

The Library That Never Was: Stories from *The Fifteeners* Exhibit

by Jack Eckert

When Dr. Adam Moore asked me to come this evening and speak about *The Fifteeners*, the incunabula exhibit currently on display at the Countway Library, my first reaction was blind panic—despite possible evidence to the contrary, I really am no expert on early printed books or even early printed medical books. That's a highly specialized field, and I'm anything but a specialist. But as we spoke more, I realized that Adam wasn't looking for an expert on fifteenth century medical books; he wanted me to speak not about the contents of the exhibit but really more about the exhibit itself and what lies behind it. So in many ways, this talk represents my efforts to answer that eternal question, "*What was I thinking?*"

So why incunabula, and why now? Those two questions are somewhat intertwined in my mind. Some time back I was asked to rough out a schedule of Countway exhibits for the next few years and in doing so, I tried to tie the theme of each exhibit to some date or event, so the exhibit on Benjamin Waterhouse's smallpox experiments commemorated the bicentennial of his first American vaccinations, and the Warren family exhibit was intended to complement the opening of the Warren Anatomical Museum gallery up on the Countway's 5th floor. When I looked at a calendar and saw the year 2001 was in the offing, I began to turn over in my mind the idea of mounting some sort of display of the incunabula holdings here—principally because of the year. Bibliographically, incunabula are considered to be printed items produced before a specific date—January 1, 1501—and are therefore entirely fifteenth century productions. So the link here, the reason for the "why now?" is that any

and every item displayed in *The Fifteeners* had to be produced in the fifteenth century, before January 1, 1501, and, so would be, by definition, at least five hundred years old.

Why incunabula, though, especially given my firm assertion that I am no expert on early printed books? Again, this is another reasonably easy question to answer. I knew, or I'd heard, or I'd always been told, that the Boston Medical Library housed here in the Countway Library building, had one of the most extraordinary collections of medical incunabula in the United States, so it seemed like an obvious candidate for a display. Just how extraordinary the collection turns out to be was a bit eye-opening to me, though, and the longer I worked with the collection and the more I researched its holdings, the more exciting and, not to lapse into hyperbole, the more breathtaking it became. Truly, the BML appears to hold the largest collection of medical incunabula in the United States, possibly the world, and its breadth and treasures are quite extraordinary from a vantage point of both printing history and medical history.

There were, though, some quite fundamental mysteries about the collection. A good number of the incunabula were described in Librarian James F. Ballard's 1944 *A Catalogue of the Medieval and Renaissance Manuscripts and Incunabula in the Boston Medical Library*, but quite a number of items were acquired and added to the collection after World War II, and there exists only the sketchiest information about many of these. Until very recently, we weren't even certain just how many incunabula we had. A number—880—was used frequently, but this turns out

to be erroneous since that number derives for the entry number in the Ballard catalogue—and the catalogue has a few numbering errors and includes our earliest manuscript items too. On the plus side, there were also a few incunabula in the Countway, which belong to the Harvard Medical Library, derived from the bequest of Dr. John Warren in 1928. It took some scrambling around to arrive at the most accurate figure—804—still an impressively sized collection and still the largest medical incunabula collection in this country.

Also playing into the “why now?” question was an unusual opportunity we were presented with to embark on a program to catalog the incunabula collection here and make information about our holdings available to the public through Harvard University’s HOLLIS catalog and the national bibliographic utilities. *The Fifteneers* exhibit became an excellent starting point for this initiative and brought us some public attention, including articles in Harvard University’s *Library Notes* and the *Harvard Medical Alumni Bulletin*. We’ve even, to my surprise, had a link to the online version of the exhibit featured on the main Web page for Harvard University earlier this month. And as part of the research for the exhibit, we’ve been able to compile information on the acquisition of most of the collection—including original bookdealer descriptions—all of which can enhance the cataloging information and make the collection even more useful to scholars of book and printing history.

One of the aspects of the incunabula collection here which I most enjoyed researching was the impulse behind the acquisitions. While many medical libraries have some incunabula acquired by either gift or purchase, the Boston Medical Library is, I believe, unique in its stated intention to build and indeed reproduce an ideal 15th century medical library—what I term the library that never was—a working medical collection of a scholar of that period for the modern United States. The annual report of the Boston Medical Library for 1930 outlined the intention behind its acquisition of incunabula in this way: “It is to be noted that every book added to the collection is in conformity with a definite plan formulated for the building up of a replica of an independent medical library of the late 15th century.” So numerous were the acquisitions and so varied were the holdings that, by 1944, it was asserted that at least one edition of virtually every book of medical interest produced before 1501 could be found in the Boston Medical Library’s collection. In many ways, this was a bizarre and yet extremely clever thing to do. The BML had an already impressive collection of early titles donated through the generosity of Dr. William Norton Bullard, but not being content with that, the library continued to acquire medical incunabula through the 1930s and even as late as the mid-1950s—at an almost feverish pace—and so took an already large collection and made it phenomenal. In part, of course, this could be done because Dr. Bullard bequeathed an endowment fund specifically

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Joannes de Ketham. *Fasciculus medicine*. [Venice: Joannem [et] Gregoriu[m] de Gregorijs fratres, 28 March 1500]

for the purchase of these rarest of all medical books. But also playing into the equation here is a sudden flood of incunabula appearing on the market due to the economic crises of the 1930s and the extraordinary knowledge and expertise brought to the project by the BML's Librarian, James Francis Ballard. It is rare, particularly in the world of special collections, to find such a confluence of circumstance, intention,

knowledge, and generosity all working together to enhance a library's acquisition program.

So that was my starting point, really, my hook: an unusual story about the Boston Medical Library. The problem then was what to do with that story—how to illustrate it, what to select for the exhibit, and how to present this—admittedly esoteric—material to the public.

There are all sorts of constraints in designing and mounting an exhibit, and space is by no means the least of the problems. Our display area on L2 is small (in many ways, that's a good thing; a larger area would need more extensive exhibits and more research time devoted to them) and most people, myself included, wouldn't be able to read much if any of the classic 15th century texts due to language, vocabulary, and script difficulties. So that's why, with a few exceptions, *The Fifteeners* is a very visual display. I've tried to balance the significant materials with items which are visually exciting. For example, the 1498 Pseudo-Methodius text is not really a medical item at all, although it is in our collection, but the many woodcuts

enhancing the text are wonderful and the one displayed—showing the birth of Antichrist by Caesarian section—has both historical and medical implications. It's one of the earliest depictions of a C-section birth. You must remember that there's nothing really new in the idea of a Caesarian; this is a very ancient procedure but which historically entailed the death of the mother—the implication here being that the Antichrist has both an unusual birth (providing an analogue to the birth of Christ—which was also, in its own way, quite unusual) but also manages to foreshadow his career of destruction (by beginning his life with the murder of his own mother). So this is just an example of using an image to tell a story and try



Pseudo-Methodius *De revelatione facta ab angelo Beato Methodio in carcere dete [n] to*
[Basel: Michael Furter, [5] January 1498]

thereby to make the viewer consider a 15th century woodcut in a different light. This is also why you'll find editions of *The Nuremberg Chronicle* and the 1491 *Hortus Sanitatis* included in *The Fifteeners*. Both have marvelous illustrations and plenty of them. One fine small one in the *Chronicle* (on a page which, unfortunately, is not on display) shows a pair of living conjoined twins, though I opted instead to display the large spread *mappa mundi*, the map of the known world. The *Hortus Sanitatis* is an even better choice since its woodcuts are colored, including some full-page illustrations such as the very well-known picture of the urine caster and useful illustrations of the plants used for treatment of illnesses, and there are also some quite small but lively illustrations such as the serpent in the Tree of Knowledge and a virgin with a unicorn which embellish the text.

The Fifteeners exhibit is actually full of stories. The very first item I selected for inclusion in the exhibit was the late 15th century first Latin printing of the *Iusiurandum*—the Hippocratic oath. Some time back, I was looking in Garrison and Morton's *Medical Bibliography* for ideas for unusual and significant items in the history of medicine to be used in tours and new student orientations. When I found mention of this first printing of the oath, along with its appearance in the *Articella* (another title in our incunabula collection) and found out that the first English printing of the oath was in our collection as well, the *Iusiurandum* was a natural item for inclusion. It's not a particularly visual item (though the clarity of the typography is certainly pleasing to the eye) but the familiarity of the text and its importance to the history of medical ethics made for an easy decision.

When I was planning *The Fifteeners* exhibit, I knew that I would have to include one of our copies of the *Fasciculus Medicinae* attributed to Johannes de Ketham, principally because of the beauty and detail of its full-page anatomical engravings. I settled on the 1491 edition, displaying a human figure with his body parts associated with the various signs of the Zodiac, partly because this volume was probably the first incunabula acquired by the Boston Medical Library. But as I continued to research the background of the BML's acquisition of incunabula, I stumbled across the information that one of James Francis Ballard's earliest recollections of his long tenure in the library was a meeting with Oliver Wendell Holmes—a nearly unlikely event given that Ballard only began his stint as an office boy in 1892 and Dr. Holmes died in 1894.

But more to the point, Ballard remembered meeting Holmes in the library when he was there to consult the 1491 *Fasciculus Medicinae*, comparing the BML's recently acquired copy with his own. It's an unusual link between one of our oldest books, the BML's first president, and the librarian who devoted so many years of his career to building the incunabula collection.

An even more interesting echo, if you will, comes from the 1500 edition of the *Fasciculus* as this contains the well-known engraving of Petrus de Montagnana surrounded by his 15th century medical library. Given the Boston Medical Library's intention to recreate a medical library of the Renaissance period, it seemed perfectly appropriate to reproduce this image and set a photographic enlargement on the wall behind the display cases. But if you look closely at the books surrounding Petrus you'll see authors and titles such as Hippocrates, Avicenna, Mesue, Rhazes, Averroes, Pliny, and Petrus de Abano's *Conciliator*—not only are these authors all well represented in the incunabula collections here at the Countway, but a good proportion of them have made their way into *The Fifteeners* exhibit—again, this is pure chance. I'd selected most of the books for the exhibit long before I'd gotten around to thinking of illustrations to supplement them. But the image of Petrus de Montagnana's library has thereby become a striking icon of the BML's acquisition program.

Another odd incident related to the research aspect of *The Fifteeners* concerns the 1491 *Herbolarium*. I chose this for inclusion in the exhibit, in part, because of the opening woodcut showing the chronologically impossible encounter between the 12th century physician, Arnaldus of Villanova, and the 11th century Arabian physician, Avicenna. But when doing some background reading in Joseph Garland's 1975 *Centennial History of the Boston Medical Library*, I came across a reference to Dr. William Norton Bullard, who through gift and bequest was responsible for the Library's acquisition of over 500 of its incunabula. Mr. Garland states: "In 1910 he presented his first incunabulum, an event so unremarked on that Dr. Farlow in his annual report passed it off as 'a copy of Arnoldus de Villa Nova, 1491' without benefit of title or further description...." Ballard described several copies of works by Arnoldus de Villa Nova in his Catalogue, none published in 1491, however. In fact, there is no evidence of publication by Arnoldus in 1491. The date given in the annual report may be a misprint, of course. The identity of Dr. Bullard's first

incunabula remains a mystery.” Now you can *never* make a remark like that to a reference librarian—it’ll just worry us until we find an answer. Mr. Garland is quite right in stating no Arnaldus work was printed in 1491. I assumed that the BML would not have lost an incunabulum, so I did some close reading of the Ballard catalogue (which, fortunately, contains an index to proper names) and if you look at the fine print under the entry for the *Herbolarium*, you’ll see “Woodcut border with portraits of Arnoldus de Villa Nova and Avicenna.” More to the point, this work was printed in 1491, the handwriting on the spine says “Arnoldus de Villa Nova 1491”—probably where Dr. Farlow got his annual report information—and Agnes Arber, in her historical work on herbals states: “The authorship of the version... has been attributed erroneously to Arnaldus de Villa Nova.... This mistake arose because, on the first page of an earlier edition, there was a woodcut of Avicenna and Arnaldus de Villa Nova, whose names are quoted in the preface.” A 1925 *Catalogue of Early Herbals* describes this item and says, “In later editions ... this title-woodcut was omitted, but the names underneath it were kept. This led to the confusion about the authorship.” So this item was often attributed—in error—to Arnaldus. And if you look inside, you’ll find the librarian’s smoking gun—a faint penciled accession number (8656) which you can use to check back in the BML records to confirm that this is, indeed, the donation from Dr. Bullard in 1910, and the very first of the many incunabula he brought into the collection.

This is a wonderful collection, admittedly, but is it used at all? I would worry about this aspect as well, since so much medical history research currently is centered on the 19th and 20th centuries and heavily weighted to social concerns, and so few scholars are trained and equipped to deal with the language and orthography of these earliest printed items. You begin to wonder how useful a collection of incunabula, no matter how extensive it is, can be. It was a pleasant surprise to me, during the course of my research into this exhibit, to encounter a graduate student working on the subject of medieval monastic bloodletting, for whom our extensive collection of calendars and almanacs—very nearly a specimen for each of thirty years, from 1470 to 1499—can provide valuable evidence, and another researcher came to the Countway some weeks back specifically to consult the almanac collection, as he is assessing the astronomical calculations in each calendar to test their accuracy

against scientific computation. That researcher was a particular delight to me as he could speak from authority that he’d seen no other collection of these early calendars so rich, varied, or extensive, either in this country or in Europe.

And so there are many stories; the older the books, the more unusual and varied the tales behind them, it seems—all part of a long and unusual chain, in which we can use the World Wide Web today to look at a woodcut from a book produced in the fifteenth century which James Ballard cataloged and Oliver Wendell Holmes himself consulted.

The exhibit almost in its entirety can now be viewed on the Countway’s Web site—just follow the links from the Rare Books homepage to the online exhibit gallery and you’ll find the Web-based version of *The Fifteeners*. I find it a little ironic that the exhibit on the oldest printed books in our collection is actually our first to have a simultaneous online version mounted and available to the public. Just a little indication that the Rare Books Department isn’t so completely mired in the past as you might expect.

* * *

“Jack Eckert is Reference Librarian at the Countway Library of Medicine, Harvard Medical School. The original version of this presentation was given to the Countway Library Associates at their meeting on January 23, 2002. *The Fifteeners* exhibit was on display at the Countway Library of Medicine from October 2001 through April 2002. A Web-based version of the exhibit exists and can be viewed at <http://www.countway.med.harvard.edu/rarebooks/fifteeners>”

FROM THE PRESIDENT

How familiar it feels to be writing for *The Watermark* again! Of course, this time around there is a little different spin since I am not composing with my former co-editor and sidekick Joan Echtenkamp Klein.

I am looking forward to my time as President of the Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences and plan to communicate with all of you regularly through the columns of *The Watermark*. I want to begin by thanking my predecessor Suzanne Porter for her hard work over the last two years. Many

of her accomplishments were behind the scenes and may have gone unnoticed. Now that I am at the helm, I have a new appreciation for all she did to regularize appointments to committees, publish procedures, and generally formalize the operations of ALHHS. Thank you, Suzanne, for turning over such a well-organized ship!

Those of you who attended our annual meeting in Kansas City heard a little about my plans for the coming year. I want to continue to refine our organization by redefining committees, revising procedures, and amending our by-laws as appropriate. As most of you know we had an Ad Hoc Budget Committee in operation last year. This group will continue under the leadership of Steve Novak. The goal is to establish procedures for drafting and adopting a regular budget as well as to advise the ALHHS Steering Committee on issues related to the association's finances.

Over the course of its history, the ALHHS has had either a publications or newsletter standing committee. Currently, our by-laws recognize a standing newsletter committee. It seems more appropriate at this juncture to consider an umbrella group, such as a publications committee, to oversee production of *The Watermark*, maintenance of the ALHHS Web site and production of the bi-annual ALHHS membership directory. Therefore, I am recommending that we continue the existing newsletter committee for the current year and create an Ad Hoc Publications Committee to address the issues outlined above.

In 2003, we are scheduled to award the Lisabeth Holloway Award. Generally we have constituted a committee for this purpose. In Kansas City, we adopted the recommendation of the Honors & Recognition Committee that we create the ALHHS Recognition of Merit. Now that we have the potential of giving more than one award each year it seems best to streamline procedures and create one standing committee to handle all awards, honors and recognitions bestowed by ALHHS. For this year I have created the Ad Hoc Committee on Awards. I have charged this group with handling nominations for awards in 2003 and for recommending procedures for administering all ALHHS awards in the future.

Finally, I would like to mention both the Nominating and Program Committees. Both of these are standing committees and will continue their work as in the past. This year the Nominating Committee will be selecting candidates for the office of secretary-treasurer and two members-at-large for the Steering Committee. Ed Morman has agreed to serve as chair of the Nominating Committee. This committee will investigate electronic voting and devise a system for the membership to vote in this manner for the 2003 elections. The Program Committee for the 2003 meeting in Boston will be lead by Joan Echtenkamp Klein and Elaine Challacombe. Jack Eckert will head up the Boston group handling local arrangements for ALHHS.

Thanks to everyone who has agreed to serve in a leadership role or on a committee. We welcome others to join us. If you are interested in becoming more involved with the association, please contact me at jlkode@vcu.edu or by telephone at (804) 828-9898. I look forward to hearing from you.

Jodi Kode

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ALHHS STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes

April 24, 2002. Convened at 3:10 p.m.
Westin Crown Center, Kansas City, Missouri.

Attendees: Suzanne Porter (President), Jodi Koste (President-Elect), Micaela Sullivan-Fowler (recorder, Sec./Treasurer), Elaine Challacombe, Carol Clausen, Kathy Donahue, Linda Lohr, Patricia Gallagher, Stephen Greenberg, Lucretia McClure, Stephen Novak, and Lilla Vekerdy.

Old Business

Minutes from the Charleston, South Carolina, meeting on April 18, 2001, were approved.

Elaine Challacombe reviewed the financial records given to her by Micaela Sullivan-Fowler in early April 2002. In her opinion there were no irregularities or discrepancies in the financial records. A copy of the report and of the attached invoices and bank statements will be placed in the ALHHS Archives at the College of Physicians, Philadelphia.

Treasurer's report was submitted and summarized by Micaela. (See accompanying document.) ALHHS total income was \$16,181.56 (we have 33 outstanding members and \$2,610 is due for Watermark advertising). Projected income is \$18,791.56. We still have not formalized our budget. This process needs to be formalized.

Though officially members are in arrears two months after our renewal date (January of the calendar year), efforts will be made to remind delinquent members (from 1999-2001) of their tardy dues. Elaine, noting numerous professional, political or personal reasons why people may have not remitted the dues, agreed to contact individuals. Micaela will provide her with a list from the ALHHS membership roster.

The CD (\$7,961.93) from Wells Fargo Bank is now in a conventional Community checking account, not earning interest. There was discussion about how to manage that amount of money (since we do not need

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the money for operating costs). Finding a CD or combination CD and money market account, etc., with a good rate of interest, either at a local financial institution or through an investment firm like Paine Webber, will be investigated by Micaela. Others on the Committee may, if they like, look into their local institutions.

Kathy Donahue reminded the Treasurer that monies (@\$70.00 for two years) would be due for the ALHHS Web site, graciously run through the server at the University of California.

Recently, one of our members asked if she could purchase our mailing labels. We did not have a precedent for such a sale. We gave her two copies of the labels. We noted that this eventuality might occur again. The pros (i.e., it is another way for professionals to reach us with professional mailings) and cons (i.e., we do not want yet another avenue for unsolicited mailings) were discussed. It was decided that we should at least recoup the cost of the labels. We should not encourage commercial use, since ALHHS owns the information as it exists on the Access database. It

would be appropriate to sell it to members who might want to tell us about an exhibit, a conference, a book they have published, etc.

There was a motion to have a policy for commercial and non-commercial entities who ask for our mailing labels. ALHHS will make their mailing labels available for members for a one-time use (they would get the labels, not the database/list- they could ask for the service multiple times) for production and postage cost of \$25. The motion was seconded. The vote was unanimous in favor of the policy.

This discussion led to one on having the ALHHS directory online. The pros (i.e., it is an easy way to keep our contact information current) and cons (i.e., the directory was thought of as a "perk" of membership and having it online would dilute that perception) of such a project were discussed. We decided to ask the membership at the Business Meeting whether or not they want the Directory on the Web.

Carol Clausen gave the following report of the ALHHS Nominating Committee:

"The Nominating Committee consisted of myself, as chair, and members, Nonnie Klein and Susan Case. We had vacancies for two members-at-large of the steering committee to be filled. The two nominees were Michael Flannery and Pat Gallagher. Both candidates were elected and there were two write-in votes. A few suggestions that were made during the process:

1. that we investigate the possibility of electronic voting.

2. that the Nominating Committee may include more names on the ballot than there are positions to fill. There is nothing in the by-laws that prevents us from doing this, but by long tradition the number of nominees has been held to the number of vacancies.

3. that candidates be asked to provide a brief statement about themselves, to be posted on the ALHHS Web site or sent out with the ballots or both.

The Steering Committee then had a discussion on whether we should do electronic balloting for the next election. We wondered about confidentiality issues and whether we would get a better return because people tend to lose or forget the printed ballot. The various ways in which we could handle electronic balloting (e-mails, PDF files, faxing, etc.) were discussed. We will query the membership as to their opinion at tomorrow's Business Meeting. The consensus of the Steering Committee was to try electronic voting.

Christopher Hoolihan was named as the winner of the ALHHS Publication Award for his wonderful *An Annotated Catalogue of the Edward C. Atwater Collection of American Popular Medicine and Health Reform*. The prize of the Tiffany paperweight (which will continue to be handled by Elizabeth Ihrig) will be awarded at tomorrow's Business Meeting.

Charles Greifenstein at the College of Physicians of Philadelphia was appointed as ALHHS's official archivist. As a result, ALHHS's Bylaws will be revised to reflect that position with a parallel entry in the Procedure Manual to describe the duties of the position.

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Kathy gave a report on the ALHHS Web site, noting that that we do not collect statistics on how often the site is visited, that the Table of Contents from *The Watermark* are up, and that she is uncertain how many Table of Contents we want to keep active. Kathy will talk to Linda and Lilli about the eventuality of putting an entire article up. Also, currently ALHHS links to AAHM, but not vice versa. We should ask AAHM if they would link to us. Kathy has a digital camera that she will use to take photos and post them on the site.

Suzanne Porter announced that Linda Lohr, from the University of Buffalo Health Sciences Library, was selected as the incoming *Watermark* editor. Linda will work with Lilli Sentz over the next year and assume the editorship in the Spring 2003.

Linda presented Lilli's report on *The Watermark*. The expenses for the four issues in 2001-2002 were \$2,304.30. The income from our 15 advertisers for 2001-2002 was \$2,700.00. As part of her institutional affiliation at Buffalo, Linda will look into on-campus printing sources to publish *The Watermark*. Such a source might save us some money. Lilli recently mailed invoices for 2002-2003 to *The Watermark* advertisers. The checks will be mailed directly to the Secretary-Treasurer.

Patricia Gallagher reiterated that the ALHHS Procedure Manual was complete, and that it need not be revisited yearly. She suggested that it be included on the Web site. Kudos went to Patricia for her hard work. We agreed that the President-Elect should review the Procedures for changes during their year of office. **Note to Members:** Appendix C- the Committee Rosters, is missing a few names. If anyone knows who served during those years, please let ALHHS know.

Lucretia McClure gave a report on the Recognition of Merit Award Committee. (See accompanying document). The ALHHS Recognition of Merit award is designed to honor and recognize individuals in two ways. The first is designed for individuals, either members or non-members, who make gifts of an extraordinary nature to health sciences libraries. A second category of recognition would be for longtime service to a library. This is designed for non-members. The award could be named in honor of someone who contributed greatly to health sciences libraries. We will

ask for the membership's approval of the award at the Business Meeting.

New Business

Suzanne mentioned that our Bylaws need to recognize the position of Archivist and should include any changes we make as a result of adding the Recognition of Merit Award. Jodi Koste may address issues such as complimentary registration for Local Arrangements Committees and honorariums for program speakers during her tenure as President.

Adjourned at 5:14 p.m.

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rather than replying to the Nominating Committee, the advantages of mailing savings (it could potentially save about \$70) and whether it should be a PDF file or mailed and faxed, etc. Ed Morman moved that next year the Nominating Committee devise a system for electronic voting and we try it. We will then report back to ALHHS and decide from there. So moved.

Charles Greifenstein gave a report on the Archives. He is binding a set of *The Watermark* so that we can Interlibrary Loan copies to our members. Other archival copies are being housed with the rest of the ALHHS archives. Charles is also processing and eliminating old routine records that are not of enduring value.

ALHHS BUSINESS MEETING

Minutes

April 25, 2002. Convened at 8:45 a.m.
Clendening Library, Kansas City, Kansas.
Micaela Sullivan-Fowler (recorder, Secretary-Treasurer).

Suzanne Porter (President of ALHHS) welcomed the group, and our newest member, Bernie Hook, M.D.

Old Business

The Minutes from the 2001 Annual Meeting in Charleston, S.C., were accepted and approved.

The Treasurer's Report was introduced and summarized by Micaela Sullivan-Fowler, and accepted. (See Steering Committee minutes for report.)

Elaine Challacombe presented the Auditor's Report, which confirmed that the Treasurer's records were in order.

Carol Clausen gave the Nominating Committee Report. (See Steering Committee minutes for report.) It was suggested that in the future a short biography be included with the nominees' names.

A discussion on electronic balloting included thoughts on confidentiality, the problems of replying to the list

Kathy Donahue gave a report on the Web site, telling us that the meeting information was on the Web and that selected parts from *The Watermark* are or could be included. There was discussion on whether the ALHHS Directory should be online. The discussion included thoughts on confidentiality, the use and problems with passwords, the importance of having up-to-date contact information, the potentially time-consuming maintenance of such a Directory and that

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members might not want to be included in the online version.

Ed moved that we launch a modified ALHHS directory on the Web *after* the production of the next membership directory, scheduled for 2003. Members of ALHHS would have the ability to affirm or decline their inclusion in it. Kathy would likely develop the online version and let us know the maximum information that could be included in the directory/Web site. The next membership form sent out by the secretary-treasurer will include a boxed item that asks whether or not the member wants their information included in the online directory. The majority of the attendees approved. 2 opposed. Motion passed.

Suzanne announced that Linda Lohr, from the University of Buffalo Health Sciences Library, was selected as the incoming *Watermark* editor. Linda will work with Lilli Sentz over the next year and assume the editorship in Spring 2003. Linda presented Lilli's report on *The Watermark*. (See Steering Committee minutes for Report.)

Nancy Huston and others were thanked for their efforts as part of the Local Arrangements Committee (LAC), and Nancy told us to be sure to go on the various tours, etc.

New Business

Christopher Hoolihan was named as the winner of the ALHHS Publication Award for his wonderful *An Annotated Catalogue of the Edward C. Atwater Collection of American Popular Medicine and Health Reform*. His Tiffany paperweight award was presented to him by Ann Whitaker and Suzanne.

Lucretia McClure gave a report on the Recognition of Merit Award Committee. There was some discussion on who would be eligible for the Award. (See Steering Committee minutes for Report) All attendees approved the initiation of the award.

Patricia Gallagher reported on the Procedure Manual, now completed. When revised it will include the Recognition of Merit Award information. The Procedure Manual will be revisited every other year and will be put on the ALHHS Web site.

In Other Business, Suzanne reported that AAHM had contacted her about ALHHS contributing a column to their newsletter. Kenneth Ludmerer had also inquired about what AAHM could do for ALHHS. This information sparked a discussion about how we could increase participation and our profile at the annual meeting through demos and exhibits. Mention was made that we could use some of our funds to this end. In order to do something informational alongside the book sellers, Stephen Greenberg thought it would cost about \$1,500-\$2,000 to have a Web connection and we would have to sign people up to volunteer to work the booth — it was suggested that volunteers could sign up on the Caduceus listserv before the meeting. The next Local Arrangement Committee might consider various options in consultation with ALHHS and AAHM.

Suzanne thanked the outgoing officers for their service, Members-at-Large Rich Behles and Lilla Vekerdy, as well as expressed her appreciation to everyone who had either led or served on task forces and committees during the past two years.

Jack Eckert reminded us of the Annual Meeting in Boston in 2003. He said that lots of entertaining venues were being considered and interesting events were being planned.

Suzanne reported on Steering Committee actions including the adoption of procedures for handling requests for ALHHS mailing labels. The Committee had voted to make the labels available for one time use for \$25. Members suggested that we put a disclaimer on the labels noting that the labels are not to be resold and that the selling of them could be restricted at the Steering Committee's discretion. There was unanimous approval by the attendees.

An unofficial award was presented by Micaela to Ed Morman for his artistic envelope when he returned his membership fee. The "Cancun Award" will likely be an occasional award, not worthy of Ad Hoc Committee status.

Suzanne then turned the meeting over to Jodi Koste, our new president, who thanked Suzanne for her service and presented her with a gift in appreciation. Jodi talked of her enthusiasm for becoming president and noted some of the initiatives she hopes to begin

as she takes office. Among them are, creating an Ad Hoc Committee on Awards and making it easier to perform Local Arrangement Committee duties. Welcome Jodi!

We had broken for breakfast around 9:30, as the breakfast was not available when we arrived. We took a 15-20 minute break, and then resumed the meeting.

Adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR ALHHS 2002 ANNUAL MEETING

By Micaela Sullivan-Fowler (Sec/Treasurer)

OPENING BALANCE

AS OF MAY, 2001 \$10,985.31

Income (since 5/2001)

Advertisements in Watermark \$360.00
(\$180 from '01/\$180 from
'02- invoices sent 4/8/02)

Dues for 2001 \$330.00
(paid in summer and early Fall of '01)

Registration 2001 Annual Meeting 2,355.00
(approx, based on Steve's figures in e-mail 10/3/01)

Reimbursement of a bank fee 23.25

Service guarantee payment 5.00

Dues for 2002 2,123.00
(inc. dues that came in the week of 4/22/02)

Total income \$16,181.56
(still have 33 members outstanding and \$2,610 due for ads)

Projected income is \$18,791.56+

Expenditures:

Annual Meeting 2001 2,338.06
(based on Steve's figures in e-mail 10/3/01)
Publishing Award 157.00
Watermark Production & Postage 2,304.30
Checks/Deposit Slips/stamp 118.75
Directory 1,069.00
Postage for voter/meeting/member mailings 252.90
Bank fee 23.25

Total expenses \$6,263.26

Cash on Hand: \$9,918.30
(\$16,181.56 minus \$6,263.26)

Other Assets:

Transferred CD from Wells Fargo
(now sitting in conventional checking acct) **\$7,961.93**

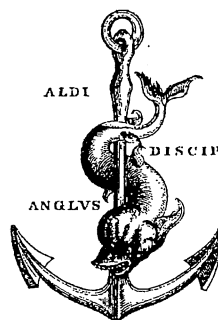
Total Assets as of 4/22/01 \$17,880.23

(\$225 difference in report to Elaine due to ad \$ and member dues that came in later, and \$16.94 additionally from 2001 Annual meeting.)

If we account for the \$2610 due for ads, the total assets would be \$20,473.29.

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Recognition of Merit Award

Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences has an honors and awards program. The Holloway Award honors a librarian member who has made lasting contributions to the organization and the profession. The Publications Award is designed to honor a member for a significant publication. These awards are given on alternate years.

The third award is the ALHHS Recognition of Merit designed to honor and recognize individuals in two explicit ways.

- The first is designed for individuals, either members or non-members, who make gifts of an extraordinary nature to health sciences libraries. Gifts of magnitude would include, but not be limited, to the following:

Materials such as rare/historical books, journals, or items in other formats, of significant value, book collections by author or subject, or furniture, computers or other kinds of equipment.

Artwork such as portraits, posters, paintings, photographs, sculpture, instruments, medical objects

Monetary gifts sufficient to establish memorials or endowments or significant donations.

- A second category of recognition would be for longtime service to a library. This is designed for non-members as the association provides an award for excellence in service by a librarian.

Those receiving recognition would receive the same crystal gift with inscription that is given to the Holloway and Publication Awards. There would, however, be no monetary gift with this award. An appropriate announcement would appear in both *The Watermark* and the ALHHS Web site.

Process

The process would include a letter of nomination and an approximate evaluation of the gift by an ALHHS member. A three-member Honors and Recognition Committee would review the nominations. The Committee's recommendation would then be forwarded to the Steering Committee for final approval.

Guidelines

The Honors and Recognition Committee would be guided by the following examples of extraordinary gifts: presentation of a collection such as Dr. Edward Atwater's gift of early 20th century medical books to the University of Rochester, a museum-quality piece of art, or a sum sufficient to establish an endowment according to the institution's requirements. An individual who has been a supporter of a library over a long period of time, one who has made an intellectual contribution to a library by surveying or indexing a collection, or who has given extraordinary support to a library by serving as an advocate to the administration of the institution would qualify for the service recognition. Because of the nature of this award, it will not be put into the awards rotation and is likely to be awarded infrequently. Only one would be presented during a year, however.

The award could be named in honor of someone who contributed greatly to health sciences libraries. For example, it could be the Billings Recognition of Merit,

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the John Shaw Billings Award, the Billings Award for Service to Libraries or something of that nature.

Honors and Recognition Committee

Thomas Horrocks

Christopher Hoolihan

Lucretia McClure, Chair

September 10, 2001

“Backstage” Drama

You all know that our colleague, Christopher Hoolihan won the ALHHS Publication Award for his thoughtful *Annotated Catalogue of the Edward C. Atwater Collection of American Popular Medicine and Health Reform*. What you don't know is that he almost did not receive his lovely Tiffany paperweight in honor of that award. Elizabeth Ihrig had ordered the paperweight from Tiffany's. As Liz was not attending our annual conference, Tiffany's shipped the paperweight to me. As Secretary-Treasurer I was thought to be responsible enough to handle such a duty. I told two confidants, Elaine Challacombe and Suzanne Porter, that I hoped I remembered to pack the gift and that it would arrive intact from Madison, WI, to Kansas City. After having nearly forgotten to pack it (during packing I was interrupted by the demands of a needy teenager), it arrived safely with my luggage.

Heady with the advent of presenting the treasurer's report, I filled my conference satchel with needed notes, a bottle of water, and the AAHM Program and headed off on the bus to the Clendenen Library. I schmoozed, I wondered if I could get a cup of tea, I read the agenda for the Business Meeting, I saw the item about presenting Chris's award, and I internally freaked. The award was back at the hotel. Over the next 45 minutes I sent messages (verbal and to the heavens!) to various folks to see if there was a way to get back to the hotel and retrieve the paperweight. Dawn McInnis, the Rare Book Librarian asked Bridget Bartholome, her assistant, to drive Elaine to the hotel. (I couldn't leave because I was taking the minutes.) I confessed to Suzanne (or was it Jodi—it's all a blur) the gravity of the situation, and she moved the presentation of the award down the agenda to allow for travel time. The clock ticked away. No Elaine, no Bridget.... We were getting closer to the agenda item.

Here comes Elaine, who in a football-quarterback, slow-motion-move clandestinely passed the robin's egg blue box to me. I quickly transferred it to Suzanne, who presented it to Chris. Success!

Elaine told me later that her ride with Bridget had been delightful, and that she had had to contend with an overzealous housekeeper who wanted to know why she was riffling through my luggage in our hotel room. Lucille Ball, eat your heart out.

Micaela Sullivan-Fowler

UW-Madison

micaela@library.wisc.edu

EX LIBRIS

by Lucretia W. McClure

Congratulations

To Michael Flannery who received the Murray Gottlieb Prize for the best unpublished essay on the history of medicine by a health sciences librarian at the recent Annual Meeting of the Medical Library Association in Dallas. His winning paper was entitled *The Early Botanical Medical Movement as a Reflection of Life, Liberty, and Literacy in Jacksonian America*.

The paper describes a popular, grassroots health crusade initiated by Samuel Thomson (1769-1843) in

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the early 19th century and how the Thomsonians exemplified the inherent contradictions within the larger context of their own socio-political environment. The Jacksonian age was ostensibly anti-intellectual, venerating "intuitive wisdom" and "common sense" over book learning and formal education. The Thomsonian movement eschewed schooling and science and relied upon a literate public to explain and disseminate their system of healing. The paper shows how a popular medical cult was both heir to and promoter of a functionally literate populace.

The Gottlieb Prize was established in 1956 by Ralph and Jo Grimes of the Old Hickory Bookshop to stimulate and recognize interest in the history of medicine. The paper will be published in the *Journal of the Medical Library Association* vol. 90, # 4, October 2002.

* * *

And to John Parascandola, Public Health Services Historian, who has been named the 2002 recipient of the Sidney M. Edelstein Award for Outstanding Achievement in the History of Chemistry. The Award is conferred by the History of Chemistry Division of the American Chemical Society. Dr. Parascandola will receive the award on August 20, 2002, at the meeting of the American Chemical Society in Boston. He will also be one of the speakers at a symposium in honor of his receiving the award.

* * *

And to Dr. L. Lewis Wall and the Alabama Board of Nursing as recipients of the Reynolds Associates Fellowships from the Historical Collections Unit of the Lister Hill Library of the Health Sciences, University of Alabama, Birmingham. Dr. Wall, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, will pursue his research on the physician, J. Marion Simms, and the Nursing Board's topic is the institutional history of the Board.

A Confiscated Collection

The UCLA Library has acquired a historical collection of books and journals from Germany, primarily

medical texts in the field of otorhinolaryngology. The materials were originally in the private library of Dr. Caesar Hirsch, a specialist in the field, who was forced to leave all his belongings behind when he and his family fled Germany in 1933.

The collection, to be added to the History & Special Collections Division of the Louise M. Darling Biomedical Library, comprises 191 book titles and 37 journal titles, making a total of 733 volumes in English, French, German, Italian, and Spanish languages. Most were published in the first three decades of the 20th century, although there are rare texts from the 1800s and earlier. The collection is a gift of Peter J. Hearst and Susa Kessler, Hirsch's son and daughter.

There is an interesting and tragic story about Dr. Hirsch and his library. The physician and his family were forced to leave behind their belongings, including his 1,400-volume library when they left their homeland. They found temporary refuge in Switzerland and France, finally emigrating to the United States. Five years later, Hirsch changed the children's names to Hearst, hoping to ease their way through the process of becoming naturalized citizens. At the same time, the Nazis revoked Hirsch's German citizenship and in 1939 took away his medical degree. In 1940 the family relocated from New York to Seattle, where Hirsch had been offered a position in a practice. However, the offer was withdrawn, and on May 14,



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1940, nearly penniless and deeply distressed, he committed suicide.

The full story of how the Hirsch library was confiscated by the Gestapo and deposited in the library at the University of Tübingen may be found at the Web site: www.library.ucla.edu/libraries/biomed/hirschpressrelease.html. The historian, Hans-Joachim Lang, found that the collection was still at the library while doing his research at Tübingen in 1999 and his search located Peter Hearst in California. It is a story of both the man and his books, how the collection came to UCLA, and is well worth reading.

Good Reading

The Duke University Medical Center Library recently celebrated the publication of a revised and enlarged second edition of its guide to the medicinal garden located on the terrace outside the History of Medicine reading room with a reception, herb viewing, and exhibit. *The Medical Garden* was written by Christine Davis, a graduate botany student, and includes entries for 87 herbs with scholarly citations, a bibliography, and several indexes, all within a handy pamphlet-sized format. Woodcuts from the Trent copies of the 1597 and 1636 editions of Gerard's *Herball* were used to illustrate the text that was beautifully printed in letterpress by the Stinehour Press of Lunenburg, Vermont. Financial support from The Josiah Charles Trent Memorial Foundation and from the Trent Associates made the publication possible.

The exhibit will remain on view through the summer. The garden is open year round to visitors. For further

information contact the curator, Suzanne Porter at porte004@mc.duke.edu.

* * *

Dr. Victoria A. Harden, Director of the Office of NIH History and Stetten Museum, announces the first edition of the Newsletter of the Office of NIH History. The first issue includes updates on the archival and photography collections, a new hydrometer for the Stetten Museum, research into the National Collaborative Perinatal Project, a documentary film on NIH's historic Building 3, and mystery photos. It is located at this Web site: www.nih.gov/od/museum/about/newsletter_summer_2002.pdf.

History Course at UMDNJ

A survey course entitled *History of the Health Sciences: A Two-day Overview* was sponsored by the University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey May 31 and June 1 at the UMDNJ campus in Newark. Patricia E. Gallagher, MS, MLS, AHIP of the New York Academy of Medicine Library and Stephen J. Greenberg, MLS, Ph.D. of the History of Medicine Division of the National Library of Medicine, Bethesda, were the featured speakers. More than fifty individuals, including physicians, nurses, researchers, medical librarians, archivists, students, and members of the Medical History Society of New Jersey, participated.

The illustrated lecture by Ms. Gallagher and Dr. Greenberg included bibliographical works held in the UMDNJ's Special Collections. Attendees participated

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in a convivial dinner on Friday and a tour of Special Collections on Saturday, following the conclusion of the lectures. Rare books from Special Collections by significant individuals cited in the lectures were on display. There were very interesting exchanges regarding medical history and bibliography.

The eight-hour course was designed as an overview of the history of the health sciences in the West. Though concentrating on medicine, it also discussed topics in dentistry and nursing. The course identified major names, issues, discoveries, and publications and placed them in a coherent historical context. Due to the generosity of an anonymous donor, the course was offered at a significantly reduced cost.

Fellowship News

The Countway Library's Rare Books and Special Collections Department is pleased to announce the establishment of the Francis A. Countway Library Fellowship in the History of Medicine. The fellowship, which will be announced formally this coming fall, will offer an annual stipend of up to \$5,000 to a successful applicant to spend at least one month in residence at the Countway conducting research in the Library's Rare Books and Special Collections and the Warren Museum. The fellowship is funded by the Boston Medical Library's Abel Lawrence Peirson Fund.

This summer the Countway will be hosting two short-term fellows through its membership in the New England Regional Fellowship Consortium. Elysa

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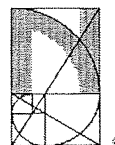
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Engelman, a Ph.D. candidate in American and New England Studies at Boston University, will be conducting research on *The Face That Haunts Me Ever: Consumers, Critics, and the Branded Personality of Lydia E. Pinkham*, and Anu King Dudley, a Ph.D. candidate in history at the University of Maine, will be conducting research on *What Was In the Doctor's Bag: A Material Culture Study of Medical Practices in 19th Century America*.

On Exhibit

The opening of The Philip S. Hench Walter Reed Yellow Fever Collection Web site marks the completion of a two-year project at the University of Virginia Claude Moore Health Sciences Library that identified, digitized, transcribed, preserved, created enhanced searching options, and now provides worldwide access to the 5,500 original documents, photographs, and artifacts in the Walter Reed and yellow fever collection.

The project was led by Joan Echtenkamp Klein whose team worked closely with David Seaman, Director of the Electronic Text Center at the University of Virginia Library. The project was funded in part by a \$250,041 National Leadership Grant by the federal Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

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Like the contemporary AIDS epidemic, yellow fever was a deadly scourge that had a devastating effect on lives and economies throughout the 18th and 19th centuries. In 1900, Walter Reed, M.D., and his fellow members of the U.S. Army Yellow Fever Commission made the discovery that a mosquito was responsible for the transmission of yellow fever. The Yellow Fever Commission's experiments in Cuba were a great breakthrough in medicine for which Walter Reed was awarded a Congressional Gold Medal and elevated to the status of American medical hero.

Philip S. Hench, M.D., awarded the Nobel Prize for his discovery of cortisone, was fascinated by the story of Walter Reed and the Yellow Fever Commission and made it his life's work to collect everything available relevant to this public health story. He met and befriended all the people associated with the story of their relatives, most of whom gave him original family documents and photographs. The extensive archive that Hench compiled was given to the University of Virginia after his untimely death—he did not live to write his definitive book on Walter Reed and yellow fever—and is the cornerstone collection in the Claude Moore Health Sciences Library's archive.

The Web site has received rave reviews including this comment from Melvin Shaffer, a member of the University of Virginia's Eighth Evacuation Hospital in World War II who wrote: "What a pleasant surprise to have the materials from the Reed Web site. I immediately called it up and have hardly taken my eyes off. Such a beautiful presentation. Especially nice is the typed "translation" of each letter."

It is indeed a remarkable collection that is now available to all of us at
<http://yellowfever.lib.virginia.edu>. Enjoy!

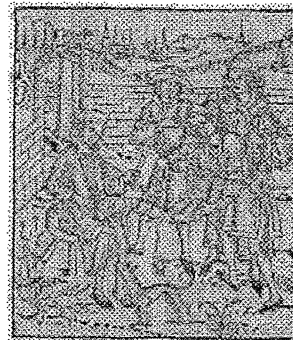
* * *

A new temporary exhibit devoted to the invention of the lightning rod by Benjamin Franklin has opened at The Bakken Library and Museum in Minneapolis. The exhibit includes original historical scientific instruments, rare books, sculptures, and portraits from the 1700s and 1800s to tell the story. Selected highlights include a "Thunder House" from the 18th century used to demonstrate the explosive effects of lightning, and a modern one used for many years at the Minnesota State Fair, electrostatic toys from the 1700s like the ones Franklin used to amuse his friends, an original letter signed by Franklin from 1784, "Franklin's bells" similar to the one Franklin used to

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Hieronymus Brunschwig, *Das ist das buch der Cirurgia*, Strassburg, 1497.

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warn himself of approaching storms, and several books from the library's historical collection.

The opening of the exhibit was timed to coincide with the 250th anniversary of the experiment by French scientists on May 10, 1752, that confirmed Franklin's theory. The experiment actually preceded Franklin's more familiar kite experiment by about a month, but was based on an experiment that Franklin had published in 1751 in his seminal book, *Experiments and Observations on Electricity*. The exhibit will run through 2002.

* * *

Complements and Conflicts: Preservation and Access and the Library of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia is the title of a new exhibit highlighting preservation and access activities at the College. Both preservation of materials and access to the collections are essential in a historical library. Volumes must be preserved if patrons are going to be able to use them and while this may represent a conflict at times, it will ultimately facilitate the user's access. Among the items on display is a 16th century book with its original studded binding.

May is National Preservation Month and the Library's exhibit touches on the various homes of the College and recent efforts to improve environmental conditions of the book stacks. Many of the activities were made possible by grants to the College.

* * *

An exhibit highlighting the efforts used by the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology (AFIP) to identify the victims of the September 11 terrorist attacks at the Pentagon and the crash of United Airlines Flight 93 in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, is on display at the National Museum of Health and Medicine in Washington, DC. The exhibit will run indefinitely.

The exhibit, *Research Matters: 9/11, The Armed Forces Institute of Pathology Responds*, features photographs never before seen by the public that were taken by AFIP staff during commission of their duties. The AFIP successfully identified 184 Pentagon victims, provided positive DNA identifications on all 40 Pennsylvania victims, and developed genetic

profiles of the terrorists that could not be matched to any of the other victims.

"The experiences of my colleagues in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks have become part of our collective national memory and have been documented by the museum for lasting value to the world," said Museum Director Dr. Adrienne Noe. "Visitors can learn through this *Research Matters* exhibit about the personal experiences of U.S. military personnel during unique challenges to our nation."

* * *

Talking Heads: Phrenology at the Countway Library of Medicine is the title of a new exhibit to be on display through September 30, 2002.

Why do we act the way we do? What determines the patterns of our behavior and personality? While psychology and, now, genetics are used today to wrestle with these eternal questions, the 19th century found its own very different explanation in phrenology—the study of human cranial structures and their implications for human nature and character. More than just reading bumps on the head, phrenology had a complex theoretical framework and a long history of development. The movement fostered great interest among scientists and the public in Boston, the United States, and Europe. *Talking Heads* draws on the rich collection of books, manuscripts, artwork, and artifacts at the Countway Library of Medicine to explore the basis for phrenological study, some of the major figures associated with it, and Boston's own unique place in the history of this popular movement.

Highlights of the exhibit include texts and medals of Franz Joseph Gall, the founder of phrenology, manuscripts, books, and a silhouette of J. G. Spurzheim, Gall's assistant, who came to evangelize Boston with the new science in 1832. In the mid-19th century, Orson and Lorenzo Fowler took up the cause of phrenology and turned it into a wildly profitable business, seeking to improve the lot of mankind through teaching, lecturing, and reading heads. Samples of the Fowlers' character readings, symbolic heads, and a popular phrenology manual are on display along with some of the satiric prints inspired by the movement. Publications, advertisements, and historical records of the British Phrenological

Society—active until 1967—testify to the enduring fascination of this peculiar study of skulls.

For further information, contact Jack Eckert at 617.432.6207 or jack_eckert@hms.harvard.edu.

Good Listening

A lecture by Dr. Julian Plante, who served as founding director of the Hill Monastic Manuscript Library—a microfilm archive of medieval and Renaissance historical manuscript sources—and as Research Professor of Classics at Saint John's Abbey and University, Collegeville, Minnesota, was sponsored by the Minneapolis Athenaeum and The Bakken on May 30. Dr. Plante is currently engaged in documenting the history of bookselling, collecting, and publishing in Minnesota from the Territorial period to the present. A capacity crowd of 80 filled the Great Hall of The Bakken to listen to his account of this mammoth and fascinating ongoing work. The lecture was followed by a reception in The Bakken's very pretty garden on the first day of summer.

A Robot Finds a New Home

Shades of R2-D2 and C-3PO from "War Wars"!

A Helpmate mobile robotic courier was recently donated to the National Museum of Health and Medicine by the Walter Reed Army Hospital. Named after Walter Reed's wife, Emilie, the robot stands 4 feet, 6 inches tall and weighs nearly 600 pounds. First used at the hospital in 1997, the robotic courier was able to move on its own to deliver pharmaceuticals. It spoke with a feminine voice.

The courier uses sensor technology, wireless radio, and software to guide itself throughout the hospital. It can be programmed to locate any room in the hospital and to use elevators. Emilie was developed by Helpmate Robotics, which was acquired by Pyxis Corporation in 1999. Pyxis created the first automated medication machines a little more than a decade ago.

Although there are currently 98 robotic couriers like Emilie in use today, once new technologies were introduced, Emilie became obsolete. There was also a second robotic courier, named Walter, used at the hospital that is now out of service. Emilie is still

functional although there are no plans to activate it in the museum.

Changes To Be Noted

The John P. McGovern Historical Collections and Research Center will be closed from June 15 until August 15 in preparation for a move. A new facility with 11,000 square feet has been leased by the Houston Academy of Medicine-Texas Medical Center Library to house the Library's manuscript collections and the extensive collection of historical publications and records from Texas Medical Center institutions.

During July, the staff will transfer more than 100 collections of personal papers from Texas physicians and biomedical researchers and nearly 100 collections documenting the development of the Texas Medical Center institutions to the new location at 8272 El Rio, Suite 190 in Houston. The new Historical Research Center will have the environmental controls necessary to preserve these unique historical resources. There will be nearly 8,800 square feet of space for shelving historical collections along with offices for staff and expanded space for researchers. Photocopying, scanning, and reference assistance will be available in the new facility when it opens in the fall.

The rare book and photograph collections will remain in the Jesse H. Jones Library Building with the major portion of the HAM-TMC Library's medical literature. During the summer, the McGovern Research Center's historical books and photograph collections will be accessible only by appointment. Researchers should contact Sara Holland at (713) 799-7141 or by e-mail sholland@library.tmc.edu. The art and medical instruments collections will not be accessible while the department is closed.

* * *

From the University of Pittsburgh comes word that the History of Medicine collections at the Falk Library of the Health Sciences will be temporarily closed for a full inventory project.

Coming Events

The annual meeting of the Society of American Archivists will be held in Birmingham the week of

August 19-25, 2002. Tim Pennycuff, UAB University Archivist, is a member of the host committee and has been involved in coordinating the event.

* * *

The Historical Collections of the Lister Hill Library received the joint ALA/NLM grant for the traveling exhibit, *Frankenstein: Penetrating the Secrets of Nature*. The exhibit is designed to "discuss Shelley's and their own views about person and societal responsibility as it relates to science and other areas of life." The Library is pleased to announce the receipt of the grant that will bring the exhibit to the Alabama Museum of the Health Sciences January 21-March 5, 2004.

NEWS FROM HMD

By Elizabeth Fee

At the May meeting of the Board of Regents, the National Library of Medicine held a special program in honor of major donors to the historical collections: Libby Anfinson, Julius Axelrod, Sheldon G. Cohen, Donald Fredrickson, Margaret K. O'Bryon, William Helfand, Joshua Lederberg, Paul D. MacLean, Marshall W. Nirenberg, Barbara Rodbell, Mary E. Schlesinger, and Martine Jozan Work. After dinner, a multi-media program celebrating the donors and their achievements included presentations to the honorees by Donald A. B. Lindberg, Marie Sklodowska Curie, John Shaw Billings, and Clio, the Muse of History.

In May, at the Medical Library Association meetings, Stephen Greenberg moderated a program on "Non-Book Historical Collections at NLM." The speakers and topics were as follows: Jan Lazarus, "Images Unplugged: A Photo Archivist's Most Excellent Adventure"; Nancy Dosch, "Fun and Frolic with Fascinating Films"; John Rees, "Is there an Anarchist in the House? Archival Principles and Practices for the Non-Archivist"; and Paul Theerman, "Eureka! Look What I've Got! Gathering and Promoting Special Collections." The session was received with enthusiasm.

In May, at the American Association for the History of Medicine meetings, Elizabeth Fee, Russ Maulitz, Joan Lussky, and Lillian Kozuma, presented a special session on "The Digital Index Catalogue Unveiled," to announce the soon-to-be-forthcoming digital version of the Surgeon General's *Index Catalogue*. We estimate that this essential bibliographical tool for anyone interested in the history of medicine will be available for use by May 2003.

Also at the AAHM meetings, several staff members presented papers and also helped out at the HMD exhibit booth organized by Stephen Greenberg. At the annual banquet, Elizabeth Fee was delighted to present the Lifetime Achievement Award for 2002 to Professor Rosemary Stevens.

In March, the National Library of Medicine hosted the opening of the centennial exhibition of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) with a program and a reception in the Lister Hill Lobby. The exhibition curator was John Parascandola and the exhibition is currently on tour.

Currently, the cases immediately outside HMD hold a small exhibition created by Lexi Lord and John Parascandola on "Smallpox: A Great and Terrible Scourge."

World Wide Web

The full text of the Reports of the Surgeon General have now been released to the public through HMD and Lister Hill Center's Web sites, with exhibition text by Walter Hickel.

See the Web also for an exhibition on the life and work of Linus Pauling with exhibition text by Tom Hager, a researcher at the University of Oregon. The "Profiles in Science" site contains a rich sampling of scientific papers, correspondence, photographs and other materials by and about this prolific and fascinating scientist and peace activist.

Finding aids for American Burn Association records, medical historian James Harvey Young papers, Surgeon-General Luther Terry papers, and cancer researcher Ludvik Gross's papers were mounted on the Web.

Acquisitions

Recent acquisitions include an incunabulum, *In Aristotelis de Anima Commentum* (1496-97), a commentary by a thirteenth-century scholar, Giles of Rome, on Aristotle's psychology.

Also acquired was an anonymous 18th-century Persian manuscript on ophthalmology, *Kitab-iKahhali Ayn al-Diwa'i*. Written by an anonymous author, and heretofore unrecorded, the manuscript includes numerous colored and black-and-white drawings.

Archives and Modern Manuscripts received the French Anderson papers, dealing with gene therapy, and additions to the Bertram Brown papers.

Notable accessions in Prints and Photographs included international health posters from Johns Hopkins University and a number of fine prints destined for the forthcoming exhibit *Dream Anatomy*.

Alpha Omega Alpha donated the master tapes of the "Leaders in American Medicine" series to Historical Audiovisuals; Martine Jozan Work contributed more films made by Telford Work; and the NIH Office of Women's Health provided videos of their activities.

Other Activities

Barron H. Lerner presented the Women's History Month Lecture on "No Shrinking Violet: Rose Kushner and the Rise of Breast Cancer Activism."

Michael North spoke about rare book cataloging to the Catholic University's class on rare book librarianship.

Stephen Greenberg organized an exhibit on HMD's resources and services for the American Historical Association meetings.

Transitions

Tylka Vitula began work as visual materials cataloger; Alejandro Ontiveros completed his internship in historical audiovisuals; John Doyle moved from the Digital Manuscripts Program to NLM's Public Service Division.

Division Secretary Monique Young left HMD in February for a position in NIAID.

Visitors

Dr. Anne-Emanuelle Birn from the New School University, New York City, and Dr. Nikolai Krementsov from the St. Petersburg Branch of the Institute of the History of Science and Technology of the Russian Academy of Sciences spent several weeks at the Library as Scholars-in-Residence.

Shizu Sakai, Juntendo University, Tokyo, worked for a second time in the Division, analyzing the Library's large collection of Japanese books and manuscripts. She made several important discoveries, including the former owner of much of the collections.

A New Look

The reference/circulation area of HMD, the secretary's office, and the Chief's office have been renovated; the Incunabula Room has a new wood floor, and the coatroom is about to be given a face lift as the future home to "Turning the Pages." Come by and notice our clean new look when you're next in the Washington area!

ON THE WEB

By Lisa A. Mix

The Philip S. Hench Walter Reed Yellow Fever Collection

<http://yellowfever.lib.virginia.edu>

A Web site recently unveiled at the University of Virginia's Claude Moore Health Sciences Library <<http://www.med.virginia.edu/hs-library/>> tells the story of Walter Reed and the Yellow Fever Commission's conquest of this devastating disease. More significantly, the site provides online access to digital surrogates of 5,500 items from the collection. This impressive Web site is the culmination of a two-year project (led by ALHHS member and former Watermark editor Joan Echtenkamp Klein) in Historical Collections and Services <<http://>

www.med.virginia.edu/hs-library/historical/>, funded by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services <<http://www.imls.gov/>>.

The introduction brilliantly sets the tone: intentionally grainy black-and-white images of key individuals, juxtaposed with quotations in white lettering, fade in and out on a black screen, with a soundtrack of rolling film that fades into the sound of a buzzing mosquito. These special effects draw the reader in to the historical events about to be presented. The next page provides two points of entry, corresponding to the site's two parts: "The Story" and "The Collection". The distinction between the two enables researchers to focus on what interests them the most. Navigation between the two areas is seamless, however, making it easy to go back and forth between the narratives and the primary materials that support them.

"The Story" begins with a brief overview essay. Subsequent pages present biographical sketches of the key players: Walter Reed, Carlos J. Finlay, Jesse Lazear, Henry Rose Carter, and Philip S. Hench. A page entitled "The Yellow Fever Commission" provides more in-depth coverage of the Commission's experiences in Cuba. The narratives are richly illustrated with photographs from the collections, and links to other pertinent pages are liberally sprinkled throughout the text. Footnotes link directly to digital documents. The overview page also links to the Library's "Yellow Fever/Reed Commission Exhibit" <<http://www.med.virginia.edu/hs-library/historical/yelfev/tabcon.html>>.

"The Collection" presents digital images of 5,500 documents, photographs, and artifacts from the collection, along with a finding guide. Readers can access the digital documents by date, by series, by subject, or by using the search page. The documents online do not comprise the entire collection. However, the project staff chose well in digitizing significant documents. From the poignant correspondence of Dr. Jesse Lazear (who contracted a fatal case of yellow fever in the course of his experiments) to some early examples of informed consent for human subjects, the online documents appeal to a range of researchers.

In addition to the two main sections, the site contains several useful pages. "Reed Biographies" presents online versions of Howard Kelly's Walter Reed and

Yellow Fever (with handwritten annotations by Philip S. Hench and others), and Laura Wood's Walter Reed: Doctor in Uniform (a manuscript draft). "Highlights" lists significant documents, as chosen by the project staff. "Who's Who" presents a master list of personal names that appear in the online collection. Each entry consists of the name, a brief explanation of who the individual was, a date, and a source for the information. Some of the entries contain links to relevant external Web sites. "Places" lists the place names represented in the collection. "Related Sites" links to external Web sites on yellow fever, as well as related paper collections at other institutions.

The final report to the IMLS is also included — a helpful document to those of us in the field. It discusses why the project staff made certain choices, how the protocols were developed, and the unexpected obstacles encountered. This information is invaluable to anyone contemplating a similar project. At the end of the report is a list of "most commonly used Web sites", a hidden gem. All of the Web sites listed are potentially useful to archivists, librarians, or historians, so it's a shame that this list is buried at the end of the report where many readers won't see it.

The Yellow Fever site beautifully illustrates the role of primary source materials in preserving history. In mounting this rich collection on the Web, the project team has not only created a wonderful resource for researchers, but brought the story of yellow fever to life for the general Web-viewing public.

For those of you who plan on attending the Society of American Archivists Annual Meeting this year (Birmingham, AL, August 19-25), project director Joan Echtenkamp Klein will be making a presentation about the Yellow Fever site at the Science, Technology and Health Care Roundtable on Saturday August 24. The webmasters of NLM's Profiles in Science site will be presenting at the same session, so it should be an interesting meeting.

(See <<http://www.archivists.org>> for information about the SAA meeting;

<<http://www.neurosciencearchives.org/sthc/sth02020.htm>> for information about the STHC Roundtable.)

Other Web sites of Interest

As many Watermark readers already know, I've changed jobs recently, so my email address has changed (along with my entire life). So please send the URLs of interesting Web sites to <lisa.mix@library.ucsf.edu>. A list of Web sites discovered since my last column (or sites that have changed their URLs) follows.

American Society for Neurochemistry
<http://www.asneurochem.org/>

Archaic medical terms
http://www.paul_smith.doctors.org.uk/ArchaicMedicalTerms.htm

Archives of the History of American Psychology *new URL
<http://www3.uakron.edu/ahap/>

Charles Babbage Institute, Center for the History of Information Technology
<http://www.cbi.umn.edu/news/index.html>

Battle of Midway: an Online Exhibit
<http://web.nps.navy.mil/~library/midway/>

Division of History of Science, International Union of History and Philosophy of Science
<http://ppp.unipv.it/dhs/>

European Association for the History of Medicine and Health
<http://www.eahmh.org/>

John Glenn Archive (Ohio State University)
<http://www.lib.ohio-state.edu/arvweb/glenn/glenn.htm>

Global Project on the History of Leprosy
<http://leprosyhistory.wuhmo.ox.ac.uk/english/englishhome.htm>

History Matters: the U.S. Survey Course on the Web
<http://historymatters.gmu.edu/>

History of Phrenology - new URL
<http://pages.britishlibrary.net/phrenology/>

History World - Timelines
<http://www.historyworld.net/timelines/existing.asp>

Images from Anatomia Universa
<http://www.lib.uiowa.edu/hardin-www/mascagni/>

Images of History on the Web
<http://www.infoday.com/searcher/may02/mattison.htm>

ISI HighlyCited
<http://isihighlycited.com/>

The Living City - NYC (history of public health)
<http://www.livingcity.org/htm/home.htm>

Medizinhistorisches Institut und Museum (Universitaet Zuerich)
[Museum of Medical History (Zurich University)]
<http://www.mhiz.unizh.ch/>

Multi-Dimensional Human Embryo Project
<<http://embryo.soad.umich.edu/index.html>>

National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program
<http://www.digitalpreservation.gov/ndiipp/>

Open Archives Initiative (OAI) Metadata Harvesting Project
<http://oai.grainger.uiuc.edu/index.htm>

Office of Medical History, Office of the Surgeon General
<http://www.armymedicine.army.mil/history/default.htm>

Linus Pauling Digitized Research Notebooks (Oregon State University)
<http://osulibrary.orst.edu/specialcollections/rnb/index.html>

Saint Vincent Medical Center (Los Angeles)
<http://svmchc.org>

"Seeing is Believing: 700 Years of Scientific and Medical Illustration"
<http://seeing.nypl.org/>

Mary Lea Shane Archives of the Lick Observatory (University of California, Santa Cruz)
<http://library.ucsc.edu/collect/lickarchives/index.html>

"Talking Heads" (exhibit on history of phrenology)
http://www.countway.med.harvard.edu/rarebooks/talking_heads/index.html

U.S. National Archives and Records Administration
*new URL <http://www.archives.gov>

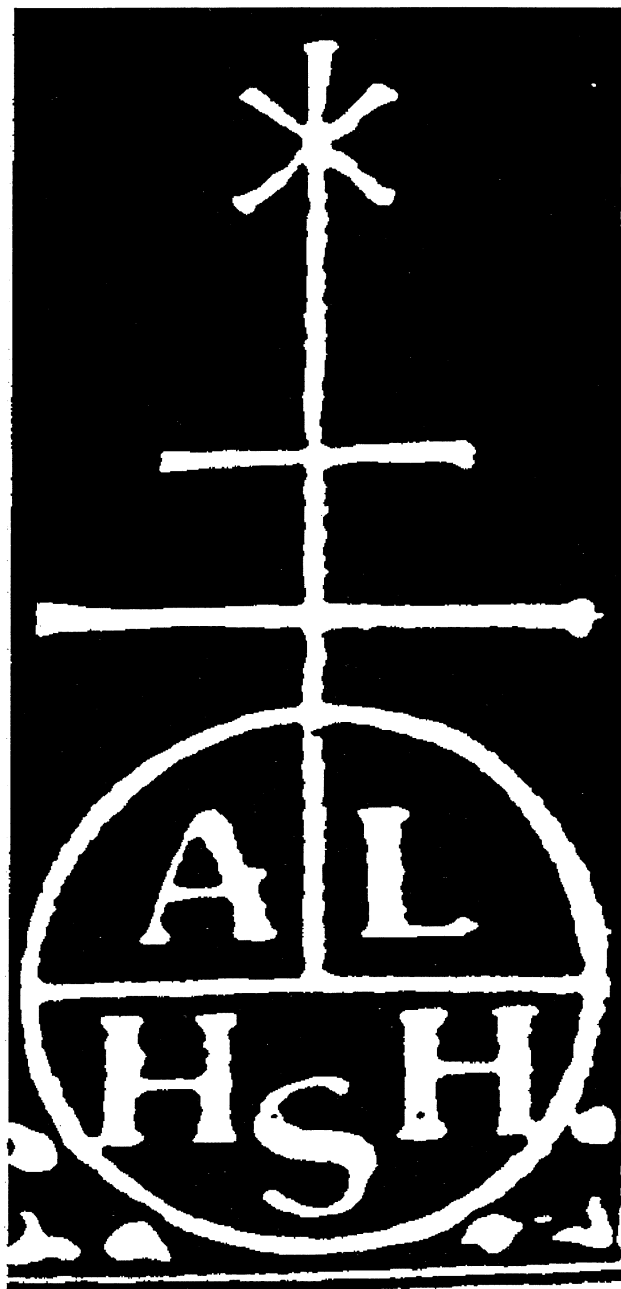
The Virtual Laboratory (Max-Planck-Institut für
Wissenschaftsgeschichte) <http://vlp.mpiwg-berlin.mpg.de/>

Wake Forest University Medical School — Dorothy
Carpenter Medical Archives
<http://www.wfubmc.edu/library/archives/index.html>

“Who Named It?” - a biographical dictionary of
medical eponyms <http://www.whonamedit.com/>

“Wonder Bound: Rare Books on Early Museums”
<http://www.sil.si.edu/exhibitions/wonderbound/>

World Health Organization Library and Information
Networks for Knowledge: historical collection <http://www.who.int/library/historical/>



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

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; (203) 785-4354; FAX (203) 785-4369; E-MAIL lsentz@email.msn.com.

Submissions for Ex Libris should be sent to: Lucretia W. McClure, 164 Elmore Road, Rochester, NY 14618-3651; (525) 244-8703; E-MAIL lucretiaru@earthlink.net.