



Society for the social history of medicine

Gazette

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NEWS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The new Executive Committee (EC) met on Friday 19 February, when old hands were joined by five newly elected members: Meg Arnot, Tim Boon, Anne-Marie Rafferty, Mathew Thomson and David Wright. A new Chair of the EC was elected - David Smith, from the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine, University of Glasgow. Hence, John Woodward was finally able to step down having served his three year term office, plus a further two years. These were an eventful five years seeing the launch of the journal, a new constitution and the growth of the SSHM professionally and internationally. John is now taking a leading part in the establishment of the European Association for the History of Medicine and Health. We would like to thank him very much for all his hard work and leadership since 1988.

The EC would like to apologise for any difficulties caused by the tight schedule with the ballot. This was due once again to a delay in the circulation of the journal which meant that the Gazette was distributed four weeks later than the date given to us.

SOCIAL HISTORY OF MEDICINE

This Gazette accompanies the first edition of the journal produced by the new editorial team of Anne Crowther, Paul

All correspondence about the content and circulation of the Gazette should be sent to the editor, Michael Worboys, History, Sheffield Hallam University, Psalter Lane, Sheffield, S11 8UZ, Great Britain. Tel. 0742 532686/5 FAX 0742 532603.

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.

Weindling and Greta Jones (Book Reviews). The editors are continuing to receive a good flow of articles for consideration, although they would still welcome more contributions from and on North America, Europe and elsewhere in the world, to ensure that the journal's contents reflect its international circulation and the wider membership.

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

A valuable feature of SSHM publications over the years has been the notices given of research in progress. I have not received any for inclusion in the Gazette in recent months, so to encourage contributions the form for reported work in progress is included on page 5. Please use this form either by detaching or photocopying. As ever the Gazette welcomes news and views, for example, activities of members, requests for information, and letters.

THE FRIENDS OF THE WELLCOME INSTITUTE

The friends form a core community of those interested in the history of medicine and allied studies and also in the Wellcome Institute, its Library and Academic Unit, as a major centre for their exploration. A wide membership drawn from all ages, interests and qualifications will contribute powerfully towards a rich and growing understanding of the complex interactions between medicine, science, society and conceptual patterns both past and present. Membership provides: ready access to the Library; attendance at seminars, lectures and study groups without fee; attendance at symposia at reduced fee; circulation of the Academic Programme; invitations to private views of WIHM exhibitions; purchase of WIHM publications at 20% discount; subscriptions to Medical History and Current Work in the History of Medicine at 20% discount; use of accommodation at a discount; photocopying service at a discount; visits and tours; newsletter without subscription. Membership Fees. Ordinary: UK - £18.00; resident outside UK - £22.00. Special - £9.00 (available to Wellcome staff, registered students, the unwaged and pensioners). Life: details available on application. All correspondence to Friends of the Wellcome Institute, Wellcome Building, 183 Euston Road, London NW1 2BE.

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New Perspectives on the Social History of Medicine

As the plague did not discriminate between classes the rich decided to flea.

Some joined fanatic religious sects such as the Flagellants - nomadic groups who specialized in punishing themselves and each other to save God the trouble.

Not only did Tyndall ascribe all terrestrial life to an aperient all pervading materialism

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.

Society for the Social History of Medicine.

Annual Summer Conference 1993

Computers and the Social History of Medicine

9-11 July 1993, University of Southampton, Southampton.

Details from: Dr Bernard Harris, Department of Sociology and Social Policy, University of Southampton, Highfield, Southampton, SO9 5NH.

Spring Conference 1994

The Body and Beyond

April 1994, London

Details from: Dr Dorothy Porter, History, Birkbeck College, London.

Summer Conference 1994

Family and Medicine

July 1994, Exeter

Details from: Dr Jonathan Barry, History, Queen's Building, University of Exeter, Exeter, EX4 4QH.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Summer 1995

War, Medicine and Society

July 1995, London

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

Other Meetings

Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine

Symposia on the History of Medicine, 1993

20-22 May 1993

Contagion: Perspectives from Pre-Modern Societies

14-16 July 1993

Summer School on the History of Haemoglobin

Details from: The Secretary, Academic Unit, Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine, 183 Euston Road, London, NW1 2BE

Stichting Historia Medicinae

State and Health Care in the Twentieth Century

7 May 1993, Utrecht

Details from: R. B. M. Rigter, Vrije Universiteit Metamedica, Sectie Medische Geschiedenis, Van der Boechorststraat 7, 1081 BT Amstcrsdam.

Institute of European Population Studies

Women's Work and Infant Mortality in Historical Perspective
25 May 1993, University of Liverpool
Details from: Clare Becket, Dept. of Geography, University of
Liverpool, Roxby Building, PO Box 147, Liverpool L69 3BX.

Gartnavel Royal Hospital
Symposium to Celebrate 150th Anniversary
3-4 June 1993, Gartnavel Royal Hospital
Historical sessions mainly on 4 June, participants include:
Jonathan Andrews, William Parry-Jones, Roy Porter, Frank Rice.
Details from: Dr Iain D. Smith, Gartnavel Royal Hospital, 1055
Great Western Road, Glasgow, G12 0XH.

Imperial War Museum
Wartime Food Films
19 June 1993, Imperial War Museum, London
Speakers include: Kay Gladstone, David Smith, Ina Zweinger-
Bargelowska and Tim Boon
Details from: Kay Gladstone, Imperial War Museum, London, SE1

Nursing, Women's History and the Politics of Welfare
21-24 July 1993, East Midlands Conference Centre, University
of Nottingham, England
Details from Sarah Smith, Nursing and Midwifery Studies,
Queen's Medical Centre, Nottingham NG7 2UH.

European Association for the History of Psychiatry
Triennial Meeting
August 1993, Metropole Hotel, London
Details from: Roy Porter, Wellcome Institute for the History
of Medicine, 183 Euston Road, London NW1 2BE.

European Association for the History of Medicine
Coping with Sickness: Science, Culture, Professions, State
5-9 September 1993, Lunteren (near Arnhem), The Netherlands
Details from: Dr. Josip Hendekovic, European Science
Foundation, 1 quai Lezay-Marnésia, 67080 Strasbourg, France.

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Geschichte der Medizin,
Naturwissenschaft und Technik
Medicine, Science, Technology and National Socialism
25-28 September 1993, Jena
Details from: Dr. med. Peter Voswinckel, Werbachstraße 17, D-
W-2900 Oldenburg, Germany.

Humanities Research Centre Oxford Brookes University
Gender, Health and Welfare in Britain, 1850-1950
6 November 1993, Oxford Brookes University
Details from: John Stewart, School of Humanities, Oxford
Brookes University, Oxford OX3 0BP.

University of Amsterdam
Healing, magic and belief in Europe, 15th-20th Centuries: New
Perspectives
21-25 September 1994, University of Amsterdam
Call for papers and details from Marijke Gijswijt-Hofstra,
Department of History, University of Amsterdam, Spuistraat
134, 1012 VB Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

We welcome the receipt of short summaries of 'Research in
Progress' by members for publication in the Gazette. We ask
you to send summaries of your work that do not exceed 250
words in length.

NAME (Please print)

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE

TITLE OF RESEARCH

DESCRIPTION OF RESEARCH

CONFERENCE REPORTS

Disease and Society in Developing Countries: Exploring New Perspectives

College of Physicians, Philadelphia, 24-26 September 1992.

This meeting brought together over 50 scholars and papers were given on disease and society in Africa, Asia, South America and the Pacific, as well as on the medical efforts of imperial powers. A welcome new perspective to the discussion of colonial medicine was brought by researchers working on South America, where medicine and disease control developed in the absence of formal colonial relations and institutions. Interesting papers, with interlocking themes, were given by Marcos Cueto - Peru, Julian Peard - Brazil, and Armando Solorzano and Anne-Enamuelle Birn - Mexico. The characteristic of these countries in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries seems to have been a mix of the emulation of infectious disease control strategies of the imperial powers, the imposition of Foundation programmes from the United States, and the development of distinctive local approaches. More importantly, these efforts became the foundation of the institutionalization of modern medical science in these countries, which while marginal in terms of world medicine, did not suffer from institutionalized dependence and was not tied to low status Western specialisms like tropical medicine. A second important new perspective was the greater attention given to the response of the indigenous population of developing countries to Western medicine. Thus, discussions of malaria in China (Bridie Andrews and William Summers) and family planning in Zimbabwe (Michael West) showed the different and changing meanings given to medical ideas and practices by different groups. A third area of new work was in post-Second World War medical programmes (Randall Packard - malaria eradication; John Farley - malaria in Sardinia) where economic, political and, in the case of Sardinia, criminal factors, met with the seeming technological imperatives of DDT-inspired disease eradication programmes. The only disappointment for me about the meeting overall was that so many papers were still focussed on the Manson era (and here I must hold up my hand too). This is not, however, to deny the importance of this period when so many of the modern approaches to disease in developing countries were forged. Even on this well worn terrain significant new approaches were evident, for example, in comparative work (Molly Sutphen), pre-Mansonian 'tropical medicine' (Mark Harrison), medical practice and institutions in colonies (Helen Power) and race (Warwick Anderson). The hectic schedule of papers meant that most of the useful discussion took place outside of the formal sessions, though this was well lubricated in an excellent series of receptions provided by the College of Physicians and the donors who supported the conference. Caroline Hannaway, Warwick Anderson and Janet Tighe deserve our thanks for organizing such a timely and productive meeting.

Michael Worboys

POSITIONS VACANT

WELLCOME UNIT FOR THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

SENIOR RESEARCH POST IN THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE

Subject to satisfactory probation (where necessary) the appointee would join the core staff of the Wellcome Unit, which is funded in on a five year rolling contract. Starting salary £12,638-£24,736, as appropriate. Some teaching and administrative contributions are required, but the post is primarily for research. We are keen to recruit a specialist in the history of 20th century medical sciences and medicine, but welcome applications from other candidates. Starting date 1 September 1993, or by agreement. Closing date for applications 14 May 1993.

Application forms and further details from: The Registrar, Academic Staffing Office, The University, Manchester, M13 9PL. Enquiries to: Dr J. V. Pickstone, CHSTM, Maths Tower, The University, Manchester, M13 9PL. Tel. 061 275 5850.

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Membership of the Society for the Social History of Medicine includes a subscription to the journal and is paid through: Journals Marketing Department, Oxford University Press, Pinkhill House, Southfield Road, Eynsham, Oxford, OX8 1JJ. Membership in 1993 is £21 (UK and Europe) and \$37 elsewhere. Details of membership and of the Society's activities are available from the Hon. Secretary.

Executive Committee 1993

David Smith (Chair), Wellcome Unit for the History of Medicine, University of Glasgow, Glasgow G12 8QQ
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