

Society Report

NORWEGIAN SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE

AT a meeting of the Society held on 19 May 1960, Dr. Egill Snorrason, Secretary of the Danish Society for the History of Medicine, read an interesting paper on the history of public executioners. He showed how the executioner developed skill as an anatomist and, in part, as a surgeon, how he was allowed to undertake certain forms of medical service, and how his social position improved through the centuries. Finally Dr. Snorrason gave some account of Danish and Norwegian families in which the profession of public executioner was an hereditary one.

BERNHARD GETZ