

News, Notes and Queries

letter from Sir Thomas Roe to Elizabeth, Queen of Bohemia, 1 August 1636, p. 83: '... he heard also that Dr. Harvey assured his private friends of great hopes of justice and equity from the Emperor, but he believes, the doctor judges by symptoms, like a physician, and the Ambassador is so wise or so warned as not to show discontent, nor what he hopes or fears.'

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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WALTER PAGEL.

PYARALI RATTANSI.

SIR GEORGE ENT'S COMMONPLACE BOOK

25 October 1963

Dear Sir,

When the Royal College of Physicians of London published the collected Works of William Harvey in 1766, the editors had access to a Commonplace book of Sir George Ent which was their authority for nearly all the letters of William Harvey published in that volume. This appears at that time to have been in the possession of Francis Figgot(t) who had obtained his B. Med. at New College, Oxford in 1748. If any of your readers know of the present whereabouts of this manuscript, I should be glad to hear from them.

L. M. Payne, *Librarian*

Royal College of Physicians

Society Reports

FOURTH BRITISH CONGRESS ON THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE AND PHARMACY

THE Fourth British Congress on the History of Medicine and Pharmacy, organized by the Faculty of the History of Medicine and Pharmacy of the Worshipful Society of Apothecaries of London with the co-operation of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain and sponsored by Boots Pure Drug Company Limited, was held at the University of Nottingham from 20 to 23 September 1963. The theme of the Congress, presided over by Professor G. E. Trease, was 'The Evolution of Pharmacy in Britain', and the meeting was opened by his own survey of 'Pharmacy in Britain'.

Dr. T. D. Whittet, Chief Pharmacist of University College Hospital, in a paper on 'The History of Hospital Pharmacy', surveyed the development of hospital pharmacy from Roman times to the foundation of the Guild of Pharmacists in 1923. Unfortunately, as a result of the Dissolution of the monasteries in 1537, little evidence remains of pharmaceutical practice in monastic hospitals. But it is known that the Royal Hospitals (St. Bartholomew's, St. Thomas's, St. Mary's of Bethlehem, Christ's and Bridewell) all had apothecaries on their staffs—though the term should be cautiously interpreted—and these men became the pharmacutists, dispensers and pharmacists who in later times founded the Society of Apothecaries.