

# Medical History Society of New Jersey

Two Princess Road, Lawrenceville, New Jersey 08648

(609) 896-1717.

# Newsletter

Volume 3 No. 1

January, 1983

Our third year has been highly successful, both in terms of the activities and accomplishments of the Society and the Society's growth in membership. The Society now boasts a membership of 94.

During 1982, the Society held three meetings. On January 6 in cooperation with the Medical Education Program of the Bergen Pines County Hospital, a very well attended Symposium on "The Physician as Poet" was held at the hospital in Paramus. Louis H. Bishop, M.D., spoke on "Oliver Wendell Holmes," and William B. Ober, M.D., spoke on "William Carlos Williams."

On May 12, the annual business meeting presided over by President Peter J. Guthorn, M.D., was held at the Academy of Medicine in Lawrenceville. New officers were elected as noted below.

### OFFICERS \*\*\*\*\*

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|--------------------------------|----------------|
| David L. Cowen, M.A.           | President      |
| Vincent J. Cirillo, M.S.       | Vice-President |
| Richard P. Wedeen, M.D.        | Secretary      |
| LeRoy H. Stahlgren, M.D.       | Treasurer      |
| Morris H. Saffron, M.D., Ph.D. | Counsellors    |
| Peter J. Guthorn, M.D.         |                |

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE \*\*\*\*\*

The Executive Committee consists of the above officers.

### PROGRAM COMMITTEE \*\*\*\*\*

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|----------------------------|----------|
| Francis P. Chinard, M.D.   | Chairman |
| Estelle Broadman, Ph.D.    |          |
| Sherman Garrison, M.D.     |          |
| Russell L. McIntyre, Th.D. |          |
| LeRoy H. Stahlgren, M.D.   |          |

ORAL HISTORY COMMITTEE  
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Vincent J. Cirillo, M.S.  
Stuart K. Sammis, M.A. Chairman  
Elsalyn F. Drucker  
Linda Holmes  
Arthur Krosnick, M.D.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE  
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Sam Alewitz, Ph.D.  
Peter J. Guthorn, M.D. Chairman  
Philip Rosenstein, M.A., M.S.

The Morris H. Saffron Lecture was presented by Harry F. Dowling, M.D., Professor Emeritus and former Head, Dept. of Medicine, University of Illinois Medical School. His topic was "City Hospitals and Medical Schools: Partners at Arms Length." The lecture was followed by a luncheon and the afternoon was devoted to three papers. Francis P. Chinard, M.D., presented "Current Concepts of Pulmonary Edema and their Bases in the Work of Laennec and Starling," Stewart A. Alexander, M.D., and Michael A. Nevins, M.D., (read by Dr. Alexander) presented "Nineteenth Century Home Care Delivery in Bergen County: A Study of Dr. Henry C. Neer's Records," and James Reed, Ph.D., presented "The Pill: A Case Study in Technological Innovation."

The final meeting of the year was held on October 20 at the Rutgers Medical School of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey in Piscataway in conjunction with the opening and dedication of the Medical Artifact Exhibit at the School. A short business meeting presided over by President David L. Cowen was followed by three papers. Introduced by Francis P. Chinard, M.D., Chairman of the Program Committee, they were James T. Goodrich, M.D., Ph.D., "Sixteenth Century Renaissance Art and Anatomy," Vincent J. Cirillo, M.S., "Nineteenth Century Views of Blood Fluidity," and William D. Sharpe, M.D., "Autopsies at Newark City Hospital, 1908-1911."

Undoubtedly the lecture and papers presented during the year have demonstrated a broad range of interest and a very high quality of scholarship.

Following the meeting, the Medical History Artifacts Exhibit was opened for viewing by the members of the Society and others. The dedication ceremonies moderated by Russell L. McIntyre, Th.D., included short talks by Richard C. Reynolds, M.D., Dean of the Rutgers Medical School, Stanley S. Bergen, Jr., M.D. President of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, Morris H. Saffron, M.D., Ph.D., Chairman of the Committee on History and Archives of the Academy of Medicine of New Jersey and Rosemary Gellene, M.D., President of the Academy of Medicine of New Jersey. The Exhibit consisting mainly of artifacts belonging to the Academy of Medicine of New Jersey and given to the Rutgers Medical School through the good offices of Dr. Saffron have been elegantly preserved and exhibited. Historians of medicine must indeed be grateful.

ORAL HISTORY  
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An Oral History Program was provided for at the October meeting. The Committee under the Chairmanship of Stuart K. Sammis, M.A., has elected as its first theme "Health Professions in New Jersey During the Great Depression, 1929-1939." Dr. Thomas White of Jersey City has already been interviewed and

Dr. Morris H. Saffron is scheduled for an interview as this goes to press.

1983 PROGRAM  
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WINTER SYMPOSIUM

on  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12, 1983  
2:00 - 4:30 P.M.

at  
UMDNJ-NEW JERSEY MEDICAL SCHOOL  
History of Medicine Room of the  
George F. Smith Library  
100 Bergen Street  
Newark, New Jersey

2:00 P.M. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION  
Francis P. Chinard, M.D., Program Chairman

"THE ALABAMA GRANNY MIDWIFE HISTORICAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE HEALTH OF  
CHILD BEARING WOMEN: Reflections Based on an Oral History Project"  
Linda Holmes  
Assistant Professor  
UMDNJ-School of Allied Health Professions

"CONVERSATIONS WITH GREATNESS: Five Years on the Trail of 20th Century  
American Medical History"  
Allen Weisse, M.D.  
Professor of Medicine  
UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School

"NEWARK CITY HOSPITAL - 100 YEARS: A Pictorial Essay"  
Stuart Sarnis  
Archivist  
UMDNJ

"TBA"  
Carter Marshall, M.D.  
Professor of Medicine  
UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School

FOLLOWED BY A WINE AND CHEESE RECEPTION

4:30 P.M. ADJOURNMENT

ANNUAL MEETING  
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The Annual Meeting of the Medical History Society will be held at 10:00 A.M.  
at the Academy of Medicine of New Jersey in Lawrenceville on Wednesday, May  
18, 1983. This will be the occasion of the Fourth Annual Morris H. Saffron  
Lecture. Our guest lecturer will be Whitfield J. Bell, Jr., Ph.D., who is  
Executive Officer of the American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia. We  
are honored to have Dr. Bell with us on this occasion.

PUBLICATIONS - 1981-1982  
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Various presentations made before the Society have been published:

The full study on which Lloyd Stevenson, M.D., based his 1981 Morris H. Saffron Lecture has been published under the title "Exemplary Disease: The Typhoid Pattern," in the Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences, 37, (1982) 159-181.

The full study on which Harry F. Dowling, M.D., based his 1982 Morris H. Saffron Lecture has been published under the title "City Hospitals: The Undercare of the Underprivileged" by Harvard University Press.

Richard P. Wedeen's "Punch Cures the Gout," was published with several illustrations in the Journal of the Medical Society of New Jersey, 78, (1981) 201-206.

Francis P. Chinard's "Edward Miller-American Physician," appeared in the same Journal, 78, (1981) 296-299.

Sam Alewitz's "Ezra Mundy Hunt-Physician, Writer, Humanitarian," appeared in the same Journal, 78, (1981) 539-541.

John Z. Bowers and Edith E. King's "The Conquest of Yellow Fever," also appeared in the same Journal, 78, (1981) 539-541.

David L. Cowen, Louis D. King and Nicholas G. Lordi's "Nineteenth Century Drug Therapy: A Computer Analysis of the 1854 Prescription File of a Burlington Pharmacy," also appeared in the same Journal, 78, (1981) 758-761. Another version of the paper has been published as a contribution to Neue Beiträge zur Arzneimitttelgeschichte, a Festschrift in honor of Dr. Wolfgang Schneider published as Volume 51 of the Veröffentlichungen der Internationalen Gesellschaft für Geschichte der Pharmazie, (Stuttgart, 1982).

Be it noted that all papers presented to the Society will continue to be welcomed by Arthur Krosnick, M.D., editor of the Journal of the Medical Society of New Jersey for consideration for publication in that Journal.

NEWS OF MEMBERS, 1982  
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Milton B. Asbell, D.D.S., has taught a course in the history of Dentistry at the Temple University School of Dentistry.

Estelle Brodman, Ph.D., has contributed a Chapter called, "Looking Forward into Historical Medical Bibliography," in Books, Manuscripts and the History of Medicine: Essays on the Fifteenth Anniversary of the Osler Library, edited by Philip N. Teigen, (Science History Publications, New York, 1982).

David L. Cowen lectured on "Medicine in New Jersey in the Nineteenth Century," at the Bergen Pines County Hospital Continuing Education Program in April. He spoke at the dedication of Dr. Van Derveer's house at East Jersey Olde Towne in Piscataway in July. He read a paper on "The Influence of the Edinburgh Pharmacopoeia and the Edinburgh Dispensatories" at the joint meeting of the British Society for the History of Pharmacy and the British Pharmaceutical Conference in Edinburgh in September and delivered the annual lecture to the Pharmacist Institute of New Jersey on "Changes in Drug Therapy" at New Brunswick in October. In July, MHSNJ President Cowen was honored at a

luncheon of the Pharmacist Institute at Atlantic City. In September he was made an honorary member of the British Society for the History of Pharmacy at Edinburgh. In December he was given an "Award of Recognition" by the New Jersey Historical Commission in Trenton.

Gerald N. Grob, Ph.D., has been busiest of all. In January 1982, he lectured on "Disease and Environment in American History," at Johns Hopkins. In October he read a paper on "Archivists and Historians: Problems of Appraisal," at meetings of the Society of American Archivists in Boston. In October he lectured on "The Emergency of Modern American Psychiatry," and was a participant in a seminar in "The Origins of the Mental Hygiene Movement," at the University of Michigan Medical School in Ann Arbor. In November he lectured on "The Transformation of American Psychiatry-1890-1940," at the University of Wisconsin in Madison. In December he gave the Phi Alpha Theta Lecture on "Disease and Environment in American History," at the Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio. Again in December he was a participant in a seminar on "The Transformation of American Psychiatry," at the Cornell Medical School in New York and finally again in December he gave the Gilford Lecture on "The Transformation of American Psychiatry," at the Johns Hopkins Medical School.

William H. Helfand, D.Sc., presented the A.J. Orenstein Memorial Lecture at the Adler Museum of the History of Medicine, University of Witwatersrand, Parktown, South Africa in September. His topic was "Art and Medicine in Professional Communications." He and David L. Cowen were the authors of "Evolution of a Revolutionary Dosage Forms," Pharmacy International, 3, (1982) 393-395.

The conception, organization and completion of the Medical History Artifacts Exhibit at the Rutgers Medical School was the work of Russell L. McIntyre, Th.D. ably assisted throughout the operation by Stuart K. Sammis, M.A., of the George F. Smith Library of the Health Sciences of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey in Newark.

William B. Ober, M.D., presented an illustrated paper called "Bottoms Up: Notes on Flagellation in Art with Emphasis on 18th Century Icons," at a section of the Northeast American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies," in New Brunswick in October.

Fred Rogers, M.D., has written the first chapter (pp. 1-12), a "Historical Introduction and Review," for A.J. Finestone (ed.) Evaluation and Clinical Management of Dizziness and Vertigo, Boston, Wright, 1982. He has also written on "Dr. Samuel Pitcher (1823-1907): Cape Cod and Castoria," in the Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences, 37, (1982) 323-325 and reviewed Medicine and Science in Early America Collected Essays of George Edmund Gifford, Jr. 1930-1981, (Devon, Pa., ANRO, 1982) for the Transactions and Studies, College of Physicians of Philadelphia, 4, (1982) 310-312. In addition, Dr. Rogers has written non-historical articles on psychology in medical practice.

The face of Morris Saffron, M.D., Ph.D., adorned the cover of the September 1982, issue of the Journal of the Medical Society of New Jersey. The same issue (pp.719) carried a laudatory and deserved editorial on the contributions and accomplishments of Dr. Saffron by Peter J. Guthorn, M.D., and Arthur Krosnick, M.D.

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William Carlos Williams Centennial. The Journal of the Medical Society of New Jersey is planning a project in honor of William Carlos Williams and would appreciate receiving manuscripts appropriate to the occasion.

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Members are asked to make their interests known for membership and participation on the Society's committees and to keep the Society informed of their activities for inclusion in "News of Members."

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CALL FOR PAPERS

Please send abstracts of papers to be presented at the May 1983 meeting to:

Francis P. Chinard, M.D.,  
Program Chairman, MHSNJ  
UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School  
100 Bergen Street  
Newark, N.J. 07103

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DUES

1983 Dues are now due. Please use the enclosed bill in paying your 1983 dues.

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NEW MEMBERS

We welcomed the following members in 1982:

Stewart Alexander, M.D.  
Francis Mathus, M.D.  
Estelle Brodman, Ph.D.  
William Sharpe, M.D.  
Harry Gershenowitz, M.D.  
Gerald Shaw, D.O.  
Dorothy Morehouse  
Harold Barnshaw, M.D.  
Charles Grosslight  
H.L. Taylor  
Linda Holmes  
Harold Sobel, M.D.  
Joseph Bocchino, M.D.  
Jeffrey Levine, M.D.