TRENT ASSOCIATES REPORT

Spring/Summer 2005

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Wilbanks Collection

The History of Medicine Collections has been the fortunate recipient of medical artifacts and prints from the collection of George D. Wilbanks, MD (T'53, M'56, HS'57-'62) and Evelyn Rivers Wilbanks, PhD (G'56). The collection, which is quite broad with some focus on obstetrics and gynecology and surgery, was assembled over a period of forty-four years and given to the Medical Library in stages during the past five years. The Wilbanks characterized the purpose of the collection in their gift letter.

In general these are study tools for not only history of medicine students but also students who are studying what were effective methods of treatment, i.e., pharmacy, home medicines, etc.

We have selected just a small sample of their gift of almost 300 objects for exhibit. Among the items on display are baby bottles, infant or invalid feeders, a copper apothecary boiler, a doctor's medical saddlebag, a Culpeper-style microscope in a wooden case, bleeding devices, ear trumpets, pill-making equipment, obstetrical forceps, a domestic medicine chest, and an Oxygenkure. The exhibit will be available through the middle of September and can be viewed in the lower lobby whenever the Medical Library is open.



Upon his retirement, Dr. F. Bayard Carter, first chair of Obstetrics and Gynecology, gave this female pelvis to Dr. Wilbanks for continued use in classes.

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Wilbanks Collection, continued from page 1

(Left) Made for a private household, this medicine chest (ca. 1840) is mahogany with brass fittings and contains glass bottles, a scale, a mortar and pestle, and a measuring cup.

(Right) Similar in style to a present day fondue pot, this 19th century lidded copper apothecary boiler was used to slowly simmer herbal preparations. The nickel cylinder held the fuel. The level of the flame was regulated by the knob on the brass base.



This late 19th century American wood and brass pill-rolling machine could produce 24 pills of one size at a time. The rolled pill mass, or pill pipe, was placed on the brass grooves, then the paddle-shaped portion was pressed down on top of the pipe and moved back and forth to form round pills.



"The Doctor" Royal Doulton plate (ca. 1925)





An American pharmaceutical advertising card from the 19th or early 20th century



Pap boats or infant feeders were in use from the late 17th through the 19th centuries. The vessels were used to administer "pap" to an infant or an adult invalid. Pap was a piece of bread soaked in wine with meal and sugar added. For the infant, the nurse occasionally pre-chewed the mixture.

Photos: Beverly Murphy

Trent-Bullitt Speaker Series

The Trent History of Medicine Society (Duke) and the Bullitt History of Medicine Club (UNC-Chapel Hill) will alternately host history of medicine speakers on the second Tuesday of each month during the academic year. The Trent Society will meet in the History of Medicine Reading Room (102) of the Medical Center Library. The Bullitt Club will convene in the conference room on the fifth floor of the UNC Health Sciences Library. A light buffet supper will be available beginning at 5:30 pm. Papers will start at 6:00 pm.

Although the full schedule of seven speakers has not yet been set, we already have commitments for three of the Trent Society presentations here at Duke. Walter E. Campbell, Ph.D. will launch the series on 11 October. He will speak on some aspect of his book in progress, **Foundations for Excellence: 75 years of Duke Medicine**. Dr. Edward C. Halperin will present a paper, "The Jewish Problem in U.S. Medical Education, 1920-1955" at the 13 December meeting, and Dr. Margaret Humphreys will speak on 14 February on "Immensely Human – the Health of Black Soldiers in the American Civil War."

Look for the complete schedule on our Website at http://www.mclibrary.duke.edu/hmc/speakers.html later in the summer, or contact Suzanne Porter at (919) 660-1143 or porte004@mc.duke.edu.

New Exhibit Case

Dr. Blaine S. Nashold, Jr., Professor Emeritus of Surgery – Neurosurgery, has added a beautiful new exhibit case – a fifth – to match those already in place on the second stack level near the elevators. The case is in the process of being filled with instruments designed to treat various neurological diseases. Some additional instruments will be rotated on display as they are acquired. The permanent exhibit, dedicated two years ago, presents the history of stereotactic neurosurgery. Watch the History of Medicine Web page for a link to our stereotactic Website currently under construction.

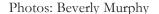
GST Cavanagh

As the newsletter went to press, we received word of the death of GST (Terry) Cavanagh on 26 June 2005. Memorial remarks for Mr. Cavanagh, curator emeritus of the Trent Collection, will be included in the next issue. If you would like to contribute reminiscences, please submit them to **Suzanne Porter** at **porte004@mc.duke.edu**.

Disaster Recovery Exercise

The entire Medical Center Library staff participated in a disaster recovery training exercise on Wednesday 29 June. After dividing into six teams, the two-part event began with different written scenarios for each team to solve, followed by sharing and discussion of their respective response plans. Then, Winston Atkins, Preservation Officer for Perkins Library, described physical salvage techniques and gave a demonstration of air drying, interleaving, and packing for freeze drying. Everyone had an opportunity to try his or her hand at evaluating and treating various kinds of damaged materials. Suzanne Porter, Curator of the History of Medicine Collections, and Robert James, Associate Director for Public Services, organized the exercise and provided information, direction, and assistance throughout the afternoon.

The event will become an annual part of staff readiness training for a variety of emergencies. To guide us on a day-to-day basis we have created a notebook which outlines disaster pre-planning as well as specific procedures and includes telephone trees, disaster teams, and triage recovery lists for the contents of the Library. Copies of the red notebook have been placed in each Library department as well as the homes of key staff members and have been shared with other Medical Center and campus departments.





Teams solve their written exercises



Winston Atkins demonstrates air drying



Wet materials wait for treatment

Disaster Recovery Exercise, continued from page 4

Teams apply triage and salvage techniques



Team 1



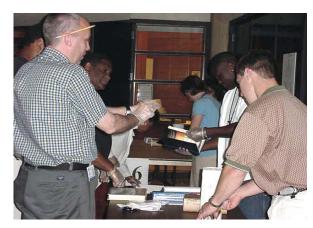
Team 2



Team 3



Team 4



Team 5



Team 6

All photos by Beverly Murphy, except Team 5 by Tanika Hayes



Change in Hours

Hours for the History of Medicine Reading Room have changed due to reduced staff coverage.

Monday: Closed

Tuesday – Friday: 9:30 am - 12:30 pm / 1:00 - 4:00 pm

Saturday – Sunday: Closed

We are now closed for lunch and at other times as the need arises. Each week a new schedule will be posted. Please call (919) 660-1144 before you visit to ensure staff will be available to help you.

Recent Acquisitions

Gifts

Albert, Daniel M. et al. Source Book of Ophthalmology. Cambridge, MA: Blackwell Science, 1995.

Antoine, Tassilo & Grünberger, Viktor. Atlas der Kolpomikroskopie. Stuttgart: Georg Thieme Verlag, 1956.

Bisno, David C. Eyes in the Storm; President Hopkins's Dilemma: The Dartmouth Eye Institute. Norwich, VT: 1994.

Ear trumpet, silver plate with art nouveau grill, ca 1895.

Fishbein, Morris. The New Medical Follies; an Encyclopedia of Cultism and Quackery in these United States. New York: Boni & Liveright, 1927.

Medical Chest, mahogany with brass fittings, ca 1840.

Microscope, Culpeper style, with case. Liverpool: A. Abrahams, ca 1750.

Original illustrations. Becker, R. Frederick; Wilson, James W. and Gehweiler, John A. **The Anatomical Basis of Medical Practice**. Baltimore: Williams & Wilkins, 1971.

Pap feeders: silver. London, 1774; and London: Emes & Bernard, 1818.

Richerand, A. **The Elements of Physiology...** translated from the French by Robert Kerrison. Philadelphia: Published by Hopkins and Earle, 1808.

Rosenwasser, Geroge O. D. and Nicholson, William J. Introduction to Eye Banking: A Handbook and Atlas. 2003.

Royal Doulton plate, "The Doctor," ca 1925.

Sterilizer, copper & brass. 19th century.

Purchases

Beer, Joseph Georg. Praktiche Beobachtungen über verschiedene, vorzüglich aber über iene Augenkrankheiten... Vienna: F. J. Kaiserer, 1791.

Millar, John. Hints on Insanity. London: Henry Renshaw, 1866.

Monro, John. Remarks on Dr. Battie's "Treatise on Madness." London: John Clarke, 1758.

Neville, William B. On Insanity: Its Nature, Causes and Cure. London: Longman, Rees, Orme, Brown, Green & Longman, 1836.

Robinson, George. On the Prevention and Treatment of Mental Disorders. London: Longman, Brown, Green, Longmans & Roberts, 1859.

The Trial of Ebenezer Haskell in Lunacy and his Acquittal... Philadelphia: Ebenezer Haskell, 1869.

TRENT ASSOCIATES*

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Laupus Library, East Carolina University

Dr. Michael McVaugh

Dr. George O.D. Rosenwasser

Dr. George G. Somjen

Dr. George D. & Dr. Evelyn R. Wilbanks

Published at regular intervals during the year.

History of Medicine Collections

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^{*} Donors since last newsletter