than tungsten lights in the ward day-rooms. The ward day-rooms have large windows on two sides, and bright sunlight has caused some difficulty, but in spite of this the picture quality has been quite good.

An unforeseen difficulty arose when the hospital began to increase in size. It would have been advantageous to move the cameras to other wards, but this could not be done because cables had not been installed. In retrospect, it would have been advisable to lay cables to every ward where the apparatus might be used so that the cameras could be moved at will. The cost of the cables is relatively small, but there may be difficulty in laying them once a building has been finished.

The total cost of the equipment was £3,500. It is expected to have a life of at least six years before requiring major replacements.

Results

It has been found that patients' conduct and behaviour is in many instances quite different when seen on the television screen from that observed when the doctor is in the ward. On the whole the patient is better behaved in the latter situation and the television screen shows more accurately his conduct to his fellow patients. The peculiar rocking, sucking, head rolling, and a variety of other movements seen in both severely subnormal and psychotic patients can be studied objectively on the television screen much better than by sitting in the ward. By using a long-focal-length lens it is possible to isolate optically a particular patient from his fellows while he is sitting with them. This cannot be done by direct observation even if the observer sits in the ward with the patients.

Certain types of clinical facies and other clinical features show up particularly well on a black-and-white screen, and some diagnoses—for example, myxoedema—have been made by this method. It may be that as most illustrations in medical literature are in black and white one tends to be more astute in some cases in this medium than in natural colours.

I wondered at first what the effects of this indirect observation would be on the patients. No attempt was made to conceal the fact that the cameras were on, and the patients always know when the cameras are operating because the control motors emit a slight noise. After about two days, when occasionally a patient would walk up to one of the cameras and look into it, they have evinced very little interest in them and their operation causes no disturbances to the ward routine.

The ward furniture had to be rearranged so as to bring the patients into a position from which they could be seen to best advantage by the camera.

All five original objectives have to some extent been successfully attained, particularly the first three, but it is felt that much more experience and experiment are required to get the maximum value out of this new tool. It is likely that the four rooms used, which have been regarded only as standard wards or therapy rooms, will gradually be used only as special observation units; that patients requiring this type of study will be moved from other wards for this purpose; and that other aids to good picture quality such as extra lighting will be installed as experience increases.

I am indebted to Pye T.V.I. Limited for supplying me with the details of the equipment and photograph of one camera.

Medical History

THE CHAIR OF PHYSIC IN TRINITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN, 1662 TO 1962

BY

F. J. E. HURST

Deputy Librarian

Trinity College, Dublin, was founded in 1591 with a Charter from Queen Elizabeth. The Corporation of Dublin granted to the new foundation the lands of the monastery of All Hallows, lying on the south bank of the river Liffey and to the east of the city walls. The

John Stearne, M.D., first professor of physic in Trinity College, Dublin.

original architect's plan for the College was sent to Lord Burleigh, the first Chancellor, in 1591 and is now in the possession of the Marquess of Salisbury. It shows the College consisting of one quadrangle, with its solitary spire described as a "Seamarke."

Since then the College—the one and only college in the University of Dublin—has expanded until now it provides facilities for 3,000 students in the heart of modern Dublin. Its history is an integral part of Irish history. In the seventeenth century, despite serious interruptions which included the flight of a Provost, the expulsion of Fellows, and the use of the College as barracks, men like James Ussher (Archbishop of Armagh) set a high standard of learning and provided the College library—one of the great libraries of the world—with the basis of its rich bookstock. The eighteenth century was in contrast a peaceful and prosperous era, and in it were built the magnificent collection of buildings which enclose the Front Square and extend beyond it.

The development of the College since then cannot be compressed into a few words; the last seventy years of

the nineteenth century really saw the development of Trinity into a modern university. Twenty new chairs were founded in that period and the Engineering School was established in 1842. This progress was continued into the present century with chairs of education and agriculture being founded in 1905 and 1906; and in 1904 women were admitted to the university. In the face of political change and the circumstances created by two world wars Trinity has not only survived but is now in the confident process of still further expansion.

First Professor of Medicine

Three hundred years ago, in 1662, the chair of physic was founded. Before 1662 certain Fellows had been elected as "medicus," but in the draft minutes of the Board for June 3, 1662, appear the following words: "The same day Dr. John Stearne constituted and elected publicque Professor of Medicine in the University of Du[ublin] for and during his natural life. He was sworn by the Vice Chancellor June 4."

To commemorate this tercentenary Professor W. J. E. Jessop, F.T.C.D., Dean of the Faculty of Physic and professor of social medicine, arranged a two-day meeting at which eminent speakers took part by reading papers on the history and future of medical education. Six distinguished medical men from Ireland, Britain, Canada, Sweden, and the U.S.A. received the degree of Sc.D. *honoris causa*. One of them, Dr. E. T. Freeman, physician, of the Mater Misericordiae Hospital in Dublin, opened in the Long Room of the College library an exhibition illustrating the 300 years of the chair of physic that have elapsed since John Stearne's appointment. In this period there have been 20 professors of physic. The prefix "Regius" was apparently not used in any official document earlier than 1868. The present Regius professor, Victor Millington Synge, is a nephew of John Millington Synge, the Irish poet and playwright who died in 1909.

Tercentenary Exhibition

The tercentenary exhibition attempts to show through books, manuscripts, and other material something of the lives and personalities of the holders of the chair. John Stearne, the first professor, entered Trinity in 1639 and later studied medicine at Cambridge. He was appointed Fellow during the Commonwealth in 1651. (In fact it was held at the Restoration that none of the Fellows of that period had a legal title to a Fellowship.) Stearne resigned on marriage but was one of seven Senior Fellows appointed by King's Letter in 1660. His greater claim to fame is perhaps as the founder and first President of the College of Physicians in Ireland, which for about a century remained intimately concerned with the teaching and examining of medicine in Trinity and at that time was located in Trinity Hall, just outside the College. Stearne died at the early age of 45, having mastered a wide range of subjects and written several books; he lectured on Hebrew and probably also on Law as well as conducting his medical practice. In that sense he was the forerunner of a long sequence of Dublin medical men who have also been erudite and active in subjects other than medicine.

Stearne was followed by Thomas Margetson, Ralph Howard, and Richard Steevens. The early eighteenth-century hospital named after Steevens is not only an architectural gem but also contains the splendid yet little-known Worth Library. Howard was once involved in a duel with Sir Patrick Dun, "the chief moving spirit in medical education" in late seventeenth-century Ireland. An account of this fracas, from Archbishop King's correspondence, is included in the current exhibition. Steevens was succeeded by Sir Thomas Molyneux, the first medical baronet of Ireland, who also achieved distinction as zoologist, botanist, and archaeologist, and who was physician to John Locke. Coinciding with his professorship (1711-1733) were built within Trinity College the first medical school buildings—a laboratory and anatomy house. Lectureships in anatomy, surgery, botany, and chemistry were founded in 1711.

Richard Helsham, described by his friend Dean Swift as "the most eminent physician of this city and Kingdom," followed Molyneux. He was also professor of natural and experimental philosophy, and his *Lectures on Natural Philosophy* was a standard work for a hundred years. An edition of this was produced by his successor as professor of physic, Bryan Robinson, author of several original works including *A Treatise of the Animal Economy*, in which he calculated the velocity of the circulation of the blood. It is noticeable that from the middle of the eighteenth century the published works of the professors of physic became more exclusively medical in content; but Edward Hill, in office from 1781 to 1830, left behind him extensive manuscript notes for a critical edition of *Paradise Lost* that was in fact never published.

A "Prospect of the Library" in 1753, with the anatomy house to the right.

Trinity College, Dublin, from the north-west. In the far corner of the cricket field is the Moyne Institute of Preventive Medicine, opened in 1953.

The middle of the nineteenth century was dominated by Whitley Stokes, who was a United Irishman as well as a scientist and philosopher, and his son William, whose career and work are too well known to be described; a list of his appointments, honours, and works would take many paragraphs. His famous stethoscope is included in the exhibition.

This brief account, by concentrating on the early professors, inevitably has omitted many names: Cope, Foreside, Barry, and Clement in the eighteenth century, and more recently Hudson, Banks, Little, Purser, and Moorhead. Also it has neglected completely other aspects of Trinity's medical teaching. The late Dr. T. P. C. Kirkpatrick published in 1912 a *History of the Medical Teaching in Trinity College Dublin and of the School of Physic in Ireland*, which has so far not been superseded. The current exhibition in the library of Trinity College has been arranged by Miss Mary Pollard and Mr. William O'Sullivan, of the Library Staff, and Professor J. D. H. Widdess, Librarian to the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland. It will continue until the spring.

THE LONDON'S FIRST 100 YEARS

The Reformation, despite Sir Thomas More's protest, *Supplication of Souls in Purgatory* (1529), abolished the monastic hospitals. Only with difficulty did those of St. Bartholomew and of St. Thomas eventually survive to serve the needs of the sick poor of London. By the eighteenth century, through the growth of the city and its population, the demand for more hospitals was pressing. The first of the "voluntary hospitals," the Westminster Infirmary, was opened in Petty France in 1720. In 1721 Thomas Guy, having made his fortune in the "South Sea Bubble," built and endowed Guy's Hospital, while St. George's Hospital was begun in the West End in 1733. The East End had no special provision until seven gentlemen, including Mr. John Harrison, a young surgeon, met at the Feathers Tavern in Cheap-side and founded the London Infirmary (later termed Hospital) with a subscription of 100 guineas. Looking at the present great hospital, "who hath despised the day of small things?"

In this detailed and well-written first volume Dr. Clark-Kennedy, consulting physician, narrates the history of the first hundred years of the London Hospital, from 1740 to 1840.* It began in a rented house in Featherstone Street, Moorfields, and was so successful through "the very great Skill and Diligence of the Physician (Dr. Andre) and Surgeon (Mr. John Harrison)," who attended daily, that in 1741 the hospital moved to a house in Prescott Street, Aldgate. By 1744 it occupied four houses in the street. In 1749 the Committee bought the site in Whitechapel to build a new hospital, and ten years later reported that "the hospital is now completely finished and that no Money has been paid on that Account but what has been subscribed and bequeathed for that purpose." The second volume will trace the progress and growth of the hospital from 1840 to 1948, when it became part of the National Health Service.

The London has been fortunate in its presidents and patrons. Royalty early approved it. The second Duke of Richmond (grandson of Charles II), the Earl of Macclesfield, Sir Peter Warren, the Dukes of Gloucester, Devonshire, and Bedford, the two Archbishops, most

bishops, and many of the peers and landed gentry were among its governors, gave money, and induced others to subscribe. Generous too were the gifts of the Jewish community. Reference is made to the early physicians and surgeons on the hospital staff, whose services given without fee or reward strengthened the voluntary system. Outstanding among them was Sir William Blizard, P.R.C.S. (1743-1835), who examined at the Royal College of Surgeons up to an advanced age, operated until he was 84, and only retired from the active staff of the hospital when he was 90. He founded the Medical School of the London Hospital in 1785 and the Samaritan Society for the relief of poor patients in 1791.

Sad reading are some of the hospital intrigues and the disgraceful attacks made on John Harrison, the founder, who died at the early age of 35. The accounts of misdemeanours of nurses, "watches," and porters might have been shortened with advantage. George II, not his grandson, reigned in 1757 (p. 132), but apart from such minor criticisms and a few misprints—for example, "Cheseldon" (p. 8) for Cheselden—the book is an admirable hospital history. Especially will all "Londoners" enjoy reading it and will look forward to the second volume.

ARTHUR S. MACNALT.

PHARMACY IN BRITAIN

One can still see traces both in name and content of the medicines that, from early times, enabled horses, cattle, and men to bear their burdens more consistently. The growth of medical learning, reinforced by the emergence of chemistry, enabled the pharmacopoeias to be compiled. The first *London Pharmacopoeia* (1618) appeared in the year after the Society of Apothecaries was chartered. The apothecaries became the general medical practitioners of the subsequent two centuries and virtual monopolists in the supply of drugs and dispensing of medicines. Later they were themselves challenged by chemists and druggists—men of the calibre of William Allen, F.R.S., of Plough Court, John Bell, of Oxford Street, W. B. Hudson, of the Haymarket, and John Savoy, of Bond Street. And, just as the apothecaries secured their professional status by acquiring the power to examine, so the pharmacists moved to secure their status, first in 1829 and then again in 1841 under William Allen.

With a school of pharmacy (another emergent profession) and the blessing of chemists they prospered and one of them entered Parliament to speak for them in 1850. This M.P., Jacob Bell, secured the passage of a pharmacy Act in 1852 which established a register of chemists and druggists, admission to which could be obtained only on production of a certificate. The society helped compile the *British Pharmacopoeia*. Their role as a pressure group resulted in the progressive control of drugs and those who supplied them by Acts of Parliament in 1868 and 1908 which cemented the position of the society. Indeed, the increasing purity of foods and drugs was in great measure due to their activities and conferences.

In addition to giving us a substantial and authoritative history of all this, which will supplement that published

**The London. A Study in the Voluntary Hospital System.* By A. E. Clark-Kennedy. Volume One: *The First Hundred Years, 1740-1840.* (Pp. 264+xiii; illustrated. 30s.) London: Pitman Medical Publishing Co. Ltd. 1962.

†*History of Pharmacy in Britain.* By Leslie G. Matthews. Foreword by Sir Henry Dale, O.M., G.B.E., F.R.C.P., F.R.S. (Pp. 427+xiv; illustrated. 45s.) Edinburgh and London: E. and S. Livingstone. 1962.