1991 Annual Meeting to be Held May 8th

David L. Cowen, M.A., Litt. D., will deliver the 11th anniversary Saffron Lecture at the Society's annual meeting, May 8, at the Academy in Lawrenceville. Cowen, an active member of the MHSNJ, is Emeritus Professor of History, Rutgers University. His talk will be presented during the afternoon session and is entitled "Pharmacists and physicians: a hate-love relationship."

Three papers will be presented during the morning session. Kenneth Swan, M.D., of UMDNJ - New Jersey Medical School (NJMS), will discuss "Surgery and the Nobel Prize." Donald W. Light, Ph.D., UMDNJ-School of Osteopathic Medicine (SOM), will address "How well have community hospitals served their communities throughout the 20th century?" William C. Campbell, Ph.D., Drew University, will conclude the morning program with a paper on "Captain Scott's physicians and their parasites."

Coffee will be served at 9:30 AM followed by a brief business meeting. A fee of $15.00 per person includes a buffet lunch. For additional information and registration, call (609) 896-1717.

Introduce a friend or colleague to the MHSNJ -- invite them to attend the meeting with you!

History of Medicine Endowment Created at UMDNJ

Morris H. Saffron, M.D., Professor Emeritus of Medical History at UMDNJ - NJMS and founder of the MHSNJ, created a $25,000 endowment at the UMDNJ - Foundation to enhance the study and teaching of medical history at the University. Interest from the endowment will be used to fund the Morris H. Saffron Program in the History of Medicine. The program will sponsor lectures, conferences, exhibits, and similar activities designed to further medical students' knowledge and appreciation of the history of their profession.

In collaboration with the University, the MHSNJ will administer the program. Francis Chinard, M.D., Distinguished Professor of Research Medicine at UMDNJ-NJMS, has been appointed chair of the MHSNJ Committee for the Saffron Program.
Recent MHSNJ Executive Committee Actions

A category of LIFE MEMBERSHIP at $250 was unanimously approved by the executive committee on March 1.

The executive committee also approved the deposit of Society archives in the New Jersey Medical History Collection being developed at the UMDNJ - G.F. Smith Library. Founder, M.H. Saffron, M.D., and former president, Richard Wedeen M.D., have donated records and materials to help document the history of the Society. Additional materials and newsletters are needed. The collection is open to researchers. For information, call Special Collections at (201) 456-6293.

"Collecting Medical History Books"
Bibliomania Theme for the 1992 Annual Meeting

W. Bruce Fye, M.D., antiquarian bookseller, cardiologist and author of numerous articles of Wisconsin, accepted an invitation to deliver the 1992 Saffron Lecture; his talk is tentatively titled "Medical book collecting in the 1990's: challenges and opportunities." The general theme of the meeting will be "Collecting Medical History Books." A call for papers will be issued in September, including mini-presentations on the subject of bibliomania. Plans include tables where members may display selected items from their personal collections. The 1992 annual meeting will be held May 13.

ACTIVITIES and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Morris H. Saffron, M.D., presented a Roman sculpture to the University of Maryland's School of Medicine. The bust, the upper portion of a full-length figure of Asclepius, god of medicine, will be displayed in the lobby of the Frank R. Bradler Research Building. Dr. Saffron graduated from the University's Medical School in 1928.

Richard Wedeen, M.D., immediate past president of MHSNJ, received two grants for historical research during 1990 in collaboration with Helen Sheehan, Ph.D. First, a New Jersey Historical Commission Mini-grant provided $750 to assist in the preparation of photographs for a book, The Price we pay: sharing the toxic burden to be published by Rutgers University Press in 1992. Wedeen and Sheehan are editors of the book. Second, a $25,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs will support a study of 11,763 consecutive admissions to the first state-operated medical facility for armed service veterans in the country. The project is entitled "A Demographic study of the New Jersey home for disabled soldiers."

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Colonel Kenneth Swan, M.D., of the U.S. Army Reserve Medical Corps, has been in Saudi Arabia since January serving with the 251st Evac Hospital, Operation Desert Storm. Dr. Swan expects to return home in time for the MHSNJ's annual meeting where he is scheduled to deliver a paper. He plans to modify his presentation in order to talk about his recent experiences in Operation Desert Storm.

Fred B. Rogers, M.D., was elected to honorary membership in the Section on Medical History, Royal Society of Medicine, London. Dr. Rogers is affiliated with the Department of Family Practice and Community Medicine, Temple University's School of Medicine.

A grant of $4,818 was awarded UMDNJ - Libraries by the New Jersey State Library for the preservation of scrapbooks belonging to Harrison S. Martland, M.D. (1883 - 1954). The scrapbooks contain Martland's research into the effects of radioactive materials in the human body; his work focused on the deaths of watch dial painters employed in a radium industry in Orange, NJ. Dr. Martland conducted the first scientific study of the "punch drunk" syndrome suffered by prize fighters, a record of which is also among the materials to be treated. The scrapbooks are part of a manuscript group of Martland materials in the New Jersey Medical History Collection, Smith Library, Newark. Barbara Irwin, M.L.S., is the project director. For information, call (201) 456-6293.

Donald W. Light, Ph.D., presented a series of six lectures on the theme "The Origins and dilemmas of American health care" at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine from February 28 to March 19. The lectures were sponsored by the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine and the University of London School of Hygiene. Professor Light, UMDNJ - SOM, will present a paper at the MHSNJ's annual meeting on May 8.

Victor A. Basile, was appointed UMDNJ - University Librarian succeeding Philip Rosenstein who retired last summer. Basile has held positions at UMDNJ as Acting Librarian, Deputy University Librarian, and Assistant University Librarian. A graduate of Drexel University, he joined the University in 1971. Previously, he was a Pfeiffer Fellow serving as Foreign Visiting Librarian at the Instituto de Recherch Farmacologiche "Maria Negri" in Milan, Italy.

A small manuscript collection documenting the medical practice and business interests of Lewis Johnson, M.D., (1704 - 1773) of Perth Amboy, NJ, was acquired recently for the New Jersey Medical History Collection at UMDNJ. The purchase was made possible by a donation from the Academy of Medicine of New Jersey.


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______. From inkblots to art therapy. Penn Med (July 1990): 16-17.


______. Height, health and history by Floyd, Wachter and Gregory. Book review in History: in press.


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