

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

The founders and proprietors of *Medical History*, Dawsons of Pall Mall, have regretfully come to the decision that it is impossible for them to continue its publication. The journal is now completing its ninth year and, as the only British journal devoted to the history of medicine, has achieved a considerable reputation in interested circles throughout the world. Nearly 80 per cent of its subscriptions come from foreign countries and the cessation of the journal would prove an irreparable loss not only to medicine and scholarship in Britain but to the presentation of British views abroad. With these considerations in mind the Wellcome Trustees have agreed that the Editor shall, from 1 January 1966, include *Medical History* in the official publications of the Wellcome Historical Medical Library. Dawsons of Pall Mall have generously surrendered all their rights in the journal with effect from that date.

In the course of these discussions it was suggested by the Trustees that *Medical History* might be linked more closely than it is at present to the groups and societies in Britain by the appointment of an Editorial Board representing those interests. This suggestion was a timely one, for it coincided with the foundation of the British Society for the History of Medicine, details of which are published in this issue. The founding committee has gladly accepted it and *Medical History* now becomes its official journal and the senior elected officers of the Society become *ex officio* members of its Editorial Board.

Individual members of the Society will henceforth receive *Medical History* automatically for their inclusive subscription of £3 per annum. The privilege of reduced subscription hitherto available to enrolled members of other societies of clubs must accordingly be withdrawn on the expiration of the current subscription. It must be emphasized that if the subscription is to be held at its present level while the cost of production and distribution continues to increase at approximately ten per cent per annum, then greater support must be forthcoming in the way of individual subscriptions, especially from British readers. (The Editor has noted with regret that some whose papers have from time to time been published in *Medical History* have never subscribed to the journal.) The opportunity now offered of subscription at the normal rate, which will also include membership of the British Society for the History of Medicine, is one which should not be missed. Individual members of the new Society will not only be giving positive support to our national effort in this field, but will also enjoy certain privileges with regard to congresses and international meetings, the details of which will be announced in due course.

As membership of the new Society is open to British nationals only, these arrangements do not affect our readers overseas who will continue to receive *Medical History* at the current rate. They may also be assured that the scope of the journal will continue to be international and that contributions in English from any country will continue to receive sympathetic consideration.

The Editor,  
October 1965