

Book Reviews

and many messages of encouragement were received from those in Australia, South Africa, Ireland and elsewhere who were unable to be present.

An address by Dr. F. N. L. Poynter was followed by a business meeting which unanimously accepted his generous invitation for the Society to become an integral part of the Faculty of the History of Medicine and Pharmacy in the Society of Apothecaries.

Officers were elected as follows:

Chairman: Professor D. L. Hughes, Department of Veterinary Pathology, Liverpool. *Research Officer and Deputy Chairman:* Mr. J. W. Barber-Lomax, The Wellcome Building, London, N.W.1. *Secretary:* Mr. S. A. Hall, Veterinary Investigation Centre, Woodthorne, Wolverhampton. *Committee Members:* Mr. W. G. R. Oates, Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, Belgrave Square, London, S.W.1, and Professor L. P. Pugh, School of Veterinary Medicine, Cambridge.

There are forty-two Founder Members. Meetings will be held at least twice a year and the first of these will be in London in the spring.

S. A. HALL

THE LINDSAY CLUB

AFTER an exploratory meeting held in March of this year, it was felt that there would be sufficient interest among members of the dental profession to warrant the formation of a club for the study of dental history. It was decided that the society should be called the Lindsay Club in memory of Lilian Lindsay and her work in the field of dental history. An Inaugural Meeting was held on Thursday, 18 October 1962 at 13 Hill Street, London, W.1. After the business meeting, Sir Zachary Cope gave a paper entitled 'The Tomes Tradition'.

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Galen: On Anatomical Procedures: the Later Books, translated by W. L. H. DUCKWORTH, London, Cambridge University Press, 1962, pp. 279, 40s.

FOR far too long blasts of denigration have spattered Galen's reputation. First gusts of the storm began with Vesalius' just exposures of Galen's shortcomings as an anatomical seer; and with the revival of interest in Galen's works at the Renaissance it was inevitable that his errors should form the stepping-stones for further progress in anatomy and physiology. But that this denigration should continue into the twentieth century with its allegedly more mature attitude to scientific achievement is inexcusable. In English-speaking countries at least, it is largely due to ignorance of Galen's works, an ignorance born of an ever-decreasing ability to read Greek and Latin, and a strange reluctance of those with sufficient linguistic equipment to translate these vitally important works. It was in full realization of this dilemma that Charles Singer in 1956 produced his translation of the first eight books of Galen's *Anatomical Procedures*. This was the fragment of the work which reached the West in the original Greek, and was first published in the Aldine edition of Galen's works in 1525. It was used by Vesalius as a foundation for his own studies. The remaining part of Galen's work, did not however reach the West until the middle of the nineteenth century. It was salvaged for posterity by the Arabs, in particular by that great lover and