



Gazette

NEWS

EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE HISTORY
OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH (EAHMH)

The first Congress of the EAHMH was held in Luteran, the Netherlands, on 4-9 September 1993. This was a great success, with high quality papers and discussion. Virtually every European country was represented amongst the one hundred participants and there was a large number of young researchers. The theme of 'Coping with Sickness' was taken up in sessions on: Medical Science and Clinical Practice in the 19th and 20th Centuries; Cultural Images and Practice in the early Modern Period; The Medical Marketplace; Medicalisation and the State; and Public Health Policies and the Allocation of Resources in Medicine in 20th Century Europe. The most innovative sessions were devoted to 'Posters' prepared by some 30 participants. Although this was a novel form of presentation for historians of medicine, all agreed that it had focused their ideas more clearly and promoted discussion. The Scientific Board of the Association is intending to publish the proceedings. Planning is already under way for the next Congress - 'Coping with Health' and a call for papers has been made. If any member of SSHM would like to participate or receive further details they should contact Prof. Claude Debru, Centre d'Historie de la Medicine, Universite Louis Pasteur, 4 rue Kirschleger, 67085 Strasbourg, France. Anyone wishing to join EAHMH should also contact Professor Debru.

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.

EC NEWS - ELECTIONS

An important change in the operation of the Society was agreed at the last EC meeting. This was to alter the timing of elections to the EC to coincide with the new AGM arrangements. Thus, this edition of the Gazette contains the call for nominations to the EC to serve from 1 July 1994 to 30 June 1997. Ballot papers will appear in the next issue in April 1994, with the election completed in June for the results to be announced at the AGM next July. As an interim measure, the current membership of the EC will continue to serve until 30 June 1994. Also at its last meeting the EC welcomed Dr Naomi Williams who took up the new position of International Liaison, which will improve our service to overseas members and hopefully extend overseas membership. Finally, the go-ahead was given for the production of a Membership Information List, which David Wright will edit.

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EXHIBITION - BIRTH AND BREEDING: THE POLITICS OF REPRODUCTION IN MODERN BRITAIN

Based on material from the Contemporary Medical Archives Centre in the Wellcome Institute Library, this exhibition concentrates on the activities of six organisations and individuals that have contributed to the debates surrounding this vital issue. It not only presents their particular causes, but also portrays the campaigning efforts that enabled them to communicate their messages so effectively. There are six sections: I Eugenics Society; II Marie Stopes; III The National Birthday Trust Fund; IV Grantly Dick-Read; V Family Planning Association; VI Abortion Law Reform Association. The exhibition also features clips of films: a melodrama made by Marie Stopes, a propaganda film by the Eugenics Society, and documentation about the work of Grantly Dick-Read and the Family Planning Association. The exhibition is open until the end of February 1994 at The History of Medicine Exhibition Gallery: Fourth Floor, Wellcome Building, 183 Euston Road, London NW1 2BE). Entrance Free. Opening times: Monday to Friday 9:45-17:00, Saturday 9:30-13:00.



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SPEAKER/S WANTED

Speakers on historical attitudes towards sexually transmitted diseases, pregnancy, childbirth and its complications, contraception and abortion, and childhood morbidity and mortality to speak to a meeting of the Bedfordshire Family History Society on "Mummy Where Did I Come From? : the Moral Issue" in May 1994. Contact Gazette Editor for B.F.H.S. address.

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.

Spring Conference 1994

The Body and Beyond

16 April 1994, Birkbeck College, Malet Street, London. Speakers include: Helen King, Richard Evans, Theo van der Meer, Angus McLaren, Frank Dikötter, and Susan Squier. Details from: Dr Dorothy Porter, History, Birkbeck College, London.

Summer Conference 1994

Family and Medicine

8-10 July 1994, University of Exeter. Details from: Dr Jonathan Barry, History, Queen's Building, University of Exeter, Exeter, EX4 4QH.

Autumn 1994

From Mental Illness to Mental Health: New Approaches in the Social History of Psychiatry

Details from: Dr Mathew Thomson, History, University of Sheffield, Sheffield, S10 2TN.

Summer Conference 1995

Medicine and the Emergence of Modern Warfare

13-15 July 1995, WIHM, London. See notice on page 5. 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, 1994

- 23 February 1994 Animal Models In Health and Disease
- 25 March 1994 The Body of Knowledge: The Physical Presentation of Intellectual Selves
- 6 May 1994 The History of Malaria and War
- 10 June 1994 Science and Medicine in the 1890s

Research Seminar on 'Doctors and the State'

12 January 1994, Dr C. Webster, *Doctors and Democracy: The Origins of the NHS 1974 Reorganisation*.
26 January 1994 Dr J. Stanton, *A Jaundiced View: Medical experts and hepatitis committees, 1943-93*.
Details from: The Secretary, Academic Unit, Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine, 183 Euston Road, London, NW1 2BE

American Association for the History of Medicine
Annual Meeting 1994

28 April - 1 May 1994, New York.

Further details and offers of papers to: Dr Jacalyn Duffin,
Hannah Chair, History of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine,
Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada, K7L 3N6.

Auckland Medical Historical Society (in association with the
Post-graduate Medical Committee of the University of Auckland)
New Countries and Old Medicine: An international conference on
the history of medicine and health

23-26 August 1994, University of Auckland, New Zealand,
Further details from: Linda Bryder, Department of History,
University of Auckland, Private Bag, Auckland, New Zealand.
Fax: (0064) 09 3737438; E-mail l.bryder@aukuni.ac.nz.

34th International Congress on the History of Medicine
4-9 September 1994, Glasgow

Further details from: 34th International Congress on the
History of Medicine, Conference Secretariat, Meeting Makers,
50 George Street, Glasgow, G1 1QE, Scotland.

University of Amsterdam

Healing, magic and belief in Europe, 15th-20th Centuries: New
Perspectives

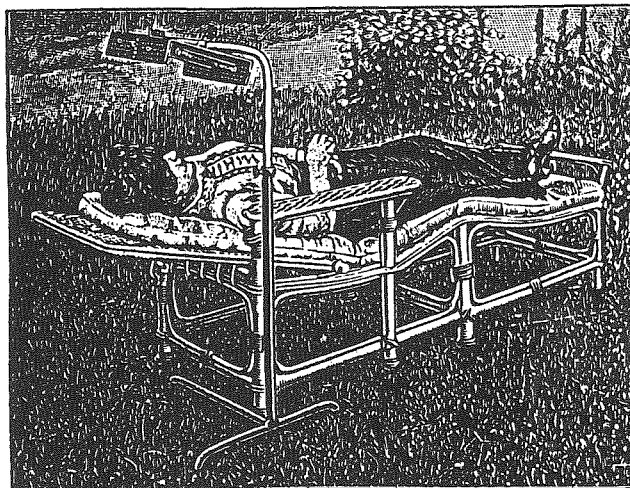
21-25 September 1994, University of Amsterdam

Call for papers and details from Marijke Gijswijt-Hofstra,
Department of History, University of Amsterdam, Spuistraat
134, 1012 VB Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

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ADVANCED NOTICE OF SSHM CONFERENCE

MEDICINE AND THE EMERGENCE OF MODERN WARFARE

The Society for the Social History of Medicine, in conjunction with the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine, is to host a three day conference in London on "Medicine and the Emergence of Modern Warfare" on July 13-15 1995. The conference will explore historical issues relating to the role of medicine in development of warfare between 1815 and the present day. Contributions on any of the following themes would be particularly welcome:

- the status of medicine and medical personnel in the armed forces,
- the role of medicine in discipline and morale within the services. (including prisoners of war),
- medicine and military efficiency. (medicine as a technical resource),
- military medicine and the management of civilian populations,
- civilian voluntary medical agencies during war. (e.g.. St. John's Ambulance),
- gender and racial issues in armed forces medicine,
- comparisons of civilian and armed forces medicine,
- technology transfer between civil and military spheres.

If you are able to offer a paper on any of these or related topics, or would be prepared to act as a discussant, please send an abstract of not more than 500 words to Dr. Mark Harrison at the address below (papers should not exceed 35 minutes in length). Contact: Dr. Mark Harrison, Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine, 183 Euston Road, London NW1 2BE. Tel. 071-611 8888; Fax 071-611 8545

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF SSHMFOR 1992 (EDITED)

I am pleased to be reporting on behalf of the Executive Committee having taken over as Chair from John Woodward in February 1993. This is the first Annual Report under the new arrangement of holding the AGM in the summer and reporting on the previous year. An interim report was given last summer and was published in Gazette No. 5 last August, so I have tried to avoid repeating information given then. I would like immediately to thank John Woodward, who gave that Report, for his excellent work as Chair in a period of great change in the Society. The Executive Committee in 1992 consisted of: Jonathan Barry, Cathy Crawford, Bernard Harris (Treasurer), Mark Harrison, John Henderson, Gerry Kearns (Hon Sec), Lara Marks, Dorothy Porter, David Smith, Richard Smith, John Woodward (Chair), Michael Worboys and David Wright. During the year Lara Marks took over the post of Hon. Secretary and Cathy Crawford retired from the EC. Cathy's work on publicity transformed the public profile of the Society and for this and her other contributions we all extremely grateful. Also, Richard Smith, who had served the Committee since becoming Editor of Social History of Medicine, retired when Anne Crowther joined Paul

Weindling as co-editor of the Journal. Greta Jones took over from Roger Cooter as reviews editor. The President for 1992 was Andrew Scull.

Three successful conferences were held: Spring - "Popular Science and Medicine, 1800 to the present" (with the British Society for the History of Science); Summer - "Communities 'Caring' and Institutions"; and Autumn - "From 'Idiocy' to 'Mental Deficiency': Historical Perspectives on People with Learning Difficulties". At the Summer meeting Andrew Scull delivered his Presidential Address, which has now been published in Social History of Medicine, 9 (April 1993).

The first three volumes in the Society's Social History of Medicine Series, Medicine and Charity before the Welfare State (eds. J. Barry and C. Jones), Life, Death and the Elderly: Historical Perspectives (eds M. Pelling and R. Smith, 1991) and In the Name of the Child (ed R. Cooter, 1992) received positive reviews and continue to sell very well. Social History of Medicine continued to go from strength to strength, a situation that owes much to Richard Smith and the imaginative way the journal has been developed. It is very pleasing that the institutional subscriptions are increasing steadily (1990 - 229; 1991 - 249; 1992 - 262), but unfortunately the trend of recent years for the personal subscriptions and hence Society membership is less encouraging. Although the drop is not great (1990 - 527; 1991 - 517; 1992 - 497) it is highly desirable for the future of the Journal and the Society that this trend is checked and reversed. There seems no reasons why this should not be possible and the EC appeals to all members to take what ever steps they can to encourage colleagues to join the Society and institutions to subscribe to the Journal. Unfortunately, 1992 saw several issues appearing very late. This was entirely the fault of OUP and a recent meeting between the Journal Sub-Committee of the EC and OUP's representative strong representations were made. A commitment was given that this problem would be avoided in the future.

Very reluctantly, due to existing deficits and the escalation of editorial costs due to the change in the editors, the EC found it necessary to increase the price of the subscription to the Society and the Journal for 1993. However, it was decided that in order to soften the blow, the necessary increase should be phased in over several years, and that in the first year the portion of the subscription which is given to the Society would be reduced from £2 to £1. The Treasurer will be presenting a separate report on the 1992 accounts. I have been asked to point out that the accounts have been audited by a professional accountant, as now required by the authorities, rather than by two members of the Society, as stated in the constitution.

The Executive would very much appreciate hearing more feedback from members on the activities of the Society and the Journal. We would also welcome suggestions about topics for future conferences and other activities. Such feedback can be made in the form of an article for the Gazette, or a letter to the Chair, Secretary, or Convenor of the Programmes and Publications Sub-Committee. The current state of the Society's finances means

that the EC can even entertain suggestions which require some pump priming money - especially when there is likely to be a return in terms of maintaining and extending our membership or the profile of the Society.

David Smith, Chair, July 1993.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE 1993

Medical History and Computing
9-11 July 1993, University of Southampton

Over 50 participants met at the University of Southampton for a meeting very ably organised and run by Bernard Harris. Richard Smith opened the conference with a paper that considered developments in the use of Information Technology by historians from the late 1960s to the present day. It assessed these developments within the framework of a shift from the fixed-format of main frame computers to the current situation in which a growing number of historians work in their own offices on micro-computers. Three main areas of were identified where change had been great, although not invariably beneficial: nominative linkage in database work, simulation of social structure, and the use of fibre optic networks for inter personal communication and data search.

In the section on Historical Studies of Health and Welfare, Hans Meier reported on how his computer reconstructions of Pauper Apprenticeship in Seventeenth and Eighteenth Century Bampton, Oxfordshire compared to an orphanage in a German town. Tim Cuff offered some reflections on how the use of lap-top computers affects the archival research process, and argued for the increased utilization of existing data sets available through data archives. Finally Doron Lamm discussed the alleged dichotomy between civilian and military preoccupations over public health, arguing that the debate on physical deterioration was one of many indications of the fusion between the civil and military in Edwardian Britain.

The session on the History of the Medical Profession began with Peter Denley and Dino Buzzetti speaking on the Medical Profession in Medieval and Renaissance Italy. They presented two different facets of the subject and two different aspects of Kleio, an important new computing tool for historians. Peter Denley spoke about a prosopographical project involving the creation of a data-bank of Italian Renaissance university teachers and students. Dino Buzzetti outlined his aim of creating an electronic archive, where factual and textual information about medical and philosophical teaching books could be stored and organized. Eric Christianson's talk on "Great Expectations": Computerized Collective Biographical Study of Physicians in U.S. History showed how computerized studies in the early history of the American medical profession have altered our picture of the colonial physician and antebellum medical education. Anne Crowther, Marguerite Dupree and James Bradley's paper on Computers and Careers: Scottish Medical students in the late Nineteenth and early

Twentieth Centuries was based on two cohorts of medical students from the Universities of Edinburgh and Glasgow centred on the years 1871 and 1911. Their method offered a variant of prosopography or collective biography.

Saturday morning's proceedings began with papers on The History of Medical Institutions. Amanda Berry reported her findings on Patterns of Patronage of English Voluntary Hospitals in the Eighteenth Century. Using computer datasets, built up from the annual reports and subscription lists of the Bristol Infirmary, the Devon and Exeter Hospital and Northampton General Hospital, the paper highlighted how the character and composition of patronage varied between towns and altered over 18th and early 19th centuries. David Wright's paper entitled "Temporary Asylum", questioned the assumption that asylum inmates were staying progressively longer periods during the nineteenth century. He presented the results of a computer-aided analysis of the 2,200 patients of the Earlswood Asylum (Redhill, Surrey), who were admitted between the years 1856 and 1886 and argued that these showed a high degree of turnover of inmates and high readmission and discharge rates. He went on to explore the "temporary" use of the asylum for meeting both the medical and social needs of individual families. Jonathan Andrews offered a programmatic paper on how quantitative techniques may extend our understanding of a psychiatric institution.

The late morning session on I.T. and the Teaching of Medical History began with Joel Howell's tales of the ways he had used computers for teaching medical history at the University of Michigan to students both in the medical school and the general university. Donald Spaeth reviewed the two main approaches to the use of computers in the teaching of history: 1) to teach students to use computers as tools for exploring data from original sources, using such software as databases, spreadsheets, and concordances; and 2) to use the computer as a medium of instruction, i.e. computer-assisted learning (CAL). Marguerite Dupree detailed her highly innovative use of databases by describing two examples currently in use in Glasgow. In the first example sources derived from the history of medicine were used to introduce students to the use of the computer. The second example was one in which the subject was not the computer but the social history of medicine. Here the computer was used both to help students to develop critical and analytical skills and to give students insight into the generalizations about the history of hospitals which confront them in books and lectures.

There were three papers on Historical Demography. James C. Robertson began with a paper on Reckoning With London: Interpreting the Bills of Mortality before John Graunt. He argued that the variety of short-term patterns that monarchs, their councillors and their subjects all identified in the series of mortality figures reported in the weekly Bills not only served to shape administrative responses to disease in the capital, but also shaped the very questions that produced the statistics that British historical demographers continue to rely on for this period. Steven King's talk on Mortality

Decline and The Modern Rise of Population addressed problems raised by Wrigley's and Schofield's *The Population History of England*. His results showed that mortality was a very important "mover" in population growth. His evidence also showed significant shifts in the age focus of mortality over time and high levels of differential childhood mortality between households. Humphrey Southall's paper discussed the technical issues raised by an analysis of patterns of morbidity from trade union records.

Sheila Anderson, Jenny Wood and Hamish Maxwell-Stewart all spoke on The Computerization of Medical Archives. Sheila Anderson described the work on the History Data Unit in the ESRC Data Archive at the University of Essex. Jenny Wood presented a paper that described her ongoing project to create a computer guide to the Reports of the Registrar General. Finally Hamish Maxwell-Stewart spoke on the contemporary problem of Sampling Clinical Records with the aid of computerized summary data.

The final session brought together speakers on New Developments in Computing Technologies and the Historian - The "Scholar's Workbench". Frank Colson and Jean Colson spoke respectively on the theory and practice of the "scholar's workbench" in the creation of "editions". They explored various developments which have made the "edition" possible - i) "Microcosm", the seamless environment implemented at Southampton's Media and Video Laboratory with an application developed by HIDES and ii) the English version of "Kleio" developed by Max Planck Institute at Gottingen. Matthew Woollard then introduced the English version of Kleio. Running throughout the conference were displays of computer-based learning packages developed by HIDES and Phillip Swan at the University of Humberside. Many of us went away disappointed that there was no demonstration of two much sought after packages: "Porter" - the software that writes books in seconds, and "Cooter" - the software that doubles the length of footnotes. Overall, the meeting saw many more papers on technique than findings from computer-based work. This may reflect the still early impact of computers in the social history of medicine, but there were warnings in some of the later papers that historical research and writing can easily be overtaken by the wizardry of the technology.

Michael Worboys

NOMINATES TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Nominations are invited from members of the Society for five vacancies on the Executive Committee to serve from 1 July 1994 to 30 June 1997. 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.

Nominations should be sent on the form below to Dr Lara Marks, Health Promotion Sciences Unit, Dept of Public Health and Policy, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Keppel Street, London, WC1E 7HT and must be received by 31 January 1994.

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

Executive Committee 1993

David Smith (Chair), Wellcome Unit for the History of Medicine, University of Glasgow, Glasgow G12 8QQ
Lara Marks (Honorary Secretary), Health Promotion Sciences Unit, Dept of Public Health and Policy, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Keppel Street, London, WC1E 7HT

Meg Arnot, David Barker (President), Jonathan Barry (Publications), Tim Boon, Bernard Harris (Treasurer), Mark Harrison (Publicity), Dorothy Porter (Programme), Anne-Marie Rafferty, Mathew Thomson, Paul Weindling (Journal), Naomi Williams (International Liaison), John Woodward, Michael Worboys (Gazette), David Wright (Membership Information)

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. 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.

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