

## *Society Reports*

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### FACULTY OF THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE AND PHARMACY SECOND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

THE Second Annual General Meeting of the Faculty was held at Apothecaries' Hall on Friday, 28 April, and was followed by a ceremony at which the Chairman of the Faculty, Dr. W. S. C. Copeman, awarded the Honorary Fellowship of the Faculty to Sir Arthur MacNalty and Sir Zachary Cope in recognition of their long and distinguished services to the history of medicine.

In presenting the Second Annual Report, Dr. Copeman described it as an account of continued and remarkable progress. The First British Congress, organized by the Faculty and held in London in September 1960, had been the culmination of a period of great activity which had aroused an upsurge of interest in the history of medicine and pharmacy throughout the country. The membership of the Faculty, after only two years' existence, already stood at 304, and no less than 65 universities, medical schools and postgraduate institutes had enrolled as Corporate Members. On the initiative of the Faculty, St. Thomas's Hospital Medical School had appointed a "Society of Apothecaries Lecturer in the History of Medicine", and the governing body of King's College Hospital Medical School had already approved the establishment of a similar appointment there. The Faculty's endowed lectures had now been named; the Annual Students' Lecture would henceforth be known as "The Osler Lecture", and the Autumn Lecture would be named "The Sydenham Lecture", after the great English clinician of the 17th century, Thomas Sydenham. Dr. Kenneth Dewhurst had accepted an invitation to give the first "Sydenham Lecture" on 22 November, 1961, at Apothecaries' Hall, and his subject would be Thomas Sydenham.

After the Annual General Meeting and the award of the Honorary Fellowships, Sir Geoffrey Keynes delivered the fourth Gideon de Laune Lecture. His subject was "Timothy Bright", the Elizabethan physician whose treatise of melancholy influenced Shakespeare's "Hamlet" and who was the inventor of the earliest system of English shorthand. The lecture is to be published as the introduction to Sir Geoffrey's *Bibliography of Timothy Bright*, which will appear as the first of a new series of publications of The Wellcome Historical Medical Library under the general editorship of Dr. F. N. L. Poynter.

On Wednesday, 31 May, 1961, Dr. Charles Newman gave the Second Annual Students' Lecture, now known as "The Osler Lecture" to an appreciative audience. At this meeting the first of the Faculty's annual awards of the Maccabean Prize and Medal was made. The successful candidate was Mr. J. K. Wales, a final year medical student of Leeds University, his prize essay being on "The Relations between Chemistry and Medicine".

Application forms for membership of the Second British Congress on the History of Medicine, which is to be held in London on 28-29 September, may now be obtained from the Honorary Secretary, Dr. F. N. L. Poynter, The Wellcome Historical Medical Library, The Wellcome Building, Euston Road, London, N.W.1. Copies of the Second Annual Report are available for all who are interested.