CORPORATE LECTURE INAUGURATED AT 1993 FALL MEETING

David Kohn, Ph.D., the Robert Fisher Oxnam Professor of Science and Technology at Drew University, will be the Society's first Corporate Lecturer at the fall meeting on October 20 at the Nassau Club in Princeton. Dr. Kohn will deliver a paper titled "Aesthetics and the Making of Darwin's Theory." The Corporate Lecture was established this year to utilize corporate-sponsored donations raised by the Society. The Society will continue soliciting corporate donations to present an annual Corporate Lecture at future fall meetings.

Papers to be presented are:

"Thomas Jefferson and Physicians: A 250th Anniversary Commentary"
Francis P. Chinard, M.D., Distinguished Research Professor, Department of Medicine, UMDNJ-NJMS

"From Glasgow to Newark: Neurological Surgery in New Jersey"
George L. Becker, Jr., M.D., Franklin Lakes, NJ

"The Medical History of Franklin D. Roosevelt"
Hugh E. Evans, M.D., Professor of Pediatrics, Department of Pediatrics, UMDNJ-NJMS

"Aesthetics and the Making of Darwin's Theory"
David Kohn, Ph.D., Robert Fisher Oxnam Professor of Science and Technology, Drew University

Members, students and friends are invited to attend this dinner meeting. Registration begins at 3:30 p.m. The cost is $30 including dinner and a cocktail or soft drink. For information and registration, contact Lisa Fleischer, MHSNJ, 14 Washington Road, Bldg. 1, Princeton Junction, NJ 08550, (609) 275-1911.
NEWS OF MEMBERS

Milton B. Asbell, D.D.S., gave a lecture in July on the history of orthodontics at the Graduate Department, Dental Medicine, Einstein Medical Center in Philadelphia.

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Victor A. Basile was recently elected a member of the Grolier Club, a group of bibliophiles, in New York City.

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Estelle Brodman, Ph.D., was the recipient of the first award presented by the Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences (ALHHS) in Louisville last May. Dr. Brodman was honored for "outstanding service to the Association since its inception and her contributions in significant ways to the development of the organization and to many of its individual members as well."

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Francis P. Chinard, M.D. delivered "The Cutting Edge: Encounters with the Guillotine" at the March meeting of the Charaka Club in New York City. Dr. Chinard was made a Laureate of the New Jersey Chapter of American College of Physicians and awarded the Charles L. Brown Award by the NJMS Alumni Association. Dr. and Mrs. Chinard made a television appearance on the evening news in Boston after being interviewed for their reaction to President Clinton's vacationing on Martha's Vineyard where they were also staying.

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Vincent Cirillo retired June 1 from Merck & Co. after 31 years of service. Vin began a Ph.D. program in history at Rutgers University in September. He plans to focus his studies on the history of science/medicine.

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Sandra Moss, M.D. presented "History of Nephrology in New Jersey" in June at the 20th anniversary meeting of the Nephrology Society of New Jersey.

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William B. Ober, M.D., retired pathologist and author, died April 27. The NY Times (May 4) reported that Dr. Ober received his medical degree from Boston University School of Medicine. He completed his internship and residency at Beth Israel Hospital in Boston and Boston Lying-In Hospital. Dr. Ober was the author of Boswell’s Clap (1979) which analyzed the afflictions of literary figures, and Bottoms Up! A Pathologist’s Essays on Medicine and the Humanities (1987) both published by Southern Illinois Press. Dr. Ober taught pathology at New Jersey College of Medicine and Dentistry. He was a past director of the department of pathology at Hackensack Medical Center and a former associate medical examiner for Bergen County.

A memorial service held June 8 for Morris H. Saffron, M.D. at the Harmonie Club in New York City was attended by a number of MHSNJ members. Moving eulogies were delivered in memory of Dr. Saffron by Vincent Cirillo and Barbara S. Irwin.

Helen E. Sheehan, Ph.D. delivered "Demographic Analysis of Irish-Born Soldiers of New Jersey Home for Disabled Soldiers" in January at the Irish History Roundtable of New York. Dr. Sheehan traveled to Hyderabad, India in August to interview practitioners of traditional medical systems. While in India, Dr. Sheehan delivered a lecture on Toxic Circles the book she co-edited with Richard P. Wedeen, M.D. Her lecture was presented at a meeting of the Society for Environmental Awareness and Community Health whose members named Dr. Sheehan an honorary advisor to the Society.

Joseph A. Silverman, M.D., presented "Anorexia Nervosa: Variations in Clinical Presentation in Different Historical Times" in August at the 12th World Congress of Psychosomatic Medicine in Bern, Switzerland.

Jeffrey L. Sturchio, Ph.D., presented "Trends in the History of the Chemical and Pharmaceutical Industries since 1900" in June at the annual meeting of the Special Libraries Association in Cincinnati; and, with Louis Galambos delivered, "The Origins of Innovative Organizations: Merck & Co., Inc., 1891-1960, A Comparative Perspective" in February at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. Dr. Sturchio currently serves on the councils of the American Institute of the History of Pharmacy and of the History of Science Society. He's also chair of the Division of the History of
Chemistry, American Chemical Society.

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Toxic Circles: Environmental Hazards from the Workplace into the Community was published in September by Rutgers University Press. The book focuses on the environmental and occupational hazards prevalent in New Jersey. Toxic Circles is edited by Helen E. Sheehan, Ph.D. and Richard P. Wedeen, M.D., with contributed chapters by William D. Sharpe, M.D., Christopher C. Sellers, M.D., Ph.D., and Francis P. Chinard, M.D. The book is dedicated to Morris H. Saffron, M.D.

A reception was held to celebrate the book's publication and the opening of an exhibit by the same name on September 30 in The Exhibition Gallery at the UMDNJ-G.F. Smith Library in Newark. "Toxic Circles" is a photography exhibit featuring the work of internationally known photographer Lynn Butler. Ms. Butler's photographs appear in Toxic Circles. The exhibit will remain on display until February. For more information, call UMDNJ-Special Collections Department at (201) 982-6293. The exhibit is funded in part by the Morris H. Saffron Endowments.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

A newly forming Roundtable on Topics in the History of Medicine, co-sponsored by the MHSNJ and UMDNJ-University Libraries, will hold a brief organizational meeting following the October 20 dinner meeting. For more information, contact Dr. Francis Chinard, (201) 982-4586.

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The next auction of old and rare medical books at the Swann Galleries, New York City, will be held in February. To order a catalog or for further information, contact Tobias Abeloff, Swann Galleries, 104 E. 25th Street, NY, NY 10010-2977, (212) 254-4710.

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In 1791, Dr. John Cooper (1765-1851) of New Jersey moved his medical practice across the Delaware River to Easton, PA. John Griffith, president of the Medical Society of NJ, wrote a letter from Burlington on May 3, 1791 stating that Dr. Cooper "hath been a Practitioner of physic & Surgery in this State and that in each character he hath been esteemed useful and reputable..." Licensed in New Jersey and a member of the State Society, this letter was proof of Dr. Cooper's credentials.
The manuscript letter was recently purchased with funds from the Morris H. Saffron Endowment for Books in the History of Medicine by the UMDNJ Special Collections Department for its New Jersey Medical History Manuscript Collection. The letter, in excellent condition, is the oldest item in that collection and one that is representative of the medical profession two centuries ago.

An interesting Quaker woman's experience with breast cancer surgery in 1814 appeared in *New Jersey Folklife* 15 (1990; 18-31). "This Trial was Sent in Love and Mercy for My Refinement..." was written by Susan Garfinkel, a doctoral candidate in American Civilization at the University of Pennsylvania. The article is based on letters written by Susanna Dillwyn Emlen of Burlington describing her experience undergoing breast surgery without anesthesia in her home. A member of the family, the noted Philadelphia surgeon Philip Syng Physick (1768-1837), supervised the operation. *New Jersey Folklife* is available in the UMDNJ Special Collections Department, G.F. Smith Library, Newark.

MHSNJ members who have access to electronic mail on Internet or Bitnet, may now contact UMDNJ Special Collections Department via e-mail. The Department can be reached at irwin@njmsa.umdnj.edu or densky@njmsa.umdnj.edu for reference inquiries.

The MHSNJ recently joined the League of Historical Societies of NJ. Barbara S. Irwin has been designated liaison for the MHSNJ. She is working on the library committee compiling a New Jersey bibliography. Barbara will help identify New Jersey medical history titles for inclusion in the bibliography.

Videotapes of program speakers at the spring meeting of the MHSNJ held May 19 are now available for viewing. They may be borrowed from the Society by contacting Lisa Fleischer at (609) 275-1911.

1st Annual Civil War Medicine Conference
Reported by Stephen Sun, 2nd year student, UMDNJ-NJMS

[Mr. Sun participated in the conference through a grant from the Morris H. Saffron Endowment for the History of Medicine. Four audio tapes from sessions at the Civil War Medicine Conference are available for $10 each. Contact Triad Media Group, 5702 Industry Ln. B-16, Frederick, MD 21701, to order.—Editor]

The 1st Annual Civil War Medicine Conference was held at Shepherd
College in West Virginia, August 6-8. This conference was sponsored by the National Museum of Civil War Medicine with registration fees collected as part of their fundraising efforts. The symposium included topics such as the ill-preparation, expectation, and experience of the Confederate Army in handling wartime situations. A review of the Letterman Plan was explained as the foundation for our present-day battlefield evacuation plan. Individual historical profiles included Dr. Julian John Chisolm, a Confederate ophthalmologist-surgeon who acted as the medical purveyor for the Confederate Army, and the profound influence the Civil War had on Walt Whitman's writings.

A bus tour was provided on the last day for visits to the Grove Farm and the various "hospitals" near Antietam National Battlefield. Antietam was the site of the bloodiest battle in American history. Clara Barton was known to have visited some 19 nearby hospitals and have worked 36 hours straight. Most of the sites visited could not be viewed by regular tourists because many of the converted houses used as headquarters and historical hospitals are undeveloped landmarks or privately owned.

Amputation kits were plentiful and appeared to be the most popular tool for surgeons on the battlefield. Slides showing piles of amputated limbs lying on the ground were shocking but equally absorbing. The descriptions given by the speakers provided a picture of surgical efficiency on the battlefield: kitchen tables were taken outdoors on which limbs were amputated; the table was washed using a bucket of water in readiness for the next patient.

The conference was well attended by Civil War medical enthusiasts from around the country, including Vincent Cirillo and his wife, and Dr. Murray Rosenberg, MHSNJ members.

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The Theobald Smith Society of NJ announces its forthcoming lecture series. Dr. M.J. Leibowitz will speak September 16 on the "Indentification of a Non-Pilus Adhesins of Pseudomonas Acruginosa;" Dr. Joseph J. Ferretti will speak October 21 on "Molecular Genetics of Pneumocystis Carinii;" Dr. Max Haggblom will speak February 17 on "Dechlorination of PCB in Anerobic Sediments;" and on March 17, Dr. Robert Thompson will speak on "A Crisis in Therapeutics: Osteopath & Diphtheria Antitoxin in 1915." The lecture series will be held at the Rutgers-Cook Campus Center, Biel Road, New Brunswick. For additional information, contact Charmanie Mukerjee at (908) 878-7918.

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The New Jersey Historical Commission is offering grants of up to $8,000 to assist projects dealing with New Jersey history. Many activities are eligible including research, writing, publication,
exhibitions, public events, and the production of film, video, and radio/television programs. In the past, grants have been awarded for work on a wide variety of topics; aspects of the history of medicine in New Jersey would be germane to the grant-in-aid program objectives.

Eligible applicants include historians, teachers, local and county historical organizations, museums, libraries, social service organizations, and agencies of county and local government. The application deadline is February 1, 1994. The Commission also offers minigrants of up to $1,000 to assist smaller-scale projects. Applicants for minigrants to support public events must be submitted at least 90 days before the event. There is no application deadline for other minigrants.

For application forms, guidelines, and information, contact the NJ Historical Commission at (609) 292-6062.

**MEMBER RESEARCH IN PROGRESS 1993**

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<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Subject</th>
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<tr>
<td>George L. Becker, Jr., M.D.</td>
<td>History of neurological surgery; history of NJ Neurosurgical Society.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Whitfield J. Bell, Jr., Ph.D.</td>
<td>Biographical Dictionary of Early Members of the American Philosophical Society (3 vols.), includes sketches of about 30 physicians.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harry Bloch, M.D.</td>
<td>&quot;Scurvy: A Disease That Has Disappeared&quot; (in progress).</td>
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<td>Francis P. Chinard, M.D.</td>
<td>Edward Miller, American Physician (biography emphasizing interactions of American and French physicians during the period 1780-1820).</td>
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Robert M. Klein, M.D.  Samuel Mudd, M.D.'s involvement in the Lincoln assassination conspiracy trial and conviction.

Sandra Moss, M.D.  "History of High Blood Pressure: its Diagnosis and Treatment in NJ" (in progress); historical vignettes for Seminars in Dialysis (a regular feature).

Ynez Violé O'Neill  Preparation of a 36 minute videotape on the life of Andreas Vesalius before publication of the Fabrica. Entitled "The Young Vesalius," the video focuses on Vesalius' dissections at Bologna in 1540; Preparing a computerized database of medieval medical images.

Helen E. Sheehan, Ph.D.  Preparation of two articles on New Jersey Home for Disabled Soldiers, 1866-1976. One article on policy issues; the other on demographic findings of 4000 patient entries (with Richard P. Wedeen, M.D.).


Jeffrey L. Sturchio, Ph.D.  History of Merck and the pharmaceutical industry.

Richard P. Wedeen, M.D.  Demographic study of the NJ Home for Disabled Soldiers, 1866-1976 (with Helen E. Sheehan, Ph.D.).