ways to expand support for medical history collections:

**Library Directors.** Encourage membership in ALHHS for library directors so they will receive *The Watermark* and announcements of meetings. Bring directors to the annual meeting so they too can learn about contributions to scholarship and the relevance of medical history in libraries across the country.

**Identify opinion leaders.** If your historical collection does not have a Friends or other support group, identify and make contact with members of the AAHM in your state, physician-historians, members of local and state medical history societies, and scholars. They have the power to influence decision-makers by writing letters and through personal contacts.

Communicate electronically to increase the constituency for your medical history collection. Most of us now communicate regularly on Internet. However, are we using electronic mail to communicate with researchers, potential researchers, and opinion leaders mentioned above? Develop a list of e-mail addresses and take advantage of Internet to notify these constituencies about new resources in their subject areas. Use e-mail to send announcements about projects, lectures, exhibits, and news from CADUCEUS.

Demonstrate the relevance of medical history through collection projects which focus on current health care topics. Alternative medicine, the AIDS epidemic, the development of biomedical informatics in your institution, and HMO's are some examples. Utilize the talents of college and graduate students working on independent research projects who will conduct oral histories and collect documentation, such as brochures, newsletters, and photographs; students also can prepare mini-exhibits with excerpts from interviews and resource materials they collect.

Finally, *The Watermark* is ALHHS's forum for the discussion of issues, problems, solutions, and projects. Write letters to the Editors. Send news for *Ex Libris*. We can benefit from each other's experiences and the exchange of ideas as we learn together to become even more effective advocates for history of the health sciences collections.

Barbara Smith Irwin  
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## ANTIQUARIAN BOOK SEMINAR AT THE UNIVERSITY OF DENVER COMPLETES 16 YEARS

Margaret Knox Goggin was frustrated. Dr. Goggin, Dean of the School of Library Sciences at the University of Denver, and a former director of the Library at the University of Florida in Gainesville, was appalled at the lack of communication between the library world and the antiquarian book trade. She had encountered librarian after librarian who hadn't the slightest idea how to go about acquiring an out-of-print title. And, in her discussions with book dealers, found that very few of them had any idea of how to go about working with libraries and soliciting their business.

Margaret Goggin is not one to stay frustrated and appalled for very long without taking action. The year was 1978. In discussions with Jacob L. Chernofsky, editor and publisher of *AB Bookman's Weekly*, the principal journal of antiquarian book trade, she found he shared many of her concerns about the communication gap between librarians and dealers. Dr. Goggin had been the principal architect of a very successful Publishing Seminar which had been underway for several years of the University of Denver, and the idea of a seminar and workshop to bring together librarians and dealers to explore their mutual problems seemed worth exploring. A rather low-key trial session was held for a few days in the summer of 1978, with a handful of participants and faculty. From this first tentative experiment, Goggin and Chernofsky were sufficiently encouraged to proceed with a full-blown, week-long program starting in 1979.

I was recruited as a faculty member in a rather casual way. I was exhibiting at the Toronto Book Fair in the spring of 1978, when I was approached by Jake Chernofsky. Jake was relatively new at *AB Bookman's Weekly*, having succeeded the legendary Sol Malkin as the head man at this periodical, which was, and is, the bible of the antiquarian book world. He asked if I would be interested in teaching at a seminar on antiquarian books at the University of Denver in August. I was flattered at being asked; I thought it was a wonderful idea; and, besides, there is not much else happening in August in the antiquarian book world. I casually accepted, not dreaming that this was the beginning of what has been so far an unbroken sixteen-year relationship. It has become for me, in many ways, the most challenging, most exhausting, and the most rewarding thing I do all year. It is a daunting thing to be put forward as an "expert" in a field as vast and complex as antiquarian books, and over the years, I have learned as

much from the participants as they have from me. Their questions have forced me to scrutinize and reevaluate many of the attitudes and ideas I had taken for granted. The learning has very much been a two-way street.

The program as it is currently constituted, begins on a Sunday evening with introduction of the participants, numbering usually about 100, introduction of the faculty, and a keynote address by some distinguished personage in the book world, followed by a reception. In the following days, beginning at 8:30 a.m. sharp, are lectures on the history of the antiquarian book trade; a survey of the dealer's roles and services; the used book shop; the mail order book business; bibliographic description; pricing and appraisals; compiling and reading book-seller catalogues; the auction market for antiquarian books; technology for the antiquarian book trade; tax and accounting problems; care and preservation of antiquarian books; acquisition of rare and out-of-print materials from the perspective of both librarians and dealers; ethics of the book trade; book fairs; book scouting; and much more. Faculty members sit with participants during lunch, making themselves available for questions, comments, and general book talk. Most days the official activity continues until 9:00 p.m. or so. Although some of the introductory presentations are in the form of straight lectures, as the week progresses there is increasing hands-on work as the participants take part in workshops in bibliographic description and pricing. A considerable amount of time is devoted to questions from the participants, and it is these questions that shape each seminar, and help assure that we deliver to each of the participants, whatever their background and experience level, just what it is they are seeking at the seminar. The experience level of the participants varies widely, from those who are just tentatively testing the waters to see if it is something they would like to pursue to those who have been selling books for years. Considering the disparate backgrounds and experience levels the participants bring to the seminar, it is quite an achievement that, almost without exception, each comes away with whatever it was she/he sought from the seminar. Detailed questionnaires and evaluation forms are turned in by the participants at the end of the week, and the overwhelming consensus is that it has been beyond their expectations and totally worthwhile.

Over the years, there has been a distinguished array of lecturers and faculty members from both the library and antiquarian book worlds. It has been a virtual "who's who" of the trade, with such luminaries as Bernard Rosenthal, Laurence Witten, Jake Zeitlin, Leona Rostenberg and Madeleine Stern, Lou Weinsein, Mary Benjamin, Justin Schiller,

Anthony Rota, and many others. From the library world have come Lee Ash, Tom Wright, Robert Rosenthal, Terry Belanger, and many more. Current regulars on the faculty include former ABAA presidents Mike Ginsberg and Edwin V. Glaser, Jennifer Larson, Jean Parmer, and Bob Topp and Lois Harvey, two prominent Denver book dealers. Each year a different specialist book dealer is featured as a guest faculty member.

It is an intense experience, with twelve to fourteen hour days spent in the company of kindred souls. Worthwhile networking has taken place; careers have been launched; great friendships have been formed; and at least two marriages have resulted. Since the onset of the seminar, nearly 2,000 people have taken the course, including a few who have taken it more than once. Our own Inci Bowman was a participant recently and wrote glowingly about her experience in an issue of *The Watermark*. The impact of the seminar on the book world has been considerable. Quite a few dealers who are now in the mainstream of the trade have taken the seminar. A colleague of mine recently lamented that he was finding it increasingly difficult to find "sleepers" these days, because the seminar has educated the trade on how to price books. His complaint is valid insofar as there is undoubtedly a higher degree of professionalism in the trade as the result of the seminar, but there will always be subjective judgments about pricing and sleepers will always exist, at least in the eyes of the beholder.

Although Dr. Goggin had originally hoped for a fairly even ratio of librarians to dealers, for one reason or another, the number of librarians in the group has been at about twenty percent. There is no doubt, however, that the message and mission of the seminar—that both dealers and librarians need to understand each other's problems and viewpoints and it is to their mutual advantage to work together—has been broadcast far and wide.

Edwin V. Glaser  
Edwin V. Glaser Rare Books  
Sausalito, California

## A NEW TEACHING VIDEO: The Young Vesalius: Bologna Dissections of 1540

### Prelude to Fame

Three years before Vesalius at age 28, burst upon European intellectual life with the publication of the *Fabrika* and changed anatomical science forever, he was invited by the students at the University of Bologna to offer a special series of lectures. In this privileged position, he conducted public dissections, in the course of which he began to publicly question the anatomical doctrines of Galen, nearly unchallenged for more than a millennium.

### An Eyewitness Source

Lecture notes (sometimes near verbatim) by Balthasar Heseler, a diligent student, were not discovered until 1957. They now allow us to bring this academic milestone to life in a video presentation. The 36-minute program combines historical woodcuts (from the works of Vesalius and others) with live footage of a modern dissection performed at UCLA in 1990 in commemoration of the 450th anniversary of Vesalius' Bologna professorship. A brief teacher's manual is included.

### Cubital, Cardiac, & Cerebral Anatomy

This program is also available in three shorter versions, each of which highlights one of the three doctrines demonstrated in the long version: 1) necessity of anatomical expertise on cubital fossa for safety in bloodletting procedures; 2) great doubt shed on the supposed permeability of the cardiac septum (vital to the whole structure of traditional physiology); and 3) increasingly firm denial of the existence of a rete mirabile in the human brain. They may be of use to teachers with limited classroom time available.

For further information contact Professor Ynez Viole O'Neill, Medical History Division, UCLA School of Medicine, 10833 Le Conte Avenue, Los Angeles CA 90025-1763; E-MAIL [ija4mhi@mvs.oac.ucla.edu](mailto:ija4mhi@mvs.oac.ucla.edu)



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## ALHHS NEWS

### ALHHS 1995 Luncheon Workshop Proposal

The ALHHS 1995 luncheon workshop proposal will focus on electronic resources in the history of the health sciences. The workshop would include some applications and handouts including lists of online catalogs, pertinent discussion groups, and gopher and WWW sites. Inci Bowman will be responsible for putting together the handouts and briefly explaining them. As for applications, Phil Teigen promised to designate someone from the NLM to speak about the history of medicine images project. And, Anne Gilliland-Swetland is eager to participate and to talk about the SourceLINK project at the Historical Center for the Health Sciences at the University of Michigan.

We need a third speaker, someone with historian credentials, who can tell the group how he/she has used the electronic resources and how participating in the networks has modified his/her research and teaching. If you have suggestions for a third speaker or ideas for modifying the scope of the workshop, please contact before 15 October 1994, Inci Bowman, Moody Medical Library, University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, TX 77550-2782; (409) 772-2397; FAX (409) 765-9852; E-MAIL [ibowman@beach.utmb.edu](mailto:ibowman@beach.utmb.edu)

### ALHHS 1995 Meeting

ALHHS will hold its twentieth anniversary meeting in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on 10-11 May 1995. During the two decades the ALHHS has grown from a few history of medicine librarians who sought to exchange concerns about their professional activities to an international society of archivists and librarians that actively leads the development of this specialty area of librarianship and archival management. Please plan to come to Pittsburgh and help us celebrate these two decades of growth and discovery. The Local Arrangements Committee, co-chaired by John Erlen and Steve Wagner, look forward to hosting all ALHHS members who can attend these two days of academic/business programming and social affairs. Special discount airfares have been arranged for anyone using USAir flights into Pittsburgh. Hotel room rates, ranging from \$59.00 to \$90.00 per night per room, have been reserved in four hotels within walking distance from the William Pitt Union, where some of the ALHHS social functions and most of the AAHM sessions will be held. Complete information on these matters will be mailed to all ALHHS members in January, 1995. The following is the agenda for the 10-11 May 1995 ALHHS program:

### Wednesday May 10, 1995

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 3:30 p.m. | ALHHS Steering Committee Meeting   |
| 4:00 p.m. | Tour of History of Medicine Collections, Falk Library, University of Pittsburgh (optional) |
| 6:00 p.m. | Wine and Hors d'oeuvres, William Pitt Union  |
| 7:00 p.m. | Dinner, William Pitt Union   |
| 8:00 p.m. | ALHHS 20th Anniversary Commemorative Program, William Pitt Union                           |

### Thursday May 11, 1995

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| 8:30 a.m.  | ALHHS Annual Business Meeting and Program. Speakers: J. Worth Estes, M.D., Boston University School of Medicine: "The Use of Herbals in History of Medicine Scholarship," and Charlotte Tancin, MSLS, Librarian, Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation: "Herbal Incunabula" |
| 12:15 p.m. | Lunch, Frick Fine Art Museum Court-yard, University of Pittsburgh  |
| 2:00 p.m.  | Guided tour of the Nationality Rooms in the Cathedral of Learning  |

If you have any questions concerning the 10-11 May 1995 Pittsburgh ALHHS meeting, please contact John Erlen at (412) 648-8927 or [jon@med.pitt.edu](mailto:jon@med.pitt.edu), or write to 123 Northview Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15209.

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June 1, 1994

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University of Medicine and Dentistry  
of New Jersey Library  
30 Twelfth Avenue  
Newark, New Jersey 07103-2754

Dear Mrs. Irwin:

Dr. Lindberg asked me to respond to your letter written on behalf of the Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences urging the hiring of a permanent chief of the History of Medicine Division in Library Operations. Dr. Lindberg and I share ALHHS's concern, unfortunately a freeze on hiring outside the Public Health Service and promotions for grade 13 and above were instituted by the Department of Health and Human Services just as the Library had completed the recruitment for the vacancy left by Dr. John Parascandola. Please be assured that when we can again begin recruitment for this position, we will.

Fortunately, Dr. Teigen and his excellent staff are effectively managing to complete many projects that have been "in process" for some time. "Images from the History of Medicine Division" is in beta test and I expect, although it needs considerable enhancements, to make it more widely accessible soon. A plan for completing the cataloging of these images is underway as is an assessment of the prints and photographs collection. The creation of HISTLINE now uses the same processes as are used for MEDLINE and an excellent head for the manuscripts unit was hired just before the freeze. If the archivists or librarians in ALHHS have specific concerns about programs or services during this interim period, I would welcome hearing them.

Thank you for writing to express your group's concern and interest in the Library's history of medicine resources. Dr. Lindberg, the staff, and I view the History of Medicine Division as an important cultural resource.

Sincerely,

Lois Ann Colaianni  
Associate Director  
Library Operations

cc: Dr. Donald A.B. Lindberg  
Dr. Charles E. Rosenberg  
Mr. Keith Kruger

## AAHM 1995 MEETING

The American Association for the History of Medicine will hold its 68th annual meeting 11-14 May 1995 on the campus of the University of Pittsburgh. This will be the first time the AAHM has held its conference on a university campus rather than in a convention hotel. Housing will be available in

three hotels within walking distance of the William Pitt Union, where the AAHM sessions will be held. Besides the traditional AAHM meeting, over one dozen national and international history of medicine/health care societies will be organizing and running their own special programming, ranging

from luncheon workshops to half day seminars. Among these additional society meetings will be sessions under the auspices of the American Association for the History of Nursing, the American Institute for the History of Pharmacy, the American Academy of the History of Dentistry, and the Society for Ancient Medicine. Thus many of the world's leading scholars in the history of medicine, nursing, pharmacy, dentistry, and public health issues will be meeting together for the first time. Special financial arrangements have been made to enable medical/graduate students to attend these meetings. Anyone who is not a member of the AAHM and wishes more information and/or to be placed on the registration mailing list for these meetings should send a letter/card to this effect to John Erlen, AAHM/LAC Chair, 123 Northview Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15209. Please share this information with any of your colleagues/patrons who might be interested in receiving information about these meetings.

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## **NEWS FROM NLM'S HMD**

### **On-Line Images from the History of Medicine (OLI/HMD)**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The History of Medicine Division (HMD) of the National Library of Medicine (NLM), in conjunction with the Lister Hill National Center for Biomedical Communications, is pleased to announce the availability of On-Line Images from the History of Medicine, an experimental World Wide Web-based service which provides interactive multimedia access over the Internet to over 59,000 items from the HMD prints and photographs collection. The user can enter textual descriptions of images into a form. The catalog is searched, matching images identified, and a summary report generated. The user is then allowed to download browsable subsets of the images found, each subset containing from 1-40 images. Images can be viewed in larger size, marked for later retrieval as a special subset, and printed or saved locally. The corresponding textual catalog entries can be displayed as well.

#### **BASIC REQUIREMENTS**

To access this new system, the following are required: 1) An Internet-connected computer (or one capable of connecting to the Internet on demand via a PPP or SLIP connection); or a terminal connected to a computer which is on the Internet; 2) An appropriate World Wide Web browser (either NCSA Mosaic or lynx; note that this software is evolving rapidly, so that these instructions may be out of date by the time you are reading them!). Consult your local application software expert or computer system administrator if you require help to obtain or install this software.

Instructions for specific platforms are as follows: UNIX workstations: 1) Computer must be running the MIT X windowing system; version 11R4 or later; 2) Install and use NCSA Mosaic for X, version 2.4 or later.

IBM PC (or compatible): 1) Minimum acceptable configuration: 80386SX-based machine, with 4 MB RAM, running Microsoft Windows 3.1 in 386-enhanced mode. (Recommended: 33-MHZ or faster 80486-based machine with at least 8 MB RAM.); 2) Computer must be running a WinSock 1.1-compliant Windows socket library (WinSock DLL or winsock.dll); 3) Install and use NCSA Mosaic for Microsoft Windows, version 2.0 alpha 4 or later. NOTE: this version of Mosaic is still under development, and is not yet entirely reliable.

**Apple Macintosh:** 1) Minimum acceptable configuration: 68000- or PowerPC-based Macintosh (running System 7.0 or later) with MacTCP (version 2.0.2 or later), 2.5 MB memory (recommend: 4 MB), and a hard disk; 2) Install and use NCSA Mosaic for Apple Macintosh, version 2.0 alpha (or later). NOTE: this version of Mosaic is still under development, and is not yet entirely reliable.

**Computer Terminals:** A program developed at the University of Kansas, lynx, allows browsing of World-Wide Web documents on text-based terminals that are connected to Internet-connected computers. This can be used to search and browse the OLI/HMD catalog information, although ordinary terminals cannot display the graphical images associated with OLI/HMD.

#### ACCESSING ON-LINE IMAGES FROM NCSA MOSAIC

Under UNIX, the PC, and the Macintosh, NCSA Mosaic offers a graphical user interface which provides a pop-up window for entering an electronic information address known as a URL (Uniform Resource Locator). Enter the following URL into this window: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov>

This will connect you to the experimental NLM World-Wide Web server, known as HyperDOC. Then select the item entitled "On-Line Information Services, followed by the item entitled "On-Line Images from the History of Medicine" (selections are made by clicking the mouse button when the cursor is positioned over the item to be selected). The resulting display provides complete documentation describing the history and usage of the system, as well as access to the collection.

For further information regarding the technology, software, hardware, etc., contact Rick Rodgers, [rodgers@nlm.nih.gov](mailto:rodgers@nlm.nih.gov).

#### Exhibition

"Islamic Culture and the Medical Arts," an exhibit of Arabic and Persian manuscripts from the collection of the National Library of Medicine, will be shown in the library's main lobby from 12 September through December 1994. The occasion for the exhibit is the 900th anniversary of the oldest item in NLM's collection, a manuscript copy of a treatise on gastrointestinal diseases by al-Razi, dated 30 November 1094.

For more information about the exhibit, call Anne Whitaker at (301) 496-5404, or E-MAIL [hmdref@nlm.nih.gov](mailto:hmdref@nlm.nih.gov)

#### The New HISTLINE

NLM has announced that the new HISTLINE is scheduled to be loaded on ELHILL computer by the end of the September. Locator access via the Internet will follow in the near future.

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#### POSITION ANNOUNCEMENTS

##### College of Physicians of Philadelphia

The College of Physicians of Philadelphia is accepting applications for the position of Curator of Archives and Manuscripts, which is available 1 September 1994.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:** Under the direction of the Director of the Library for Historical Services, the Curator of Archives and Manuscripts arranges, describes, and maintains the archival and manuscript collections of the College in accordance with modern standards; performs reference/public service duties when required.

**QUALIFICATIONS:** MLS from ALA-accredited academic institution and/or a graduate degree in history or an appropriate subject area; one to three years of experience working with archives and

manuscripts; knowledge of APPM, AACR2, LCSH, and RLIN AMC file; familiarity with the principles of records management and the conservation/preservation needs of special collections preferred; knowledge of medical history preferred; working knowledge of at least one foreign language; communications skills essential.

**SALARY RANGE:** \$26,500 - \$28,500 plus excellent fringe benefits.

The institution: The College of Physicians of Philadelphia was founded in 1787 as a private medical society devoted to the advancement of medical education, research, and guidance of the medical profession. Today, the College combines the resources of a private medical academy and a not-for-profit educational and cultural institution in order to enhance public and professional appreciation of medicine. In all of its programs and activities, the College endeavors to contribute to a better understanding of medicine and the roles of the physician in contemporary society. Its Library is recognized as one of this country's premier research collections in the history of medicine. The Historical Services Division of the Library contains some 300,000 (out of the Library's total of 375,000) volumes of pre-1966 books and journals, more than one million manuscripts, and an estimated 20,000 photographs and prints.

**TO APPLY:** Send letter of application, resume, and the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of three references to Thomas A. Horrocks, Director of the Library for Historical Services, College of Physicians of Philadelphia, 19 South 22nd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103. EOE.

## American Academy of Ophthalmology

The American Academy of Ophthalmology, located in San Francisco, California, is seeking a part-time Archivist. Archivist will develop and maintain system of archiving records and materials, assist with historical inquiries, and provide general officer support. Job requires previous experience or knowledge in archives standards and procedures, and knowledge of word processing. Submit resume and cover letter to Personnel Department, American Academy of Ophthalmology, PO Box 7424, San Francisco, California 94120. EOE.

## ONLINE HISTORY OF MEDICINE COLLECTIONS (Version 06-22-94)

The following list of online history of medicine collections was compiled by Inci Bowman from the information provided by subscribers of CADUCEUS-L: History of the Health Sciences Forum. An online document, "Internet/Bitnet Health Sciences Resources," by Lee Hancock was also consulted.<sup>1</sup> In some cases, only partial holdings may be available online, and some online catalogs require additional instructions for access. For further information about resources and/or instructions for access, please contact each library<sup>2</sup> Please send additions/corrections to: IBOWMAN@Beach.UTMB.Edu.

Duke University Medical Center Library, Durham  
Telnet: ducatalog.lib.duke.edu

Health Sciences Libraries Consortium, Philadelphia (HSLC HEALTHNET)  
Telnet: hslc.org  
Login: SAL



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Includes holdings of: College of Physicians of Philadelphia, Hahnemann University, Medical College of Pennsylvania

Harvard University Countway Library of Medicine,  
Boston  
Telnet: hollis.harvard.edu

Indiana University, Bloomington Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis  
Telnet: iuis.ucs.indiana.edu

McGill University, Montreal  
Telnet: mvs.mcgill.ca

Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston  
Waring Historical Library  
Telnet: muscls.musc.edu  
Login: muscls (lower case)  
Gopher: gopher.musc.edu

National Library of Medicine, Bethesda  
Telnet: locator.nlm.nih.gov  
Login: locator (lower case)

New York University, Ehrman & Waldmann Libraries, New York  
Telnet: mclib0.nyu.edu

Ohio Library and Information Network (OHIOLINK)  
Telnet: cat.ohiolink.edu  
Login: ohiolink (lower case)

Includes the holdings of: Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland; Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine; University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati; Wright State University, Dayton  
Telnet: crusher.neoucom.edu (for local catalog)  
Login: library

Stanford University Lane Medical Library  
Telnet: elf1.stanford.edu

Texas Health Science Libraries Consortium, Houston (THSLC)  
Includes holdings of: Houston Academy of Medicine-Texas Medical Center, University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, University of Texas System Cancer Center Library  
Telnet: ils.library.tmc.edu

University of Alabama, Birmingham, Lister Hill Library

University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Library

University of California, San Francisco (MELVYL)  
University of California at Los Angeles (MELVYL)  
Telnet: melvyl.ucop.edu

University of Illinois-Chicago, Health Sciences Library

University of Kansas, Clendening History of Medicine Library

University of Louisville (MINERVA)

University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, Newark  
Accessible through Gopher

University of Minnesota, Minneapolis (LUMINA)

University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh (PITTCAT)  
Telnet: mvs2.cis.pitt.edu

University of Texas Health Science Center-San Antonio  
Telnet: panam2.panam.edu

University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas  
Telnet: library.swmed.utexas.edu

University of Virginia Health Sciences Library, Charlottesville  
Telnet: health.virginia.edu or health.med.virginia.edu

University of Wisconsin-Madison Libraries  
Telnet: nls.adp.wisc.edu [need ID to access]

Virginia Commonwealth University, Tompkins-McCaw Library  
Telnet: vcumvs.ucc.vcu.edu

Washington University-St Louis, Medical Library  
Telnet: mcstep.wustl.edu

Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine Library  
Telnet: wihm.ucl.ac.uk

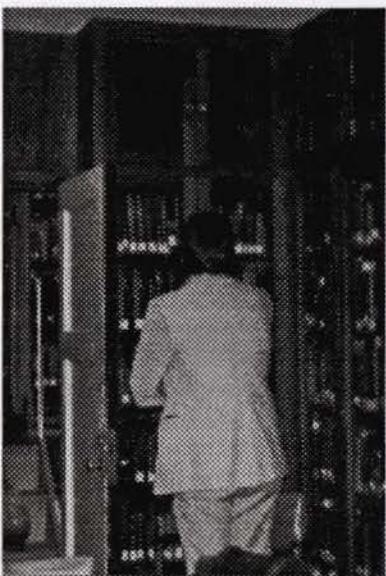
<sup>1</sup>"Internet/Bitnet Health Sciences Resources," compiled by Lee Hancock. Gopher: ukanaix.cc.ukans.edu; login: kufacts; Departmental Information/Medical Center Resources.

<sup>2</sup>A Directory of History of Medicine Collections, 4th. ed., compiled by Elizabeth Tunis. Bethesda, MD: National Library of Medicine, 1993.  
(CADUCEUS 3:09 22 June 1994)



## ALHHS 1975-1995 Celebrating Twenty Years

The Twentieth Anniversary Celebration Committee still needs your assistance.



*Who is this man?*

Help them locate photographs of past ALHHS programs, people, and events. Please search your institutional or personal archives for images such as this one!

Who is the mystery man perusing the collection at the Institute of the History of Medicine in the Welch Library at Johns Hopkins University? Those who really know their ALHHS history will be able to identify the man and the year. *The Watermark* editors will award two tomatoes to the first correct respondent; USPHS historians are ineligible.

Other reminiscences and photographs may be sent to: Nancy Whitten Zinn, Committee Chair, Library, Special Collections, University of California, San Francisco, CA 94143-0840; (415) 476-8112; FAX (415) 476-7940; E-MAIL zinn@library.ucsf.edu; Glen P. Jenkins, Cleveland Health Sciences Library, 11000 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44106; (216) 368-3649; FAX (216) 368-6421; E-MAIL GPJ@PO.cwru.edu; or Phil Teigen, History of Medicine Division, National Library of Medicine, 8600 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20894; (301) 496-5405; FAX (301) 402-0872; E-MAIL phil\_teigen@occshost.nlm.nih.gov.

## Nigel Phillips RARE BOOKS

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## EX LIBRIS

by Elaine Challacombe

### Main Entries

**John Parascandola** has been named by the American Institute of the History of Pharmacy to receive the 1994 George Urdang Medal. Dr. Parascandola was selected for his book, *The Development of American Pharmacology: John J. Abel and the Shaping of a Discipline* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 1992). The Institute awards the George Urdang Medal for original and scholarly publications pertaining to historical aspects of pharmacy in an international competition. Dr. Parascandola is the fifth American selected to receive the Urdang Medal the twenty-seventh scholar overall since the competition began in 1952.

**Michael A. Flannery** is the new librarian for the Lloyd Library & Museum in Cincinnati, Ohio. Michael was formerly catalogue librarian for Northern Kentucky University and received his MLS from the University of Kentucky. In addition to his work at the library, Michael is completing work on his master's degree in history from California State University, Dominguez Hills, CA. The Lloyd Library began over a century ago to meet the research needs of Lloyd Bros. Pharmaceuticals. Collections number over 200,000 volumes dating from the late fifteenth century to the present and are devoted primarily to botany, pharmacy, and horticulture.

**Ray Schwartz** has been appointed departmental medical librarian for the Russell A. Hibbs Memorial Library at the New York Orthopaedic Hospital. Ray received his graduate degree from Columbia, specializing in preservation and bibliographic control. Ray has been a cataloguer for NLM, the electronic resources librarian for the medical library at Rutgers, is Chair-Elect of ASIS Classification Research Committee, and has been appointed to the ALA Catalogue Form & Function Committee. The Hibbs Library specializes in orthopedic surgery.

**Toby A. Appel** began as historical librarian for the Historical Library of the Harvey Cushing/John Hay Whitney Medical Library, Yale. Toby has a B.S. from Tufts University in math, an M.A. in math from Harvard, a Ph.D. in the History of Science from Princeton University, and an M.L.S. from the College of Library and Information Services, University of Maryland. Toby has a distinguished past as a teacher/author/archivist in the history of science.

**Guenter Risse**, Head, Department of the His-

tory of the Health Sciences, University of California, San Francisco, confirmed that the history of medicine librarian position will be posted. The continued existence of the position had been in doubt but the decision was made to continue this position.

From 7-9 July Phil Teigen participated in a colloquium at the University of Oxford considering the application of PIXE (particle-induced x-ray emission) analysis to early books and manuscripts. Convened by the Bodleian Library and the University's Nuclear Physics Laboratory, twenty-two physicists, historians, bibliographers, and paleographers gathered at St. Catherines College.

### Analytics

**Elizabeth Ihrig** submits that the Bakken Library and Museum offers visiting research fellowships for the purpose of facilitating research in its collections of books, journals, manuscripts, prints, and instruments. The focus of the Bakken's collections is on the history of electricity and magnetism and their applications in the life sciences and medicine. Related materials include mesmerism and animal magnetism, nineteenth-century ephemera concerning alternative electromedical therapies, miscellaneous scientists' letters, and trade catalogues. The instruments include electrostatic generators, magneto-electric generators, induction coils, physiological instruments, recording devices, and accessories. The fellowship is a maximum of \$1,300 and is to be used for travel, subsistence, and other direct costs of conducting research at The Bakken. The minimum period of residence is one week. The grants are open to all researchers and the deadline for applications for the coming year is 1 March 1995. For application guidelines and further information, please contact David J. Rhees, Executive Director, The Bakken Library and Museum, 3537 Zenith Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55416; (612) 927-6508.

**Elaine Challacombe** reports that the History of Medicine Department of the University of Minnesota has been awarded Macintosh computer equipment for the production of a node on World Wide Web to create an interactive learning tool for a course entitled "Human Disease and the Environment in History". The first phase of the project will consist of developing the node and converting multimedia course materials to digitized form. Included on the node will be information about the collections of the Wangenstein Historical Library, particularly text and photos from exhibits mounted in the Library. It will also be possible for researchers to ask for reference assistance from the node using the questionnaire already in existence through the Bio-Medical Library's Gopher. Questions can be di-

rected to Dr. John Eyler and Sandra Jahn, the creators and coordinators of the project.

### Calendar

Call for abstracts for a conference: "Organ and Tissue Donation: Perspectives from the Humanities" Sponsored by The Department of Medical Humanities, Southern Illinois University School of Medicine, Chicago, **9-10 June 1995** Abstracts should be a maximum of 500 words. Submissions from scholars in all humanities fields are welcome. Please send 4 copies of the abstract to: Organ Donation Conference, Bethany Spielman, Department of Medical Humanities 1113, Southern Illinois University School of Medicine, Box 19230, Springfield, IL 62794-9230; (217) 782-4261; FAX (217) 782-9132; E-MAIL bspielman@siumed.edu. Submission deadline: 1 December 1994. Authors will be notified by 1 February 1995 and will be asked to submit their full paper by 1 June 1995. Selected conference papers will be published.

(CADUCEUS 3:24 24 August 1994)

The Fifth Annual Peter N. Pastore Memorial Lecture will be held **18 October 1994** at the Richmond Academy of Medicine followed by a reception in Special Collections and Archives at the Tompkins-McCaw Library on the Medical College of Virginia Campus of Virginia Commonwealth University. Dr. Janet L. Coryell, associate professor of history at Western Michigan University will speak on Dr. Daniel M. Holt's activities during the American Civil War.

The Claude Moore Health Sciences Library of the University of Virginia Health Sciences Center announces its 1994/95 History of the Health Sciences Lecture Series. **20 October 1994**, J. Anderson Thomson, M.D., Editor, *Albemarle County Medical News*, "Shame and the Soldier: A Psychobiography of Robert E. Lee." **17 November 1994** Paul A. Lombardo, PH.D., J.D., University of Virginia, "Societal Ills, Scientific Solutions: Eugenics, Medicine and the Supreme Court." "The Lynchburg Story", a film that provides the historical context for the enforced sterilization of over 8,000 "feeble-minded" Virginia children between 1927 and 1972, features Dr. Lombardo. The film, which premiered on the Discovery Channel in July 1994, will be shown prior to Dr. Lombardo's presentation. **14 December 1994** J. Worth Estes, M.D., Boston University School of Medicine, "The Yellow Fever Syndrome and Its Treatment in Philadelphia, 1793." **8 February 1995**, Dieter H.M. Groschel, M.D., University of Virginia Health Sciences Center, "Pettenkofer and

Cholera: Germs in the Environment?" **4 April 1995**, Robert L. Chevalier, M.D., University of Virginia Health Sciences Center, "The Kidney and Urinary Tract in the Age of Enlightenment." For further information contact Joan Echtenkamp Klein, Assistant Director for Historical Collections and Services, The Claude Moore Health Sciences Library, Box 234, University of Virginia Health Sciences Center, Charlottesville, VA 22908; (804) 924-0052; FAX 804 924-0379; E-MAIL jre@virginia.edu.

### New Acquisitions

**The Wangenstein Historical Library, University of Minnesota** has been given the artifact collections of the Ramsey County Medical Society upon the disbanding of its Boeckmann Library. Created in the 1870s for the continuing education of its members, the Society supported its library collections through the manufacture of catgut sutures. Society members actively sought information, books, and instruments that spoke to the history of medical practice in the region, as well as improving the contemporary practice of medicine. Approximately one thousand objects were transferred to the University in March of 1994. An exhibit will be mounted this fall after the inventory and reorganization of objects is completed.

### Exhibits

**The Grolier Club** of New York City has developed a public exhibition of books and manuscripts of importance in the history of medicine. Entitled **100 Books Famous in Medicine** the exhibition chronicles the evolution of medical knowledge from the classical period up to the invention of the CAT scan in 1973. The exhibition has been organized by Dr. Haskell F. Norman who gathered the books from more than thirty public and private libraries, including the College of Physicians in Philadelphia, the Countway Library of Medicine, the Lilly Library, the Osler Library, the New York Academy of Medicine, the Harvey Cushing/John Hay Whitney Medical Library, and the Pierpont Morgan Library. Accompanying the exhibit is an illustrated catalogue published by the Stinehour Press. The exhibit opened 20 September and runs to 23 November. Admission is free and open to the public Monday through Saturday, 10 am - 5 pm. The Grolier Club is located at 47 East 60th Street, New York, NY 10022. For additional information call (212) 838-6690; FAX (212) 838-2445.

**The Bakken Library and Museum** reopened its exhibit, "The Graphic Method", on 24 September. (The exhibit had been closed for reworking to make it suitable for unguided tours.) It

shows the history of the development of instruments that record physiological events as they are happening, such as the pulse and the heartbeat. Featured are such instruments as a sphygmograph, ca 1880, and the first electrocardiograph on the North American continent, 1909.

The Strong Museum in Rochester, New York will be opening a traveling exhibit in March 1995 on AIDS that was developed by the Franklin Institute Science Museum. "What About AIDS?" was funded by a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and produced and developed for the National AIDS Exhibit Consortium. Founding members of NAEC are: California Museum of Science and Industry (Los Angeles); The Exploratorium (San Francisco); The Franklin Institute Science Museum (Philadelphia); Museum of Science (Boston); Museum of Science and Industry (Chicago); Maryland Science Center (Baltimore); National Museum of Health and Medicine (Washington, D.C.); New York Hall of Science (New York City); American Medical Association (Chicago); and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Atlanta). AIDS is not a usual topic for a science museum traveling exhibit and in the past they have shied away from controversial subjects. But science museums (indeed, all museums) have long served as nontraditional class-

rooms for education. By putting life-saving science information in a place where people feel comfortable about exploring science, "What About AIDS?" can help young people and their parents begin to talk frankly about the disease and disseminate knowledge and skills they need to adopt for safer sexual behavior. Using hands-on devices, interactive videos, and compelling personal stories of people with AIDS, the exhibit seeks to help everyone — but particularly young people ages 10-17 — understand the science of AIDS. The Strong Museum's purpose in mounting the exhibit is to present a contemporary community health issue in a way that traces the origins or history of the problem, expanding on the exhibit's original purpose to explain the science of HIV and AIDS.

#### NOTE FROM THE NEW EX LIBRIS EDITOR

What is new in your home territory? Please let us know about activities, new acquisitions, new people, etc. for the next publication of *The Watermark*. Contributions should be sent to Elaine Challacombe, Wangenstein Historical Library, 568 Diehl Hall, 505 Essex Street SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455; E-MAIL e-chal@maroon.tc.umn.edu.

*The Watermark* is issued quarterly to members of Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences and is edited by Joan Echtenkamp Klein and Jodi Koste with production assistance of Susan Deihl of Media Production Services, Virginia Commonwealth University.

Publication deadlines are 1 December, 1 March, 1 June, and 1 September.

Submissions may be sent to: Joan Echtenkamp Klein, Historical Collections, The Claude Moore Health Sciences Library, Box 234, University of Virginia Health Sciences Center, Charlottesville, VA 22908; (804) 924-0052; FAX (804) 924-0379; E-MAIL jre@virginia.edu or Jodi Koste, Special Collections and Archives, Tompkins-McCaw Library, Box 980582 MCV, Richmond, VA 23298-0582; (804) 828-9898; FAX (804) 828-6089; E-MAIL jkoste@gems.vcu.edu.

Submissions for Ex Libris should be sent to: Elaine M. Challacombe, Wangenstein Historical Library, Bio-Medical Library—Diehl Hall, 505 Essex Street, SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455; (612) 626-6881; FAX (612) 626-2454; E-MAIL e-chal@maroon.tc.umn.edu.