

News, Notes and Queries

THE WELLCOME INSTITUTE FOR THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE

The Wellcome Trustees have announced the appointment of Professor A. R. Hall, F.B.A., to serve as Chairman of the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine. Professor Hall is internationally known for his work on the history of science and technology, particularly during the seventeenth century. His most recent book is *Philosophers at war: the quarrel between Newton and Leibniz* (Cambridge University Press, 1980). His many other works include *The scientific revolution 1500–1800* (Longmans, 1962), and (with M. B. Hall), *The correspondence of Henry Oldenburg* (9 vols., University of Wisconsin Press, 1965 to date). Professor Hall has been President of the British Society for the History of Science and of the International Academy of the History of Science. He comes to the Institute from Imperial College London, where he was Professor of the History of Science and Technology, 1963–1980.

OUR NEW COVER AND EMBLEM

The new cover of *Medical History*, which has been designed by Peter Voce, looks back to the original issues of the journal by also incorporating a renaissance emblem. Its motto, 'Rerum Sapientia Custos' is taken from a Latin couplet:

Optima gestarum rerum sapientia custos,
Aeternis condens fortia facta libris.

(Wisdom is the best preserver of the past, laying up brave deeds in books that last for ever.)

The linked snakes, together with the motto, were used originally as an emblem by a French princess, Marguerite, Duchess of Berry, later of Savoy (1523–1574). Our version is derived from a more elaborate rendering in a seventeenth-century collection of emblems by Gabriel Rollenhagen.¹ For Rollenhagen and his contemporaries, each piece of the emblem carried a symbolic meaning: the tree signified stability, the windmill productivity, and the two snakes medicine as well as wisdom. Our readers may also choose to interpret them as symbolizing the joint rule of their editors. *Caveat lector*.

¹ M. C. Paradin, *Heroica symbola*, Antwerp, J. Stelsius 1563, fol. 143^{r-v}. G. Rollenhagen, *Nucleus emblematum selectissimorum*, Utrecht, J. Janssonius, 1611, II, n.8; cf. A. Schöne, *Emblemata*, Stuttgart, J. B. Metzler, 1967, col. 647.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO MEDICAL HISTORY

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All subscription orders for the journal, orders for back issues or for the Annual Supplement, and all queries (except editorial) relating to these publications should be sent to Science History Publications Ltd. at the above address.

All payments for these publications should also be sent to Science History Publications Ltd., cheques being made payable to 'Medical History'.

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SIR THOMAS LEWIS (1881–1945). A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

A one-day symposium on this theme will be held at the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine on Friday, 24 April 1981. Speakers will include Dr. Arthur Hollman, Dr. John Honour, Dr. Dennis Krikler, Sir Edward Pochin, Professor H. A. Snellen, and Sir Edward Wayne.

The papers will examine the historical significance of Lewis's work on pain and skin responses as well as his better-known cardiological investigations. Attention will also be given to the institutional context of his work.

Further details from: Dr. C. J. Lawrence, Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine, 183 Euston Road, London NW1 2BP.

THE SOCIETY FOR RENAISSANCE STUDIES

A colloquium on *Science, Medicine, and Technology in the Renaissance* will be held on 15 May 1981 at the Warburg Institute, London, at 2.15 p.m. Admission is free to all, without ticket.

Programme: Charles Webster, "Paracelsus, astrology and medicine"; Vivian Nutton, "Medical humanism, medical orthodoxy?"; Brian Copenhaver, "Neoplatonic philosophy and the scientific status of magic"; Alex Keller, "The twenty-one books of machines attributed to Juanelo Turriano (1500–1585)".