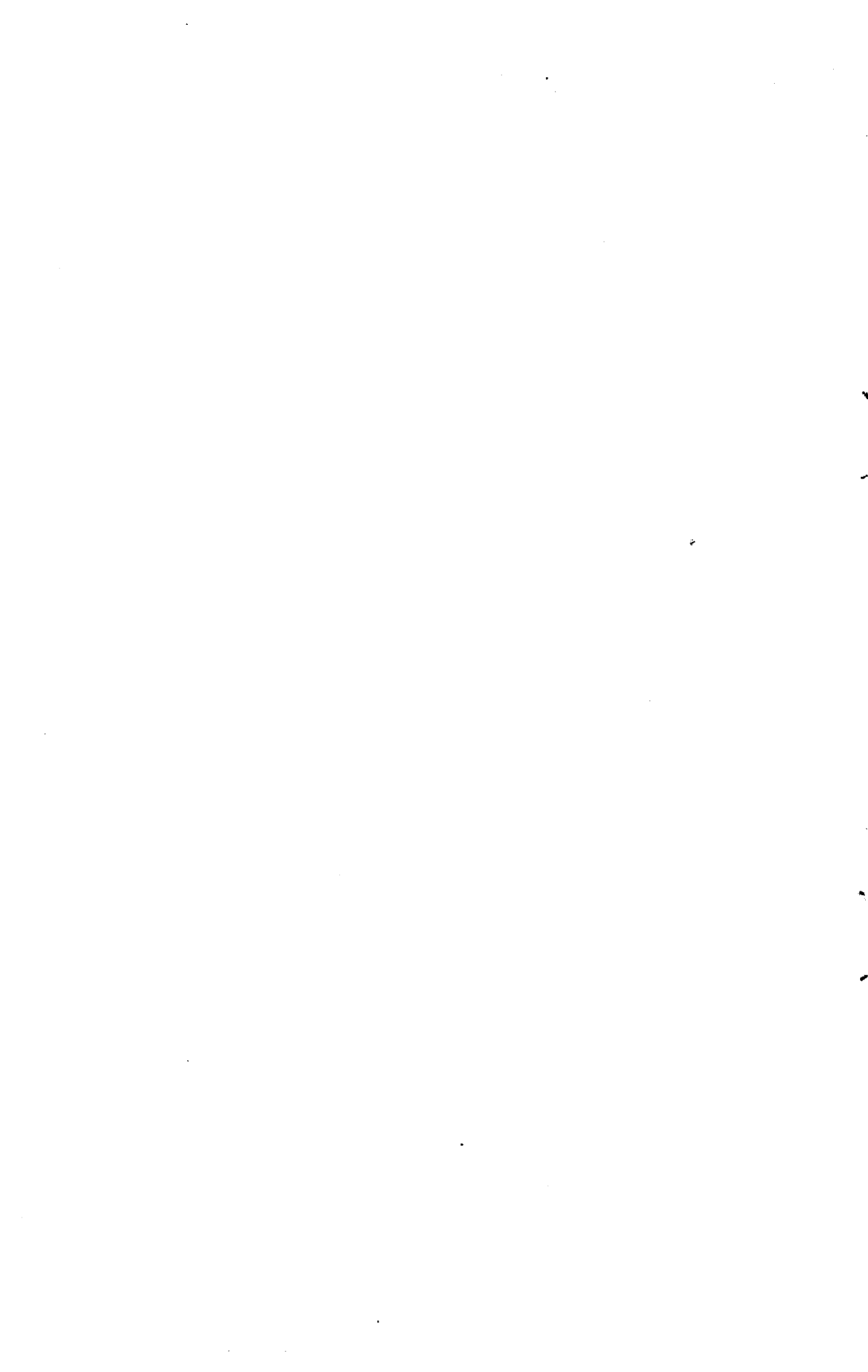


The
Scottish Society
of the
History of Medicine

(Founded April, 1948)

REPORT OF
PROCEEDINGS

SESSION 1966-67



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of the
History of Medicine

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Report of Proceedings

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SESSION 1966-67

The Scottish Society of the History of Medicine.

<i>Honorary President</i>	Dr. DOUGLAS GUTHRIE	
<i>President</i> - -	Professor NORMAN M. DOTT	
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<i>Council</i> - -	Mr. PHILLIP HARRIS	retires by rotation, 1967
	Mr. JOHN S. G. BLAIR	.. 1968
	Dr. R. J. PETERS	.. 1968
	Dr. J. M. A. LENIHAN	.. 1969
	Dr. E. R. C. WALKER	.. 1969
	Dr. A. ALLAN BELL	.. 1969
	THE SENIOR PRESIDENT, ROYAL MEDICAL SOCIETY (ex officio).	

The Scottish Society of the History of Medicine

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

1966-67

The Society has had a successful session once again with encouraging attendances and sustained interest. The Annual General Meeting was held in October at Edinburgh when Professor Norman M. Dott was elected President in succession to Dr. W. A. Alexander who retired. The spring meeting was held in April at Glasgow when an opportunity was afforded the members and their guests to view some of the treasures in the Hunterian Library at the University there and to hear something of the collection from Mr. MacKenna, the librarian, and of William Hunter, the man, from Professor Sir Charles Illingworth.

OBITUARY NOTICES

Mr. J. N. Jackson Hartley, an original member and former councillor of the Society died on 10th September, 1966 at the age of 77. A brilliant undergraduate student he had an equally brilliant career as a surgeon to Cumberland Infirmary. When he retired in 1947 he came to live near Edinburgh and was soon appointed Conservator of the museum of the Royal College of Surgeons, a post he held for eight years. He was a keen supporter of the Society, especially in its early formative years.

Dr. J. N. Turnbull died on 14th November at Kendal following an emergency operation. He was 83. Devoting his earlier career to the medical mission field, from 1926 he was in general practice at Corbridge, Northumberland, where he remained for thirty years retiring to Edinburgh when he soon joined the Society and was thereafter a constant attender at meetings. Though participating but little in the discussions his interest in medical history was genuine. In October he decided to leave Edinburgh to reside at Grange-over-Sands and his sudden death took place very shortly after his leaving the city.

Dr. T. A. Munro, a very recent member, died suddenly on 18th December at Edinburgh at the age of 61. Even though his association with us was a short one he was a keen and energetic supporter of our activities and had already discussed tentative plans for future meetings in which he looked forward to participating.

To the relatives of these three members we extend our warm sympathy. The Society is the poorer for their passing for each, in his own individual way, had stamped his personality in our midst.

PERSONAL

Congratulations are offered to Dr. Cedric W. M. Wilson on his appointment to the chair of pharmacology at Trinity College, Dublin, in October, 1966.

Dr. J. Menzies Campbell has prepared a comprehensive catalogue of his unique collection of dental instruments, etc. The *Catalogue of the Menzies Campbell Collection* published and distributed by the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh appeared in November, and Dr. Menzies Campbell is to be heartily applauded for arranging for such a descriptive catalogue of his collection to be made available to all at such a modest sum.

Dr. W. N. Boog Watson described A Naval Surgeon's Encounter with the Plague, Suez 1801, in the *Journ. Roy. Nav. Med. Serv.* (1966, 52, 157).

Part of Dr. Kenneth D. Keele's inaugural Douglas Guthrie Lecture on the History of Medicine, to which reference was made in last year's report, has since been published as a first part (*Brit. med. J.* 1966, 2, 1251). It is to be hoped that the second part will soon appear in print.

The Senior Honorary Secretary contributed two articles during the year. The first, Two Notable Epidemics in Edinburgh and Leith, appeared in the *Book of the Old Edinburgh Club* (1966, 32, 8), while the second, Medical Education at the Scottish Universities to the Close of the Eighteenth Century, formed a chapter in *The Evolution of Medical Education in Britain* (1966), the published proceedings of the Fifth British Congress on the History of Medicine (1964).

On 23rd September, Dr. A. Allan Bell, one of our councillors, arranged a historical exhibition for the quarterly meeting of the Scottish Division of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association held in Leverndale Hospital (formerly Hawkhead Mental Hospital, and originally Govan District Asylum). The exhibition traced the development of the hospital whose modern history dates from 1896 when it was officially opened as Govan District Lunatic Asylum.

MEDICO-HISTORICAL NOTES

It was especially gratifying to learn that a department of the history of medicine was to be set up at University College, London. The College has received a grant from the Wellcome Trust and a separate department with seminar room, library and laboratory will, in course of time, be set up. Meantime, until the new accommodation is ready, the department, under the direction of Dr. Edwin Clarke, will be housed at the Wellcome Building, Euston Road. This welcome news was announced in September, 1966.

A one-day symposium on the history of medicine in the Commonwealth was held at the Royal College of Physicians of London on 23rd September, under the chairmanship of Sir Arthur Porritt. We learn that the proceedings of this interesting meeting will be published at a later date.

It is always a pleasure to receive the Annual Reports of the Faculty of the History of Medicine and Pharmacy of the Society of Apothecaries of London, and the eighth one is no exception. It is refreshing to read of the many activities of the Faculty which is to be congratulated on its energy in keeping the flag flying high in respect of the study of medical history.

One hundred and fifty years ago, on 10th October, 1816, Sir John Simon, first medical officer of health for London (1848), and author of the *Report on the Sanitary State of the People of England* (1858) and *English Sanitary Institutions* (1897) was born at Blackheath.

In October it was announced that a group of medical men in the West Country of England has recently formed a Jenner Trust with three major aims, viz., to restore the Temple of Vaccinia (the summerhouse of Jenner's old home, the Chantry, Berkely, Gloucestershire), to keep it in permanent repair, and to form a small museum in James Phipps's house. The secretary of the Trust is Dr. A. M. G. Campbell, and the treasurer Dr. J. Macrae, 79 Pembroke Road, Bristol 8.

Later in October the pharmaceutical firm of Parke Davis & Co. celebrated its centenary. It was founded on 26th October 1866.

A new monthly journal, *Hospital Medicine*, made its appearance in October. It is published at 38 Farringdon Street, London, E.C.4, and is designed to present reviews of diseases, problems and techniques.

In August 1962, the International Academy of the History of Medicine was founded at a meeting held at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, and later the Academy's official organ, *Clio Medica* was launched. The first number appeared in November, 1965, and is published by the Pergamon Press Ltd.

The first International School of Advanced Nursing, sponsored by World Health Organisation was established at the Nursing Studies Unit of Edinburgh University in 1964. A second International School opened on 21st October at the University of Lyons, France, and is designed for students from French-speaking countries, including such as Tunisia, Algeria, Mauritius, Haiti, Morocco, and for French Canadians. Four main courses are being offered—nursing administration, nursing education, public health nursing administration, and psychiatric nursing administration.

The Golden Jubilee of the Scottish Board of the Royal College of Nursing was marked by a reception, attended by the Duchess of Gloucester, held at the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh on 31st October.

What was described as a new attempt to set standards of accommodation for National Health Service hospitals was made with the construction of a 60-bedded ward unit at Falkirk Royal Infirmary. The official opening of the unit was on 3rd November and an illustrated pamphlet giving details was issued by the Scottish Home and Health Department.

The first chair of medical education in Great Britain was founded at Edinburgh University Medical School by the appointment to a personal chair of Professor A. S. Duncan.

History was made in the medical sphere at Karachi, West Pakistan, between 28th November and 3rd December when the British Medical Association and the Pakistan Medical Association held a joint meeting. This was the first occasion that the British Medical Association had held an annual meeting in Asia and had as its president an Asian, Professor Hamid Ali Khan.

Two hundred years ago, on 4th December, 1766, there died at his home at Edinburgh in his 80th year, George Drummond, a former Lord Provost of the city. The Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh owed its existence largely to the efforts of this outstanding man who was elected to the civic chair on five occasions, an occurrence unique in the annals of the capital. The local papers described his funeral thus:

“His funeral, on the 8th, was attended by the Magistrates and Town Council (with the sword and mace covered with crape), and by the Professors in the University in their gowns, with the university mace, several of the Nobility, most of the Lords of Session, the Barons of Exchequer. Commissioners of Excise and Customs (of which Drummond was one), the Ministers, and some hundreds of the principal inhabitants of the city and neighbourhood; and during the procession from Leith Wynd to the Canongate church-yard, the bells tolled. The croud (*sic*) of spectators was very great.”

Entering the Town Council in 1717 he was elected Lord Provost in 1725 and it was owing to his indefatigable industry and perseverance that several professorships in the university were filled with men of ability and several new chairs were added such as that of chemistry, of the theory and practice of physic, midwifery, the belles-lettres and rhetoric. The Royal Infirmary which he did so much to found was described in contemporary papers as “An elegant building, which cost 13,000 l, was soon finished, where from 160 to 180 patients are now constantly entertained.” A bust of Drummond stands in an honoured place in the present Royal Infirmary.

In December it was announced that some 39 items, possessions of Dr. David Livingstone, were to be removed from the National Museum in the Zambian town of Livingstone and sent to Scotland. Early in January these various relics arrived and were deposited at the Livingstone Museum at Blantyre, Lanarkshire. The items included a pistol which Livingstone used for protection against wild animals, the watch carried during expeditions, the first sketch Livingstone made in water colours of the Victoria Falls, two medals awarded to him by the Royal Geographical Society, trading beads, and a fishing net used in Lake Nyasa.

In December the first number of the *British Journal of Medical Education* was published. The journal, edited by Dr. J. R. Ellis, is one of the specialist journals published in association with the *British Medical Journal*. It is intended to publish the journal quarterly. It is the official organ of the Association for the Study of Medical Education, founded nine years ago, and including among its corporate membership all the medical schools of the United Kingdom.

That remarkable medical news magazine, *MD*, published by Dr. Felix Marti-Ibanez at New York, celebrated its tenth anniversary in January and the occasion was marked by a full sized reproduction of the first number which appeared in January 1957. The reproduction formed Part 2 of a two-part issue.

On 1st February 1917, the Articles of Constitution of the Medical Women's Federation were signed and to celebrate the Golden Jubilee the Federation held a conference on 10th and 11th May on "The Family: Changing Patterns of Medical Care" in London.

In early February it was announced that the Wellcome Trust had given Aberdeen University a grant of £50,000 for a postgraduate research library to be part of the new medical centre to be built at Foresterhill. Medical journals from all over the world will be available in the reading room while facilities for microfilm reading, photo-copying and seminars will be provided in the building.

On 13th March 1867, a meeting of thirteen surgeon-dentists took place in Edinburgh and inaugurated the Odonto-Chirurgical Society of Scotland. To mark the centenary a special meeting of the Society was held on 10th March this year at Edinburgh and the celebrations included a civic reception given by the Lord Provost and Magistrates. Dr. Menzies Campbell in his *From a Trade to a Profession* (1958) has described the early beginnings of this Society.

In commemoration of the hundredth anniversary of the opening by Dr. Thomas John Barnardo of his first home at Stepney, London in 1866, Cruachan, a Barnardo residential home for diabetic children, the first of its kind in Scotland, was opened at Balerno, Midlothian, on 29th March. This is the tenth Barnardo home to be opened in Scotland and cost more than £35,000. The home is for both diabetic boys and girls to the number of about 12, although children with other problems in which good dietary care is essential to satisfactory health will be accommodated.

An internationally flavoured Lister Centenary Conference at the Royal College of Surgeons of England was held from 2nd-6th April to commemorate the revolution in surgery. The conference was organised by the Royal College of Surgeons of England in association with the Royal Society, the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, the Universities of Edinburgh, Glasgow and London, University College Hospital, King's College Hospital, Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine, Wellcome Trust and the Ciba Foundation. Speakers and guests came from many countries. Attractive programme and exhibition brochures were produced for the occasion. It is tragic to note as an appendix to this conference that Upton House, Plaistow, where Lister was born, is now an unoccupied, rat-infested house which appears as if it must needs be destroyed unless funds are forthcoming to save it.

The Royal Medical Society are to be warmly congratulated on the brilliantly conceived and organised symposium to commemorate the centenary of Sir Thomas Lauder Brunton's publication in the *Lancet* in 1867 of the use of amyl nitrate for angina pectoris. The symposium was held in the Hall of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh on 21st and 22nd April. The proceedings included two short historical papers by members of the Society which were models of concise presentation. Brunton at the time he published his paper was senior president of the Royal Medical Society and a resident physician at the Royal Infirmary.

Three hundred years ago, on 29th April, 1667, a baby was baptised who, in later years became the celebrated Dr. John Arbuthnot, physician to Queen Anne. The exact date of his birth is unknown but he is known to have been the son of an

episcopal minister at Arbutnot in Kincardineshire. In 1696 he took the MD of St. Andrews and in 1704 was elected FRS. He died on 27th February, 1735, in his sixty-eighth year.

Sometime during May 1767 an important new approach to the hygiene and disorders of infancy and childhood was made by the appearance of *An Essay on the Diseases most fatal to Infants. To which are added rules to be observed in the nursing of children, with a particular view to those who are brought up by hand.* The author of this modest little book was George Armstrong, and it marks one of the outstanding milestones in the history of child health and hygiene. Senior members of the Society will recall the delightful meeting we had some years ago at Newcastleton near to where George and his brother John, the poet-physician, were born. It was a fitting tribute to the memory of these two fine doctors.

This year also marks the centenary of the birth of a distinguished Scottish physician, man of letters and folk-lorist, Dr. David Rorie, who died on 18th February, 1946, in his 79th year. A fine doctor, he was editor of the *Caledonian Medical Journal* for many years and among its pages are to be found verses and papers from his pen.

BOOK AND OTHER NOTICES

As in previous years only those books which we have personally seen and perused or to which we have had our attention drawn by members will be mentioned in this section.

The outstanding biography during the period covered by the report was unquestionably the *Life of William Harvey* (1966) by Sir Geoffrey Keynes, for which he was awarded the James Tait Black Memorial Prize in April this year. The prize is awarded annually on the recommendation of the Professor of English Literature at Edinburgh University. There is a large amount of new material in this volume and it is interesting to note that Keynes believes Harvey attempted suicide in 1652 when he suffered intolerable pain from stones and took a large dose of laudanum. *Almroth Wright: Founder of Modern Vaccine Therapy* (1966) is another delightful biography by Sir Zachary Cope who was Wright's friend for over forty years. That curious figure, Sir Victor Horsley, is the subject of a new study, the *Citizen Surgeon* (1966) by J. B. Lyons who gives an excellent picture of this energetic campaigner for temperance and women's suffrage, to mention but two of the causes he espoused. The *Story of William Hunter* (1967) by Sir Charles Illingworth is a book of note concerning the celebrated scholar-obstetrician and anatomist, older brother of the great John.

A book the centre of much controversy is *Winston Churchill: The Struggle for Survival, 1940-1965* (1966) being entries from the diaries of Lord Moran, Churchill's physician. Opinions differ widely about this volume; but the illnesses and frailties of the great men of history have always had a fascination all of their own for historians, whether medical or lay.

Histories of special subjects proliferate with succeeding years. An excellent account of cholera, written for popular reading but none the less of value to the medical historian was *King Cholera: The Biography of a Disease* (1966) by N. Longmate. The *History of Diseases* (1966) by Folke Henschen, translated into English by J. Tate, is a masterly account, well illustrated with diagrams and maps. The *Health of Seamen: Selections from the Works of Dr. James Lind, Sir Gilbert Blane and Dr. Thomas Trotter* (1965) was edited by C. Lloyd, who, in the preface to the volume described the Navy as "the earliest organisation to attempt what we should call a public health service". *Medical History of Malta* (1964) by P. Cassar is of topical interest in view of recent events concerning the George Cross Island. The book constitutes one of the Wellcome Historical Medical Library's Historical Monograph series. Another work from the Wellcome Library is *Medical Practitioners in Medieval England: A Biographical Register* (1965) by C. H. Talbot, a book of great merit and the culmination of much painstaking and

thorough research. *History of the Trustees of the Hunterian Collection* (1966) by Sir V. Negus is an account of the trustees and of the museum since the latter became part of the Royal College of England in 1813. *History of the Royal College of Physicians of London* (1966) volume 2, by Sir George Clark, deals with the College from 1688 till the Medical Act 1858. *An Excellent Medical School* (1965) by I. C. Roddie is a short attractive history of the Belfast Medical School and its Dunville chair of physiology in particular. The *Story of the Mission to Lepers, 1874-1917: An Inn called Welcome* (1965) by A. D. Miller is a paper-bound slight volume containing much detail of the life and work of some of the many men and women who devoted their lives to work among the afflicted. The *British Red Cross in Action* (1966) by B. Oliver is a book of some 500-odd pages in which one is inclined to get bogged down in the detail and lose the thread of the story. Professor F. A. E. Crew continues his great series on the Army Medical Services with volume 5, dealing with Burma, making mention of many distinguished contemporary Scots who contributed so greatly to the success of the service during that campaign. *Some Aspects of the early Life of unusual Men and Women* (1966) by R. S. and C. M. Illingworth is a remarkable book dealing as it does with the homes and upbringing, education, early personalities, etc. of some 450 men and women from all walks of life. It is an excellent bedside book.

Probably the last of the lectures of the late Lord Brain to be published are contained in *Science and Man* (1966) which reveal the many-sided interests and learning of this fine physician, scholar and scientist.

Medical Books, Libraries and Collectors (1966) by J. L. Thornton is a magnificent reference book, first published in 1949 and now revised thoroughly and enlarged, so that its value has been enhanced.

In the nursing world, the *Lamp and the Book* (1967) by G. Bowman is a disappointing history of the Royal College of Nursing.

From the United States we have received *Medicine in America* (1966) by Richard H. Shryock, being a series of previously published historical essays. The essays cover a wide field, including medical practice in the old south, personal and public hygiene, the medical profession, medical thought and research, and the need for studies in the history of American science. The essays are charmingly written and the author unobtrusively by his references reveals his wide reading and knowledge of his subject.

A beautifully illustrated catalogue of an exhibition held in the Philadelphia Museum of Art, *the Art of Philadelphia Medicine* (1965) was sent to us by our old friend Dr. Whitfield Bell, now librarian to the American Philosophical Society, a post where he succeeded Professor Shryock. The catalogue contains the portraits and busts of many celebrated medical men with appropriate biographical notes by Dr. Bell. *John Morgan: Continental Doctor* (1965) by Whitfield Bell is a biography, the first full length one, of the man who established the first medical school in North America, and was a graduate of the Edinburgh Medical School. The biography is the result of much original research but is attractively written and can be warmly recommended for its interest and accuracy.

From Professor J. J. Izquierdo, formerly of the chair of physiology at the National University of Mexico, comes *Desde un alto en el Camino* (1966) a profusely illustrated book in which the professor describes many of his teachers and his travels.

Dr. Egill Snorrason of Copenhagen has sent us a small monograph on Christian Gottlieb Kratzenstein (1723-95), an early promotor of electrotherapy and professor of medicine at Copenhagen University. This modest little book has an English summary.

Our warm thanks must again be extended to numerous individuals and scientific bodies who have sent us reports, catalogues, journals, papers, etc. during the session. To the Harveian Librarian of the Royal College of Physicians of London,

a further series of publications dealing with historical exhibitions held at the College; the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry for its Annual Report, 1966-67; the Editor of *Catalyst*, Industrial Journal of the Shell Chemical Company; Dr. Whitfield Bell, Librarian of the American Philosophical Society for the Report of the Committee on the Library; Dr. Genevieve Miller, Editor, for the *Bulletin of the Cleveland Medical Library* and for arranging for us to receive the *Bibliography of the History of Medicine of the United States and Canada*, 1965; Drs. Wolfram Kock and Egill Snorrason for *Medicinhistorisk Arsbok*, 1966; Professor A. Pazzini for *Revista di Storia della Medicina*, official organ of the Italian Society for History of Medicine and for *Pagine di Storia della Medicina*, the bimonthly bulletin of the Institute of History of Medicine of the University of Rome (this journal celebrated its tenth anniversary during the year and the senior honorary secretary sent a congratulatory letter to the editor); Professor L. Premuda, director of the Istituto di Storia della Medicina dell'Universita di Padova, for *Acta Medicae Historiae Patavina*, vol. XI, 1964-65; Dr. Oscar Beaujon, Secretary of the Venezuelan Society of the History of Medicine for *Revista de la Sociedad Venezolana de Historia de la Medicina*, vol. XI, 1963; the Secretary of the Chilean Society of the History of Medicine for *Anales Chilenos de Historia de la Medicina*, vol. I, first quarter, sixth year, 1964; the Directors of the Committee on History of Science and Technology of the Polish Academy of Sciences for copies of their *Proceedings*; the Directors of the Library of Medical History of Hungary for copies of their *Communicationes ex Bibliotheca Historiae Medicae Hungarica*. All these publications are accommodated in the Library of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh for safe custody.

THE FIFTY-FOURTH MEETING AND EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Fifty-fourth Meeting and Eighteenth Annual General Meeting of the Society was held on Friday, 28th October 1966, in the Pfizer Institute, Hill Square, Edinburgh, Dr. W. A. Alexander, President, in the chair. Thirty members and guests were present. The Society's Annual Report of Proceedings was submitted and adopted. A financial statement covering the year to 30th September 1966 was accepted but the Honorary Treasurer reminded the Society that it was fortunate in possessing an endowment which helped matters greatly. He pleaded for the payment of subscriptions by bankers' order. Dr. Alexander intimated that he did not wish to be considered for re-election as President, recalling that, after the untimely death of Mr. Charles H. Kembell when President, Professor Norman Dott, then a Vice-President, had acted in the chair but had indicated that owing to his going abroad he did not wish to be invited to assume the Presidency for 1965. Dr. Alexander formally proposed from the chair that Professor Dott be elected President for the ensuing year and this having been duly seconded was accepted with unanimity. On the motion of Dr. T. R. R. Todd the following were elected to the remaining offices:—

Vice-Presidents: Dr. M. H. Armstrong Davison and Mr. T. Gibson.

Honorary Secretaries: Drs. H. P. Tait and L. F. Howitt.

Honorary Treasurer: Dr. W. A. Alexander.

Council: Mr. Phillip Harris; Mr. John S. G. Blair; Dr. Robert J. Peters;
Dr. J. M. A. Lenihan; Dr. E. R. C. Walker; Dr. A. Allan Bell.

Professor Dott, on assuming the chair, thanked the Society for electing him to that honour, and paid tribute to the retiring members of Council, Professor John Craig, Mrs. Menzies Campbell and Dr. W. D. H. Conacher, for their services.

Professor Dott then proceeded to give a communication entitled:

REFLECTIONS ON THE HISTORY OF SURGICAL NEUROLOGY

The paper was profusely illustrated with coloured slides of the various countries and neurological clinics which the President had visited during his recent tour of Europe and the Far East. Only an abridged version of the paper can be given here.

Surgical neurology is an ancient and honoured branch of medicine. Trepanation was not the earliest surgical procedure on duly authenticated record; that was a rib resection under excellent anaesthesia with perfect wound closure and subsequent tissue culture (Genesis, II, 21). Prunier (1874) showed that the perforations in some neolithic skulls were man-made and the persons involved had survived for years. Since then much has appeared on pre-historic trepanation. Some of these operations were apparently made for skull fractures which were still recognisable and presumably caused by clubs, slings or other weapons. It was highly probable that other trepanations were performed to facilitate the exorcism of supernatural noxious intrusions. Data from countries medically under-developed presently or until comparatively recent times, tell us of the instruments used in early times and of the manner of their use.

Hippocrates gave as indications for trephining, certain skull fractures, some forms of epilepsy, intractable headache and progressive impairment of vision. Reasonably convenient instruments were available to him and to his successors in ancient Greece and Rome. Little if any progress was made during the period of Arabian medicine and the Middle Ages. In passing it was interesting to note that King Harold in 1066 died from complications ensuing upon a penetrating orbital wound of the skull from an arrow. The young Dauphin of France, spouse of the future Mary Queen of Scots died under similar circumstances. His wound was from the lance of Hugh Montgomerie, Captain of the Scottish bodyguard of the King. It was an accidental wound incurred during jousting practice, and penetrated the skull through the orbit, being followed some days later almost certainly by a brain abscess. Ambroise Pare was called and seriously considered trepanation. He conducted several experiments upon convicted criminals under sentence of death but whether he was discouraged by these experiences or for some other reasons, the Dauphin did not have the benefit of surgery and died a few weeks later. Meantime Montgomerie escaped to Scotland where he remained for many years before returning to France where he was immediately apprehended and executed for his earlier misdeed.

Nothing much happened until the widening knowledge of pathology and of neurophysiology had set medical neurology on a sound basis during the first half of the nineteenth century. In the second half of that century advance in surgery was made possible by Lister's work and Simpson's discovery of chloroform—both originating in Scotland—and surgical neurology participated in the advance—again in Scotland. The modern era of surgical neurology was pioneered in Glasgow by Sir William Macewan. In 1879 he diagnosed on neurological evidence and successfully removed a frontal meningioma. In 1883 he diagnosed and removed successfully an intraspinal tumour. Each of these was some five years in advance of the often cited cases of Bennet and Godlee, and of Sir Victor Horsley in London. Moreover, in the intervening time, Macewan had already added several cases of brain and of spinal tumour to Scotland's credit. It may be further cited that the central figure—the patient—in the Bennet-Godlee case was a Scot from Dumfries.

Britain led world medicine from the beginning of the eighteenth century. We imparted it to our then colonial children, including the U.S.A. in whose initiation the Edinburgh School and its institutions played a major part. As these children have matured, they have often equalled and sometimes surpassed their parent in some particular field of medicine. So it happened in surgical neurology. From Macewan, Horsley, Krause and Puusepp in Europe, Harvey Cushing in the U.S.A. took up the torch of surgical neurology and between 1910 and 1940 he developed it into the recognised speciality as we know it today. It is also,

perhaps, fair to Russian medicine to remark that Vladimir Bechterew had the concept of surgical neurology as a branch of neurology in 1900; and advanced his surgical colleague, Ludvig Puusepp to become a clinical professor of neurology by 1907. The fruition of their work was interrupted by three wars and by the major Russian Revolution of 1917.

The vastly improved "Cushing" version of surgical neurology was re-imported into Europe, mainly to Britain. Cushing was well aware that he had a mission and so also were his disciples when they returned to their native lands. Prominent in this in the 1920s were Geoffrey Jefferson of Manchester, Hugh Cairns of London and Oxford, and Adams McConnell of Dublin, and I had some hand in it here in Scotland.

Europe was fertilised in modern surgical neurology largely from Britain, just before and since the 1939-45 war. The principal agency for this was the Society of British Neurological Surgeons, founded in 1926 largely by Jefferson, and so wisely guided by him until quite recently. Now, all the European countries have their own societies of surgical neurology. Furthermore, there has been considerable advance since Cushing's time, notably in neural physiology and in neuro-radiology on both sides of the Atlantic.

It is traditional that the medical fraternity travels widely for the advancement of their profession; and in these days they are important ambassadors of goodwill and understanding. Those who have come to Edinburgh to train in surgical neurology and returned to their own lands to develop it there have all played their part. So likewise have I in visiting them later to observe and assist in these developments.

In the discussion which followed the paper, Dr. Ernst Levin spoke of his early experiences whilst a neurological physician in Munich of intracranial surgery in Germany. On the motion of Dr. E. R. C. Walker a cordial vote of thanks was accorded Professor Dott.

THE FIFTY-FIFTH ORDINARY MEETING

The Fifty-fifth Ordinary Meeting of the Society was held in the Hunterian Museum, University of Glasgow, on Friday 7th April, 1967. Members and guests met at the College Club for tea before proceeding to the Hunterian Collection where a demonstration had been arranged by the University Librarian, Mr. R. O. MacKenna. After viewing this, the Society was constituted for business, Professor Dott in the chair. Thirty-eight members and guests were present. After certain items of private business had been discussed the President called upon Mr. R. O. MacKenna to deliver his paper on

THE LIBRARY OF WILLIAM HUNTER

Though the Hunterian Books and Manuscripts are only a part of the rich and varied bequest that came to the University of Glasgow in 1807, twenty-four years after William Hunter's death, they constitute by far the most valuable collection under the care of the University Library. Not least among the merits of this collection is the light which it casts upon the depth and range of Hunter's own interests.

Not surprisingly, medical works form a large part of the collection—about one half, in all. This group is clearly the core, and may well have been the foundation, of the library as a whole. It covers a wide range in time, with publications dating from the invention of printing (and earlier, in the case of the manuscripts) to Hunter's own time, representing authors from the earliest classics such as Hippocrates and Galen to Hunter's contemporaries, such as Cheselden.

Equally wide is the range of topics covered. Hunter was a specialist in anatomy and obstetrics; but it would not be easy to deduce this from a study of his library, which ranges just as fully over medical history, physiology, general medicine and

such special minor topics as military and naval medicine, the deficiency diseases, King's evil, and inoculation against smallpox, as over the two fields of his primary concern. It is clear, too, that he took a lively interest in the controversies of the day, for the collection contains many pamphlets on such questions as the merits of John Douglas's lithotomy operation, the affairs of the Royal College of Physicians, the therapeutic value of tar-water, championed by Bishop Berkeley, the case of Mary Tofts, the rabbit-woman of Godalming, and many another passing storm—including Hunter's own dispute with the Monros of Edinburgh over his claim to priority in certain discoveries concerning the lymphatic system.

The non-medical part of the collection is broadly similar in pattern. It is particularly strong in the Greek and Latin classics, containing upwards of 200 of the *editiones principes*; classical antiquities also, theology, fine art, architecture and numismatics are all prominent. But European and English literature seem to be represented in the main only by the great names—Ariosto, Dante, Petrarch, Cervantes, Shakespeare, Chaucer, Milton, Rabelais, Racine—though a few leading contemporaries of lesser stature, such as Addison and Pope, are to be found. Moreover—and this must appear rather odd—there does not seem to have been any systematic effort to cover the sciences: what there is of chemistry, physics botany and zoology probably owes its presence to his activities in collecting for the Museum proper. History, too, is only spasmodically represented; here the interest appears to be mainly Scottish, centering particularly round Mary Queen of Scots and the early Stuarts, though in the contemporary period the 1745 rebellion is well covered in a series of ephemera.

Indeed the whole of the non-medical section reflects the same pattern as the medical, a rich representation of important classical works in early editions being matched with a profusion of pamphlets on questions of the hour. But there are also traces of more solid contemporary interests: quite an amount of material, for instance, on Spain, some on Africa, Ancient Egypt, South and Central America, and exploration in general; while still more prominent are the groups of works on the North American colonies and on the East Indies and the affairs of John Company.

It is a fascinating exercise to speculate on how the collection came to have the shape it has. My own belief is that two distinct influences played their part in its formation. At the core there is a working library, faithfully reflecting the day to day interests of a busy man of lively intelligence and strong enthusiasms, both within his chosen calling of medicine and outside it. But superimposed upon this there is a collector's library, which equally reveals some strong individual tastes.

I wish it were possible to ascertain the year of purchase of each book in the library, for it would be enlightening to know what constituted his original working library, and to what extent his collector's instinct was given play before about 1770, when the full flowering came. However, it is fairly clear that this later development covered the medical as well as the non-medical part of the collection. It is characterised by a great multiplication of editions, with the emphasis on early ones; and this makes it a reasonably certain assumption that over a large part of the field his later collecting was motivated rather by bibliophilic than by subject interest. This is particularly noticeable in literature, in the absence of all but the great names (and of many even of these); but it shows everywhere in the concentration on the work of the early presses.

The Library as a whole, however it was gathered, remains one of the University's richest possessions—a storehouse for scholarly investigations in a variety of fields, no less than the coin collection is in the field of history.

Following Mr. MacKenna's paper the President introduced Professor Sir Charles Illingworth who spoke delightfully on the erudition of William Hunter.

THE ERUDITION OF WILLIAM HUNTER

In contrast to his brother John, William Hunter was a scholar. This can be seen by comparing their portraits. Joshua Reynolds' portrait of John, in the Royal College of Surgeons of England, shows him looking like a broken down pugilist with bulbous nose and blood shot eyes. By contrast, even in old age, William had the appearance of a book man.

I propose to illustrate this theme by speaking about one of William's hobbies, the study of early printing of Greek books. For Hunter was not only a collector of books, manuscripts, coins and paintings but he was also a connoisseur in these different spheres. Among the loose manuscripts in our library we have many holograph notes in Hunter's own writing which testify to his erudition.

I should explain that all the early printed books, dating from the Gutenberg Bible of 1455 were in Latin. Greek scholars were rare in those days and probably the first printers did not even know the Greek alphabet. At first when Greek words had to be embedded in the Latin text a space was left for a scholar to write them by hand. Then almost simultaneously in 1465 two books appeared which contained isolated Greek sentences. One of these was Cicero's *De Officiis* printed by Fust and Schoeffer in 1465 at Mainz. This is the oldest book in the Hunter Collection. The other was Lactantius printed by Sweynheim and Pannartz in Subiaco near Rome.

We have Hunter's own notes on the Cicero. It is clear that he studied it with a good deal of knowledge and compared it in points of detail with other copies of the same book to which he had access in different libraries.

This is a commentary by Dibdin, the famous 19th century antiquary and bibliophil.

"In Dr. Hunter's copy, which I carefully examined there is a long note written on a sheet of paper in which the Doctor observes that his copies of 1465-66 vary from the descriptions given by De Bure and Clement; and that in consequence he thinks there are five different editions of the date of 1465. This is probably going too far (for the Doctor though a magnificent collector was no bibliographer) yet it is evident that no one has correctly ascertained all the variations in the edition of 1465."

Dibdin of course was demonstrating the usual intolerance of the expert for the amateur but whether Hunter was right or wrong he certainly must have been an assiduous student.

In a bundle of documents in the Hunter Collection there is a 20-page manuscript in Hunter's handwriting on the *Origin and Progress of Printing Greek in the 15th Century*. This goes into great detail about many of the books printed in Greek between 1476 and 1500. It is evident that the paper was intended for publication because in the same bundle we have a letter from Jacob Bryant, the eminent scholar who was secretary to the Duke of Marlborough, from which it is evident that Hunter had asked him to criticize the document, and this Bryant has done at length. However most of his criticisms are rather pedantic commentaries on William Hunter's defects in English prose composition and very few related to the facts about Greek printing. At the end of his manuscript Hunter gives a list of all the Greek books printed up to 1500 numbering about 50. Modern authorities now recognise 63 so Hunter was not far short. Perhaps this is not surprising, for he had copies of most of them in his collection including over 20 in edition princeps. . . .

Hunter's interest in early Greek printed books was aroused when the first book wholly printed in Greek came on the market at the sale of Askew's collection in 1755. This book was Lascar's *Grammatica* printed in Milan in 1468.

There's a little mystery about this book. One of Hunter's manuscript notes says "to be examined at Dr. Askew's 2055.4 Lascar 1476". This was the catalogue number at the sale, and several of Hunter's other documents give the impression

that he purchased the book at this sale. We know also that when Dibdin came to Glasgow in 1838 he wrote in his report that the Lascar was at that time in the Hunter Collection. If so, it has been lost because it is now no longer there.

I have made some enquiries into this matter. Mr. MacKenna kindly gave me access to a microfilm of the Harvard copy of the sale catalogue which states that the Lascar was sold in 1775 for £21 10s. to a purchaser named Nicol. I believe this may have been Nicol the bookseller of London and it is my belief that Hunter purchased from him. However, if I am right it must have been purloined sometime between 1838 and 1930 when the definitive catalogue was prepared so it is probably too late now to look for it.

There is another similar mystery. Dibdin in reporting on his visit also stated that at that time the Hunter Collection contained a copy of the Mazarine Bible, that is to say Gutenberg's original bible of 1755, but it also is no longer to be found in our Collection. It has been supposed that Dibdin made a mistake but it is interesting to note that he was correct with a similar mistake in regard to another Gutenberg bible which he reported to be in existence in the Shuckburgh Collection but which subsequently disappeared. However that bible reappeared after a lapse of 130 years and is now in the Houghton Library near Washington, so I am in great hopes that the Glasgow Gutenberg will also turn up somewhere or other in the future.

Here is another mystery about the Hunter Collection. 43 books all printed by the Foulis Brothers were presented by the Senate of the University of Glasgow to William Hunter. Each of them has a dedication on the flyleaf to William Hunter as the most notable and worthy alumnus of the University. They are bound in uniform morocco binding probably done in London at William Hunter's order.

Unfortunately our Senate Minutes of that period are defective and there is no reference to them in Hunter's writings so we have no idea why they were presented to him or when. The only clue is that one of the volumes was published in 1770 so the gift must have been subsequent to that time and probably not much later, otherwise various other of Foulis books might well have been included. Allied to this is another mystery we have in the Museum, a medallion showing William Hunter on the obverse and a copy of his silver vase on the reverse. This medallion was struck in London in 1774. I have a theory that the books and the medallion were provided for the same occasion but so far I have no clue as to what that occasion was.

After Sir Charles's paper, Mr. MacKenna presented a remarkable series of 44 coloured slides illustrating illuminations from the Hunterian Psalter. On the call of Dr. T. R. R. Todd both speakers were accorded a very warm vote of thanks for their contributions to an excellent meeting.

APPENDIX

MANUSCRIPTS AND PRINTED BOOKS DISPLAYED ON THE OCCASION OF THE VISIT TO THE HUNTERIAN LIBRARY OF THE SCOTTISH SOCIETY OF THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE, 7th APRIL 1967

Medical works: manuscripts

1. Collection of writings on medicine by Hippocrates, Galen, and others, in Latin. Late 8th or early 9th-century manuscript, S. France or N. Italy.
2. Hippocrates. Aphorisms, with Galen's commentary. Latin translation. 14th-century manuscript.
3. Avicenna. Canon of medicine. In Latin. Late 15th-century manuscript, S. Netherlands.
4. Arderne (John). Practice of surgery. In Latin. 15th-century manuscript, England.
5. Banister (John). Anatomical tables. Late 16th-century manuscript, England.
6. 54 drawings for the *Fabrica* of Vesalius ascribed by Moritz Roth to Jan van Calcar. With some manuscript text.
7. Hunter (William). Journal of attendance on Queen Charlotte, 1762-65. Holograph manuscript.

Medical works: printed books

8. Celsus (Aurelius Cornelius). *De medicina*. Florence, 1478.
9. Hippocrates. Works in Greek. Venice, 1526.
10. Fernel (Jean). *De naturali parte medicinae libri septem*. Paris, 1542.
11. Vesalius (Andreas). *Tabulae anatomicae sex*. Venice, 1538.
12. Vesalius (Andreas). *De humani corporis fabrica libri septem*. Basle, 1543.
13. Vesalius (Andreas). *De humani corporis fabrica librorum epitome*. Basle, 1543.
14. Hunter (William). *The anatomy of the human gravid uterus*. Birmingham, 1774.

Non-medical works: manuscripts

15. Psalter. Written and illuminated, probably in the diocese of York, c. 1170.
16. Chaucer (Geoffrey). *The romaunt of the rose*. Early 15th-century manuscript, England.
17. Breviary. Written in 1494, S. Netherlands.
18. Boccaccio. *Les cas des nobles hommes et femmes*. Late 15th-century manuscript, S. Netherlands.
19. Ludolf of Saxony. *Vita Christi*. Late 15th-century manuscript, France.
20. Livy. Book xxi-xxx. Late 15th-century manuscript, Italy.

Non-medical works: printed books

21. Cicero. *De officiis and Paradoxa*. Mainz, Johann Fust and Peter Schoeffer, 1465.
22. Book of Revelation. A block book presenting scenes from the Apocalypse and from the life of St. John. Printed in N. Germany, c. 1465-70.

The Scottish Society of the History of Medicine.

CONSTITUTION.

1. The Society shall be called "THE SCOTTISH SOCIETY OF THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE," and shall consist of those who desire to promote the study of the History of Medicine.

2. A General Meeting of Members shall be held once a year to receive a report and to elect Office-Bearers.

3. The management of the affairs of the Society shall be vested in the Office-Bearers, who shall include a President, one or more Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and not more than ten other Members to form a Council. The Council shall have power to co-opt other Members who, in their opinion, are fitted to render special service to the Society.

4. All Office-Bearers shall be elected annually. The President shall not hold office for more than three successive years, but shall be eligible to serve again after one year. Not more than eight Members of Council, or two-thirds of the total number, shall be eligible for immediate re-election.

5. The Annual Subscription shall be fixed from time to time by the Council and reported to members of the Society.

6. The Secretary shall keep brief Minutes of the proceedings shall prepare Agenda, and shall conduct the correspondence of the Society.

7. Meetings shall be held at least twice yearly, and the place of meeting shall be in any of the four University centres, or elsewhere, as the Council may decide.

8. This Constitution may be amended at any General Meeting of the Society on twenty-one days' notice of the proposed amendment being given by the Secretary, such amendment to be included in the Agenda circulated for the Meeting.



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