

RACE, COLONIALISM AND MEDICINE

This year the activities of the Society are dominated by the themes of "race", Empire, and colonialism. Our President for the year is Professor Shula Marks, a pioneer in the social history of medicine in South Africa. A Special Interest Group has been established to bring together those interested in Science, Medicine and Empire. The summer conference theme is Medicine and the Colonies. This conference will bring together speakers from twelve countries and promises to be a landmark in the development of a colonial dimension to the history of medicine. The autumn conference takes this theme in a more theoretical direction, exploring 'Race, Science and Medicine: "Racial" Categories and the Reproduction of Medical Knowledge'. It promises to be a thought-provoking meeting, as you will see from the description in the forthcoming conferences section. Finally, the year should also see the completion of an SSHM volume on ethnicity, migrants and health edited by Mick Worboys and Lara Marks, arising from the Society's first conference in this area in October 1991. It is worth noting that the organisers of this conference struggled to collect six speakers, whereas the summer conference this year has an incredible total of sixty five papers and through lack of space had to turn away many more high quality papers. This makes it the biggest SSHM conference yet. We hope that as many of you as possible will be able to participate. The broadening of interest in the social history of medicine, beyond Britain and the 'west', is worth reflecting upon. In part, it arises from SSHM's own 'imperialism', constantly pushing the subject into new territory. But it is also a response to the emergence of the social history of medicine within the new territories themselves. In this respect, the Society aims to provide a useful service for those who lack a critical mass of their own and who can use the Society's conferences, Gazette, and Special Interest Group as an effective meeting place and to develop a comparative perspective. Finally, one must hope that the new areas of study are integrated with, and throw new light on, the old, helping us to recognise the role of concepts such as "race" and Empire in the development of healthcare within the colonising countries themselves.

Contributions of conference reports, research enquiries, news and views are all welcomed by the Editor and are essential if the Gazette is to act as an effective forum.

INFORMATION

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 2TN. Telephone: 0114 2824880. FAX 0114 2788304. E-mail: 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.

Back copies of the SSHM Gazette are available. Please contact the editor of the Gazette enclosing a handling charge of 50p for each issue requested. Copies will be distributed on a first come, first served basis.

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Society News

Elections to Executive Committee:

Three people were nominated for the three vacant positions on the Executive Committee and are therefore automatically elected. Tim Boon, Programmes Coordinator, has been reelected. Biographical details of the two new members follow:-

Cornelia Osborne: I was born in Munich, Germany where I studied English and German. After I settled in London I first worked in publishing, then Completed a degree and a Ph.D. at the Open University on "Fertility Control and Population Policy in Germany, 1910-1927". This has since appeared as a monograph (*The Politics of the Body in Weimar Germany. Women's Reproductive Rights and Duties*, 1992) and it has since also been translated into German (*Frauenkörper - Volkskörper. Bevölkerungspolitik in der Weimarer Republik*, 1994). I have published widely on social, feminist and medical history of Germany in Britain and Germany. I am a Senior Lecturer in History at Roehampton Institute London, a member of the editorial board of *German History*, co-organiser of the Modern German History seminar and the Women's History seminar, both at the Institute of Historical Research, London. In 1995-6 I held a Wellcome Research Leave Fellowship for a monograph on *Popular Medicine and Birth Control in Weimar and Nazi Germany*. I was co-opted to the SSHM Executive Committee in 1995 and have since been the Overseas Membership Officer.

Molly Sutphen: Molly Sutphen is working on a Ph.D. in the field of colonial medicine at the Wellcome Institute of Medicine, London. She is co-organiser of this summer's 'Medicine and the Colonies' conference and the Special Interest Group on Science, Medicine and Empire.

Annual General Meeting

This will be held at the summer conference at Rhodes House, Oxford at 11.30 on Saturday 20th July. All members are welcome, whether they attend the conference or not.
Agenda: 1. Apologies; 2. Minutes of the last AGM; 3. Annual Report; 4. Report of the Journal Editors; 5. Treasurer's Report; 6. The Future of the Gazette; 7. Services for Overseas Members; 8. Elections to the Executive Committee; 9. The Prize Essay Competition; 10. Any other business.

Membership Figures for 1995

Membership of the Society rose from 484 in 1994 to 520 in 1995. Perhaps most pleasing was the growing profile of the Society in North America, rising from 85 to 103 members.

SSHM Publications

Due for publication this summer: David Wright & Anne Digby (eds.), *Historical Perspectives on People with Learning Disabilities* (Routledge).

Special Interest Group: Science, Medicine and Empire

A Special Interest Group for Science, Medicine and Empire has been started and will provide conference news, bibliographical information and discussion forums on the internet.

Contacts: Harriet Deacon, The Queen's College, Oxford OX1 4AW, e-mail: harriet.deacon@queens.oxford.ac.uk; or Molly Sutphen, The Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine, 183 Euston Road, London NW1 2BE, (fax: +44-171-611 8562); Richard Drayton, Lincoln College, Oxford OX1 3DR, Tel: 01865 200476, Email: richard.drayton@lincoln.ox.ac.uk.

Prize Essay Competition: Entries for the 1995 competition have now been considered by the judges. A presentation will be made to the winner at the Annual Conference. Entries are now encouraged for the 1996 competition.

OVERSEAS MEMBERS

I am happy to announce the following new contact persons:

GERMANY:

Dr Lutz Sauerteig Institute for the History of Medicine, University of Freiburg, Stefan-Meier-Str. 26, 79104 Freiburg. Tel: 49 761 203 503. Email: sauerteig@ruf.uni.freiburg.de

Lutz works on the regulation of Venereal diseases in Britain and Germany (see his recent publications in *Jahrbuch fuer Gesellschaft und Geschichte*, vol 11, 1993 and in M. Dinges and T. Schlich (eds), *Neue Wege in der Seuchengeschichte* (Stuttgart 1995). He would like any German members or would-be members to get in touch with him to discuss common interests, recent or future conferences, planned publications etc.

NETHERLANDS:

Dr Frank Huisman, University of Groningen, Department of History P.O.Box 716, 9700 AS Groningen, Tel. +31 503636117, Fax: +31 503637253, e-mail: f.g.huisman@let.rug.nl

Frank researches on medicine as cultural communication in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century Netherlands. He has kindly agreed to work with Godelieve van Heteren, St. Jacobsstraat 13, 1012 NC Amsterdam who has been the SSHM's contact person, together with Dr Hilary Marland who is moving back to Britain. She will take up her new post at the

University of Warwick in March: Dr Hilary Marland, Centre for Social History, University of Warwick, Coventry CV47AL. Tel: 0123 523292. Fax: 0123 524441. Thank you very much, Hilary, for all your help and very good luck for your new job. Frank Huisman will report about the meeting on 29 March 1996 of the study group of the Social History of Health Care in the Netherlands (executive board members: Frank, Dr Willem de Blecourt, Henk van der Velde) when Prof. van Lieberg will talk about the presence and future of medical history in the Netherlands. Frank is also hoping to compile a research register of all on-going projects of medical history in the Netherlands. Anybody who wants to be included please contact him.

I hope that our new contact persons will be able to expand the network of all those involved in the social history of medicine and that their reports about the country's activities in the Gazette will stimulate new contacts and new research. I am, however, still looking for contact persons in Hungary, Norway and Japan. Any volunteers out there? Please get in touch with me: Dr Cornelia Osborne, Dept. History, Roehampton

Institute, Digby Stuart College, London SW15 5PH, fax: 0181 392 3231, e-mail: C.Usborne@roehampton.ac.uk.

Other contacts:

Australia: Prof. Roy Macleod, Dept. History, University of Sydney, Sydney, NSW 2006; Dr Ian Stewart, PO Box 976, Wagga Wagga, NSW 7650, fax: (6169) 218464, tel: (6169) 211655; Peter Short, Faculty of Nursing, University of Technology, Sydney, Broadway, NSW 2007, tel: 61 (02) 3304313, fax: (612) 330 4317.

Belgium: Dr R. Rubens, Scheldevelacstr. 28, B 9840 De Pinte.

Canada: Prof. Jacques Bernier, Dept. D'Histoire, Université Laval, Québec City, Québec, G1K 7P4; Carla Paterson, 13960 66 Ave, Surrey BC, V3W 9B1.

Denmark: Dr Signild Vallgarda, Dept. Social Medicine, University of Copenhagen, Blegdamsvej 3, DK 2200 Copenhagen, tel: (45) 3532 7999, fax: (45) 3135 1181, e-mail: siva@kubism.ku.dk

New Zealand: Dr L. Bryder, History Dept., University of Auckland, Private Bag 92019, Auckland.

Peru: Dr Marcos Cueto, Roca Bologna 633, Lima 18, tel: (5114) 323070, fax: (5114) 324981, e-mail: mcueto@iep.org.pe

Poland: Dr med. Krzysztof G. Jeziorski, Chemotherapy Clinic, The Maria Sklodowska-Curie Memorial Cancer Centre and Institute of Oncology, ml Wawelska 00-973, Warszawa, tel: 48-22-230277, fax: 48-22-24-29

Spain: Dr Oriol Ramis-Juan, Duquessa d'Orleans 24, 08034 Barcelona, tel: (34) 3 2111400, fax: (34) 34189866

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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.)

SSHM CONFERENCES.

Medical Films and History

19 April 1996, Wellcome Institute, London, 09.15-18.00

The conference is being organised in collaboration with the Forum for Medical Film and History. This is an umbrella group of representatives of organisations concerned with the archival preservation and historical use of medical films (National Film and Television Archive, BMA Library, Wellcome Trust, Wellcome Institute Iconographic Collections, Contemporary Medical Archives Centre, British Universities Film and Video Council, and the Science Museum).

The meeting will include a session giving an overview of the subject, discussing film archive sources and different genres of medical film. There will follow several case studies which will show the various ways in which archival medical films have been integrated into historical studies of, for example, the history of hospitals and of public

health. Methodological problems in the interpretation of films as source materials will be examined. Practical issues arising from the use of archival films in teaching medical history will be discussed. There will be opportunities to see a number of rarely seen archival films of historical interest.

Speakers will include: Ulf Schmidt, on medical film in Weimar and Nazi Germany; Elizabeth LeBas, on public health education and film in interwar Bermondsey; Michael Clark, on archival films of colonial medicine; Tilly Tansley, on film sources in the history of British physiology and pharmacology; James Patterson, on medical and health films in the National Film Archive; Steve Humphries, on archival medical films and historical documentary film-making; and Tim Boon on nutrition and food films.

For further details contact either: Michael Clark, Historical Medical Films Conference Organiser, The Wellcome Building, 183 Euston Road, London NW1 2 BE. Tel: 171 611-8596 (FAX 8765), Email: m.Clark@wellcome.ac.uk; or Tim Boon, The Science Museum, Exhibition Road, London SW7 2DD. Tel: 171 938 8069 (FAX 8050). Email: t.boon@ic.ac.uk.

Medicine and the Colonies

19-21 July 1996, Oxford

Topics and speakers will include: Professor Philip Curtin on Military Medicine and Colonial Conquest; Dr Anne Marie Rafferty on colonial nursing; Professor Susan Lederer and Professor John Warner on Imperial Medicine; Dr Ilana Lowy on Philanthropy and Colonial Medicine; Professor Randall Packard on Tropical and Temperate Medicine; Dr Linda Bryder on Colonial Maternal and Child Welfare; Professor John Farley on The Colonial Medical Profession; Dr Elizabeth van Heyningen on Colonial Medicine and Asylums; Dr Waltraud Ernst on Psychiatry in the Colonies; Professor Stephen Feierman, on Indigenous Medicine; and many others.

Inquiries and booking forms from: Dr Harriet Deacon, Queen's College, Oxford OX1 4AW. Tel: 44 01865 279186. EMAIL: harriet.deacon@queens.ox.ac.uk. Fax: 0865 790819. Or Molly Sutphen, The Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine, 183 Euston Road, London NW1 2BE, England, Tel: +44 171 6118668; Fax: +44 171 6118562; Email: m.sutphen@ucl.ac.uk

SSHM Session at Society for the History of Technology Conference

London, 1-4 August

SSHM session 3rd August, Convenor Steve Sturdy, 'Imaging technologies and the organisation of medical work'. Speakers include Malcolm Nicolson on ultrasound and Anja Hiddinga on x-rays. Harry Marks will commentate.

Registration forms from: J.Law@nmsi.ac.uk

Race, Science and Medicine: "Racial" Categories and the Reproduction of Medical Knowledge

University of Southampton, 18-19 September, 1996

The Western model of biomedicine developed alongside ideas of "race" during the course of modernity. Recent historical analyses and the history of medicine tend to neglect in-depth discussion of nomenclature and of the nature and the extent to which the conceptualization of "race" and the production of medical knowledge are interrelated. Much historical analysis, even if it deploys a critical stance which rejects the notion that "race" was part and parcel of a supposedly given natural order, is still restricted to an anecdotal level, and treats "race" as if it were a given, immutable, and seemingly universal category which does not require further investigation. In contrast, current work in the social sciences tends to conceive of "race", "ethnicity" and "racism" as locally and culturally specific phenomena. Important questions arise here such as whether this new emphasis on specific contexts rather than universal forces constitutes yet another ploy in the politics of difference which produces not only new kinds of thinking about race, biofeminism, ethnic strife, body and mind, but promotes with it also new kinds of intolerance. Or could the preoccupation during the last two decades or so with race, the body, mind, health and nature in the world of academic and political discourse be a

challenge to historians of medicine which encourages them to further investigate the diversity rather than universality of racial and medical categories over the age of modernity.

This conference aims at bringing together those historians and researchers with a historical perspective who focus on the nexus of "race", science and medicine. A variety of themes and perspectives will be presented, ranging from accounts of how particular categories of "race" emerged concomitant with European colonial expansion and the new developments in Western science (in particular anatomy, natural history, zoology) from the late eighteenth century onwards; to in-depth case studies of "race" in relation to particular medical disease and disorder categories (such as TB, typhus, mental illness); to cultural perspectives; to issues of gender; to colonial and post-colonial contexts; and to specific issues during the heyday of "scientific racism" (such as genetics, eugenics, and anthropometric measurements).

For further information about speakers and accommodation details, contact Waltraud Ernst or Bernard Harris, Department of Sociology and Social policy, university of Southampton, Highfield, Southampton SO17 1BJ. Email: wer@socsci.soton.ac.uk, or bjh2@socsci.soton.ac.uk

Proposed/Forthcoming SSHM Conferences

(For further details contact Tim Boon, Programmes Coordinator)

Madness, the Law and Institutions, Exeter, Spring 1997.

The History of Public Health, Liverpool, Summer 1997. Joint meeting with the International Network for the History of Public Health, tied to the 150th anniversary of British public health.

'Practice'. A Joint Meeting with the British Society for the History of Science, Manchester, Autumn 1997.

Shaping Child Health in Britain, Cambridge, Spring 1988.

Medicine and the Public Sphere, Edinburgh, Summer 1998.

OTHER MEETINGS

Comparative Perspective on the History of Sexually Transmitted Diseases

University of London, 26-28 April 1996

The conference will examine the spread of sexually transmitted disease and their economic, social, medical and cultural impact across different historical periods and geographical regions. Inquiries, abstracts, and requests for booking forms should be addressed to: Dr Karen Jochleson, Institute of Commonwealth Studies, University of London, 28 Russell Square, London WC1B 5DS. Tel: +44-71-580 5876. Fax: +44-71-255 2160

Skill in Science, Medicine and Technology

Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine, London, 26-27 April

Jenner and his Legacy

London, 14-16 May

Enquiries: Conference Office, Royal College of Physicians, 11 St Andrews Place, Regent's Park, London, NW1 4LE. Tel: 0171 935 1174, ext 252/300.

Oral History Society Spring 1996 Conference: Cradle to Grave: Health, Welfare and Oral History

18-19 May 1996, Birkbeck Colleg, London

The Annual Conference of the Oral History society marks 50 years of the NHS in Britain with a conference which will focus on experiences of health and welfare from cradle to grave. No history of health or of the Welfare State is complete without personal accounts of policy, practice, professions, treatments and organisations. Perspectives from people who deliver services, and people who use them as clients, patients, subjects and survivors give us a deeper understanding of what curing and caring mean. The Conference will be held at Birkbeck College, Malet Street, London WC1 and costs £45 for both days to non-members of the Oral History Society, £25 for one day. There are concessional rates for students, pensioners and unemployed people. Birkbeck College is wheelchair accessible.

For more information contact: Brenda Corti, Department of Sociology, University of Essex, Colchester CO4 3SQ, tel 01206 873333, fax 01206 873410, email brenc@essex.ac.uk

American Association for the History of Medicine 1996 Annual Meeting
9-12 May 1996, Buffalo, New York.

3rd European Ethnopharmacological Colloquium and 1st International Conference of Anthropology of Health and Disease
Genoa, 29 May - 2 June.
Details: Comitato Organizzazione Etnofarmacologi Antropologia, Istituto de Antropologia Fisica, Università de Genova, Via Balbi, 4-16126 (Genova Italy), Fax: 39 10 2095987.

The Moral World of the Law
Past & Present Society Conference
12-13 July, University of Birmingham
Further details: Past & Present Secretary, 175 Banbury Road, Oxford, OX2 7AU

'Crossing Boundaries' - British-North American History of Science Meeting
Edinburgh, 23-26 July.
Details from: s.pumphrey@lancaster.ac.uk

Knowledge and Power: Perspectives in the History of Psychiatry
European Association for the History of Psychiatry (EAHP)
The 3rd Triennial Conference will be held 11-14 September 1996 in Wurzburg, Germany. Suggestions for appropriate section topics and speakers are welcome and should be directed to: Dr Paul Hoff, Psychiatric Hospital, University of Munich, Nußbaumstr. 7, D-80336 Munich.

Medicine in Hellenized Jewish Lore and in Early Christian Literature
Israel Society of the History of Medicine and Science
Jerusalem, Israel, September 9-11, 1996
Details: Conference Unit, Division for Development and Public Relations, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Mount Scopus, Jerusalem 91905, Israel. Fax: 972-2-322556.

Women's History Network Conference
14-15 September 1996, Conway hall, London
Call for papers on all themes and periods of women's history, abstracts of 200 words to Alison Oram, Dept. History, Sheffield Hallam University, 32 Collegiate Crescent, Sheffield S102BP, by 30 April.

Nursing, Women's History and the Politics of Welfare
University of Nottingham, 18-20 September 1996
Including papers on: education and training; gender and caring; internationalism, colonialism and care; nursing and space; occupational regulation; religion, philanthropy and social policy; the globalisation of welfare; women, health, illness, and healing; feminism and nursing, historiography; midwifery, maternal and child welfare; nursing the body; race, ethnicity, migration and welfare; representing nursing and midwifery; and waged and unwaged caring.
Details: Conference Secretary, Dept. Nursing and midwifery Studies, University of Nottingham, Medical School, Queen's Medical Centre, Nottingham, NG7 2UH. Tel: 0115 970 9724; fax: 0115 970 9955; e-mail: MNZSS@mn1.nursing.nottingham.ac.uk

Symposium on Alternative Medicine in Modern Europe
Wellcome Institute, London, 18 October 1996

Organisers: Willem de Blécourt (Erasmus University of Rotterdam), Anne Hardy (Wellcome Institute, London), Cornelia Osborne (Roehampton Institute, London).
The symposium aims to redress the neglect of the social history of alternative medicine in the modern period. It hopes to arrive at a number of theoretical and practical solutions for the definition and study of a topic which is usually defined only by difference and in opposition to the mainstream of academic medicine. For this purpose gender, geographical distribution, communication, religion and ritual will all be considered. Speakers will include: Elisabeth Meyer-Renschhausen (Free University Berlin) on alternative medicine and diet, Matthew Ramsey (Vanderbilt University) on alternative practitioners in post-revolutionary France, Robert Jütte (Robert Bosch Foundation Stuttgart) on alternative medicine in nineteenth and twentieth-century Germany, Frank Huisman (Rijksuniversiteit Groningen) on medicines and the medical marketplace in the Netherlands, Cornelia Osborne and Willem de Blécourt on the gendering of alternative medicine, Stephanie Durham (University of the West of England) on alternative medicine today.
For further information contact: Dr Cornelia Osborne, Dept. History, Roehampton Institute, Roehampton Lane, London SW15 5PH, Fax: 44 181 392 3231. Email: C.Usborne@Roehampton.ac.uk

Time and the Construction of the Past - Social History Society Conference
Lancaster, January 1997
Further details and offers of papers to Mrs Linda Persson, Sec. Social History Society, Dept. History, Lancaster University, Lancaster LA1 4YG.

Medicine, Law and Human Rights: Historical Perspectives
3rd of the European Research Conference series of the European Science Foundation on 'Coping with Sickness'
22-7 March (note change of date), Castelvecchio Pascoli, Italy
Themes will include: health and human rights; regulations concerning life and death; regulation of medicine; and law and medical expertise.
Offers of posters from new researchers are sought before 31st May 1996. Potential contributors should submit a synopsis of one side A4 to: Dr John Woodward, Department of History, University of Sheffield, Sheffield S10 2TN.

The Right to Health in Modern Society
Summer 1997, Oxford
The Wellcome Unit for the History of Medicine, Oxford, is organising a conference on the evolution of the relationship between health, illness, and concepts of citizenship in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The conference will concentrate mainly on the British experience but there will also be contributions from Western Europe. We hope to discuss some central issues in both the history of modern health care and the sociology/philosophy of citizenship. The conference is intended to generate interlinked papers for an important publication in the field. We envisage running parallel sessions with papers of 30-35 minutes and 5-10 minutes for questions.

We would like to invite proposals for papers examining: the meaning of the right to health in terms of health status, and the right to health care services; the meaning of the obligation to promote health on the part of the individual, the family, the voluntary sector, employers and the state; and the boundaries of the concepts of citizens' rights and duties - situations of conflict between ethical imperatives; the treatment of non-citizens (ethics of experiments on the insane, dead, persecuted minorities); and whether rights to health can be abrogated by the citizen (euthanasia).

We suggest that these issues might be pursued through detailed historical case studies in the fields of public health, medical ethics, personal hygiene, eugenics, reproduction, methods of financing health care, and so on.

Proposals should be sent to Edward Higgs by May 31. Postal address: Wellcome Unit for the History of Medicine, University of Oxford, 45-47 Banbury Road, Oxford, OX2 6PE. E-mail: eddy.higgs@wuhmo.ox.ac.uk. Telephone: 01865-74616. Fax: 01865-274605.

OTHER NEWS

Out of Sight out of Mind. A season of events to promote public awareness about mental illness, Sheffield March-May 1996. Includes an exhibition of pictures from the Bethlem Royal Hospital at the Mappin Art Gallery, 13 April-26 May. Also a series of public lectures and performances. For further details contact: Judith Taylor, Centre for Psychotherapeutic Studies, University of Sheffield. Tel: 0114 2768555, ext. 4970.

Realisations of Madness. A conference on the representation, interpretation and treatment of madness in genetics, psychiatry, psychoanalysis, law, history, art, music, film, and theatre at the Bloomsbury Theatre, London, 5-6 October. Further details: The Conference Administrator, 32 Priory Terrace, London NW6 4DH, Tel: 0171 813 2276.

To the Great Support and Advancement of Health: Papers on the History of Medicine in Aberdeen, arising from a Conference held during the Quincentenary Year of Aberdeen University. Edited by Alec Adam, David Smith and Fiona Watson. Available at £7.50 including postage. Orders and enquiries to David Smith, Dept. of Economic and Social History, University of Aberdeen, Old Aberdeen AB9 2UB. Cheques should be made out to 'Aberdeen History of Medicine Publications'.

EAHM Publications have published two volumes of essays originating from the two European Research Conferences: John Woodward & Robert Jütte (eds.), *Coping with Sickness: Historical Aspects of Health Care in a European Perspective* (ISBN 0-9527045-0-1); and Woodward & Jütte (eds.), *Coping with Sickness: Perspectives on Health Care, Past and Present* (0-9527045-1-x).

Health Care and Ethics: Looking Forward, Looking Back: the Student Interest Group of the Society for Health and Human Values is sponsoring an essay competition on this theme. The winner will receive a \$1000 award plus up to \$150 for expenses incident to presenting the paper at the 1996 AHV annual meeting in Cleveland Ohio. Papers must be sent by 15 April and must not exceed 15 typed double-spaced pages. For eligibility and further details contact: Kimberly F. Crawford, Student Interest Group Program Chair shhv, 2744 Euclid Heights Boulevard Suite 6, Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44106. Email: kfc2@po.cwru.edu

Recent British Dissertations in the History of Medicine

Susan R. Collinson, 'Medicine, Race and Gender: an Examination of Medical Theory and Practice in the Late Nineteenth Century', London Ph.D. 1994.
Christopher T. Daly, 'The Hospitals of London: Administration, Reformation and Benefaction, 1500-72' Oxford D.Phil. 1994.
Harriet J. Deacon, 'A history of the medical institutions of Robben Island, Cape Colony, 1846-1910' Cambridge Ph.D. 1994.
Gillian Doody, 'A Study of the Fife and Kinross District Asylum, 1866-99' Edinburgh M.Phil. 1992.
Ann C. Hess, 'Community Case Studies of Midwives from England and New England, c. 1650-1720', Cambridge Ph.D. 1994.
Mark A. Jackson, 'New-born Child Murder: a study of suspicion, evidence and proof in 18th Century England', Leeds Ph.D. 1991.
Karen J. Jochelson, 'The Colour of Disease: Syphilis and Racism in South Africa, 1910-50' Oxford D.Phil. 1994.
Sarah Mawer, 'English Hospitals 1450-1570' Warwick MA 1994.

Elizabeth A. Peretz, 'Local Authority Maternal and Child Welfare Services in England, 1919-39' Middlesex Ph.D. 1994.

Nichola J. Pound, 'A Permissible Dose: Ionising Radiation as a Genetic Hazard, Great Britain 1935-60', Oxford M.Litt. 1994.

Bronwen J. Swinnerton, 'The Health of the Working Class in Leeds and Bradford, 1900-40' Leeds Ph.D. 1994.

Mark Weatherall, 'Scientific Medicine and the Medical Sciences in Cambridge, 1851-1929', Cambridge Ph.D. 1994.

David J. Wright, 'The National Asylum for Idiots, Earlswood, 1847-86' Oxford D.Phil. 1993.

Joseph Zeigler, 'Religion and Medicine in the Late 13th and 14th Centuries, with particular reference to Arnau de Vilanova', Oxford D. Phil. 1994.

This list is of course by no means complete. The Editor welcomes further references of dissertations to announce, including those completed outside of Britain.

CONFERENCE REPORT: Medicine and the Emergence of Modern Warfare

The Society's Silver Jubilee Conference was held at the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine in London and was organised by Mark Harrison. It opened up a huge and relatively under-studied field for work by social historians of medicine and it raised some fundamentally important questions about the relationship between warfare, health and medicine in modern society.

Mark Harrison began the three-day meeting with a bold theoretical and historiographical overview of the subject. Warfare, and the role of medicine within it, was to be examined as integral to the 'rationalisation' of modern society as a whole. Medicine was a key component in the modernisation of warfare, but warfare was also essential in the modernisation of medicine itself. There was an obvious inherent tension between the two. Medicine could play a role in the 'humanisation' of warfare, but it was also a tool for discipline within the military and was at the heart of some of warfare's greatest atrocities, perpetrated on civilian populations.

The papers were divided into those on medicine within the military and those on the impact of war on civilian health, though the latter were in the minority. A series of papers by Osborne, Van Bergen, Whitehead and Bennett dealt with the structures of health care provision within the military. They highlighted tensions between doctors and soldiers and between the military and voluntary medical services. An issue which received detailed attention was the problem of casualty disposal. The development of effective systems of evacuation, as in the airborne ambulance system described by Robert Joy, typified the role of technological advances in the modernisation of military medicine. Fascinating parallels were later drawn when Hutchinson described the militaristic development of ambulance brigades in the civilian sphere. Voluntary groups also played a key role in evacuation and relief within war zones. Taithe's paper on the Red Cross during the Franco-Prussian conflict drew out some of the political issues raised by this interaction. In a moving paper, the Society's President amplified these issues as he recounted his own experiences in organising relief in the former Yugoslavia. A second major theme was the role of psychiatry within military medicine, with papers from Talbot, Pols and Binnevelde suggesting that psychiatry's dual role of providing therapy and discipline was particularly acute within the military sphere. A third theme was care in military hospitals, with papers from Arton, Guy and Starns. Finally the papers from Weindling, Worboys and Neushul all addressed the issue of medical research within the military. Weindling, in particular, describing the Eastern Front in the Second World War, produced a disturbing picture of the intimate links between research for the purposes of killing and for keeping people alive. Missing from many of these papers was a human dimension to the experience of the soldiers. This was introduced in a series of fascinating and often amusing papers by Lesey Hall, on ideas about VD in the Second World War; Harrison on the letters of Indian soldiers in British hospitals in World War I; and Roger Cooter's paper on malingering, describing the bizarre methods of faking illness and the military doctor's role in policing this system. Moving away from the military sphere, a session with papers by Harris, Thomson and Clark considered the impact of War on civilian services. This was in many senses more familiar territory but nevertheless an important dimension for consideration in an era of 'total warfare'. The paper by Harris provided

a useful model for rethinking the issue, suggesting that war had as many negative as positive impacts on the development of British welfare services. In a separate session, Molly Sutphen explored impact of the military on civilians within colonial South Africa. Here, with the emergence of segregation camps, one was reminded of Weindling's paper on the Eastern Front. In both instances, the division between military and civilian spheres disintegrates. A final paper stood, thematically, on its own, but was perhaps one of most thought provoking of the conference. In this paper Lisa Herschbach recounted the way that injured bodies were displayed in the US Army Medical Museum after the American Civil War. Her subtle exploration of modes of representation and of the changing cultural meaning of the dead bodies introduced a series of new issues for the audience to consider. As is always the case with such big meetings, it was exhausting business and frustrating not to be able to see papers in parallel sessions. However, any such complaints were alleviated by the comfort of our surroundings, the generosity of our hosts the Wellcome Institute, and the excellent organisation provided by Mark Harrison, Bill Bynum and Frieda Houser who we all thank. There are plans for a two volume study of medicine and warfare to which the conference papers will contribute: the first volume will deal with medicine within the military; the second will deal with the impact of medicine within the civilian sphere.

PRIZE ESSAY COMPETITION
THE SOCIETY FOR THE SOCIAL HISTORY OF MEDICINE 1996

ENTRY FORM AND RULES

- 1) **Prize:** The best original, unpublished essay in the social history of medicine will be awarded a prize of £100.00. The winning entry may also be published in the journal, the *Social History of Medicine*, following the usual editorial procedures.
- 2) **Eligible candidates:** (i) students; undergraduate, postgraduate, or part-time
(ii) new researchers in the history of medicine

Candidates who are uncertain as to whether they are eligible to enter the competition should contact the Convenor of the Assessment Panel prior to preparing their entry.

- 3) **Essays must be:** (i) unpublished
(ii) written in English
(iii) 5,000 - 8,000 words in length
(iv) in conformity with the bibliographic conventions of the *Social History of Medicine* (These can be found on the inside back cover of each issue)

The same essay cannot be submitted on more than one occasion.

- 4) **Assessment Panel:** The Panel will consist of the Chair of the Society for the Social History of Medicine, the Society's Representative on the Editorial Board, and the editors of *Social History of Medicine*.

- 5) **To Enter:** Candidates must join the Society for the Social History of Medicine (see below for details). The deadline for entries is the 31st of December, 1996. Please complete the following slip, and send it with the essay, to the Chair of the Society, and Convenor of the Assessment Panel, Dr Anne-Marie Rafferty, c/o Dr A. Borsary, Dept. of History, St David's University College, Lampeter, Dyfed, SA48 7ED. The announcement of the prize-winner will be made at the Annual General Meeting of the Society.

NOTES:

- The Editors of *Social History of Medicine* reserve the right to consider any of the entries for publication, subject to normal refereeing procedures
- Members of the Executive Committee of the Society for the Social History of Medicine may not enter the competition, even if otherwise eligible.
- In the event no essay is received which meets the criteria, the prize will not be awarded.

I have read the SSHM prize essay rules 1995. I agree to abide by the rules
I declare that I am eligible to enter the competition according to the terms of rule 2.

Signature Date
Full Name Address