Airlangga University

2nd International Congress from September 2 through 7 in Surabaya, Indonesia

The opening ceremony of the Second International Congress on Traditional Asian Medicine will take place on Monday, September 3rd at 9:00 AM in the Mahkota Ballroom, Hyatt Bumi Hotel, Surabaya. The Hon. Minister of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia will deliver the opening speech. According to the revised provisional scheme of the 2nd ICTAM communicated by Dr G. J. Meulenbeld, Chairman of the Programme Committee, a plenary session will follow during which Dr C. O. Akerele, Programme Manager, Traditional Medicine, WHO, Geneva, will address the meeting.

Elaborating upon the general theme of the congress—Traditional Medicines in Asian Countries and their Place in Pluralistic Health Care Systems—various specialized sessions have been devised that are distributed over seven main subject areas:

1. The sources and history of classical medical traditions
   Sessions on Chinese medicine (chaired by Prof. P. U. Unschild), Indian and Tibetan medicine (Dr D. Wuastjy), Islamic medicine (Prof. J. C. Bürgel), historical interactions among classical medical traditions (Dr Y. C. Kong),—symposia on traditional Chinese medicine (chaired by Dr Jungs-Chao Koo), and Korean oriental medicine under colonialism (Prof. Won Sik Hong).

2. Popular medicine
   Sessions on popular medicine in tribal, peasant and urban communities of South and South-East Asia (chaired by Dr J.-P. Hiege or Dr P. M. Taylor?), concept and treatment of disease among the tribes of India (Dr B. Chaudhuri), the numeral in Asian medicine (Dr W. A. Frank), Himalaya—man, medicine and culture (Dr P. C. Joshi and Prof. Ram Rahul).

3. Ethnobotany, ethnopharmacology, and allied subjects
   Sessions on ethnobotany and ethnopharmacology (chaired by Dr V. V. Sivaranjan?), ethnopharmacology (Prof. Atta-ur-Rahman and Prof. R. P. Labadie), contributions of traditional Asian medicine to American herbal medicine (Dr J. Heinerman), ethnoscience and ethnomedicine—concepts of health, diseases and treatment within the framework of relationships between societies and biological environment (Dr C. Berthe-Friedberg).

4. Models of the relationships between traditional and cosmopolitan medicines: problems and chances (chaired by Prof. C. Leslie or Dr M. N. Richter?).

5. The social construction of illness experience (chaired by Prof. B. Pfeiferer).

6. Clinical and experimental studies of therapeutic practices
   Sessions on clinical and experimental research (chaired by Prof. P. J. Deshpande?), the present state of acupuncture in Western Europe (Prof. J. Bossy), Neo-Ayurveda (Dr M. N. Pal).

7. Traditional medicine in primary health care (chaired by Prof. K. N. Udups).
   The 2nd ICTAM will conclude on Friday morning, September 7th, with a plenary address by Prof. R. P. Labadie and the installation of the new President of IASTAM.

Paul U. Unschild
next President of IASTAM

A ballot to all dues-paying members of the association was mailed in April, and the results of the election were announced on July 15th. Prof. Arthur L. Basham, the founder and first President of IASTAM, will officially turn over his office to the newly elected President, Prof. Paul U. Unschild.

Paul U. Unschild was born in Lauban, Silesia in 1943. He earned an undergraduate degree in pharmaceutical chemistry and then turned to graduate study of Chinese medicine, earning a Ph.D. in 1971 from the University of Munich. Soon after that he studied at the Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health, where he earned a M.P.H. in International Health. He spent a year in research at the University of California, with study of anthropology. He spent two years at the University of Marburg Institute for the History of Pharmacy, completing a habilitation thesis on the history of pharmacy and medicine in China, and five years on a Heisenberg grant for research on the history of Chinese medicine (1979–83). He received a Dr med. habil. in 1982 and a Dr phil. habil. in 1983 from the University of Munich. He has been recently promoted to tenured professorship at the Institute for the History of Medicine of the University of Munich.

During much of this period, Dr Unschild also spent one quarter a year as a Visiting Professor in Behavioral Science at the Johns Hopkins University. In 1980 he spent six months on a grant from the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science studying ancient Chinese medical scripts in Kyoto, at the University Research Institute for Humanistic Studies. Dr Unschild conducted anthropological field research on medical practices in Taiwan for one year (1969–70), and has made six trips to the People's Republic of China between 1978 and 1983.

In 1977 Dr Unschild became Editor-in-Chief of Sudhoff's Archive (Journal for the History of Medicine and Science). He has been a consultant to WHO, Geneva, and to the Deputy Minister of Health, Federal Republic of Germany, during official missions to the People's Republic of China. He is the author of many articles in German and English, and of numerous books in both languages. His three volume work Medicine in China is presently being published by the University of California Press, and includes a complete translation of a leading classic text with sixteen commentaries.
Recent publications on Arabic medicine

by J. Christoph Bürgel

Prof. Dr. J. C. Bürgel, Universität Bern, Islamwissenschaftliches Seminar, Sternengässchen 1, 3011 Bern, Switzerland, is the President of the European Chapter of IASTAM.

After the now classical reference book of Arabic medicine, Die Medizin im Islam by Manfred Ullmann, had appeared in 1970, a number of valuable contributions have been made in the field by various scholars. I will mention a few of them.

Ullmann himself published a very readable English history of Arabic medicine in the “Islamic Surveys”1. Another general work on medicine in Islam has recently been published by Klein-Franke under the title Vorlesungen über die Medizin im Islam2. As for books dealing with particular topics, the most important publication is a monograph on the Black Death by M. W. Dols3. In a detailed and admirably learned study Dols deals with the various aspects of that malady which haunted the Islamic societies throughout the centuries until its power was broken by Western medicine. There have also appeared a large number of articles which for lack of space cannot be mentioned here. Suffice it to say that Ullmann devoted several articles to Arabic translations from Greek medical texts such as Hippocrates' De superstitione and De morbis muliebrum.4

I will now mention a number of Arabic translations that were edited in recent years. Among the numerous writings of Galen, the founder of the medical system called after him and adopted by the Arabs without alterations, more than a hundred were translated into Arabic and a considerable number has already been edited mostly by European scholars. Recently two additions have been made. P. Bachmann in Göttingen edited the short but important treatise On that the best physician should also be a philosopher, along with a German translation.5 H.-H. Biesterfeldt edited Galen’s treatise On that the faculties of the soul follow the mixtures (temperaments) of the body, again with a German translation.6

Among the medical writings by Arab physicians recently edited and translated into English, German or French, the following titles have to be mentioned: ‘Ali ibn Ridwan, On the Way to Happiness by Means of the Medical Profession’; Ibn Jumay’, On the Revival of the Art of Medicine7, Yuhanna ibn Mäswawayh, Medical Aphorisms8, Abû Sa‘îd ibn Bukhtishû, On the Healing of Maladies of the Soul and the Body.9 All these are scientific editions of important texts dealing with some fundamental issues of the medical profession and art, as laid down by the Greek ancestors and, in their wake, by Arab physicians.

Arabic medicine has also been studied within a larger framework along with other Asian medical systems. The present writer has outlined the essentials of medicine in Islam, scientific and popular, under the title “Secular and religious features of medieval Arabic medicine” in a book edited by the first Secretary-General of our association, Charles Leslie10, and again in a volume dedicated to the anthropological aspects of various medical systems1. He also wrote the articles on Islam in two dictionaries concerned with “bioethics”11. His thesis “Studien zum ärztlichen Leben und Denken im arabischen Mittelalter” (Studies in medical life and thought in the Arabic middle ages), finished in 1969, is now going to be published by the Institute for the History of Sciences in Islam recently founded by Fuad Szezing in Frankfurt-am-Main.

Iatrochemistry in India

Ancient alchemy, the knowledge of quicksilver, has later developed into iatrochemistry, rasaviyda or rasasatra, a difficult, and hence a neglected, field in the history of Hindu scientific ideas and techniques. The iatrochemical literature in Sanskrit consists of about twenty treatises, the chronology of which is full of uncertainties though it could be ascertained in comparison with the Tantric literature of alchemy. New historical researches are in progress at the Banaras Hindu University and at the Banaras Ayurvedic College, resulting in a forthcoming English translation of the Rasaratnamamucaya, and Hindi translations of other iatrochemical texts.

Our colleague Dr. Arion Rosu (CNRS, Paris) has recently completed the critical edition, French translation and annotation of Somadeva’s Rasendracudamani, after taking great pains to scrutinize the manuscripts and to discuss philological cruces with the most authoritative scholars in India. This is indeed a breakthrough in the history of iatrochemistry as well as in Sanskrit philology, since hundreds of technical terms recorded and commented upon by Dr. Rosu were absent not only from our current dictionaries but also from the multi-million card index compiled at Pune for the Encyclopaedic Dictionary of Sanskrit now in the process of publication. The Rasendracudamani, a Sanskrit treatise of about 1350 stanzas dating back to the 12th/13th cent. A.D., marked the transition from alchemy to iatrochemistry in India where this change occurred three centuries earlier than in the West. An elaborate introduction will be devoted to a comparative study of chemical ideas and manipulations prevailing in ancient and medieval India.

Dr. Rosu has contributed to the Groningen workshop (see page 8 on this workshop). His forthcoming paper “Marcelin Berthelot et l’alchimie indienne,” Bulletin de l’Ecole Française d’Extrême-Orient, LXXIV (1984), demonstrates that it is partly Berthelot who inspired his correspondent, the Indian chemist Praphulla Chandra Ray, to write the now classic History of Hindu Chemistry, 2 vols., Calcutta, 1902–1909. Dr. Rosu is currently engaged in writing an interdisciplinary essay on the religious geography and alchemical traditions of medieval Deccan.

For more information write to Dr. Arion Rosu, 35-C rue Henri Simon, 78000 Versailles, France.

What style shall we adopt?

The uniqueness of IASTAM resides in the exceptionally wide range of cultures and disciplines represented in its membership and covered in its newsletter, a whole world of medical studies and practices, from the Arabic and Persian in the west to the Korean and Japanese in the far east, from textual studies to popular beliefs, and from ancient sciences of long life to contemporary health care systems. Our society includes many people with conflicting political and social commitments and with many different historical, social and scientific concerns. Some of the best scholars on the history of Asian medicine have little or no interest in contemporary practice. Other scholars may have an interest in the sociology of practices in villages but little or no knowledge of the clinical efficacy of alternative therapies. Others again may not be interested in applied sociology but have a purely intellectual interest in analysing the structure of practice. Some of the scientifically trained physicians are interested in Asian medicine but are totally skeptical about it.

Yet, other members of IASTAM practise various forms of Asian medicine and advocate government patronage. IASTAM Newsletter is bound to accommodate this diversity without sinking into disputation or gossip.

Let us be intellectual on page 3, then practical on page 6, and also pluralist on page 8... In a word, let us try many styles in composing this newsletter. In listing new publications, we will provide a short synopsis of each work, so that in the long run, if IASTAM members agree to send their articles, essays, and reviews to be publicized and summarized in a future issue, the newsletter will function as a bibliography. Reports on specific disciplines or events signed by voluntary contributors are most welcome. Associate editors could also be designated. Plans for the future of IASTAM Newsletter will be finalized at Surabaya.

FRANCIS ZIMMERMANN

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**Food & Foodways**

**Explorations in the History and Culture of Human Nourishment**

This is a new scientific quarterly edited by Steven L. Kaplan (Department of History, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York 14853, USA) and Jean-Louis Flandrin (Maison des Sciences de l’Homme, 54 Boulevard Raspail, 75006 Paris, France). Volume 1, No. 1 to be published Fall 1984. Style sheets and free sample copy available upon request to either of the editors.

By reflecting on the role food plays historically and culturally, this unique journal will explore the powerful but often subtle ways in which food has shaped and continues to shape our lives socially, economically, politically, mentally and morally. Food is as much a social as a biological matter. *Food & Foodways* will stress the social aspects of food without losing sight of its biological nature.

Dr. Françoise Sabban, a specialist in Chinese Studies attached to the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, is one of the assistant editors. One may refer to her recent papers on cooking in China who indirectly concerns the history of traditional pharmacy; Francoise Sabban, "Le Systeme des Cuissons dans la Tradition Culinaire Chinoise," *Annales, Economies, Societies, Civilisations*, 28 Année No.2, Mars–Avril 1983, pp. 341–368. By the same, "Cuisine à la Cour de l’Empereur de Chine: les Aspects Culinaires de l’Yinshan Zhengyao de Hu Situ," *Medievales*, No.5, November 1983, pp. 32–55. Note that this number of the half-yearly French journal *Medievales* (Centre de Recherche Université Paris VIII, 2 rue de la Liberté, 93526 Saint-Denis Cedex 02, France) carries other papers on spices as foods and medicines in medieval Europe.

As far as China is concerned, a reference book is the one edited by K. C. Chang, *Food in Chinese Culture: Anthropological and Historical Perspectives*, New Haven: Yale University Press, 1977, pp. ix, 429. Our review in this multi-author volume, let us cite as an example the associating of pharmacology with cooking under the reign of the T’ang, "which heightened Chinese awareness of the medicinal, or at least health-related, properties of certain foods and methods of cooking and emphasized the virtues of a “balanced” (in the Chinese sense) diet, thus possibly contributing to the relatively low incidence of epidemic or widespread famine in later dynasties." (From book review in *Harvard Journal of Asian Studies*, 38 (1978): 269.) Discussions of such ethno-medical hypotheses should be continued in *Food & Foodways*.
Current work on traditional Asian medicine in the U. K.

by Dominik Wujastyk

The following record of current work is of necessity subjective. I apologise in advance for any errors of omission or commission, in particular to anyone who feels that I have misrepresented their work.

1. Asian medicine in general

Dr Nigel W. T. ALLAN, Curator of the Oriental Collections of the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine, London, recently published the following articles:

- An introduction to the work of Lietard (1833–1904), and a description of his manuscript papers, offprints and correspondence which are preserved in the Wellcome collection.

Some early medical contacts with the Kalmuck tribes of Siberia, Medical History, 27 (1983), 305–309. (A survey of two physicians and an ethnographic study of Siberia and a description of a medical handbook translated from Russian into Kalmuck and published in 1823, a copy of which is held by the Wellcome Institute.)

Dr. Allan has the following article in the press:


(On the iconography of oriental saints Cosmas and Damian, patron saints of medicine.)

2. Jewish medicine

Dr. Allan has also published the following catalogue:


(A description of 36 medical and miscellaneous items, and 58 Biblical items.)

Dr. Allan has the following article in the press:

- "A Jewish physician in the seventeenth century", Medical History, 28.3 (1984), (5 ill.).

(A brief biography of Tobias Cohn (1652–1729), a copy of whose encyclopedia Hebrew work Ma'aseh Tobiyah (Venice, 1706) is held by the Wellcome Institute.)

Dr. Elinoor LIEBER, attached to the Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies, Oxford, and Green College, Oxford, is preparing the first critical edition and translation of one of the earliest Hebrew medical texts, the encyclopaedic Sefer Refu'ot - The Book of Medicines, attributed to Asaph ha-Rofe = Asaph the Physician. Dr. Lieber has published the following articles:


(An edition from manuscripts and translation of the ethical oath described by Asaph.)

Dr Lieber has the following article forthcoming:


(As described by Asaph's work was compiled in southern Europe around the 10th century; that it is unique among Jewish medical works in attempting to harmonise ancient Greek medicine with Biblical concepts; that the structure of the work, but not the content, is comparable to that of the Indian medical compendia; and that it presages an understanding of the circulation of the blood.)

3. Islamic medicine

Professor J. D. Latham, professor of the history of Arabic science, Edinburgh University, and Dr H. D. Isaacs, Cambridge University library, recently collaborated on the following edition and translation:


Dr Isaacs is also preparing a catalogue-handlist of the Judeo-Arabic medical fragments from the Cairo Geniza collection in the Cambridge University Library, to be finished in March 1985. The collection is particularly rich in materials relating to eye diseases and operations, fevers, medicinal herbs and materia medica, and the social aspects of doctor-patient relations. An article on the collection called "Medicine in the Cairo Geniza" by Dr Isaacs will appear shortly in the British Medical Journal.

Professor Latham is one of the general editors of the Cambridge History of Arabic Literature, the first volume of which appeared as:


Professor Latham has collaborated again with Dr Isaacs in writing the section on Arabic medical literature in volume two, part b, of the Cambridge History of Arabic Literature, which will cover the 'Abbasid period, and include sections on the literatures of all the traditional Arabic sciences. This volume should appear in 1986.

Dr Albert Zaki ISKANDAR, Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine, London, recently published the following articles:


The following catalogue by Dr Iskandar is in the press:

A descriptive list of Arabic manuscripts on medicine and science at the University of California, Los Angeles (Leiden: Brill, (1984)), pp. xiv, 119. (30 ill.).

The following edition of Galen from the Arabic by Dr Iskandar is forthcoming:

Galen on examinations by which the best physicians are recognised: edition translation, introduction, and commentary, Corpus medicorum graecorum. Supplementum Orientale IV (Berlin: Akademie der Wissenschaften der DDR, [1981]).

Dr Fateme KESHAVARZ formerly holder of a fellowship at the Wellcome Institute, London, and now assistant librarian and teacher of Persian at the Institute of Ismaili Studies, London, has the following article and book forthcoming:
News of people

Rahul Peter Das, M.A., has been working since 1981 on the Ayurvedic Line-Indexation Project initiated by Prof. Dr R.E. Emmerik (Seminar für Geschichte und Kultur des vorde ren Orients, Rothenbaumchaussee 36, 2 Hamburg 13, W. Germany), an undertaking financed by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, on which he has contributed an interesting report to the Groningen workshop (see p. 8 on this workshop). Two short papers, in which he avails himself of this indexation work to pinpoint technical terms hitherto unnoticed, appeared recently in Ancient Science of Life (Journal of the International Institute of Ayurveda, 366 Trichy Road, Coimbatore 641018, India): “More on the dissection of cadavers in ancient India,” in Vol. 3, No. 1, July 1983, p. 48 (a rejoinder to Dr Zysk, see below), and “Two Arshasatra-antides in the Astangasangraham,” Vol. 3, No. 4, April 1984.

Dr Harald Kristian Heggenougen, Ph.D., a medical anthropologist attached to the Evaluation and Planning Centre of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (University of London), Keppel Street, London WC1E 7HT, U. K., is now completing a monograph on the use of traditional medicine in the treatment of heroin addicts in South-East Asia, based on a three-year study (1976–79) of traditional medicine and health care delivery systems in Malaysia. He is also working for WHO in preparing for next year a conference on National Policy Development on Traditional Practitioners.

Dr A. K. Jain, M.D. (Ayu.), is launching a new journal Ayurveda and Yoga, 24 Chunapukur Lane, Bow Bazar Street, Calcutta 12, India.

Dr Christoph von Keudell, M.D., is the founder and chairman of All Medical Consulting/Ayurmedica, P. O. Box 710133, 8000 München 71, W. Germany, an organization endeavouring to introduce Ayurvedic medications to the European market after completing the clinical and pharmacological studies indispensable to their admission as official drugs. AMC/Ayurmedica is also interested in promoting the computerization of Chinese and Sanskrit medical recipes.

Dr William Stabilein, 5210, 16th N.E., Seattle, WA 98105, USA, has founded the Rita Counselling and Research on Applied Cross-Cultural Medicine in Seattle, Washington. He has published a number of articles on the healing traditions in Tibetan Buddhism (see p. 6 under ‘Karma and Rebirth’).

Dr S. B. Vohora, Senior Pharmacologist, Institute of History of Medicine & Medical Research, Hamdard Nagar, New Delhi 110062, India, gave lectures in Poland on invitation from the Polish Academy of Sciences.

Dr Kenneth G. Zysk has been appointed Hannah Fellow in the History of Medicine, University of Toronto, Victoria College, Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology, Toronto M5S 1K7, Canada. His short paper “Some observations on the dissection of cadavers in ancient India,” in Ancient Science of Life, Vol. 2, No. 3, April 1983, pp. 187–9, has given way to a more detailed discussion of “The evolution of anatomical knowledge in ancient India, with special reference to cross-cultural influences,” to appear in Clin Medica, Vol. 19, 1984. In this same volume of Clin Medica, also by Dr Zysk, “An annotated bibliography of translations into Western languages of principal Sanskrit medical treatises” is forthcoming, while Dr Zysk’s book Early Vedic Ideas of Disease and Healing (with translations and annotations of medical hymns from the Rgveda and the Atharvaveda and renderings from the corresponding ritual texts) will be published in the Transactions of the American Philosophical Society (monograph series) in 1985.
New publications

Adam's reports on indigenous education

Asthangahrdayasamhita
Vahata's Astangahrdayasamhita, Kalpathana, Ed. and transl. by Vayaskara N. S. Moos, Kottayam: Vaidya Sarathy Press (Vayaskara, Kottayam 68001, India), 1984, xvi, 227 pp., various indices, Rs. 60.00. An essential source-book on South Indian pharmacy, with detailed ethnographic notes.

Biographies of Fang-shih

Bower Manuscript

Buddhist literature

Caraka Samhita
Caraka Samhita, Text with English Translation, and 17 important classified appendices, Ed. and transl. by Priya Vrata Sharma, Varanasi: Chaukhamba Orientalia (Post Box No. 32, Varanasi 221001, India), 2 Vols. (1981 & 1983), Rs. 375.00. This well-thought-out edition and this accurate translation constitute a real breakthrough in the field of Ayurvedic scholarship, in putting up new proposals for more appropriate alternative readings of the Sanskrit text, though they are based on the editor's insight and experience, and not on the consultation of a number of manuscripts. "But in fact," says Dr. P. V. Sharma, "the errors were so apparent that they did not warrant a number of manuscripts to correct them in the majority of cases. I also did not consider it wise to allow the errors to perpetuate. I am only hoping that my suggestions might prove as a guideline for scholars who work on this text..." A separate Vol. 3 has been planned for critical notes that will incorporate the views of the main commentators.

Dalhana (12th/13th cent.)
Priva Vrata Sharma, Dalhana and his Comments on Drugs, New Delhi: Munshiram Manoharlal, 1982, 306 pp. A detailed study of Dalhana's commentary on the Saruttasamhita by one of the most authoritative scholars of Indian medicine.

History of agriculture
M. S. Randhawa, A History of Agriculture in India, New Delhi: Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Vol. 1 (beginning to 12th cent.) 1980 (priced at Rs. 50.00), Vol. 2 (8th to 18th cent.) 1982 (Rs. 37.00), Vol. 3 (1757 to 1947) 1983 (Rs. 45.00). An attractive set, cheap but very well produced and profusely illustrated, which gives a detailed historical survey of Indian agriculture written from an economic and social viewpoint.

Quite useful to the ethnobotanist.

Information sources
Pietro Corsi and Paul Weindling, Eds., Information Sources in the History of Science and Medicine, London: Butterworth Scientific, 1983, xvi, 531 pp. Bibliographies of Islamic Science and medicine (by E. Savage-Smith), Indian science and medicine (by T. J. S. Patterson), and other related fields.

Karma and Rebirth
Wendy D. O'Flaherty, Ed., Karma and Rebirth in Classical


Kerala

Medicinal plants

Modernization

Psychiatry

Science in medieval India
Science and Technology in Medieval India, A Bibliography of Source Materials in Sanskrit, Arabic and Persian, Compiled by A. Rahman with the research assistance of M. A. Ali (Persian), S. A. Khan Ghori (Arabic) and K. V. Samba Murthy (Sanskrit), New Delhi: Indian National Science Academy, 1982, 4°, xxxii, 719 pp., Rs. 200.00 (Inland) US $70.00 (Foreign). The discrepancy between these two prices is quite surprising, and the contents disappointing.

Siddha medicine
History of Siddha Medicine, by the late Thiru N. Kandaswamy Pillai, Published by the Government of Tamil Nadu, Madras, 1979, 4°, 684 pp. Available with The Director of Indian Medicine, Arignar Anna Govt. Hospital of Indian Medicine, Anna Nagar, Madras 600029, India.

Soulé de Morant on Chinese acupuncture
An English translation of the well-known treatise by George Soulé de Morant (1878–1955), L'Acupuncture Chinoise, Paris: Maloine, 1972, is to be published soon by Redwing Books, 44 Linden Street, Brookline, MA 02146, USA.

Vaidyakasabdasindhu

To join IASTAM
Write to:
Dr Margaret Lock, IASTAM Treasurer
Department of Humanities and Social Studies
McIntyre Medical Sciences Building
McGill University
Montreal H3G 1Y6, Canada

giving your name, address, institutional training and institutional affiliation, and enclosing a US $15 fee.
Joseph Needham

Science and Civilisation in China
Volume VI:
Biology and Biological Technology

Three new parts of Joseph Needham's great enterprise are to be brought out by Cambridge University Press in 1984 and early 1985. Volume VI (Biology), Part 2: Agriculture, by Joseph Needham and Frances Bray, has already been released in April (Cambridge, 1984. 246, 189 mm, c. 650 pp., 13 tables, 271 half-tones and figures, £50.00). Volume V (Chemistry), Part 1: Paper and Printing is due to appear by December 1984, while Volume VI (Biology), Part 1: Botany, is announced for the beginning of 1985.

Professor Joseph Needham, Formerly Master of Gonville and Caius College, University of Cambridge and Honorary Professor of Academia Sinica, Beijing is also Honorary Fellow of IASTAM. We are pleased to give here some details of the two new books treating of Agriculture and Botany.

Volume VI, Part 2: Agriculture has been written actually by Frances Bray, working closely with Dr. Needham. Frances Bray, Research Fellow, East Asian History of Science Library, University of Cambridge, has recently been elected to the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Paris.

Miss Bray sees agriculture as a system of technology holding a balance between nature and society; it represents an interplay between what is allowed by the natural environment and what is hindered by the state of society. She thus begins her book with an account of the ecological background to China's agricultural history and with a survey of the source material. The main body of the book is an account, organised broadly along the lines of the great medieval Chinese treatises, of the technological history of agriculture, with major sections devoted to field systems, implements and techniques (tilling, harvesting, storing), and crop systems (what was grown and where, and how crops rotated). The crops studied in detail are those without which no Chinese could survive: cereals, legumes, oil crops, tubers, fibre crops, vegetables and fruit—the crops, in other words, that were self-sufficient in times of stress and provided the basis of commercial enterprise in times of prosperity. The concluding section contrasts Europe's Agricultural Revolution with agrarian change in North China in the Han and with the 'Green Revolution' in South China in the Sung. Important distinctions between dry-grain and wet-rice agriculture are noted with the consequent variations in the development of Chinese society.

Volume VI, Part 1: Botany will trace the history of plant science in China through two millennia. The vast botanical literature, wholly uninfluenced by the botany of other peoples, and based on a collection of plant forms unknown to the Greek, Persian and Indian botanists, constitutes what Dr. Needham calls 'a veritable epic'. The achievements of plant classification of these pre-Linnaean Chinese botanists demonstrate in an extraordinary way what aesthetic and taxonomic motivation could do for biological science. A long section on the plant geography and soil science of China is followed by a study of botanical linguistics and plant nomenclature. The body of the book is an authoritative survey of the literature from the earliest to modern times, with long quoted passages from the most significant florilegia and compendia, and an assessment of the Chinese system of classification.

Contents
Introduction
The setting: China's plant geography
Floristic regions
Geobotany in statu nascendi
Oecology and phyto-geography in the Kuan Tsu book
China and the science of soils
Pedology in the Kuan Tsu and the Shu Ching (Yu Kung)
The case of the chi and the chih

Botanical linguistics
Plant terminology
Botanical radicals
The phytographic language
Plant nomenclature
Names common and learned; binomes and multinomes
The taxonomic language
Derivative complexes and coding redundancies
Taxonomy and ideography

The literature
Lexicographic and encyclopaedic texts
The oldest encyclopaedias
Handy primers
Imperial florilegia
Classified compendia
Dictionaries of origins, technical and scientific
Dictionaries based on script, sound or phrase

The pandects of natural history (Pin T'ao); a great tradition
Origins of the name
The Heavenly Husbandman
The Famous Physicians
Botanical writings from Chou to Chihen (~6th to + 6th century)
Pharmaceutical natural history in Su and Thang (+6th to +10th century)
Natural history and printing in Sung, Yuan and Ming (+10th +16th century)
The Prince of Pharmacists
Last phases of the autochthonous development

Studies on wild (emergency) food plants
The botanical monographs
Exotic and historical botany

The documents received so far from Cambridge University Press do not mention the names of Dr. Needham's collaborators on the forthcoming book, though we know of one of them, our colleague Dr. Georges Métailié, Sinologist and ethnobotanist of the CNRS, Paris.

Of related interest
S. C. Cheung, P. S. Kwan, Y. C. Kong

An Introduction to Pên-ts'ao Study


While preparing this work, Dr. Y. C. Kong (IASTAM Vice-President) could read the manuscript of Volume VI: Botany, of Joseph Needham's Science and Civilisation in China, at the East Asian History of Science Library, Cambridge.

Advances in Chinese Medicinal Materials Research
Proceedings of the International Symposium, Hong Kong 12-14 June, 1984
(see IASTAM Newsletter no. 4 p. 4)
Ed. by H. M. Chang, H. W. Yeung, W. W. Tso & A. Koo

World Scientific, Fall 1984 (about 500 pp. at US $60.00)

The Groningen workshop
Proceedings of the International Workshop on Priorities in the Study of Indian Medicine
 Held at the State University of Groningen
23–27 October 1983
Edited by Dr. G. Jan Meulenbeld
This volume of 382 pp. is priced at 35 Dutch Florins. Orders should be addressed to the Institute of Indian Studies, State University of Groningen, Grote Kruisstraat 2/1, 9712 TS Groningen, Netherlands.

Contents

In this book, which for its methodological insights should also be of interest to the classicists, we particularly appreciate the detailed and accurate reports and bibliographies on Sanskrit texts, Tibetan medicine, and medicine in the non-medical (i.e. the religious and legal) texts, respectively contributed by G. Jan Meulenbeld, Fernand Meyer and Antonella Comba. The pedagogical remarks and translation exercise contributed by Dr. Meulenbeld's students at Groningen represent a quite refreshing approach to the Ayurvedic scholasticism. Mention should also be made of the visual anthropology techniques applied by Dr. Hélène Stork to the study of early child care. The book concludes with a series of recommendations formulated by the newly founded European Ayurvedic Society, which elected Dr. Meulenbeld as its president.

China
Reported by Margaret Lock

A new hospital has been built in China called the Chu Nichi Yuko Byoin (The Chinese-Japanese Friendship Hospital). The Japanese government contributed money for the foundation of this hospital which is due to be opened in the autumn of 1984. The hospital will stress four approaches: clinical, research, education and rehabilitation. The integration of biomedicine and East Asian medicine will be emphasized and every year eight doctors from Japan will join the Chinese faculty and staff for a one year sojourn in China.

Germany
On invitation of the Institute for the History of Medicine, University of Munich, Prof. Ma Kanwen, Vice-Director of the Department of Medical History, Research Institute for the History of Medicine and Medical Literature, Academy of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Beijing, Council member of IASTAM, has received a three-month study grant from the German Academic Exchange Service for cross-cultural comparative studies in medical history.

A special exhibition of objects from the history of Chinese medicine will be shown by the German Museum of Medical History in Ingolstadt. An illustrated catalogue with a detailed description of the sixty-eight objects exhibited was prepared by Paul U. Unschild and Ma Kanwen; the topics covered include: medical and pharmaceutical literature, pharmaceutical instruments, therapeutic instruments, traditional Chinese drugs, Chinese medicine in Japan, medicine and art, and magico-demonological healing. Copies of the catalogue can be ordered from the Institut für die Geschichte der Medizin, Lessingstr. 2, 8 München 2, W. Germany. A cheque for US $ 7.00 should be enclosed.

Obituary
Telzo Ogawa
Professor Telzo Ogawa, born in April 1901, died on April 29th, 1984, just after he celebrated his 83rd birthday. As a great neuroanatomist, he dedicated the first half of his career to the field of anatomy and the last half to the field of the history of medicine. After he graduated from the Medical School of Tokyo Imperial University in 1926, he studied as assistant to Professor Gennosuke Fuse, famous neuroanatomist in Sendai. Abroad he studied further with Professor Ranson at Northwestern University and Professor Dusser de Barenne at Harvard University from 1937 to 1938, investigating the function of the red nucleus. In 1944 he was appointed professor of anatomy at the University of Tokyo and in 1956 professor of medical history at Juntendo University. Having been a recipient of many honors and decorations, he was selected as a member of the Japan Academy in 1966. For the last eight years he contributed internationally to the history of medicine as organizer of the International Symposium on the Comparative History of Medicine—East and West, sponsored by the Taniguchi Foundation. He was also famous for his studies on whales.

We offer our condolences to the Japan Society of Medical History, C/o Department of Medical History, Juntendo University, School of Medicine, 2-1-1, Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113, Japan.

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The Editor urges readers of the Newsletter to send him information about themselves, about conferences, institutions and research projects, and bibliographies of recent and forthcoming publications, for inclusion in the next issue. He will be pleased to answer all mail and queries.

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8