

THE WATERMARK

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the History of the Health Sciences

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A Telling of Wonders: Teratology in Western Medicine

By Caroline Duroselle-Melish

In a recent exhibit at the New York Academy of Medicine, I examined the evolution of teratology (i.e., the study of perceived abnormalities in the natural world, both real and imagined) through the eyes of physicians and philosophers. Based on the exhibit, this paper describes the major interpretations of teratology from Antiquity to the end of the eighteenth century.

The term “monster,” which is derived from the Latin verb “monstrare” meaning “to show,” was used to describe a visually unusual creature from the first century B.C. onward. Greek and Roman authors had already developed scientific, ethnographic, and cosmographic interpretations of “the monstrous.” These classical interpretations remained influential until the end of the seventeenth century.



Sebastian Brant (1458-1521). *De monstroso ...* Strassburg: I[ohann] P[russ], after 10 September 1495. Courtesy of the Clements C. Fry Print Collection, Cushing/Whitney Medical Library, Yale University.

Foundations: Monstrous Beings in Antiquity and the Middle Ages

Aristotle (ca. 384-322 B.C.) provided one of the most important scientific discussions of monstrous beings. His direct observations of nature were impressive, although in several areas his theories, like those of other ancient writers, reflected the social prejudices of his time. Aristotle's understanding of reproduction involved two concepts: form and matter. He compared the male element, semen, to an artisan shaping the raw material provided by the female into a product. According to Aristotle, monstrous births happened when there was either abundance or division of the semen. Monstrosity was not against nature per se, but simply against what usually happened in nature. He believed that nature makes nothing in vain, but that, sometimes, it does not achieve its intended goal. In that case, the outcome of the natural process was called a monster. For example, Aristotle considered twins to be monsters. This naturalistic explanation led Aristotle to deny the existence of extraordinary monsters. After his writings had been rediscovered in the thirteenth century, Aristotle's theories became the accepted view of the natural order of the world.

Like those of Aristotle, Galen's views remained authoritative for centuries. Galen (131-201 A.D.) also studied embryology and developed a theory similar to that of Hippocrates (ca. 460-377 B.C.) who had linked the cause of multiple births to the structure of the womb. Less misogynistic than Aristotle, Galen attributed an active role in reproduction to both the male and female. Both contributed semen so that the offspring could have characteristics from both parents.

Galen explained that the uterus was divided into seven cells: three warmer ones on the right, which would engender males; three colder ones on the left, which would engender females; and a seventh in the middle that could produce a hermaphrodite.

Another influential classical interpretation was written by Pliny the Elder (23-79 A.D.) who compiled much of the cosmographical and anthropological knowledge of his time in his *Natural History*. He included a section on monsters. At the time, the fear of the unknown led to the belief that what was far away was monstrous, and Pliny gave a description of supposedly monstrous races living in the remote lands of Africa and Asia. For Pliny, monstrous races were part of the generosity of nature.

During the eleventh century, Avicenna (980-1037 A.D.), the eminent physician of Baghdad, attempted in his *Canon* to systematize and reinterpret the corpus of medical knowledge according to Galenic medicine and Aristotelian natural philosophy. Agreeing with Aristotle's theory on monsters, Avicenna attributed multiple births to the overabundance or division of sperm.

Church Fathers also contributed to the teratological tradition. In his *City of God*, St. Augustine (354-430 A.D.) asked whether monsters were God's creatures, while Isidore of Seville (ca. 560-636 A.D.) attempted to classify them.

Natural Philosophy

From the late fourteenth century onward, natural

philosophy was a broad field, combining the empirical study of the natural world—today's biology, zoology, geology, etc.—with more philosophical questions. There was a heightened desire to study nature and the unusual due to increasing contact with distant countries.

Medical men, who were also trained in natural philosophy, were the main promoters and chroniclers of wonders. Partly due to writings of men like Girolamo Cardano (1501-1576), a practicing Italian physician and polymath, wonders (including monstrous beings) were increasingly seen as part of the everyday world. With increasing travel to distant countries and the exploration of other continents, Pliny the Elder's ethnographic interpretation of the monstrous started to crumble. Hence, in the description of one of his trips to the eastern Mediterranean, Pierre Belon (1517?-1564), a French apothecary, gave an account of what he called the "singularities" in the different countries he visited. Belon found the inhabitants exotic, but far from the fantastic beings described in Antiquity by Pliny the Elder. Many natural histories of the time aimed at a genuinely encyclopedic scope in both coverage of subject and sources consulted. One of the most ambitious natural encyclopedias of the time was written by Konrad Gesner (1516-1565), a well-known natural philosopher called the "Pliny of Germany," who taught medicine and philosophy. Focusing on Old World plants and animals, he included both mythical and monstrous beings in his work, and his marine monsters

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and biblical depictions of sea life were particularly well developed.

The Prodigy Book in the Sixteenth Century

With the rising interest in the wondrous, it was common during the sixteenth century to reprint classical works on prodigies. The "prodigy book" was a new and successful publishing genre facilitated by the invention and development of printing. Since there were few documented cases, the same illustrations were used again and again to accompany the stories. Tales of the monstrous were also written for the pleasure of wealthy audiences. Published in lavishly produced books, they attracted potential patrons bored with more practical matters.

Many chroniclers tried to explain "monstrous" from "normal" births by juxtaposing both natural causes (following Aristotle), and divine responsibility (following St. Augustine's idea that nature reflects the will of God). Monsters were thus viewed as signs and portents through which God communicated with man. Especially during the religious wars of the sixteenth century, they were often interpreted as political or religious omens.

A successful prodigy book written by Pierre Boaistuau, the *Histoires Prodigieuses*, recorded contemporary accounts of documented monstrous births and fantastic beings, including the monster of Ravenna. Inspired by real events, the monster of Ravenna was one of the earliest accounts to attain international notoriety. A child was born with severe birth defects in the Italian city of Ravenna. Shortly thereafter, Italian forces were defeated in the Battle of Ravenna. The monstrous birth then became a symbol of the Italians' defeat. Portrayed with the torso and feet of a bird, the monster symbolized the effects of the supposedly Italian sin of sodomy, tempered, however, by a certain degree of virtue.

Jacob Ruff (or Rueff) (1500-1558), city physician of Zurich, Switzerland intended his treatise on midwifery, *De conceptu et generatione hominis*, for midwives, pregnant women and physicians, as well as for a general scholarly audience. He integrated a discussion of imaginary monstrosities with problems of reproduction and combined Aristotle's theories with divine causes.

One of the most influential treatises on monsters of the sixteenth century, *Des Monstres et Prodiges*, was written by Ambroise Paré (1510?-1590), the

famous French surgeon. Although he brought few new ideas to this subject, Paré produced a brilliant synthesis of the teratological thought of his time, drawing on the works of Cardano, Ruff, and Boaistuau. Like other commentaries on monsters, his work, which included marine, animal, and human monsters, is dominated by a sense of wonder and joy in the variety of creation. Intended for a broad audience, he organized the causes of monstrosity into four categories: the direct will of God, the agency of devils and demons, human will (including spiteful human artifice), and the imperfection of nature.

The Prodigy Book in the Seventeenth Century

The end of the sixteenth century was marked by profound cultural changes, stimulated principally by the end of the Wars of Religion. Wonders, and monsters in particular, began to be interpreted less frequently as bad omens. Curiosity and admiration of nature's products became predominant, resulting in a more diverse group of scholars writing books about the subject.

Likewise, illustrations of monsters began to change. Often represented in a naturalistic environment, the

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illustrators strove for increasing realism, reflective of the trend toward detailed observation. However, the shift was not total, and the same book could contain the older more imaginary style as well as contemporary, anatomical drawings of abnormalities.

The observations by the eminent physician Johannes Schenck (1530-1598) were intended to be an encyclopedia of all the monstrosities recorded since Antiquity. The originality of his work lay in the fact that he classified monstrosities into five different categories corresponding to the five parts of the body, and that he separated birth defects from entirely imaginary monsters.

Collecting Curiosities: The Rise of the Medical Museum

Collections of natural curiosities flourished during the sixteenth and seventeenth century. Also known as "cabinets of curiosities," these collections were assembled in many cases by physicians and natural philosophers, who were passionate collectors, but also wanted a professional collection useful for research. These collections played a significant social role, enabling collectors to build their reputations and create professional networks through visits and exchanges of objects.

These collections lost some of their professional usefulness as they became mechanisms of entertainment and social promotion for their owners. One of the largest natural history collections of the sixteenth century was owned by Ulisse Aldrovandi (1522-1605), professor of natural history and

philosophy in Bologna. He described it as containing: "18,000 different things, among them 7,000 plants in fifteen volumes, dried and pasted, 3,000 of which I had painted as if alive. The rest—animals terrestrial, aerial and aquatic, and other subterranean things such as earth, petrified soap, stones, marbles, rocks, and metals—amount to as many pieces again." His collection was also intended to be a major attraction for gentlemen passing through the city.

During the seventeenth century Frederik Ruysch (1638-1731), the Dutch surgeon and anatomist, assembled one of the largest anatomical collections of the time, including examples of human beings with physical oddities. Ruysch was famous for his rather romantic and dramatic way of displaying his specimens using innovative embalming techniques. His "cabinet" became a major attraction for foreign visitors.

Popular Culture

Teratology was not a field limited to the scholarly and wealthy elite. In fact, it reached a wide audience through "cheap print," i.e., pamphlets and broadsides. In the sixteenth century, the Protestant reformers Luther and Melancton substantially increased the presence of monsters in popular culture with the publication of a pamphlet depicting monstrous creatures as prophecies of the imminent ruin of the Roman Church. Monsters were also depicted in broadsides, reaching more readers than any other type of text. A crowd would gather around a publicly displayed broadside, while someone read aloud the narrative. The broadside was usually illustrated and appealed to the illiterate as well as to the reading public.

The same illustrations of prodigies and monsters were depicted in both scholarly books and "cheap print." By the end of the seventeenth century, however, only pamphlets and broadsides treated monsters as frightening creatures. Educated classes were becoming critical of such literature, viewing it as a sign of popular ignorance and superstition.

Case Studies and Learned Societies

During the seventeenth century, a change occurred in the way the educated classes wrote about natural phenomena. The medieval, scholastic style of generalized statements shifted to detailed prose describing specific events or experiments. The writings

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of the philosopher Francis Bacon (1561-1626) played a major role in this change. He also had a decisive influence on the perception of wonders and monsters, as they evolved from objects of fear or wonderment to objects of purely scientific study.

Bacon intended to reform the study of nature, in part, by presenting the abnormal as a useful category of scientific understanding. For this philosopher, as for many of his time, one could understand the "norm" through investigation of the abnormal.

Meticulously prepared anatomical descriptions of cases constituted the main portion of the scientific teratological papers of the period. Wonders were notoriously ephemeral, however, and funding for scientific research was rarely available. Occasionally, scientists influenced by practical concerns had to abandon their research. Thus, William Durston wrote at the end of his report "A Narrative of a monstrous birth in Plymouth, October 22, 1670" published in the *Transactions of the Royal Society of London* that he would have pursued his anatomical observations on a monstrous birth further, but that "time and the tumultuous concourse of people, as also the night, and likewise the Father's importunity to hasten the birth of the grave, hindered us."

The Eighteenth Century: The Monstrous as a Battleground for Scientific and Philosophical Debates

By the end of the seventeenth century, natural philosophy shifted toward adopting an orderly conception of nature. Scientific societies started to question strange phenomena and teratological research became increasingly specialized, focusing on the medical fields of anatomy and embryology.

Although wonders had lost their aura, the monstrous was the topic of several significant debates in the scholarly community during the eighteenth century. Following a controversy about the relationship between God and nature, the scientists of the French Académie Royale des Sciences debated the responsibility of God in the production of unusual or monstrous births. By the middle of the eighteenth century, Enlightenment philosophers shifted the terms of the debate and boldly set forth theories that presented the monstrous as a non-metaphysical phenomenon. Both philosophers and scientists, however, continued to work without recognized

anatomical standards to guide them in the classification of monstrous births.

A report on monsters, written by the Secretary of the French Academy, summarized one of the most controversial questions concerning the origin of monsters: What was the origin of the foetus, and what caused the egg-foetus to develop into a monster? Three physicians were particularly involved in this investigation. Joseph Duverney, a professor of anatomy in Paris, had described a case of conjoined twins and defended the theory that these were a demonstration of divine fecundity and variety. For him, monsters existed in the egg-foetus. On the other hand, Duverney's opponent, the physician Nicholas Lemery, supported the theory of accidental origins, and believed that conjoined twins were caused by the accidental collision of two eggs. Jacques Winslow entered the debate in 1735 and tried to present a compromise by suggesting that, in certain cases, accidental causes could mask metaphysical forces.

Nicolas Malebranche (1638-1715) theorized that monstrous births were caused by the imagination of the mother on the foetus, which was achieved through communication between the nerves of the mother and the nerves of the foetus. For example, a monstrous birth might result if a pregnant woman saw a particularly ugly or frightening object. Malebranche based this on the sixteenth-century belief that imagination had the power to affect the outside world.



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James Augustus Blondel (ca.1666-1734) wrote the first scientific text to refute the role of the imagination of pregnant women in creating monstrous births. He used the regularity of nature and its mechanical functioning as evidence and illustrated his argument with numerous clinical examples. Blondel also rejected the "imaginative" theory of monstrous births on the basis that belief in the power of the imagination was an unscientific idea held by lay people.

A New Era: The Birth of a Modern Definition of Teratology in the Early Nineteenth Century

In the first half of the nineteenth century, teratology became a science limited to the study of birth defects, which anatomists depicted as part of a natural process, rather than as an independently produced phenomenon. Furthermore, they established a distinction between physical anomaly and monstrosity, and created a specific vocabulary for each of them. It is interesting to note that modern teratologists retain the term "monster" to designate extreme physical deformity, using a word, which had inspired many prejudices through centuries. The early nineteenth century also witnessed the first attempts by men to artificially create deformity in living organisms as a way to better understand the mechanisms.

Johan Friedrich Meckel (1781-1833), a pathologist and comparative anatomist, contributed to the creation of scientific teratology by promoting the view that higher animals were the result of a progressive evolution from lower forms of life. The works of the Geoffroy St. Hilaire family were fundamental in the development of teratology. Etienne, the father (1772-1844), demonstrated through comparative anatomical

studies that the cause of monstrosity was an interruption in the development of the foetus. This brought to an end lingering support for the theory that a pregnant woman's imagination could influence the development of monstrosities. Rejecting previous classifications, which were limited to a description of different monsters, Geoffroy de St. Hilaire (1805-1861) developed a new classification system emphasizing the general characteristics of monstrosity. Camille Dareste, founder of experimental teratology, worked with chicken embryos and produced birth defects artificially for the first time.

When Mary Shelley (1797-1851) published *Frankenstein* in 1818, she was well aware of the medical and scientific discoveries of her time. Far from describing a "freak," Shelley described a monster fabricated by science. *Frankenstein* has retained its popularity partly because it expressed persistent fears, which are still evident today in the debates over cloning, stem cell research, and modified genetic organisms.

Current Works Relating to Teratology

Appel, Toby A. *The Cuvier-Geoffroy debate: French biology in the decades before Darwin*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1987.

Cohen, Jeffrey Jerome, editor. *Monster theory: reading culture*. Minneapolis, Minn.: University of Minnesota Press, 1996.

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Daston, Lorraine and Park, Katharine. *Wonders and the order of nature, 1150-1750*. New York: Zone Books, 1998.

Garland, Robert. *The eye of the beholder: deformity and disability in the Graeco-Roman world*. Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 1995.

Graille, Patrick. *Les hermaphrodites: aux XVIIe et XVIIIe siècles*. Paris : Les Belles Lettres, 2001.

Helman, Cecil. *The body of Frankenstein's monster: essays in myth and medicine*. New York: Norton, 1992.

Kampf, Klaus. *Teratologie als Vorstufe einer Entwicklungsgeschichte: A. W. Otto (1786-1845) und*

sein "Museum monstrorum" Breslau 1841. Koln: Forschungsstelle des Instituts für Geschichte der Medizin der Universität zu Koln; Feuchtwangen: Alleinvertrieb, C.-E. Kohlhauser, 1987.

Paré, Ambroise, 1510-1590. *On monsters and marvels*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1983.

Purcell, Rosamund. *Special cases: natural anomalies and historical monsters*. San Francisco: Chronicle Books, 1997.

Siraisi, Nancy G. *The clock and the mirror: Girolamo Cardano and Renaissance medicine*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 1997.

Thomson, Rosemary Garland. *Extraordinary bodies: figuring physical disability in American culture and literature*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1997.

Todd, Dennis. *Imagining monsters: miscreations of the self in eighteenth-century England*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1995.

Wilson, Dudley. *Signs and portents: monstrous births from the Middle Ages to the Enlightenment*. London; New York : Routledge, 1993.

* * *

Caroline Duroselle-Melish is currently Rare Book Librarian at the University of Rochester, New York. The exhibit, *A Telling of Wonders*, was developed in 1999 while she was working in the Historical Collections of The New York Academy of Medicine, and can be viewed in its entirety at the Academy's web site. Ms. Duroselle-Melish was invited to present a paper based on the exhibit to the March of Dimes.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Summer has been a productive time for ALHHS. In this issue you will find Barbara Van Brimmer's call for nominations along with the description of the Publications Award developed by Michael Flannery and his very able committee. You are urged to submit for consideration your own publications as well as those of other members. Nancy Hulston, the Local Arrangements chair for 2002, reports on the plans for

our meeting in Kansas City in April. As an experiment Kathy Donahue has mounted Lilli's table of contents for the summer issue of *The Watermark* on our web site. Take a look and let us know what you think.

By now everyone should have received the paper copy of our directory. Thanks go to Stephen Greenberg for formatting the latest membership information, to Lilla Vekerdy for the cover design, and to Jonathon Erlen for coordinating the printing and shipping. We need to continue our discussion on whether we want to mount any or all of the directory information on www.alhhs.org.

If you have not yet contributed your information to Patricia Gallagher for the policy and procedure manual, this is the time to do so. Documenting practices will help clarify roles and bring continuity to our organization.

Carol Clausen and her Nominating Committee (Susan Case and Nonnie Klein) would like you to submit the names of those who might be interested in serving as a Member-at-Large. Self nominations are encouraged. We will elect two members who will begin their two-year terms of office at the close of our next annual meeting. The Members-at-Large serve on the Steering Committee, which assists the President in conducting the ongoing business of the Association. They are often

asked to take the leadership of special committees or task forces.

Suzanne Porter

Publication Awards Committee Report

In June, after much deliberation, the Publication Awards Committee consisting of Toby Appel, Charles Greiffenstein, and Mike Flannery, approved the following policy statement regarding the ALHHS award process:

The ALHHS Publication Award is given on years alternating with the Holloway Award to any ALHHS member(s) who published within three years of the award date a significant article, catalog, or book related to the history of the health care sciences or a work on the bibliography, librarianship, and/or curatorship of historical collections in one or more of the health care sciences. Works may be renominated for consideration within the three-year period but not beyond. Nominated authors need to be members in good standing at the time the award is given but in no case can an active nominee be a member of the Publication Awards Committee nor can any active committee member propose a nominee. Books from any academic or trade publisher are eligible for nomination as are articles from journals, trade or private periodicals of recognized standing. It is part of the implicit charge of every Publication Awards Committee to establish a precise definition of "significant" as well as assess the character and nature of the publication under consideration, although obvious considerations such as the quality of writing, contribution to the field, and relevance to the profession should be consistent benchmarks of excellence. In cases of multiple authorship only the first two authors named on the piece can be considered for the award unless the nominee represents the only ALHHS member in the list of joint authorship. At no time can more than two authors be the recipient of the award. If no worthy candidate(s) for the award are found none shall be given in that year. In such a case the next date for consideration of the Publication Award would be the year following the Holloway Award.

Mike Flannery, Chair

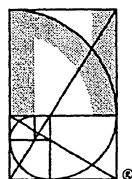
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Call for Nominations for the Publication Award

The Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences (ALHHS) are seeking nominations for the Publication Award. Books, significant articles, catalogs, and bibliographies related to the history of the health care sciences and works on the bibliography, librarianship, and/or curatorship of historical collections in the health care sciences are eligible for consideration. Works must have been published within three years of the award date. Nominated authors need to be ALHHS members in good standing.

The Publication Award will be presented at the annual meeting in Kansas City, Kansas, in April 2002. The deadline for nominations (self-nominations are encouraged) is March 1, 2002. To receive complete information on the nominating process, please contact:

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Budget Committee Report

The Budget Committee made up of Stephen Novak, Columbia University; Jodi Koste, Medical College of Virginia; and Elizabeth Ihrig, Bakken Library, submits the following report.

Charge

The committee was appointed by ALHHS President Suzanne Porter in May 2000 to examine the organization's present finances and to recommend future priorities and funding needs.

Interviews

The committee members interviewed former and present officers including Elaine Challacombe, Stephen Greenberg, Barbara Irwin, Ed Mormon, Susan Rishworth, Phil Teigen and Beth White. We also spoke with present *Watermark* editor, Lilli Sentz.

Most of those interviewed did not think a formal budget an absolute necessity for an organization as small in size and as simple in its activities as ALHHS, but all thought it would probably be a good thing. Some suggestions for future funding were:

- Honoraria for speakers at annual meeting
- Presidential "slush fund" of several hundred dollars for unanticipated expenses
- Award to pay the way of a librarian/archivist to attend the annual meeting

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Current Income and Expenses

The organization's income and expenses for 1999 can be found in Exhibit A on page 52. This, it should be noted, is an "idealized" account for 1999. To show what maximum expenses and income might be for the organization, we included the costs for awards (last given in 1998) and gave an average over five years of postage costs (because they showed great variation from year to year).

Both these figures and those for earlier years provided by Elizabeth Ihrig show that ALHHS has been living within its means. In this "idealized" report for 1999 the organization showed a surplus of \$263.

The largest expenses are the annual meeting (46%) and *The Watermark* (31.9%). The largest sources of income are the annual meeting (43.2%) and dues (32.7%). Financially, the most heartening news is the great increase in ad revenue from the *Watermark* – from \$855 in 1995 to \$2,520 in 2000/01. This has meant *The Watermark* is almost self-supporting: in 1999/00, \$2,160 of the total cost of \$2,827 was covered by ad revenue.

Establishing a Budget Process

Though the ALHHS is a relatively small and uncomplicated organization, your committee believes that a formal budget process would make us more efficient and would demonstrate accountability to our members.

Such a process would require the Treasurer to present a budget for the upcoming fiscal year to the Steering Committee at the Annual Meeting. It would be approved by the Steering Committee at that meeting.

We suggest that during the year, the Treasurer, with the consent of the President, could authorize unanticipated expenses up to a certain amount determined by the Steering Committee. Expenses over this amount would have to be approved by the Steering Committee. It would probably be prudent to set an amount for both *single* and *total* unanticipated expenditures that could be authorized by the Treasurer. For example, the Steering Committee might decide that the Treasurer could pay unanticipated single expenditures up to \$250, with no more than \$500 in such expenditures approved by the Treasurer in any one fiscal year.

Future Directions

The ALHHS is financially sound and if it restricts itself to its present activities—annual meeting, quarterly newsletter, directory and a few awards—it should have no trouble meeting its expenses over the years through occasional dues increases.

Some of the issues the organization's leadership should be aware of when setting future priorities are the following:

Annual Meeting

A small amount should be budgeted to cover the administrative costs—largely postage—of the annual meeting committee.

Budgeting money for a speaker's honorarium should be considered, but only if we have the resources. We agree with the former officer who said, "No one, even members, should be expected to develop a program and do it for free." Paying speakers will also allow us to develop a greater range of programs at the annual meetings. However, considering our finances, it may not be something we can accomplish in the near future.

We should also be aware that AAHM is reconsidering the support it has traditionally given to those organizations like ALHHS who piggyback onto the

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AAHM's annual meeting. We should be prepared for possible higher annual meeting costs relatively soon.

Awards

We recommend establishing an endowment for financing our present awards. Because award costs are low, this is an expense we might easily be able to pay out of an endowment fund. It is also an obvious naming opportunity for a donor.

Income permitting, the Steering Committee might also consider the idea of creating a travel award to aid a librarian or archivist in the history of the health sciences who might otherwise not be able to attend our annual meeting. This should be open to non-members and, in fact, should be seen as a way to increase membership in the organization.

Reserve Funds

The organization should consider building up a more liquid reserve fund to meet unanticipated expenses. At present, we only have our certificate of deposit to fall back upon, and we would be severely penalized if we had to withdraw money prematurely.

A reserve fund kept in a money market account would give us more liquidity. To establish it, part of the CD could be taken out when it comes due. A certain percentage of the annual ALHHS income for several years could be dedicated to the reserve fund until it reaches a prescribed sum.

We will have to strike a balance between the liquidity of a money market account and the higher interest of a certificate of deposit. Organizations similar to

ourselves in size and function who have established reserve funds could no doubt give us advice on how to accomplish this.

The Watermark & Directory

The *Watermark* and the directory are essential for keeping members in touch with one another during the year. We hope the officers maintain the high level of support for these publications that they have in the past.

Since the *Watermark* has become almost self-supporting, we do not see any necessity for cost reductions now. However, as a service to members and as a way to trim expenses, the officers might consider offering members the option of receiving the *Watermark* via e-mail.

Web Page

The new web page can be an efficient way to communicate with both members and the larger world. It is too early to tell exactly how expensive it will be to maintain, but we strongly urge the organization to support and, if necessary, to expand it.

New Sources of Income

The committee did not hear any suggestions from the interviewees about new sources of income. In the past, ALHHS has relied on the generosity of members' institutions to help defray costs of the annual meeting, the *Watermark*, the directory and postage. In addition, the editors of the *Watermark* have done an excellent job of developing ad revenues over the past half decade. It is possible we could do more outreach to library/archives supply and service vendors for donations to the annual meeting, but this might best be left to the annual meeting committee on an ad hoc basis.

Conclusions

While a formal budget is not a necessity for ALHHS, it certainly will help the organization clarify its goals and priorities as well as establish fiscal accountability. If the organization wants to increase its activities, the need to rationalize its finances will grow.



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However, given that ALHHS is a relatively small group whose members live across the country and only meet once a year, we also need to be realistic as to what we can accomplish. The suggestions offered here are only that and should be evaluated realistically in light of our finances.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen E. Novak, Chair
Elizabeth Ihrig
Jodi Koste

December 15, 2000

Exhibit A

ALHHS Income & Expenses, 1999

Expenses (includes award expenses for 1998; an average of postage costs over 1995-99; and, 1999/00 *Watermark* expenses). Percentages equal slightly less than 100%.

Awards	\$ 299	3.3%
Bank Charges	52	0.5%
Misc.	50	0.5%
Postage	272	3.0%
<i>Watermark</i>	2828	31.9%
Annual Meeting	4072	46.0%
Directory	<u>1268</u>	14.3%

TOTAL EXPENSES \$8841

Income (includes *Watermark* ad income from 1999/00). Percentages equal slightly less than 100%.

Dues	\$2979	32.7%
Annual Meeting	3936	43.2%
Interest	29	.3%
Ads	<u>2160</u>	23.7%

TOTAL INCOME \$9104

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALHHS in Kansas City in 2002

The 75th Anniversary Conference of the American Association for the History of Medicine, along with the Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences, will meet in Kansas City, Missouri, from April 23 to April 28, 2002. The conference hotel will be the Westin Crown Center, One Pershing Road, Kansas City, Missouri; (816) 474-4400.

The ALHHS annual dinner on April 23, sponsored by the History and Philosophy of Medicine Department, University of Kansas Medical Center, and held at the Clendening Library, will feature the Kansas City area's world famous barbeque. Vegetarian options will be available.

Nancy Hulston
Local Arrangements Committee

Nominations for Editor

As announced in the last newsletter, Lilli Sentz plans to step down as editor of *The Watermark* in the summer of 2003. This gives ALHHS time to select a new editor and allows that person, or persons, the valuable opportunity to work with Lilli during her last year in order to ensure a smooth transition. Please give careful consideration to whom among your colleagues you would recommend for the editorship. Self nominations are encouraged. The Steering Committee will make the final decision on the appointment. Please address any inquiries for information or nominations to Suzanne Porter at porte004@mc.duke.edu or phone (919) 660-1143.

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EX LIBRIS

By Lucretia W. McClure

Congratulations

To Dr. Alexandra (Lexi) Lord who was recently appointed staff historian in the Office of the Public Health Service Historian. Dr. Lord received her Ph.D. in History, with special emphasis in history of medicine, at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She was awarded the Shryock Medal of the American Association for the History of Medicine for the best essay in medical history submitted by a graduate student. Her award-winning paper, "The great *Arcana* of the deity: menstruation and menstrual disorders in eighteenth-century British medical thought," was published in the *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* (73:38-63, 1999). She spent a year on a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of California, San Francisco, and taught four years at Montana State University and the State University of New York at New Paltz before coming to her new position.

And More Good News

Tom Horrocks, Associate Director for Special Collections and Curator of Rare Books at the Countway Library of Medicine, was recently appointed the Joseph Garland Librarian of the Boston Medical Library.

* * *

Ed Morman assumed his position as College Librarian and Director of the Wood Institute for the History of Medicine at the College of Physicians of Philadelphia in July. Not three weeks later, he was pleased to learn that the College Library had won a \$600,000 grant from the William Penn Foundation. The grant proposal, prepared by Charles Greifenstein, Curator of Archives and Manuscripts, with the assistance of Joan McKenzie, Coordinator for Technical Services, and the College's executive staff and development office, will be used to continue conservation work on early printed books.

It will also support the start of a re-cataloging program for incunables and sixteenth-century books. To that

end, cataloger Laura Guelle spent a week in Charlottesville in early August, studying descriptive bibliography at the University of Virginia's Rare Book School. Other projects funded by the Penn grant include placing the holdings of all 22,000 serial titles into SERHOLD, OCLC, and the local OPAC named CPPSource, a conservation survey for the nineteenth- and twentieth-century holdings, and a general stack cleaning project based on an earlier conservation survey.

Chris Stanwood, reference librarian at the College, recently completed the M.L.S. program at Drexel University. He has a masters degree in history from Rutgers-Camden and has been on the staff of the College Library since 1998.

* * *

From Susan Rishworth comes word of her new position as the first Archivist to be hired by the American College of Surgeons. The membership of the College is about 60,000 and the staff numbers about 175. Formerly the care of historical records was handled by one of the senior physicians, George

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Stephenson, author of *American College of Surgeons at 75* (Chicago: ACS, 1990).

She reports that the magnificent library that the College once had has been dismantled, sold, traded, and dispersed in one way or another. It is being re-established as a reference library for the staff. She hopes to rebuild a history library collection in the future along with arranging, describing, and rehousing the records, and is planning to participate in a feasibility study for establishing a surgical heritage center with records of other surgical associations.

And Some Not-So-Good News

Billie Broaddus reports that the Cincinnati Medical Heritage Center (CMHC) has been affected by the reduced funding for higher education by the State of Ohio. Funding for the Hauck Center for the Albert Sabin Archives ended this summer and the former Archivist, Maggie Yax, is now Archivist at the Cincinnati Museum Center. Cassandra Collins, the CMHC Library Assistant, is on educational leave to finish her undergraduate degree.

The Center's new hours are 1 p.m.-5 p.m, Monday through Friday, or by appointment. Those wishing to use the collections on site for any length of time will need to contact the Director in advance. She will continue to provide service from all collections, including the Albert Sabin Archives, though responses to online and written requests may be slower than in

the past. In contacting the CMHC, please use the following phone number (513) 558-4570 or e-mail Billie.Broaddus@uc.edu.

New Career

Robin Overmier has retired from the faculty of the School of Library and Information Studies at the University of Oklahoma and is embarking on a new career as a writer. Her most ambitious project is a murder mystery set in a family fishing camp and involving animal rights activists. This is tentatively titled *No Fishing Allowed*.

She also has some new professional publications. A chapter, "Scientific book collectors and collections, public and private, 1720 to date," appears in Thornton and Tully's *Scientific Books, Libraries, and Collectors*, 2000. A new CD edition of *Psychology: IUPsyS Global Resource*, edited by J. Bruce and Judith A. Overmier, is published by Psychology Press, 2001, Hove, England, and an article about it, "Evolution of a reference source: documenting international psychology from 1929 to 2000" appears in the Summer 2001 issue of *Social Epistemology*. This entire issue is devoted to bibliography and she reports that Steve Wagner also has an article on the ISIS bibliography.

She is continuing to edit the bookplate cover stories for *Libraries and Culture* and asks anyone who is interested to use a bookplate as a springboard to write a five-to-seven page history of a library/collection. Please contact her at rovermier@ou.edu.

Exhibits

An exhibit, *The Fifteneers: Incunabula at the Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine*, will open October 9 and be on view through April 1, 2002 at the Countway Library.

Incunabula or incunables are the very first examples of books, pamphlets, and broadsides printed with movable type in Western Europe. They range from the 42-line Latin Bible produced by Johann Gutenberg in the 1450s to works produced through the end of the year 1500. The term "incunable" derives from the Latin work *cunabula* for "cradle" or "origin," hinting at their status as the earliest of all books. Incunabula are also

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sometimes referred to as "fifteeners" from their appearance in the fifteenth century.

Despite their European origins, incunabula can be found in library collections throughout the United States today, and the Countway Library of Medicine, with more than 800 items, holds the largest collection of medical incunabula in the country and one of the finest collections of this type in the world. The famous names and rare editions of the great early works in medicine, from the ancient times of Hippocrates, Celsus, and Galen to the late medieval and Renaissance period, including works by Avicenna, Albertus Magnus, Bernard of Gordon, Hieronymus Brunschwig, Guy de Chauliac, Michele Savonarola, and Johnannes Trithemius, are all well represented in the collection. Books on virtually every facet of medical knowledge, along with works on pharmacy, botany, natural history, witchcraft, alchemy, astrology, poetry, and philosophy are included.

This year the Countway Library is embarking on an ambitious and long-needed project to describe and catalog fully its holdings of incunabula and make online descriptions of these items accessible to scholars and researchers for the first time. In conjunction with this project, an exhibit of some of the Library's incunabula has been mounted on the Lower Level display area of the Library. Some of the more unusual items on display in *The Fifteeners* are Thucydides' description of the fifth-century plague at Athens; the first German edition of the lavishly illustrated *Nuremberg Chronicle*; a 1494 almanac predicting solar and lunar eclipses; the first full-length illustration of muscle dissection; the first printing of a medical treatise in Hebrew; and the first Latin edition of the Hippocratic Oath.

All of the books and woodcuts in the exhibit have been drawn from the collections of the Boston Medical Library and the Harvard Medical Library. *The Fifteeners* highlights some of the extraordinary treasures in the Countway's incunabula collection and allows the public a glimpse of these rarest printed medical works. For further information, contact Jack Eckert, Reference Librarian, at (617) 432-6207 or jack_eckert@hms.harvard.edu.

* * *

The National Museum of Health and Medicine has unveiled an exhibit highlighting the developing science of medical geology used by the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology (AFIP) to study health problems associated with arsenic. The exhibit, entitled *Research Matters: Environmental and Toxicological Effects of Arsenic*, explains how geoscience tools are augmenting the skills of medical and environmental professionals to understand exposure to toxic metals and metalloids such as arsenic.

One of the artifacts in the exhibit comes from the Office of the New York Medical Examiner and is used to illustrate arsenic as an intentional poison in a 1935 murder victim. The head and shoulders of a girl who died naturally in the late 1880s and was embalmed using an arsenic-laced formula illustrates the preservative powers of arsenic and calls attention to the possibility of it contaminating drinking water.

The exhibit will run indefinitely at the National Museum of Health and Medicine. Founded in 1862 as the Army Medical Museum to study and improve medical conditions during the American Civil War, the Museum is located at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, 6900 Georgia Avenue and Elder Street, NW, Washington, DC. The web site is <www.natmedmuse.afip.org> and the telephone number is (202) 782-2200. Admission and parking are free.

* * *

A photograph showing disabled soldiers learning telegraphy in the Reconstruction Department of Walter Reed General Hospital has been furnished by the National Museum to the National Library of Medicine for display in the exhibit, *The Once and Future Web*:

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Worlds Woven by the Telegraph and Internet. The exhibit examines the histories of the telegraph and the Internet, exploring the ways in which both have transformed work, play, thought, and lives.

Michael Rhode, archivist of the Otis Historical Archives at the National Museum, coordinated reproduction of the original photograph, taken around 1918. The Archives contains more than 350 collections including an extensive photographic collection with many early photomicrographs, examples of medical illustrations from the Civil War and World War I, films and videos, and trade literature and advertisements from the late 19th century. The NLM exhibit will be on display through July 2002.

Medieval/Renaissance Source

ITER: The Path to Medieval/Renaissance Information is a new database that promises to provide a more thorough approach to material from this period than was possible in the past. ITER, which is Latin for 'a path,' is a joint venture of many of the leading scholarly societies focusing on the 400-1700 AD era, including the Renaissance Society of America, the Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, and major Medieval and Renaissance studies programs at the University of Arizona and the University of Toronto. Based at the University of Toronto Centre for Reformation and Renaissance Studies and under the direction of Dr. William Bowen, this constantly expanding database provides a wealth of primary and secondary material.

John Erlen reports that the database includes monographs, journal articles, dissertations, artwork, digitized music, and manuscripts, the goal being to compile an all-inclusive listing of materials for this time period. Some 60,000 entries are added daily. Anyone studying history of medicine or health care within these thirteen centuries will find the database indispensable. For further information consult the URL <<http://iter.utoronto.ca/>>

Poster Presentation

From Martha E. Stone comes word that the Treadwell Library at the Massachusetts General Hospital provided assistance for a poster presented by the American Veterinary Medical History Society during the American Veterinary Medical Association meeting

in Boston in July, 2001. The poster, entitled *A Massachusetts First – Florence Kimball, D.V.M., R.N.*, was presented by Phyllis Hickney Larsen, D.V.M. After receiving her veterinary degree, Kimball went on to receive her nursing degree in 1918 from the Hospital's Training School for Nurses.

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Places To Go

The WWAMI Medical Education Program and the Museum of the Rockies at Montana State University announce a conference on the *Medicine of the Lewis and Clark Expedition* to be held October 24, 2001. Anyone interested in further information should contact Stephen Guggenheim at WWAMI Medical Education Program, 308 Leon Johnson Hall, Montana State University, Bozeman, MT 59717-3080 or call (406) 994-4411. The conference is free and open to the public. Registration is requested.

* * *

The Tom Elam Civil War Roundtable on *Civil War Medicine* will be held October 5-6 at the University of Tennessee at Martin, Tennessee. The program will open with an "Overview of Medicine in the Civil War" by Dr. Frank Freeman. The program includes a variety of offerings along with a picnic and tour of Columbus-Belmont Park with a model camp set up by re-enactors.

For further information call (731) 587-7470. Advance registration is requested.

Research Fellowships

Each year the Bakken Library and Museum in Minneapolis offers visiting research fellowships for the purpose of facilitating scholarly research in its collection of books, journals, manuscripts, prints, and instruments. The focus of the Bakken's collection is on the history of electricity and magnetism and their applications in the life sciences and medicine. Significant holdings include the writings of natural philosophers, scientists, physicians, electrotherapists, and electrophysiologists of the 18th through early 20th centuries. Related materials include mesmerism and animal magnetism, 19th-century ephemera concerning alternative electromedical therapies, and trade catalogues. The instrument collection includes electrostatic generators, magneto-electric generators, induction coils, physiological instruments, recording devices, and accessories.

The fellowship provides \$1,300 to help defray the expenses of travel, subsistence, and other direct costs of conducting research at the Bakken. The minimum period of residence is one week and the next deadline is February 15, 2002. For further details contact Elizabeth Ihrig, Librarian, The Bakken Library and Museum, 3537 Zenith Avenue South, Minneapolis,

MN 55416, e-mail ihrig@thebakken.org or call (612) 926-3878.

* * *

The Historical Collections Unit at the Lister Hill Library announces its second annual Reynolds Associates Fellowship of \$1,000 to pursue research in either the Alabama Museum of the Health Sciences, the Reynolds Historical Library, or University Archives. Applications must be received by December 31, 2001. Details are available at <http://www.uab.edu/reynolds/fellowship.htm>.

Good Listening

The Thirteenth Annual David L. Cowen Lecture in the History of Pharmacy, "That Amiable Science: A Brief History of American Medical Botany" will be presented by Michael A. Flannery at 4:30 p.m. on October 23 in the William Levine Hall Pharmacy Building on the Rutgers Busch Campus. Flannery, recipient of the American Institute for the History of Pharmacy's Edward Kremers Award for his biography of John Uri Lloyd, is Associate Director for Historical Collections at the Reynolds Library, Lister Hill Library, University of Alabama, Birmingham. The lecture, sponsored by the Rutgers University College of Pharmacy, the American Institute of the History of Pharmacy, and the Alpha Zeta Chapter of Rho Chi, is open to the public. A reception and dinner will follow the lecture. For further information contact Mary French (732) 445-2675 ext. 605.

* * *

The Coleman Memorial Lecture, "Zollinger-Ellison Syndrome: A Review of Its Historical Significance and Current Treatment," will be presented by C. Christopher Ellison, M.D., the Robert M. Zollinger Professor of Surgery and Chairman of the Surgery Department at Ohio State University, at 4:30 p.m. September 27 at the Medical Heritage Center, Prior Health Sciences Library, Ohio State University, Columbus. Dr. Ellison will present a unique perspective of Zollinger-Ellison Syndrome as a surgeon and son of the co-researcher, Dr. Edwin Ellison.

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M. Therese Southgate, M.D., Senior Contributing Editor of JAMA, will present the Warren Lecture, based on her work with the art on *JAMA* covers and her recently released book on the same topic, at the Medical Heritage Center in March 2002.

* * *

The C. F. Reynolds Medical History Society announces the following lectures for the 2001/02 series:

September 11

Norman Gevitz, Ph.D., Professor and Chair, Department of Social Medicine, Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine, speaking on "Medicine and Witchcraft in Colonial New England."

November 8

Kim Pelis, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Medical History, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, presenting the Eighth Annual Sylvan E. Stool History of Medicine Lecture, "Bringing Blood to the Battlefield: Shock, Transfusion, and the World Wars."

January 22, 2002

Robert Peel, M.D., Department of Pathology, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, speaking on "Paget: The Man and the Disease of Bone."

February 28, 2002

Michael Bliss, Ph.D., University Professor of History, University of Toronto, speaking on "What's a Doctor? How William Osler Practiced Medicine."

April 11, 2002

Alex Haller, M.D., Professor of Pediatric Surgery, Emergency Medicine and Pediatrics Emeritus, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, presenting the Fourteenth Annual Mark M. Ravitch History of Medicine Lecture, "Dr. Mark Ravitch, the Father of Surgery for Chest Wall Deformities in Children: A Student's Perspective."

All lectures will be held at 6 p.m. in Scaife Hall, University of Pittsburgh. For further information call Jonathon Erlen, (412) 648-8927 or erlen@pitt.edu.

* * *

The Reynolds Historical Library announces the following lecture series for this year:

September 20

Wolfgang A. Ritschel, M.D., Ph.D., Professor Emeritus University of Cincinnati Medical Center, speaking on "Physicians and the Arts." An exhibit, *The Work of Wolfgang A. Ritschel*, will be opened following the lecture.

October 15

David Witkosky, Ph.D., Department of International Studies, Auburn University, speaking on "Hans Grohs Visits Alabama: A German Expressionist Is Reborn." This program is made possible by the Alabama Humanities Foundation (AHF), the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

November 1

L. Lewis Wall, M.D., Ph.D., Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, speaking on "The Use and Abuse of J. Marion Sims: Historians' Fallacies, Medical Ethics, and the Obstetric Vesico-Vaginal Fistula."

December 3

John M. Riddle, Ph.D., Alumni Distinguished Professor, Department of History, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, speaking on "A Renaissance in Medieval Medicine: A Reevaluation."

All lectures are held in the Ireland Room of the Lister Hill Library. For further information call (205) 934-4475.

* * *

The annual meeting of the Society of Alabama Archivists will be held in the Reynolds Library of the Lister Hill Library of the Health Sciences, University of Alabama at Birmingham in November. Donnelly Lancaster and Tim Pennycuff are on the Local Arrangements Committee. Pennycuff is current president of the state society and Lancaster is on the Executive Board. The group will be planning for the Society of American Archivists annual meeting to be held in Birmingham in 2002.

* * *

Tim Pennycuff presented a paper, "Separate But Not Equal: Documenting Segregated Health Care in Birmingham, Alabama" in the session "After the Storm: Documenting Birmingham's Civil Rights History," at the Society of American Archivists meeting in Washington, DC on August 31. His paper was based on the information and images available in the UAB Archives.

* * *

Tom Horrocks, Associate Director for Special Collections and Curator of Rare Books at the Countway Library of Medicine, presented a paper on "Heavenly Guidance: Astrological Health Advice in Early American Almanacs," at the annual meeting of the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing (SHARP) in Williamsburg, Virginia, in July 2001. The paper was taken from the first chapter of his dissertation that is expected to be completed by the summer of 2002.

Good Reading

The catalogue, *Five Hundred Years of Medicine in Art: An Illustrated Catalogue of Prints and Drawings from the Clements C. Fry Collection*, by Susan Wheeler is published by Ashgate Publishing of Aldershot, Hants, England and Burlington, VT, in 2001. The collection is in the Harvey Cushing/John Hay Whitney Medical Library at Yale University. It includes more than 1,600 black and white images organized by subject, with indexes of titles, artists, publishers, and subjects.

* * *

The book, *The First 150 Years—A History of the Academy of Medicine of Toledo and Lucas County*, by Barbara Floyd, University Archivist at the University of Toledo, and Vicki Kroll, was published in June to commemorate the Academy's 150th anniversary.

* * *

Shaping Biology: The National Science Foundation and American Biological Research is the latest publication by Toby Appel. The book, published by the Johns Hopkins University Press, was reviewed in the August 10 issue of *Science*. The reviewer calls it a "remarkable job," saying that no subsequent historical

work on NSF and the biological sciences can begin without building on the solid foundation Appel provides in *Shaping Biology*.

And More Good News

Barbara Van Brimmer announces that Judith (Judy) Wiener is the new archivist of the Medical Heritage Center at Ohio State University. She is a recent graduate, earning a Masters in Public History from Wright State University in Dayton. She will be organizing the papers of Dr. William G. Myers, a founder of nuclear medicine. The Myers collection is more than 300 cubic feet in size and contains photographs, correspondence, artifacts, and research materials gathered by Dr. Myers throughout his career. The collection, when organized, will be a valuable resource to researchers in the fields of medical history and nuclear medicine.

NEWS FROM HMD

By Elizabeth Fee

Exhibitions

NLM celebrated with a very British tea party the opening of *Turning the Pages* on March 16. *Turning the Pages*, a software program developed by the British Library, displays the scanned images of the pages of a book. When a finger is moved along the screen, the pages "turn" with the appearance of an actual book. The British Library displays several of its treasures, including the Lindesfarne Gospels, in this way. The British Library collaborated with the National Library of Medicine on this project, which shows 40 pages of illustrations from Elizabeth Blackwell's *A Curious Herbal*, published in 1737-39. Carol Clausen wrote the text describing each of the illustrations. The results are on display in the NLM visitor's center and can soon be viewed in the HMD reading room.

A small exhibit, *Tempest in a Teapot: Tea, Politics, and Regulation in America*, opened on April 16 in the NLM lobby. In one section of the exhibition, curator, FDA historian Suzanne White Junod, explores the place of tea in American history, from the Boston Tea Party to the FDA's Tea Board, which set standards for

tea quality from 1897 to 1996. The second section deals with the history of the health benefits of tea, up to the present-day craze for green tea as an antioxidant. The exhibit includes a wealth of fascinating artifacts, from the FDA's official Tea Board kettle to "Teatime Barbie." It will continue on display through the end of October.

Margaret Kaiser prepared an exhibit of new acquisitions of books, historical audiovisuals, manuscripts, and prints and photographs. Displayed in the HMD Reading Room, the exhibit includes a Thomas Rowlandson caricature, a film by Telford Work, five test tubes from Marshall W. Nirenberg's laboratory, and the telegram notifying him of his Nobel Prize.

World Wide Web

The Marshall Nirenberg site for *Profiles in Science*—with document selection and text by David Serlin—was mounted on May 15. It is the sixth *Profiles* site. In June, the *Guide to Collections Relating to the History of Artificial Internal Organs* was mounted on the Web. It is a joint project of HMD, the American Society for Artificial Internal Organs (ASAIIO), and the Smithsonian Institution.

Classics of Traditional Chinese Medicine by Young Rhee went live in May.

Acquisitions

Books: Seventy five monographs were added to the collection, including Paulus Juliarus, *De Lepra et Eius Curatione* (Venice, 1545), an early treatise on leprosy, and Ezio Cleti, *Animadversiones circa Partem Affectam Pleuritidis* (Rome, 1643), a treatise on lung disease.

Modern Manuscripts and Archives: Notable accessions included NLM records, among them documents related to the Board of Regents; records of the American College of Nurse-Midwives; and speeches of former U. S. Surgeon-General Jocelyn Elders. Additional material was added to the Joshua Lederberg and Marshall Nirenberg collections.

Prints and Photographs: Acquisitions included AIDS etchings by Sue Coe, public health posters donated

by William Helfand, WWI public health posters, and two 19th-century medical broadsides.

Historical Audiovisuals: Acquisitions included videos of a series on black physicians, videotape masters of NLM-produced videos; and "Pioneers in Cardiovascular Surgery," donated by Mrs. Donald A. B. Lindberg.

Cataloging and Processing

In April Sandra Provenzano, working under contract, completed cataloging the Spanish-language films.

Walter Hickel, Jennifer Sullivan, and Jim Tabery picked up (and then returned to Philadelphia after scanning) ten linear feet of archival materials pertaining to Barbara McClintock. The materials, on loan from the American Philosophical Society, will be used in the future Barbara McClintock site in *Profiles of Science*.

Kim Dixon completed processing the Public Service series of the Joshua Lederberg collection. These papers document, among other things, Lederberg's work with the American Philosophical Society, the Center for Strategic and International Studies, and the Whitehead Institute.

HMD Seminars and Public Lectures

April 11: John Swann, "Rainbow Diet Pills: The Limits of Regulation."

May 16: Philip M. Teigen, "The Mad Dog Excitement in Massachusetts: A Case Study of Rabies before Pasteur."

June 6: Nancy Dosch, "19th Century Hydropathic Therapeutics: Exercise as a Way to Wellness."

June 12: Gerald Oppenheimer and Ronald Bayer, "The Biography of an Epidemic: An Oral History of Doctors and AIDS."

Publications

Elizabeth Fee and Theodore M. Brown, "Preemptive Biopreparedness: Can We Learn Anything from

History?" *American Journal of Public Health*, 2001, 91:721-726.

Walter Hickel, "War, Region, and Social Welfare: Federal Aid to Servicemen's Dependents in the South, 1917-1921," *Journal of American History*, 2001, 87:1362-91.

Phil Teigen, "Reading and Writing Veterinary History," *Veterinary Heritage*, 2001, 24:3-7.

Elizabeth Fee and Theodore M. Brown, "Voices from the Past: Walter J. Lear, MD," *American Journal of Public Health*, 2001, 91:901-902.

Elizabeth Fee, Review of Greta Jones and Elizabeth Malcolm, eds. "Medicine, Disease and the State in Ireland" *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*, 2001, 75:310-311.

"Images of Health" columns (prepared by Jan Lazarus, Paul Theerman, and Bill Helfand), featuring images from the Prints and Photographs collection, appeared in the *American Journal of Public Health*, 2001, 91:553 and 689. The first featured a photograph of the 1948 Donora, Pennsylvania, environmental disaster and the second, an 1832 cartoon by George Cruikshank caricaturing a London water supplier.

Other Highlights

Theodore M. Brown joined the Division in June and July as Scholar-in-Residence.

On June 19 Stephen Greenberg welcomed 70 or so members of the Association of American Indian Physicians/National Native American Youth Initiative.

On July 26 and August 1, Jiwon Kim organized two full-day programs for over 400 members of the 2001 National Student Leadership Conference, emphasizing the history of medicine and other salient features of the National Library of Medicine.

Michael Sappol presented "The Cartoon Medicine Show: Animated Films from the Historical Collections of the NLM" as an after-dinner talk to the NLM's Board of Regents.

Elizabeth Fee gave a presentation, "What's New in the Past?" as part of the "NLM Update" at the annual MLA meeting in Orlando, Florida.

Paul Theerman taught classes in preservation planning and the preservation of photographs at the Museum and Library Archives Institutes, Wilbraham, MA.

Crystal Smith received a 2001 Spectrum Initiative Scholarship Award from the American Library Association.

Secretary of the Health and Human Services Tommy G. Thompson, visited the National Library of Medicine on August 20 and viewed our most recent exhibition, *The Once and Future Web*, saw *Turning the Pages*, and watched the DVD version of our earlier exhibition, *Breath of Life*.

NEWS FROM THE WELLCOME

By David Pearson

The Wellcome report in the summer 2001 issue of *The Watermark* referred to our projects under way to improve access through automation—the Wellcome Digital Library—and since then we have made further progress on this front. Readers will already perhaps have come across our request for input and suggestions regarding future digitization work; a study is currently being undertaken for us by the Higher Education Digitization Service, based at the University of Hertfordshire, to advise on the best way forward and we hope to turn their recommendations into action in the months ahead. We are also beginning work on the development of a web gateway for the history of medicine—a site with signposts to properly evaluated resources—which we hope will prove useful on both sides of the Atlantic. A new automated system to deal with the particular requirements of archives and manuscripts (CALM 2000) has just been installed and will soon be populated with searchable data.

The summer report also mentioned *Research Resources in Medical History*, a funding scheme established by the Wellcome Trust in collaboration with the British Library, to make £1 million available over two years to support library and archive projects

relating to the history of medicine. The first round of awards, made in July, gave a little over £300,000 in all to seven projects spread around the UK; over 70 applications have been received to date, worth almost £5 million in total, so the awarding panel has quite a difficult task in selecting the most deserving cases. More information on the scheme and its outcomes can be found at www.bl.uk/concord.

These new initiatives are not undertaken at the expense of the Library's core activities and services and we are continuing to develop the collections in the usual way. Recent highlights include a copy of Matteo Bendinelli, *Tractatus de balneis* (1539), a copy of the *Tresuri of helth* (1559), and a very nice copy of a scarce anatomical treatise for artists, Jean Cousin's *La vraye science de la pourtraicture* (Paris, 1671), stitched in early paper wrappers. Manuscript acquisitions include the casebook of Charles Townsend, surgeon-accoucheur in Birmingham in the mid-nineteenth century, an eighteenth-century Ottoman medical manuscript, and papers of the bacteriologist William Topley (1886-1944). On the pictorial side, we have acquired a 1789 satirical drawing by Thomas Rowlandson, of *The hospital for lunatics*, and an early nineteenth-century watercolour by J. H. Ramberg, *The operating theatre*.

ON THE WEB

By Lisa A. Mix

Resources in the History of Nursing

I'm pleased to return to "On the Web" with a look at web sites in the history of nursing.

American Association for the History of Nursing
<http://www.aahn.org/>

This site is a good starting point for the researcher interested in nursing history. As this is the official web site for the AAHN, there is the usual housekeeping data about the association: contact information, bylaws, how to become a member, etc. There is also a great deal of material for historians of varying levels, including students, nurses, and academics. However, in some instances you need to look beyond the immediate titles of the sections to find some of these

informational gems. For example, the "Member News" page includes a list of recent publications by members—something of interest to anyone looking for the latest publications in the history of nursing. The "Gravesite Series" page purports to consist of photographs of gravesites of prominent nurses, but encompasses so much more. This section includes individual pages on 31 nurses, each page containing, along with the photo of the Gravesite, a biography, a select bibliography of publications about the individual, and links to a few relevant web sites.

Other sections include "Nursing History Calendar", which provides both dates in nursing history and upcoming events, and "Student Primer", geared toward undergraduates with an interest in nursing history. The "Historical Methodology" page is written for graduate students and historical researchers, and includes a historical methodology bibliography, a link to an article about library collecting issues, and "Using Archives"—a brief primer for researchers on what to expect when they visit an archives or special collections library. (That bit alone is cause for applause!)

Particularly useful is the "Resources for Nursing History" <<http://www.aahn.org/resource.html>> section of the web site. This is a good page to bookmark for a quick reference. Lists included on the resources page are: "Conferences and Celebrations", "Funding", "Journals", "New Books and Publications", "Organizations", and "Videos". Each of these lists includes links to additional web resources. "Archives and History Centers" and "Internet Resources" each lead to a separate page. "Archives and History Centers" lists "regional centers which serve as nursing repositories, and some specialty nursing organizations with archives as well as institutions with significant holdings in nursing." Each entry includes contact information for the institution, a link to the web site, and in some cases, a brief description of the holdings. Repositories in the U.S., Canada, and the U.K. are represented, along with one German site. The list is not a comprehensive directory of history of nursing repositories (and makes no claim to be), but it provides a good overview of available sources. The AAHN encourages institutions with nursing holdings to send information to <aahn@aahn.org> for inclusion on the web site. "Internet Resources" lists web sites related to the history of nursing, and includes a short description of each site along with the link. Like the

“Archives” page, it’s not an exhaustive list. The AAHN relies on institutions to report relevant holdings or web resources, so I encourage those of you who work for institutions with holdings in nursing history to do so.

United Kingdom Centre for the History of Nursing
<http://www.qmuc.ac.uk/hn/history/>

The U.K. Centre, in partnership with the Royal College of Nursing <<http://www.rcn.org.uk/>> and Edinburgh’s Queen Margaret University College <<http://www.qmuc.ac.uk/>>, aims to provide “a focus for nursing history in Europe” by building “awareness of the importance of nursing history through education and research.” This is a relatively new site (it debuted in August of 2000) so parts of it are still under development, but there is already an impressive amount of material.

Part of the Centre’s mission is promoting collaborative research projects on nursing history in the U.K. Toward that end, the “Research” section of the web site links to a page of “queries”, where researchers post their topics of interest and their contact information. Plans are to develop a database of research interests. This section also includes select annotated bibliographies on the following subjects: “Midwifery”, “Mental Health”, “Introducing the History of Nursing”, “Historiography”, and “Profession”. These are intended as a starting point for students and researchers, and the staff encourages suggestions for additional topics.

The two most useful sections of the site are the “FAQ” and the “Links” page. The FAQ provides answers, some in great detail, to common nursing history questions, and links to other web resources. The resources in the FAQ are mostly U.K.-centered. The “Links” page lists links in History of Nursing, Archives, Primary Sources, Research, Journals, Funding, Libraries, Institutions and Organisations, Teaching and Learning Resources, and Museums. Sites from several nations are represented, and the staff welcomes suggestions for additions. These two sections make the U.K. Centre another great jumping-off point for researching the history of nursing. It will be interesting to check back and watch this site as it develops.

Other Nursing History Sites

There are several exemplary sites in the history of nursing, and I won’t list them all here, because many of them can be linked from the two sites profiled above. The following sites provide further avenues for research.

The Australian Nursing History Project
<<http://www.nursing.unimelb.edu.au/anhp/anhppros.htm>>

This site describes a project, based at the University of Melbourne, that aims to promote scholarship in the history of nursing and to preserve nursing history resources in Australia. They are working in tandem with the Australian Science Archives Project <<http://www.asap.unimelb.edu.au>> to provide web access to nursing history resources through the “Bright Sparcs” <<http://www.asap.unimelb.edu.au/bsparcs/bsparshome.htm>> site.

Canadian Association for the History of Nursing
<http://www.ualberta.ca/~jhibberd/CAHN_ACHN/index.htm>

The “Links” page is helpful, and provides a few links not found on the U.S. or U.K. sites.

Nursing Links
<<http://www.nursingworld.org/rnindex/>>

This is part of the American Nurses Association web site, and provides links to web resources in all aspects of nursing.

Another way to find web resources in the history of nursing is to look at one of the “mega directory” sites, such as MedWebPlus <<http://www.medwebplus.com/subject/History/Nursing.html>>, Yahoo <<http://dir.yahoo.com/Health/Nursing/History/>>, or Google <<http://directory.google.com/Top/Health/Nursing/History/>>. Although MedWebPlus is geared specifically to the health sciences, Google gives the best selection of web sites. The Yahoo directory is just quirky. Still, all three could lead you to some sites that you might not find elsewhere.

Other Web Sites of Interest

Remember to send URLs of notable Web sites to <lmix@mail.jhmi.edu>. Also, you can read "On the Web" on the Web at <<http://www.med.jhu.edu/medarchives/mix/ontheweb.htm>>.

Access to Archives (A2A) — Public Record Office (UK) www.a2a.pro.gov.uk

Archives in Focus — Historical Manuscripts Commission (UK) <http://www.hmc.gov.uk/focus>

ECHO: Exploring & Collecting History Online, Science & Technology <http://chnm.gmu.edu/echo>

HOST: the history of science and technology, 1801-1914 <http://www.kcl.ac.uk/host>

"In Their Own Words: NIH Researchers Recall the Early Days of AIDS," at <http://aidshistory.nih.gov>

London Museums of Health and Medicine <http://www.medicalmuseums.org>

Pharma-Lexicon
<http://www.pharma-lexicon.com>

Rockefeller Archive Center Research Reports Online
<http://www.rockefeller.edu/archive.ctr/racro1.html>

Understanding Society Through Its Records
<http://john.curtin.edu.au/society/>

Virginia Heritage Project—Guides to Manuscript and Archival Collections in Virginia <http://www.lib.virginia.edu/vhp/>

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Membership information may be obtained from Micaela Sullivan-Fowler, Historical Collections, W.S. Middleton Health Sciences Library, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1305 Linden Drive, Madison, Wisconsin 53706-1593; (608) 262-2402; FAX (608) 262-4732; E-MAIL micaela@library.wisc.edu

Production deadlines are 1 December, 1 March, 1 June, and 1 September.

Submissions may be sent to: Lilli Sentz, The Historical Library, Harvey Cushing/John Hay Whitney Medical Library, Yale University, 333 Cedar Street, P.O. Box 208014, New Haven, CT 06520-8014 or 18 Rockland Park, Branford, CT 06405; (203) 483-8408; FAX (203) 483-5037; E-MAIL lsentz@email.msn.com.

Submissions for Ex Libris should be sent to: Lucretia W. McClure, 164 Elmore Road, Rochester, NY 14618-3651; (716) 244-8703; E-MAIL lucretiaru@earthlink.net.