

News, Notes and Queries

spontaneous generation of organisms, the work of Pasteur, and the two special Congress lectures, 'Recherche scientifique et personnalité' (by Marcel Florkin) and 'Mathematics, music and medical science' (by Alistair Crombie).

The papers were delivered in simultaneous sessions and while there was comparatively little overlap of biology and chemistry, this, unfortunately, was not so for some of the background information which made the Congress especially worthwhile to a medical historian. For example, information on an index of mathematical instrument makers (who also made scales and other instruments), trade cards as source material in the history of science (such cards are equally important for the history of medicine), and increasing interest in industrial archaeology (relevant to the pharmaceutical industry).

The large number of papers will be published in due course (the formal colloquia papers have already appeared, published by the Centre International de Synthèse, volume 89, Paris, 1968). With the International History of Medicine Conference, which was held a few weeks later, receiving about the same number of communications, the problem of keeping abreast with, and assimilating, research into the history of medicine is becoming more and more acute.

J. K. CRELLIN

OSLER MEDICAL LIBRARY

Dr. Fred B. Rogers has been elected to the Board of Curators of the Osler Medical Library at McGill University, Montreal, Canada. Dr. Rogers is Professor of Preventive Medicine at Temple University, Philadelphia, Pa., U.S.A.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE XXI INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE

The 21st International Congress of the History of Medicine was held in Siena from 22 to 28 September 1968, with the President of the Italian Republic as its patron. Professor Adalberto Pazzini, the President of the International Society of the History of Medicine, served as President of the Congress, with Professor Luigi Stroppiana as Secretary-General, and a distinguished Committee representing most of the medical faculties of the Italian universities, as well as the civic authorities of Siena.

The medieval city of Siena provided a perfect setting for such a meeting and the pageantry of the grand opening in the thirteenth-century City Hall emphasized its historic character. The city authorities had clearly co-operated to the full in the organization of the Congress, which was notable for the warmth of the hospitality provided and the interest of the excursions to historic sites.

Nearly 500 members from 38 countries attended the Congress, including 19