
EDITORIAL

The SSHM Gazette was launched in April 1990 under the editorship of Mick Worboys, who has now stepped down from this position after eleven issues. I'm sure that all SSHM members and readers of the Gazette would like to thank Mick for developing such a useful and entertaining newsletter. Although editorship has been transferred, it remains in the city of Sheffield - a continuity which will be reflected in the form and content of the Gazette. The Gazette serves three main purposes. First, it provides a means to communicate the business of the Society. In this issue, for instance, the Minutes of the 1994 AGM are published for those members unable to attend, and there is a call for nominations to the Executive of the Committee. Secondly, it provides an opportunity to report on SSHM and other conferences. And thirdly, it provides a forum for news and information on forthcoming conferences, research activities, and items of interest - academic and non-academic. The Gazette originally contained a section on research interests and enquiries, but this closed due to lack of submissions - such as service can only be revived if you send in the information. Meanwhile, the Society is exploring other ways to find out about the views of the members. The results of a survey of international members are included in this Gazette and next year we will publish the first in a series of regular surveys of members' interests. These innovations should enhance the value of the Gazette, but most important of all is the input of members and readers. As Mick put it, in the first edition of the Gazette: 'We would welcome your comments on this venture, especially ideas for future content. The Gazette hopes to meet the needs of members, but to do this effectively we need feedback from as many members as possible.'

Mathew Thomson, Editor

Correspondence about the content and circulation of the Gazette should be sent to the editor, Mathew Thomson, Department of History, University of Sheffield, Sheffield, S10 2 TN. Telephone: 0742 824600. FAX 0742 788304. EMAIL: M.Thomson@Sheffield.ac.uk

Disclaimer: It is stressed that any views expressed in this Gazette are those of the Editor or the named contributor; they are not necessarily those of the Executive Committee or general membership. While every care is taken to provide accurate and helpful information in this Gazette, the Society for the Social History of Medicine, the Chair of its Executive Committee and the Editor of the Gazette accept no responsibility for omissions or errors or their subsequent effects. Readers are expected to check all essential information appropriate to specific circumstances.

INFORMATION

Back copies of the SSHM Gazette are available. Please contact the editor of the Gazette (address below) enclosing a handling charge of 50p for each issue requested. Copies will be distributed on a first come, first served basis. The following issues are available in their original format: No. 2. October 1970; No. 3 January 1971; No. 4 June 1971; No. 5 October 1971; No. 7 July 1972; No. 8 September 1972.

Membership of the Society for the Social History of Medicine includes a subscription to the journal and is paid through: Journal Subscription Department, Oxford University Press, Walton Street, Oxford, OX2 6DP. Ordinary Membership in 1994 is £24 (UK and Europe) and US\$43 elsewhere. Student membership is £16 and US\$30. Details of the Society's activities are available from the Hon. Secretary, Dr Lara Marks, History of Science, Imperial College, London, SW7.

Executive Committee

President: Jane Lewis, London School of Economics
 Chairman: David Smith, Centre for Cultural Studies, University of Aberdeen.
 Secretary: Anne Borsay, Dept. History, University of Wales, Lampeter, Dyfed, SA48 7ED. (coopted)
 Membership Sec.: Harriet Deacon, Queen's College, Oxford.
 Overseas Members: Naomi Williams, Dept. Geog., Univ. Liverpool (coopted)
 Treasurer, Bernard Harris, Dept. Sociology & Social Policy, Univ. Southampton.
 Programmes: Tim Boon, Science Museum, London.
 Publicity: Mark Harrison, Dept. History, Sheffield Hallam University.
 Gazette: Mathew Thomson, Dept. History, University of Sheffield.
 Publications: Jonathon Barry, Dept. History, University of Exeter.
 Membership information list: David Wright, Wellcome Unit, Oxford
 Meg Arnot, Roehampton Institute.
 Kelly Boyd, Goldsmith's College, University of London.
 Lara Marks, Imperial College, London.
 Anne-Marie Rafferty, Dept. of Nursing Studies, University of Nottingham
 Norris Saakwa-Mante, Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine

Elections to Executive Committee: Nominations are invited from members of the Society for five vacancies on the Executive Committee to serve from 14 July 1995 to 13 July 1998. Candidates must have been members of the Society for at least one year. Each nomination should include the name and signatures of the proposer, seconder, and the nominee. A form is provided below. All must be members of the Society. The candidate is requested to supply a concise biography of up to 100 words with their nomination. Ballots will be distributed in the Gazette in April.

Nominee (please print)
Signature of nominee
Proposer (please print)
Signature of proposer
Secunder (please print)
Signature of seconder

Nominations should be sent on the form above to Dr Anne Borsay, Department of history, University of Wales, Lampeter, Dyfed, SA48 7ED, and must be received by 31 January 1994.

OVERSEAS MEMBERSHIP

A survey of overseas SSHM membership has been undertaken by Naomi Williams. We would like to thank all those members who responded. The Society has 67 European members and 121 from outside of Europe. Membership breaks down as follows: USA 67; Australia 28; Canada 15; Germany 15; Spain 14; Netherlands 11; Sweden 8; New Zealand 6; Italy 5; Belgium 3; Norway 3; France 2; Japan 2; Switzerland 2; and Denmark, Finland, Hungary, Poland, Peru, South Africa, South Korea, all have a single member.

The response rate to the questionnaire sent out was over 40%. The main reasons for joining were to receive the journal, to develop contacts, because of research interests and to keep in touch with events in the social history of medicine. One American respondent joined because: *'I heard that the SSHM was less Whiggish and politically more progressive than comparable groups of which I am a member.* Of the respondents, 82% felt that they had 'got what they expected' from the society. However, some people felt that the journal and society were too narrowly British in focus. The majority of overseas members had not been involved in any SSHM conferences (77%). This was partly for practical reasons, though it was also felt that the conferences could be publicised earlier. To encourage overseas members to attend conferences the programmes committee will attempt to schedule conferences to coincide with other major conferences so as to make the journey more worthwhile. Members in North America should also note that the Society will be running a lunchtime session at the AAHM meeting in Pittsburgh in May, which we hope you will attend. Feedback on the Gazette was extremely positive. Nearly all the respondents read the Gazette regularly and find it useful or very useful. Although it was felt that more foreign news might be included, virtually all the respondents admitted that they had never contributed items to it! We depend on overseas members to supply us with information. Any news items, research enquiries, conference announcements and reports would be very welcome and of interest to both overseas and British members. In order to improve links it was suggested that certain overseas members would serve as 'contact points'. We are grateful to all those members who have volunteered to serve as contact points. They will be contacted shortly, and once confirmed a list of names will be included in the Gazette. Other suggestions were made by respondents and are being considered by the Executive Committee.

Other comments, good or bad, about SSHM

It would be nice to have more overseas involvement. Many countries, like Holland, could never support a society like SSHM, but has scholars interested in its activities. On the other hand, I think the SSHM reflects a British approach to research and will inevitably continue to be dominated by British scholars - I don't think this is a bad thing.

You need to pay more attention to colonial/tropical medicine.

The journal is a pure joy to receive and read. I would love to receive the papers given at meetings/conferences. I cannot think of anything negative.

(On the Gazette) Mainly good - could do a bit more with early notices of events - but already provides an excellent base for "links" with overseas members who need such.

Despite the clubbish feel of the journal, the contributions are good. They just need to be better balanced - in subjects covered and in authors included. After all, the SSHM shouldn't be the British SSHM or the SSHBM, please.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The information given below is accurate as far as we know. However, we accept no responsibility for errors. Please contact the organiser to confirm details. Notices of conferences and other events for inclusion in this section should be sent to the Editor. We reserve the right to edit and select items for inclusion. This section of the Gazette is now circulated on email through Mersenne, the history of science, technology and medicine Bulletin Board.

SOCIETY FOR THE SOCIAL HISTORY OF MEDICINE.

Industrialisation and Public Health: Redrawing the Picture

7-8 April 1995,

Further details: Tim Boon, Curator of Public Health, Science Museum, London SW7 2DD. Tel 071 938 8069 fax 071 938 8050, email t.boon.@ic.ac.uk

Silver Jubilee Conference: Medicine and the Emergence of Modern Warfare

13-15 July 1995, WIHM, London

Themes include: the military medical services, casualty disposal, the medical officer, military medicine and colonial rule, military psychiatry, modern war and civilian health services, women and medicine in war, military medicine and civilian populations, the volunteer medical services, and the body at war.

Further details: Dr. Mark Harrison, Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine, 183 Euston Road, London NW1 2BE.

Industrialisation and Medical Practice: the Politics of Health

15-16 September 1995, University of Wales, Swansea.

The conference will explore the politics of physical and mental health from the Industrial Revolution to the collapse of the post-war consensus in the 1970s. The provisional programme includes Peter Bartrip on anthrax and occupational health in Victorian Britain, Joanna Bedford on the division of labour in 19th-century maternal health care, Jose Harris on medicine as a partner of the modern bureaucratic state, Clare Holdsworth on factory legislation in the pottery industry, Ian Levitt on sanitary knowledge and professional conduct, John Pickstone on health and medicine in industrial England, Susan Pitt on professional power and post-war childbirth, Leonard Smith on class and rank in the asylum, and the Wellcome Exminster Asylum Project on the politics of asylum provision in 19th-century Devon.

Further details: Anne Borsay, Department of History, University of Wales, Lampeter, Dyfed, SA48 7ED. Tel: 0570-422351, fax: 0570-423782

Medicine and the Colonies

19-21 July 1996, Oxford

Call for papers on the themes: military medicine and colonial conquest; race and colonial medicine; missionary medicine; indigenous practitioners and colonial rule; colonial medical profession; alternative and irregular western practitioners in the colonies; nursing in the colonies; colonial hospitals and extra-institutional care; history of psychiatry in the colonies; "tropical" and "temperate" medicine; the role of international health care in the colonies and ex-colonies.

Abstracts to & details from: Dr Harriet Deacon, Queen's College, Oxford OX1 4AW. Tel: 0865 279186. EMAIL: hdeacon@vax.ox.ac.uk. Fax: 0865 790819.

OTHER MEETINGS

The Changing Nature of Medical Teaching in the Nineteenth Century

Third Anglo-Dutch Wellcome Symposium on the History of Medicine

16 December, 1994, University of Groningen, Holland

Topics include: medicine and classical education, public health and Dutch medical education, metropolis and provinces in English medical education, textbooks and medical education in 19th-century Britain.

Further details: R. Molanus, Vakgroep Gezondheidswetenschappen, Sectie medische Geschiedenis, Ant. Deusinglaan 1, 9713 AV Goningen, Holland (Tel: 050 632860).

Wellcome Symposia on the History of Medicine

10 February: *Voices from the Past: Source Materials for the History of Psychiatry* (with the Royal College of Psychiatrists)

26-7 April: *Ashes to Ashes: The History of Smoking and Health* (with the History of the 20th-Century Medicine Group).

19 May: *Bernard Mandeville: Medicine, Morality, and Metaphor*

Further details: Secretary, Academic Unit, Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine, 183 Euston Road, London NW1 2BE.

Sheffield Centre for the History of Medicine are organising a seminar series in 1995 on the theme 'health and city'.

Further details: Mathew Thomson, Dept. History, University of Sheffield, S10 2TN, Tel: 0742 824600.

Civilisation, Sexuality and Social Life in Historical Context Hidden Face of Urban Life

24-26 February, 1995, Budapest, Hungary

1. Urban Hygienic and Diseases - the Pathology of Cities; 2. Doctors and Patients in Urban Society; 3. Family Life and Social Position of Women; 4. Sexuality, Sexual Behaviour and Venereal Disease; 5. Life Standards, Life-Style and Leisure-Time in the Cities.

Further details: Dr. Judith Forrai, Semmelweis University of Medicine, Budapest, P.O. Box: 370 H-1445, Hungary. Tel/Fax: (36-1) 113-7038.

The Reality of Medical Practice in Europe, 1640-1780

24-26 March, 1995, Magdalen College Oxford

Speakers include: Laurence Brockliss, Sandra Cavalho, Hal Cook, Helen Dingwall, David Gentilcore, Johanna Geyer-Kordesch, David Harley, Frank Huisman, Shiela Johanson, Colin Jones, Alva Martinez-Vidal, Hans Meier, Roy Porter, Cay-Rudiger Prull, Roselyne Rey, Maria Unkovskaya.

Further details: Dr Laurence Brockliss, Magdalen College, Oxford.

Has Epidemiology a History: Historical Perspectives in Epidemiology and Public Health (Society for Social Medicine Conference)

31 March, 1995, Middlesex Hospital Medical School.

Speakers include: Simon Szreter, David Barker, Greta Jones, Dorothy Porter, Virginia Berridge.

Further details: Dr Diana Kuh, Society for Social Medicine, Dept. Epidemiology and Public Health, 1-19 Torrington Place, London, WC1E 6BT.

Tuberculosis Then And Now

6-7 April 1995, University of California, San Francisco

Further details: Guenter B. Risse, M.D., Ph.D., Department of the History of Health Sciences, 533 Parnassus Avenue, Room U-464, Box 0726, San Francisco, CA 94143-0726.

Reforming and Rescuing Children, 1800 to the Present

April 1995, Robinson College Cambridge

Call for papers on the themes: the (re)emergence of delinquency as a social problem; gender and delinquency; policing young people; changing institutional responses and reforming projects; regional/cultural differences.

Further details: Pamela Cox, Department of Education, University of Cambridge, 17 Trumpington Street, Cambridge CB2 1QA

Annual Meeting of American Association for the History of Medicine

11-14 May 1995, Pittsburgh.

Further details: Dr Jonathan Erlen, Local Organising Committee, 123 Northview Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15209.

SSHM have been invited to organise a lunchtime session at this conference. Any SSHM members who are attending the conference are encouraged to attend this lunchtime session. Further details can be obtained from : David Wright, Wellcome Unit for the History of Medicine, 47 Banbury Road, Oxford, OX2 6 PE.

Röntgen Centenary Congress

12-16 June 1995, International Convention Centre, Birmingham.

Speakers include: David Cantor, Patrice Pinell, Joel Howell and Anja Hiddinga. Further details: Professor John Pickstone, CHSTM, University of Manchester, Manchester, M13 9PL.

The Victorians And Race

8-9 July 1995, University of Leicester.

Call for papers.

Further details: Dr. Shearer West, Department of History of Art, University of Leicester, Leicester LE1 7RH.

European Association for the History of Medicine

Coping with Health

2-7 September, 1995, San Feliu de Guixols, Spain

The four themes of the conference will be concepts, agents, costs, and controversies.

Speakers include: Arthur Kleinman, Jane Lewis, Antonie Luyendijk-Elshout, Roy porter, and J. Stjernswärd.

Further details: Dr Josip Hendekovic, European Science Foundation, 1 Quai Lezay-Marnésia, F-67080 Strasbourg.

RESEARCH NEWS

The Pan American Health Organization has set up an E-mail Network of Historians of Public Health in Latin America and the Caribbean to promote research, professional collaboration, and teaching in this area. The network can be accessed by sending the message: SUBSCRIBE HISALP-L YOUR NAME to LISTSERV@DB2.NLM.NIH.GOV. Further details: Anne-Emanuelle Birn. Tel: (202) 861 3234 FAX: (202) 861-8472. E-mail: birnanne@paho.org

A new historical series: **Addiction: Life Histories** will be edited by Virginia Berridge, starting in 1996. The series will approach the history of addictions by way of biographical emphasis, covering significant figures in this area and others whose lives and careers illustrate the complexities of the relationship between science and policy.

Suggestions of lives and authors to: Virginia Berridge, Department of Public Health and Policy, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Keppel Street, London WC1E 7 HT.

Oral History Journal of Spring 1995 will be devoted to the theme Health and Welfare.

In June this year, the **Science Museum** in London opened its new gallery on 20th century medicine, **Health Matters**. Divided into sections devoted to clinical medicine, epidemiology, and medical science, it uses a wide variety of media, including medical machines, films and interactive exhibits to convey a social historical account of the nature of modern medicine.

The **Thackray Medical Museum** in Leeds will open in mid-1996. The Thackray Medical Research Trust is compiling a **Directory of Medical Collections in the British Isles**. If you have information on a collection, a questionnaire can be obtained from the Thackray Medical Museum, 131 Becket at., Leeds LS9 7LP.

The European Association for the History of Medicine and Health (EAHMH)

Established in 1991, with its seat in Strasbourg, the EAHMH aims to provide an interdisciplinary international forum for studies in the history of medicine, health and disease, to promote and foster research, teaching, and international scientific cooperation between individuals as well as with related national and international societies. The EAHMH has over 200 members who are active researchers in the field.

For further information contact Prof. Claude Debru, Centre Européen d'Histoire de la Médecine, 4 rue Kirschleger, F-67085 Strasbourg Cedex, Fax +33-88243301.

CONFERENCE REPORTS

New Countries and Old Medicine: An International Conference on the History of Medicine and Health was hosted by the Auckland Medical Historical Society and the Postgraduate Medical Committee in the University of Auckland, New Zealand, 23-26 August 1994 and attracted almost 100 delegates. Over 60 papers were presented on a wide variety of topics. Themes encompassed six broad areas: aspects of indigenous health, colonial medicine and its origins, public health policies and practices, nursing and midwifery, pills, potions and pharmaceuticals, and fraudulent and fringe medicine.

Keynote speakers included: Professor John Pearn from the University of Queensland, on the subject of surgeon explorers of the South Seas; Professor Guenter Risse from the University of California, San Francisco, on 'The Politics of Fear: Bubonic Plague in San Francisco, California, 1900'; Sir Christopher Booth, on the history of colonial medicine; and Professor Donald Denoon of the Australian National University on the depopulation of the Pacific.

The conference attracted a large contingent of nursing historians, and as a result a network was set up for those interested in nursing history in Australia and New Zealand. Professor Jan Sundin from the University of Linköping, Sweden, presented a paper and attracted new members from the southern hemisphere for the International Network for the History of Public Health. The *Annotated Bibliography for the History of Medicine and Health in New Zealand* was launched at the conference: compiled by Derek A. Dow, and published by the Hocken Library Dunedin, New Zealand, including almost 2,000 annotated entries, it is the first of its kind in New Zealand. All in all, it was a stimulating and highly successful conference. Bringing together historians from the 'Old World' and the 'New World', the conference provided an excellent opportunity for the interchange of ideas across national borders and continents. The proceedings will be edited by Linda Bryder and Derek Dow.

Linda Bryder
University of Auckland

SSHM Autumn Conference: 'From Mental Illness to Mental Health'

Comparative histories of mental hygiene, the politics of psychiatry, the representation of those labelled 'mentally defective' or 'mentally ill' and the challenge which their experiences pose for the writing of social histories of mental health were the key issues discussed at the SSHM Autumn conference 'From Mental illness to Mental Health' held at the University of Sheffield and organised by Dr Mathew Thomson.

The transition from a model of illness to a model of health was discussed here in terms of its 20th century expressions, although Roy Porter persuaded us within the first five minutes of his opening address that ideas of mental health were around long before 20th century concepts of mental hygiene, and that the image of the human psyche being variously tainted by ambition and appetite can be traced back to the very earliest accounts of madness and mind.

The conference began by considering the question of how to construct comparative histories of the development of mental hygiene movements. Mathew Thomson outlined several thematic and theoretical routes which might be taken to explore mental hygiene as a trans-national phenomenon - seeing mental health policies for example in relation to political strategies, economic cycles and welfare mechanisms. National case studies were offered by Leonie de Goei and Roger Qvarsell who described the rise of early 20th century mental hygiene movements in Holland and Sweden respectively. Comparisons were extended to North America, where developments in child psychology and social psychiatry were discussed by Hans Pols and Ben Harris.

These comparative projects promise to be extremely fruitful, given that there are clear trans-national trends in the Western management of mental life, and that the need for this management was justified across Europe and North America in markedly similar terms; for example containment policies grew out of a common concern with crime and social degeneracy, and community-based and prophylactic initiatives emerged in part as a result of common economic and therapeutic crises caused by the accumulation of chronic cases. The impact of colonialism and conceptions of race upon Western configurations of mental (ab)normality remains an under-researched area, and would be central to any cross-cultural project.

However, the comparative project was also recognised to raise a number of methodological and theoretical problems. Of these, language is perhaps the most obvious. Even where common terminological frameworks are agreed upon, these cannot, and arguably should not, attempt to construct an overarching account in which

different cultural configurations of mental status and local justifications of exclusion can be contained and explained.

The problems posed by overarching accounts of mental management were taken further in the second half of the conference, centring in particular around a critique of Nikolas Rose's work. Rose argues in *The Psychological Complex* and *Governing the Soul* that techniques of social regulation and social management in Britain were systematically transformed from the late 19th century onwards by new psychological and psychiatric ideologies and practices. The nature and chronology of this transformation were challenged by several speakers.

Hugh Freeman noted that even in the 1960s there were only three hundred practising psychiatrists in Britain, and argued that there were few clear mental health strategies before the 1970s. Deborah Thom questions the influence of psychologists, arguing for example that amassed psychological opinion could not put an end to judicial beatings as traditional punishments for juveniles until 1939, and suggested that maladjustment in children tended to be sociologised rather than psychologised. In my own paper, I argued that the legal traditions and practices of the English and Welsh juvenile courts proved philosophically incompatible with new mental configurations of delinquency, and that in fact, very few children appearing before the juvenile courts before 1950 were subject to psychological examinations or specialised corrective treatments. Susan O'Malley and Gillian Hall showed how, despite the intense regulation of total institutional life, residents of a Lancashire institution for the defective found opportunities to resist and defy its categorisations.

Up to a point, these papers suggested that the 'psy-society' did not develop fully until at least after the second world war. Rose's own paper showed how far clinical disciplines have proliferated since then outside the realm of the strictly medical, and the degree to which psychological frames of reference have come to shape almost every aspect of the management of social life. The shift in mental health strategies from the containment and treatment of mental problems to the promotion of individual health and responsibility - a shift characterised by Rose as a rewriting of the limitation of danger in terms of the minimisation of risk - has resulted in the redefinition of mental well-being as a generalised 'ability to cope'. No doubts, then, about the psychological complexes generated by post-war Western societies.

However, the challenge to Rose's work involves more than simple empirical and chronological corrections to the theoretical record. An account of the social and intellectual shift which allowed people to think in psychological terms about human difference, and to explain how the individual subject came to be an object of psychological knowledge, is clearly essential. Yet the danger in all overarching accounts is that they necessarily generalise, and thereby obscure political contingencies and the ways in which expert discourses could be very selectively mobilised in particular institutional contexts and used to shore up, rather than to transform traditional formulations of gender, class, and ethnicity.

Writing social histories from the perspective of those who were the objects and agents rather than the engineers of mental management is of course no simple matter. As Patricia Potts argued, the politics of representation in this area are very contentious. Mark Jackson's discussion of photographic images of the defective in medical text books demonstrated just how starkly particular techniques of representation give rise to particular power relations between observers and observed. However, despite representational problems, histories which examine institutional experience offer an exciting challenge to accounts of modern mental management which have tended to accord power to experts and the unquestioned influence of psychological theories.

The conference generated fresh research questions and methodologies, and suggested new sites for critique and areas of debate within the history of mental health, which will hopefully be further explored in a forthcoming volume.

Pam Cox
University of Cambridge

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE SOCIAL HISTORY OF MEDICINE, HELD AT THE UNIVERSITY OF EXETER, 9 JULY 1994

1. Apologies were received from Bernard Harris and Lara Marks.

2. The Minutes of the last AGM were read and approved.

3. The Annual Report of the Executive Committee of the Society was presented by David Smith. Changes in the EC were noted including the retirement of Mick Worboys and John Woodward, and the standing down of Lara Marks and Dorothy Porter as Honorary Secretary and Programmes and Publicity Sub-Committee Convenor respectively. They were all thanked for their contribution to the Society. Timothy Boon will be taking over from Dorothy Porter as Programmes and Publicity Convenor and Mathew Thomson from Mick Worboys as Editor of the Gazette and representative of the Society on the Editorial Board of *Social History of Medicine*. Anne Borsay and Naomi Williams continue as co-opted members. The new initiatives were showing progress under Naomi Williams (Overseas Membership) and David Wright (the Membership Information List). Members were reminded that the EC always welcomes comments on the Society's activities and suggestions for the future. Plans for the celebration of the Society's Silver Jubilee in 1995 were outlined.

4. Election to the EC had been conducted and Norris Mante, Kelly Boyd, and Harriet Deacon had duly joined the EC.

5. The Hon. Treasurer's Report was read in the absence of the Treasurer, Bernard Harris. There was some discussion as to the appropriate level of reserves that are required for the security of the Society. The suggestion was made that assistance available to help students attend conferences could be more effectively advertised.

6. The Report of the Journal Editors (Anne Crowther and Paul Weindling). The Editors were pleased with the high quality of the submissions generated by the essay competition. The winning entry will appear in the Journal in the near future. The Editors were pleased generally with the progress of the Journal, which has improved its financial position because it has consolidated its academic standing and increased the number of institutional subscriptions. Oxford University Press expect that the journal will bring some profit to the Society in the near future.

7. The Essay Prize was given to Bernadine Barr, who was congratulated, and the competition was proclaimed a success. The President, Jane Lewis, presented the prize. Members were asked to encourage eligible persons to enter the 1994 competition.

8. Three constitutional amendments as set out in the EC's Report, were proposed, seconded, and passed without objections.

9. There was no other business and the meeting was closed

PRIZE ESSAY IN THE SOCIAL HISTORY OF MEDICINE 1994

The Society for the Social History of Medicine announces the second annual prize essay competition. The aim of the competition is to stimulate new research

- 1) Eligible candidates Members of the Society for the Social History of Medicine who are either
 - (i) students (undergraduate, postgraduate, or part-time)
 - or
 - (ii) new researchers who have not published in a refereed journal prior to the closing date for entries.

Candidates who are uncertain as to whether they are eligible to enter the competition should contact the convenor of the assessment panel (see below) prior to preparing their entry.

Membership of the Society may be obtained by subscribing to *Social History of Medicine (SHM)* Tel (+44)(0)865 56767, fax (+44) (0)865 267773. North America 919 677 0977 / 919 677 1714. Please note that students are entitled to a reduced subscription of £16. Alternatively, candidates may take out Associate Membership for a smaller fee.

2) **Criteria for assessment** The prize will be awarded to the best essay which, in the opinion of the Assessment Panel, makes a substantial original contribution to the social history of medicine. The essay must conform to the bibliographic conventions of *SHM*. It must be of publishable standard, and also from 5,000 to 8,000 words in length.

3) **Assessment Panel** The panel will consist of the Chair of the Society for the Social History of Medicine (Convenor of the Panel), the Society's representative on the Editorial Board, and the Editors of the *SHM*. The Convenor in 1994 will be Dr David Smith.

4) **Prize** Normally one prize of £100.00 will be awarded. The winning entry will be published in *SHM*, after the usual editorial procedures. The Assessment Panel reserves the right not to award the prize if no essay is received which meets the criteria. The Editors of *SHM* reserve the right to consider any of the entries for publication, after normal refereeing procedures.

5) **Submission** The deadline for submission to the Convenor of the Panel is 31 December 1994. The prize winner will be announced at the AGM in July 1995. For the bibliographic conventions of *SHM*, see inside back cover of any issue.

6) **Restrictions** The same essay must not be submitted on more than one occasion. Members of the Executive Committee of the Society for the Social History of Medicine are precluded from entering the competition.

The slip below should be completed and sent with two copies of the essay to the Convenor of the Panel: Dr David Smith, Centre for Cultural History, University of Aberdeen, Humanity Manse, Old Aberdeen, Aberdeen, Scotland.

I have read the SSHM prize essay rules 1994. I agree to abide by the rules.
I declare that I am eligible to enter the competition according to the terms of rule 1.

Signature:.....

Date:.....

Name:.....

Address:.....

.....
.....

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