Further considerations upon the organization of an ideal medical museum / by D. Bryson Delavan.

FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS UPON THE ORGANIZATION OF AN IDEAL MEDICAL MUSEUM

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by

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Further Considerations Upon the Organization of an Ideal Medical Museum*

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INTRODUCTION

My desire herein expressed and for many years cherished is to emphasize the importance of the Museum as the cradle of research and the final and complete exponent of objective teaching, everywhere valuable and in medical education indispensable; to suggest the importance of medical museums as already established, and to urge the need for an institution far broader than any of them; as comprehensive in its sphere as are the museums which so lavishly represent other departments of science and art, since with full respect to these, "the proper study of mankind is Man."

THE MUSEUM

The habit of collecting seems a primitive instinct, as evidenced from earliest times. Upon it, however crudely expressed, depends the basic museum idea, for the function of the museum is to preserve, perpetuate, and instruct. It accomplishes instruction through the most vivid of all known methods, namely, object teaching, the acknowledged importance of which is best demonstrated in the existence of the notable museums of the world and the extent to which their value is recognized and continually being extended.

THE MEDICAL MUSEUM

In the imparting of medical instruction, object teaching, from specimen to clinic, has always played a major part. The appreciation of the importance of this has steadily increased in these later years. The

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illustrations of medical textbooks and treatises are an all essential to their practical usefulness; but the printed illustration and its accompanying description can hardly be as convincing and inspiring as the presentation of the object itself, for the Museum as exhibiting such objects "is the most valuable adjunct to education because it offers opportunities of direct observation and verification of objects in three dimensions rather than descriptions in books, accompanied by figures in only one dimension."[1]

If the illustrations of the book are worthy of respect and preservation, much more so must be the illustrative specimen itself; therefore the medical museum becomes a natural and logical aid.

Quoting the great master of our especial subject in referring to his own splendid achievements: "The purpose of the museum is not simply to bring together a lot of curios for amusement; it is intended to be useful to students and useful to all engaged in research; for the study of the roots and foundations of things greatly assists research and facilitates discovery and invention." Without question, "the first duty of a museum is the increase of knowledge, the fostering of research."[2] And to this might be added —the stimulus of the mind through the influence of sentiment as well as through the presentation of fact, as witness *The Gold Headed Cane*, nothing in itself, but redolent of great and inspiring memories.

I would myself define the Medical Museum as an institution where among other purposes the things of the past should be shown as leading to the accomplishments of the present, and the achievements of the present exhibited that they may prepare the way for the advances of the future.

In 1928, I presented certain long considered suggestions for the formation of a medical museum more extensive in plan and scope than any yet in existence. All the departments now represented as far as known, single or grouped, were mentioned and certain others proposed as worthy of inclusion in a comprehensive whole. Other great museums, unlike in character but similar in motive, were referred to as effectively promoting education and stimulating effort while offering well attested models

[1] Professor Henry Fairfield Osborn.
[2] Henry S. Wellcome of London.

of organization and conduct. The relative value to the public of these generously supported institutions as compared with that of the medical museum was urged as an important subject for consideration. Attention was called to the excellent work already being done by earnest, self-sacrificing men—often under far too meagre conditions; for learned societies which maintain museums as well as those individuals actively engaged in them rarely command sufficient funds for their support. This applies to numerous special medical museums and to the justice of their challenge for a better degree of public recognition, in view of the valuable additions they are making to scientific knowledge.

Today, with these and other evidences of progress, we may recognize a growing disposition to accord a higher place to the medical museum as an element of education and as a power in the advancement of general physical welfare. It is right, therefore, for us to proclaim that, speaking generally, comparison of the extent and support of existing medical museums with those developed in other directions is not favorable. If a museum of natural history or of art, or of literature can be expanded from a few cabinets of specimens, a small collection of pictures, or a modest library, into a great institution having the breadth and influence of a university, there is every reason why a similar development should be envisioned in the case of medicine, the greatest of them all; and that financial support be accorded it proportionate to its relative importance and its inexpressible value to mankind. Without question, medical museums should be organized and developed on a basis of extensive practical usefulness far wider than any hitherto attempted.

Toward the general better understanding of the medical museum several contributory factors of importance have already appeared. Prominent among these is the *Index of the Medical Museums of the World*, now nearly completed and rapidly gaining appreciation as the usefulness of the work and the intelligence with which it has been prosecuted by the International Association of Medical Museums is becoming more widely recognized. The *Bulletins of the International Association* have been issued regularly. The Wellcome Museums and affil-

iated laboratories with their explanatory literature have continued to extend their influence, while valuable suggestions have been published in the *Bulletins of the Royal Commissioners of the National Museums of Great Britain* and also in the *Report on the Public Museums of the British Isles to the Carnegie United Kingdom Trustees,* by Sir Henry Miers, F.R.S.

THE INDEX

The establishing of an International Index of Medical Museums is one of the functions to which the International Association of Medical Museums is pledged under its constitution. The object of this undertaking is to obtain and present in tabulated or other convenient and readily accessible form exact information as to the name, location, date of origin, nature and extent of collections, and name of the director or chief executive officers of all the medical museums and medical teaching collections of importance throughout the civilized world. Under a resolution passed by the association some three years ago, this material is being obtained by means of a suitable questionnaire, sent out to the heads of institutions in the various countries. The data so accumulated are published in the *Journal of Technical Methods and Bulletin of the Association* in the form of preliminary reports, which will later be assembled and summarized in book form for the use and convenience of the undergraduate and postgraduate students and of the workers in medical research who are pursuing investigations in which access to additional material is especially desirable. To date, reports have been received from the medical museums of France, Germany, Great Britain, Portugal, Italy, Austria, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, and from forty of the pathological museums of the United States, as well as from a number of museums of comparative anatomy and dentistry.

BULLETINS

Again, these *Bulletins of the International Association of Medical Museums* have been continuously published and widely distributed.[3] They contain the general contributions and the special articles presented at the regular meetings of the association by large numbers of distinguished contribu-

[3] Vol. I. 1907 to Vol. XII. 1928, inclusive.

tors. The broad scope and the original and enlightening character of their contents, dealing with all departments and methods have continued materially to advance the work.

Undoubtedly the most important additions to the main subject itself in recent years are the medical museums created by Mr. Henry S. Wellcome of London, a splendid contribution to the whole subject of medical museum organization, management, technic, and education, as demonstrated in the institution itself and set forth by its director, Dr. S. H. Daukes, in his book, *The Medical Museum, Based on a New System of Visual Teaching,* London, 1927. The Wellcome Museums with their affiliated research laboratories, constituting the Wellcome Bureau of Scientific Research and housed in buildings of the first order especially adapted to their purposes, are a remarkable tribute to the genius and the generosity of their donor. The great scientific value of this creation by Mr. Wellcome will become increasingly appreciated as its extraordinary merits are better known.[4]

Dr. Maude Abbott, compiler of the Index, herself a museum expert of distinction, refers to the Wellcome Museum as follows: "The ideal of the clinical museum as conceived by Sir Jonathan Hutchinson and the like great workers of the last century is here brought to adequate fulfillment in

[4]In London, November, 1931, Lord Moynihan, President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, laid the cornerstone of a new building for The Wellcome Foundation. This will measure 225 feet by 135 feet, and is to be known as The Wellcome Foundation Medical and Chemical Research Building. During many years the Foundation has maintained medical and chemical research laboratories but recent developments have made it necessary to coordinate and extend these activities. The new building will provide the additional accommodations required and be furnished with the most modern research equipment and facilities. Student classes and many physicians have made continual use of the Wellcome Historical Medical Museum and the Wellcome Museum of Medical Science. The object of the new building is to enable the teaching facilities of the Museums, the Wellcome Bureau of Scientific Research and the separate but affiliated Medical and Chemical Research Laboratories to be coordinated and extended. The accommodation heretofore offered to students by twelve laboratories will be doubled; other laboratories will be established. Several floors will be devoted to the Wellcome Historical Medical Museum, the greatest of its kind. The Museums and the various Laboratories are the culmination of forty years of earnest effort on the part of Dr. Wellcome in promoting medical research, the advance of which depends upon the methods of the ancillary sciences which would be developed in this and similar institutions.

At New Year's, 1932, Dr. Henry S. Wellcome, a native of Wisconsin and a British subject by naturalization, received the Order of Knighthood, conferred upon him by King George, in recognition of his distinguished furtherance of medical research carried on with ever-increasing zeal for many fruitful years. See page 16.

a series of exhibits which are in every respect models of character, presentation, and explanation." While the Wellcome collections are confined to certain specific departments among the many which should constitute the complete museum, it is, as a whole, a grand inspiration to the development of an institution such as we have in mind, embodying principles of the first order of importance and graphically demonstrating the best methods of presentation attainable. Unexcelled in itself, the Wellcome Museum offers a model of general excellence to the world. Within the limits of the departments which it represents it proves itself a grand conception splendidly executed, a powerful factor in the advancement of medical science, an institution which cannot be too widely understood and emulated.

Statements concerning museums of every conceivable kind, old and new, are constantly appearing in the public press, thus evidencing a wide interest in the general subject.

FUNCTIONS

A consideration of the functions of the medical museum would include many features hitherto unprovided for. One of the most important of them would be an organized system of intercommunication through the already established International Association of Medical Museums, by which cooperation of effort might be secured and thus the urgent need for united endeavor be promoted and an intelligent development of a practical scheme of affiliation with similar museums be effected. The perfecting of such a system already furthered by the International Association might foster the development of museums in widely separated representative points.

Since the prime object of the medical museum is to advance education and to facilitate research, in combination with properly constituted laboratories as demonstrated in the Wellcome Museum, the opportunities for scientific investigation under such conditions would be complete.

DIRECT EDUCATION

As a factor in the advancement of learning the medical museum should be devoted not only to the education of the physician but also to that of the public, offering special facilities not to be found elsewhere.

It is important to recognize that many of our medical museums as now constituted, together with other powerful teaching influences, are directed to the instruction of the *undergraduate*. He, at the outset of his professional studies, enjoys the full benefit of great institutions, elaborately planned and conducted. Vital as is the proper teaching of the undergraduate it is far from being the final factor in the ultimate instruction of the physician; but the advanced education of the *graduate* physician has by no means been so well supplied, alive as he often may be to the progress of medicine. Hence the widespread appreciation of the efforts of the past fifty years to create graduate schools, however inadequate some of them may have been; also of the patronage by the many physicians of all types and ages who have eagerly sought instruction from them, verifying the axiom that the physician must *always* be a student, a keen observer of medical advancement. The necessity for his continued education is obvious. Thus far it has been provided through medical journals, libraries, societies, and—more recently—special lecture courses, as well as through the struggling graduate schools, now at last coming into their own. Unfortunately, the value of the medical museum in this sphere of education has not yet been generally discovered.

While the usual expenses of medical education in regular course are very great in time as well as in money to both the undergraduate and to the advanced student, the medical museum provides continuous opportunity, clear, graphic, and convincing, assimilable in the shortest possible time and exhilarating to the mind, a powerful incentive to individual study as well as to research and—not the least of all—at a minimum of cost to him.

DEPARTMENTS

From the data assembled in the Index it appears that the present medical museums of the world individually devote themselves to a few certain definite departments.

These departments, taken altogether, include anthropology, anatomy, comparative anatomy, veterinary anatomy, biology, bacteriology, physiology, pathology, microscopy, medical chemistry, medicine, his-

torical medicine, materia medica, pharmacology, surgery, tropical diseases and climatology.

NEW DEPARTMENTS

Of particular importance would be departments additional to those already existing, including: Preventive medicine, public health, sanitation, hygiene, child welfare, industrial hygiene, physical therapy in reconstruction methods, medicolegal, hospitals, museum technic, medical education—this last to include the training of nurses and the public health service, as demonstrated in the Henry Street Settlement.

SPECIALTIES

It has long been my wish to have an institution which would represent the interests of *all the special branches* of medicine, a central rallying place where facilities might be offered for the care and exhibition of books, instruments, models, memorabilia, and other objects of interest to each particular department. Combined, these would form a division of a whole which might well become a component branch of a great central organization correlating all. The special departments would include:

Laryngology, otology, ophthalmology, cardiology, gynecology, obstetrics, dermatology, pediatrics, urology, neurology and psychiatry, odontology, occupational diseases, military surgery and medicine, orthopedic surgery, bronchoscopy, radiology, hydrotherapy and others coming under this classification.

PATHOLOGY

The Department of Pathology is of fundamental value, universally attested and well illustrated now in many museums. Sir William Osler's interest in it is eloquently shown in the specimens made by him in his early days at McGill University and in his association with that museum. His graduating thesis was on *Pathological Anatomy*, and the earlier years of his professional life were occupied with the formation of the collections now so treasured. In how great a degree these contributed to his later views regarding various medical diseases and their complications is revealed in his medical writings, for he had a wonderfully clear and broad conception of pathology as the basic science of medicine; he had also the museum instinct.

HISTORY

The Historical Department should contain a variety of objects pertaining to the archeology and history of medicine in general, with special reference to its development in the various ages and countries of the world, from primitive to those highly advanced through the progress of civilization. This department should exhibit representative models of important instruments, appliances and methods, for the preservation of worthy designs and the prevention of recurring repetitions of bad ones; for, among other features of the historical department, as with history in general, the demonstration of what has already been accomplished is invaluable. Here typical examples should be shown of things which have proved the most useful, and these contrasted with the bad, exhibited as warnings against future error. Such a collection would be valuable as placing on record original forms and ideas as well as in settling authoritatively claims of priority, thus preventing fruitless and often acrimonious and injurious controversies. "No real progress can be made without reverence for the things that have been accomplished." As has been well said: "History seldom repeats itself more disastrously than in the perennial reduplication of faulty methods and instruments in medicine." Again, "Inventive men laboriously reinvent what has been produced before. Ignorant men fight against the laws of nature with a vain energy and purchase their experience at a great cost. Why should not all these start where their predecessors ended and not where they began?"[5] Still again, years later, in the words of Edison: "The first thing is to find out what everybody else knows and begin where they leave off. Hard work and sticking to a thing are the main thing an inventor needs."[6] Moreover, it may be truly said that the old methods are sometimes remarkably good. Much loss of time may be saved by the study of them. Colt's revolver was antedated by 250 years.

The development of various noteworthy instruments should be illustrated, as, for instance, the bronchoscope, originally suggested by O'Dwyer and

[5]Abbott Lawrence, 1847, quoted in pamphlet issued by the Graduate School of Business and Administration of Harvard.

[6]Edison.

finally perfected by Jackson. Coins and medals relating to medicine should be represented. This department should also contain records of great medical discoveries and inventions, together with all available evidence, documentary and material, pertaining to them. It should preserve reliable biographical records and portraits of distinguished medical men. With these and other possible features, as already suggested in the Wellcome collections, at Zurich, and elsewhere, the historical department alone could be made a museum of great interest and extent and of still greater practical usefulness.

MEDICAL EDUCATION

Another desirable section should be devoted to the interests of Medical Education in general, equipped for the development and exhibition of the paraphernalia to be used in the illustration of medical lectures and teaching—the different groups to serve as models for the enlightenment of medical instructors generally, who might here gain definite ideas and reliable illustrative material for their work. Under proper expansion of this department the publication of series of illustrative charts, models, and other material for teaching could be undertaken and arrangements made for their reproduction and circulation, either through purchase or loan. A valuable feature would be the providing of moving picture reels representing standard operations and methods. Also, phonographic records of various diagnostic sounds; of typical examples of tone qualities of the human voice; of natural and of defective speech; and of dialects.[7]

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[7]The suggestion of a department for the study and perpetuation of human voice tones has already been acted upon at the Sorbonne in Paris, where the creator of the Pathé phonograph has for a number of years made possible the study of phonetics by recording examples drawn from all corners of the earth. Phonographic disks thus made become the property of the "Library of Voices." Thus are recorded voices and speeches by eminent statesmen, artists, orators, and others for historical purposes, as are all the known languages of the world and their various dialects. An important division is that of the dialects of the French Provinces, some of which were almost destroyed by the War. There is also a collection of popular melodies of all nations with sometimes the same song sung by singers from various sections of the same country, thereby illustrating the effects of locale upon the singing as well as upon the speaking voice. Another division of the Museum records more direct work in phonetics. Records are made by actors with excellent pronunciation, and these are sent to schools and educational institutions of other nations to inculcate the correct manner of speaking French. Other applications are possible and will be utilized, as already done at Columbia University, N. Y.

CHARLATANRY

A department illustrating, exposing and explaining the various forms of charlatanry, deceptions, superstitions and strange beliefs and cults, old as well as new, prevalent in the world and often fraudulently practiced upon the credulous should be open to the public under proper conditions for their enlightenment and protection. A collection of charms, amulets and luck pieces is also interesting.

MUSEUM TECHNIC

There should be a department for the study and practical application of the technic pertaining to the mounting, preserving, and exhibition of museum objects. The best of the old methods and of the present ones should be demonstrated and, when possible, better ones evolved. With due respect for the advancement of the present the ideas of the fathers of medicine and anatomy are worthy of study. Some of their devices were highly ingenious. That they have been lost is unfortunate.

GENERAL INTERESTS

In addition to the departments already mentioned and others which may be suggested, there are certain scientific and executive interests and possibilities at present not provided for in any existing institution. There is no proper place for them in either the medical school, the medical library, the medical laboratory, or the medical museum itself as these institutions are now constituted. Their inclusion and support in a suitably organized group would greatly widen the sphere of their influence and be of inestimable general value.

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION

In developing the idea of the greater medical museum and suggesting some at least of the possibilities of its general usefulness, the International Association of Medical Museums has done loyal service. It has successfully endeavored to meet the needs of the whole broad field of objective and demonstrative teaching. It has suggested provision for the recording of the results of original research, has called attention to the necessity for the raising of the standard of general medical instruction through

the teaching of improved methods and has advocated the development of a system for the exchange of specimens—especially, among others, of microscopical slides representing various normal and pathological conditions. This last proposition is of especial interest, capable of development and of serious practical usefulness. In many other particulars relating to education the Association is a pioneer of advanced thought and practice, as the Wellcome Museum is one of accomplished fact.

The importance to the world of the work which it has already accomplished and is now doing cannot be overestimated. Its activities and its influence, continuously exerted, may easily constitute the initial factor in a far greater movement, affording the basis upon which may be developed the evolution of the great medical museum itself.

SUGGESTIONS

Among the recommendations herein offered, several should be especially emphasized.

I. First, and above all, the ideal medical museum should be established upon a basis of *absolute independence.*

This is the status of many of our existing great institutions, notably the New York Academy of Medicine, not to mention others. It is a feature of vital importance. I believe that departure from it would seriously threaten success, for the museum must be conducted to represent and to subserve the welfare of all, while bound by none. It should be an independent entity, independent of political government or patronage, or of any other outside influence or institution.

II. The financial support of the medical museum should be made proportionate to that of other institutions of its type. The great museums of the world, whether of Natural History, of Art, or of the Industrial Arts, require and receive a liberal outlay. The millions who annually visit these institutions eloquently demonstrate the benefit of this expenditure; nor does it seem reasonable when such enormous sums are spent upon other institutions ostensibly working for the uplift of mankind—institutions educational, religious, social, physical—that the museum representative of the whole great science of medicine should be denied its adequate share.

III. Particular attention should be given to the employment of a well considered plan of publicity, for the proper enlightenment of all likely to be interested, both as to the financial needs of the institution and to its value as an important element in the advancement of education, directly for the welfare and protection of the public itself.

The time has come when the capabilities and the aims of the medical museum should be developed and that development made known to the world, lay as well as medical. That the value of other types of museums is being appreciated is well known. A more extensive knowledge and understanding of the best type of medical museum, particularly in its relation to the general welfare of the public, would gain for it increasingly substantial support. The museum must therefore secure the interest of the public by legitimate but earnest and well conducted measures of publicity as generally employed.

IV. Certain departments, offering both permanent and special exhibits, should be arranged for the instruction of the laity, with all which that implies.

SUMMARY

Let it be emphasized that the public must be educated away from the old idea of the unused and impractical museums and of their stale and neglected specimens. While the members of the International Association are foremost in the understanding of present museum progress, the outside world, both medical and lay, must be taught to recognize and realize it, in order that they may appreciate its importance to themselves. Speaking from experience, I cannot inculcate this proposition too forcibly, based as it is upon the personal observation of many long established and well known museums at home and abroad. In some instances the condition of these museums has not been calculated to reassure the public mind: not a few have been lost.[8]

Indeed, the history of many medical museums has been unfortunate, often tragic. The fine Museum of the New York Hospital, which was my special responsibility for four very interesting years, brought together with infinite labor and illustrating the work

[8]Formerly, certain so-called Museums of Anatomy were avowedly maintained for unethical purposes. Uncontrolled by law, they very naturally inspired the better element of the community with abhorrence, not only for themselves but for all Medical Museums.

of that great institution for many generations, was dismembered and scattered. The valuable collections of Valentine Mott and of James R. Wood of Bellevue are no longer heard of, although the latter is in obscure existence. The priceless memorabilia assembled by Dr. Robert Abbe and relating to Benjaman Rush, Edward Jenner, Louis Pasteur, Joseph Lister, and Madame Curie was deposited in another city because there was no proper place here for its reception. These, together with numberless specimens of all kinds, found at various hospitals, held in private ownership or exhibited at scientific meetings, either have been irrevocably lost or, for want of a proper repository, are indefinitely awaiting installment. Their retention, care and exhibition might have rendered them the basis of a fine institution.

The value of the concentration of material resources and of the stimulation of efficient work has been abundantly recognized in other directions; applied to the medical museum, the realization of this has been late in coming. As a factor in general and medical education, an incentive to investigation, an aid in the accretion of new knowledge, a means for the addition to and the improvement of exhibits already represented, its importance cannot be overestimated. [Already medical museum technic has become a highly developed art, as demonstrated in the recent series of exhibits in the department of cardiology, beautifully set forth at the New York Academy of Medicine, October 19-30, 1931.]

Equipped to furnish the best possible means for the preparation, preservation, mounting, and exhibiting of specimens of every kind entrusted to it, these important details being executed by experts and under the most favorable conditions, the museum would become the depository of choice for minor collections already assembled, as well as for all desirable specimens, individual or in groups which, as already suggested, would otherwise be ultimately lost or else ruined through want of proper care. The lack of such a depository of permanent character has resulted in the loss of rare opportunities. The promise of faultless preparation, permanent care, intelligent exhibition, and the honor of placing one's name in an institution so conducted, would attract the best of everything.

A medical museum properly organized and equipped will stimulate activity of mind and emulation of enterprise not only among its patrons but even more among its workers and will offer incentive for personal advancement and attainment of high scientific achievement, as shown by such men as Billings, creator of great libraries; Bickmore, founder and fosterer of our great Museum of Natural History, continuously developing under the magic of Osborn, and by others of like imperishable names.

The ancient hospitals of the past, associated mainly with suffering and death, have been supplanted by the comfort and healing offered by the modern temples of the science and art of our profession. So will it be with the medical museum which, following the successful executive principles in general of established institutions while offering all possible aid to the outside world, will unfailingly attract the intelligent, everywhere jealous of its own interests and welfare. That there is need in this country of such a center of usefulness, comprehensive, influential and of the highest order of scientific excellence is evident. From the spirit already demonstrated, as herein set forth, the opportunity is ripe.

ORGANIZATION

In view of present conditions it is my proposition that an institution be incorporated: independent; having a proper title; and having a self-perpetuating Board of Trustees. The purpose of this board should be to promote the acquiring and dissemination of the knowledge pertaining to medicine, both to its disciples and to the public, in all that relates to it and is suited to their respective needs, in the broadest and most liberal sense.

With understanding, enthusiasm and cooperation the near future should develop the beginning of what with time and adequate support will become an institution of scientific importance and of far reaching beneficent value—

THE IDEAL MEDICAL MUSEUM

For it no place could be more appropriate than this great centre of human interests.

DR. WELLCOME KNIGHTED

The many friends and associates of Dr. Henry S. Wellcome in the United States will be gratified to learn that knighthood was conferred on him in King George's New Year honor list, in recognition of his generous support of medical and archeological research. Dr. Wellcome is the head of Burroughs Wellcome & Co., London, manufacturers of fine chemicals and galenicals, but his outside scientific interests and philanthropies are of a range so wide, so scholarly and so original as to have long ago challenged attention and to have bespoken for him a position of unusual distinction.

It is interesting to note that he is a native of Wisconsin and that he became a British subject by naturalization. He was graduated at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science and from the beginning of his career made original scientific research and strictly ethical methods the foundation of his life's work.

Dr. Wellcome's American interests are wide and varied. He is a director of the Gorgas Memorial Institute of Tropical and Preventive Medicine, Washington, which operates scientific laboratories at Panama for research work touching causes and prevention of tropical diseases. In connection with the monumental sanitary work of General Gorgas in Panama, it is recalled that at one time an attempt was made to cut down appropriations, thus seriously handicapping the progress of the work. The Secretary of War, the Honorable J. M. Dickinson, who knew of Dr. Wellcome's experience and interest in tropical research, asked him, while in Washington in 1910, to visit and make a thorough detailed inspection of the conditions and methods of operation in all sections of the Canal Zone and to submit an unbiased report based on his personal observations.

Dr. Wellcome is a life member of the American Pharmaceutical Association and has been active in its scientific work since the beginning of his membership in 1875. During the past several years he has interested himself in the campaign for the establishment of a national headquarters building for the Association in Washington to be known as the "American Institute of Pharmacy." His interest in this project has been actively evidenced. At the last annual meeting of the Association, held in Miami,

Florida, during July, 1931, he was elected an honorary president.

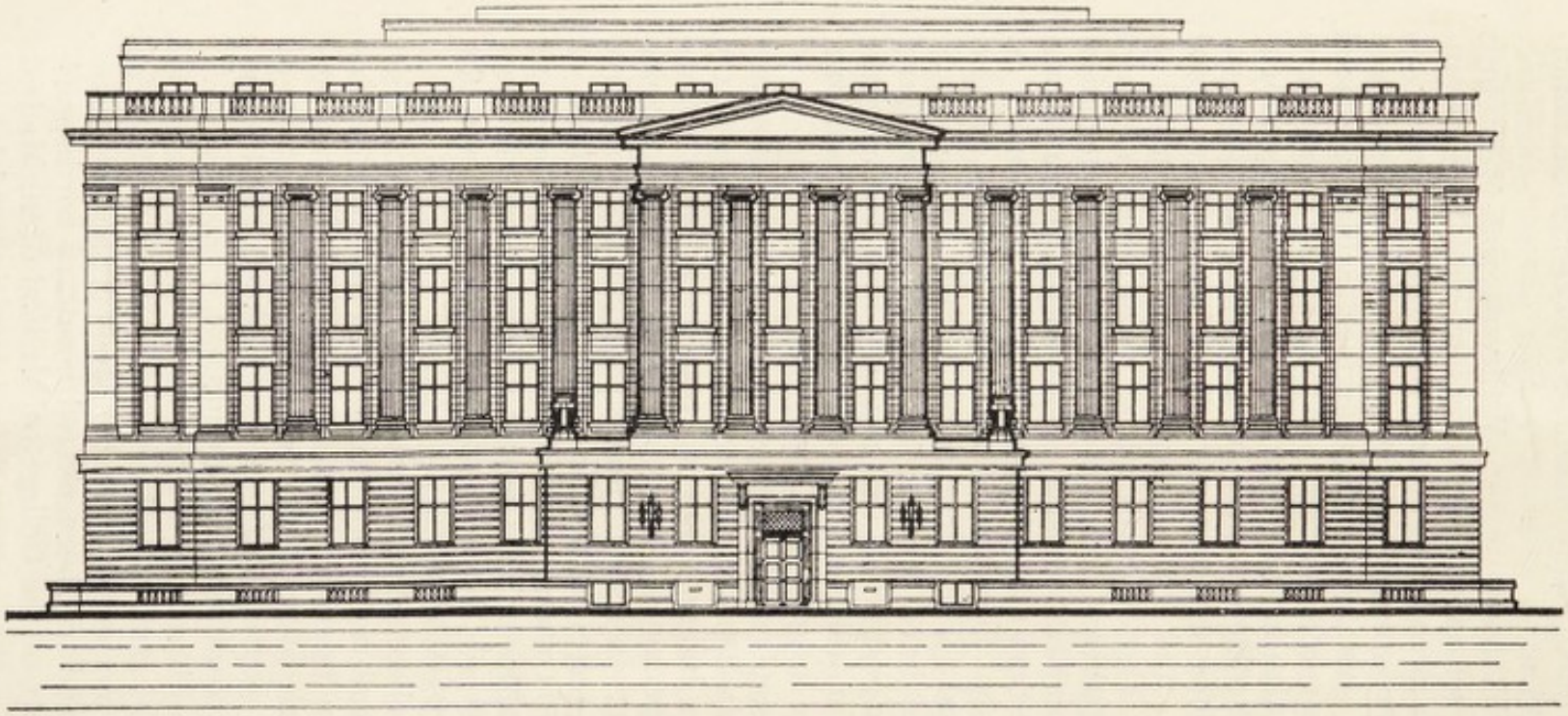
The childhood of Dr. Wellcome was spent in a frontier settlement of Minnesota, and here his interest in archeological subjects had its inception. This has continued to develop and find expression in some of his larger undertakings, which are well known to archeologists. In one of his expeditions to the Sudan he discovered several prehistoric Ethiopian archeological sites in the Upper Nile region. Excavations here were carried out under his personal direction, and the researches have been fruitful in results. The extent of these investigative diggings may be gathered from the employment of a technical and administrative staff of twenty-five Europeans and more than three thousand native workmen. G. A. Reisner of Harvard University, writing of this work, said "The excavations carried on by H. S. Wellcome have thrown unexpected light on early Ethiopian history in this region. For the first time a scientific archaeological record has been made of a site in the interior of Africa."

As a result of his early contacts on the frontiers of civilization Dr. Wellcome came to know the American Indian. For a great many years he has taken a personal interest in the welfare of a tribe in Alaska. In 1887 he published a work of some five hundred pages under the title of *The Story of Metlakahtla* which relates how this tribe of savages was transformed into peaceful, industrious dwellers and tillers of the soil, through education and the adoption of Christianity.

Dr. Wellcome has received worldwide recognition for his great services to science and medicine, for his interest in missionary enterprises, and for his personal work in medical research and the history of medicine, as well as for his archeological and ethnological explorations and studies.

He is an honorary fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine, London, and also an honorary fellow of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, London, and has been elected honorary corresponding member of the College of Medical Men, Madrid.

Apart from the research and experimental laboratories of the establishments of his firm, which have to their credit large numbers of important original



THE WELLCOME RESEARCH INSTITUTE BUILDING
GORDON STREET AND EUSTON ROAD, LONDON
CORNERSTONE LAID NOVEMBER 25, 1931
FRONT ELEVATION 225 FEET. ARCHITECT'S DRAWING

investigations he has also established a number of scientific institutions, coordinated and under separate and distinct direction. They include the following:

The Wellcome Physiological Research Laboratories, London, 1894. The Wellcome Chemical Research Laboratories, London, 1896. The Wellcome Bureau of Scientific Research, London, 1913, and the auxiliary Entomological Research Laboratory at Witley in Surrey, 1913. The Museum of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, London, 1913. The Wellcome Tropical Research Laboratories, Khartoum, A. E. Sudan, Upper Nile, Africa, and the fully equipped auxiliary Floating Tropical Research Laboratory on the Nile—1902.

Upon November 25, 1931, Lord Moynihan, president of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, laid the cornerstone of a new building for The Wellcome Foundation. This will measure 225 feet by 135 feet, and is to be known as The Wellcome Research Institute Building.

During many years the Foundation has maintained medical and chemical research laboratories but recent developments have made it necessary to coordinate and extend these activities. The new building will provide the additional accommodations required and be furnished with the most modern research equipment and facilities. Student classes and many physicians have made continual use of the Wellcome Historical Medical Museum and the Wellcome Museum of Medical Science. The object of the new building is to enable the teaching facilities of the Museums, the Wellcome Bureau of Scientific Research and the separate but affiliated Medical and Chemical Research Laboratories to be coordinated and extended. The accommodation heretofore offered to students by twelve laboratories will be doubled; other laboratories will be established. Several floors will be devoted to the Wellcome Historical Medical Museum, the greatest of its kind.

While Sir Henry has fully recognized the value of the Museum as a factor in medical education he has even more eloquently emphasized its importance in the field of investigation, illustrating its possibilities for the enlightenment and the protection of man.