

News, Notes, and Queries

SYMPOSIUM

Museum Boerhaave, Leiden, September 1991

In September 1991 the Sir Thomas Browne Institute and the Department of Medical History of the Leiden University, in co-operation with the Leiden Museum Boerhaave, intend to organize a three-day symposium on the subject of scientific communication and exchange between Great Britain and Europe during the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. The conference will be held in the Museum Boerhaave, which in 1991 re-opens to the public on the new premises of the historic Caecilia Hospital.

The symposium will focus on four main questions: 1. How did the diffusion of new theories in the natural sciences from England to the Continent and vice versa take place? 2. What circuits of communication were in operation? 3. How was scientific knowledge and information, including know-how and new technologies transferred? 4. What was the role of the individual in this scientific exchange? Papers will be presented by a number of speakers from various European countries.

Further details can be obtained from Mrs M. Fournier, Museum Boerhaave, P.O. Box 11280, 2301 EG Leiden, The Netherlands.

Congress

ANCIENT MEDICINE IN ITS SOCIO-CULTURAL CONTEXT

Leiden, 13–15 April 1992

The Classics and Ancient Civilisation Department of Leiden University intends to organize an international congress to promote an integrated approach to problems of disease and medicine in Antiquity. The following topics have been considered: *Patients and diseases* (Individual and collective reactions to diseases; the role of medical themes in literature and fine arts), *Medicine* (The position of medicine within the framework of ancient science and its relation to ancient philosophy; the influence of ideology, religion and mental outlook on the formation of medical concepts and terminology, and practical therapy; the role of rhetoric and metaphor in medical literature), *Doctors and the medical professions* (The social position of doctors and other practitioners of medicine; the institutional organization of health care; women and the practice of medicine). A special section will be devoted to the reception of ancient medicine in Neo-Latin literature. Reactions, suggestions and offers of contributions to the topics mentioned above will be welcomed before *1 May 1991*. All correspondence to: H.F.J. Horstmanhoff, Department of Ancient History, Leiden University, Post-box 9515, 2300 RA Leiden, The Netherlands.

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE LIBRARY
St Louis, Missouri
THE ROBERT E. SCHLUETER PARACELSUS COLLECTION

Under agreements between the Washington University School of Medicine Library and the St Louis Medical Society, the Rare Books Division has accepted the deposit of the Society's rare books collections, among them The Robert E. Schlueter Paracelsus Collection. Robert E. Schlueter, MD (1872–1955) was a St Louis physician whose Paracelsus Collection includes more than four hundred titles from 1530 to 1970. It covers the larger part of the original writings of Paracelsus as well as distinct Paracelsian schools and revivals of interest that have flourished in Germany, England, France, and other countries over the past five centuries. A checklist of the Schlueter Collection was prepared on the occasion of the 400th anniversary of the death of Paracelsus; it was published by the *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* (May 1941, vol. 11, no. 5).

Among other recent important accessions, the rare books collection of the University's School of Dental Medicine, known as the Henry J. McKellops Collection, has been transferred to the Rare Books Division.

The Rare Books Division would like to encourage all scholars to visit and use these important resources; special arrangements can be made to accommodate visiting scholars.

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