

# OSLER LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

McGILL UNIVERSITY, MONTREAL, CANADA

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## ADDITIONS CONCERNING VETERINARY MEDICINE TO ABBOTT'S BIBLIOGRAPHY OF WILLIAM OSLER

**D**URING HIS EARLY and formative years, when he was first a medical student and then a professor of the Institutes of Medicine in McGill University's Faculty of Medicine, William Osler was deeply involved in comparative medicine, a profession and a field of study roughly

equivalent to what is now called veterinary medicine. His interest and activity grew out of his early studies in natural history and served as part of the foundation for his later career as pathologist and clinician. A glance at the many and varied works listed on pages seven through ten of Maude Abbott's *Classified and Annotated Bibliography of Sir William Osler's Publications* (Montreal, 1939) will show the range and depth of his activity in the field.

Osler's work in comparative medicine went well beyond publishing research papers, case reports, editorials, and book reviews. After returning to McGill University in 1874 to teach in the Medical Faculty, he was made a professor at the Montreal Veterinary College, an institution sponsored by the Council of Agriculture of Quebec and affiliated with the McGill Medical Faculty. Students from that College heard his lectures on the Institutes of Medicine as their basic introduction to the study of medicine, just as did students in the Faculty of Medicine. He also gave a course in animal entozoa for the future veterinarians and carried out demonstrations of animal pathology in the College's laboratory. There is a tradition that says Osler did this informal teaching each morning between 7 a.m. and 8 a.m. Finally, he examined the veterinary students at the end of each year, and when they were about to graduate from their three-year course.

Besides his formal and informal teaching at the Montreal Veterinary College, he was an active participant in the Veterinary Medical Association of Montreal, an active group of physicians, veterinarians, medical students, and veterinary students. For several years he was its Vice-President and in 1880 he was its President. Reports of the Association's twice-monthly meetings are full of information about Dr. Osler questioning speakers, making additional points after lectures, or showing new and interesting pathological specimens to the assembled members. Lastly, as he was to many other libraries, he was a frequent donor to the Association's library of veterinary literature.

In the course of preparing a series of papers on Osler and comparative medicine and on the metamorphosis of the Montreal Veterinary College into McGill University's Faculty of Comparative Medicine and Veterinary Science,

I have come across thirteen publications by Osler not noted by Maude Abbott. In recording them here, I have followed, as closely as possible, the conventions used by Abbott. (In addition to noting these publications, I have added supplementary information to four of Abbott's entries.)

Among the thirteen publications there is one scientific paper, "Report on Pictou Cattle Disease Investigations"; three translations-condensations of German articles, one translation of a German article, four case reports, and four editorials. Altogether, they constitute further evidence of the breadth and depth of Osler's study and promotion of comparative medicine.

### 1877

On the duration of life in encapsulated trichinae. *Am. Vet. Rev.*, N.Y., 1877-78, i, 103-104.

A translation-condensation of an article probably by Carl Dammann (*Deutsche Zeitschrift für Tiermedizin und vergleichende Pathologie*, 1877, iii, 92-95).

Russian government regulations with respect to the examination of veterinarians. *Am. Vet. Rev.*, N.Y., 1877-78, i, 115-117.

A note by Duncan McEachran, Principal of the Montreal Veterinary College and a colleague of Osler, ascribes this translation from German to Osler.

The trichina epidemics of Saxony, *Am. Vet. Rev.*, N.Y., 1877-78, i, 298-9

A translation-condensation of Otto Bollinger's summary (*Deutsche Zeitschrift für Tiermedizin und vergleichende Pathologie*, 1877, iii, 318-321) of an article by H. Reinhard, *Archiv der Heilkunde*, 1877, xviii, 241-250).

Influence of hunger on the weight of cattle. *Am. Vet. Rev.*, N.Y., 1877-78, i, 299.

A translation-condensation of a summary (*Deutsche Zeitschrift für Tiermedizin und vergleichende Pathologie*, 1877, iii, 348) of an article originally in *Tierärztliche Mitteilungen* for 1876 (p. 213ff). This second citation I have not verified.

### 1882

Report on Pictou Cattle Disease Investigations. *Report of the Minister of Agriculture for the Dominion of Canada for the Calendar Year 1882*, Sessional Papers 14, 46 Victoria, anno 1883, pp. 289-293. Reprinted in *Veterinarian*, Lond., 1883, 1vi, 478-485.

Diffuse purulent bronchiectasy in a calf, with morbid anatomy notes. (With A.W. Clement.) *J. Comp. Med. & Surg.*, N.Y., 1882, iii, 317-319.

A case report.

Chronic bronchitis – spurious melanosis of lungs in a dog. (With A.W. Clement.) *J. Comp. Med. & Surg.*, N.Y., 1882, iii, 319-320.

A case report.

Haemato-pyo-metra in a bitch. (With A.W. Clement.) *J. Comp. Med. & Surg.*, N.Y., 1882, iii, 320-321.

A case report.

### 1883

Extensive cystic disease of the liver in a pig. *J. Comp. Med. & Surg.*, N.Y. 1883, iv, 313.

### 1887

Recent researches on haematozoa. *J. Comp. Med. & Surg.*, Phila., 1887, viii, 176-178.

An editorial.

Recent researches on scarlatina. *J. Comp. Med. & Surg.*, Phila., 1887, viii, 262-263.

An editorial.

### 1888

Scarlet fever and disease in cattle. *J. Comp. Med. & Surg.*, Phila., 1888, ix, 177-179.

An editorial.

The Veterinary Department of the University of Pennsylvania. *J. Comp. Med. & Surg.*, Phila., 1888, ix, 312-314. Reprinted in *History of the School of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania, 1884-1934* (Philadelphia, 1935).

For four entries on pages 7 and 10 I have additional information.

1) Diphtheria in the calf (Abbott p.7)

This is a translation-condensation of an article probably by Carl Dammann (*Deutsche Zeitschrift für Tiermedizin und vergleichende Pathologie*, 1877, iii, 1-27).

2) Haemoglobinuria in horses (Abbott p.7)

This is a translation-condensation of an article by Otto Bollinger (*Deutsche Zeitschrift für Tiermedizin und vergleichende Pathologie*, 1877, iii, 155-181).

3) On changes in the brain in hydrophobia (Abbott p.7)

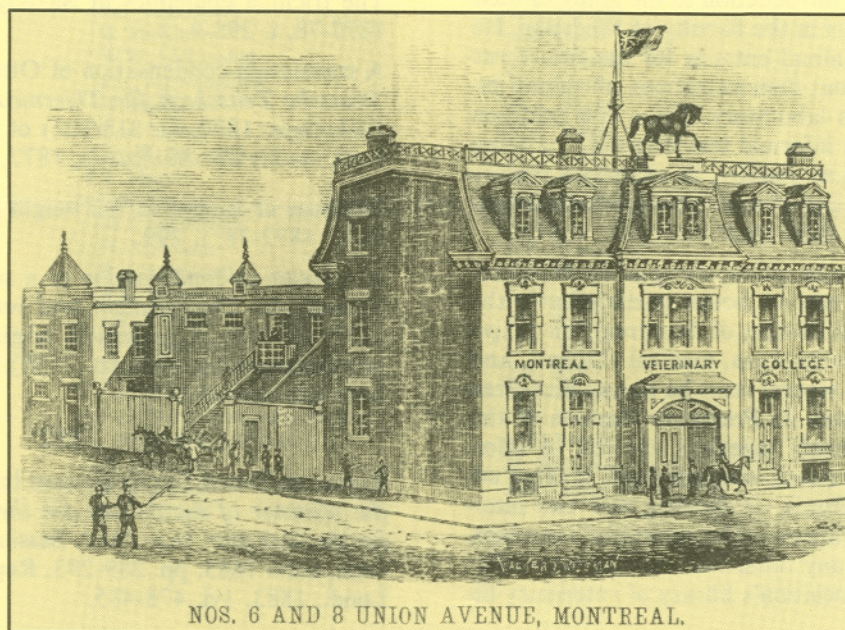
This is actually a translation-summary of an article by August Forel (*Deutsche Zeitschrift für Tiermedizin und vergleichende Pathologie*, 1877, iii, 259-264).

4) [On the resolution...](Abbott p. 10)

These remarks appear in *The Times* for Monday, 4 May, 1918 (p. 4, column 1).

In the hope that it will be a convenience for readers of Abbott's bibliography, I list here other places where that work has been added to or amended: a) a 31 page typescript in the Osler Library by Charles D. Parfitt; b) W.W. Francis' annotated copy of Abbott in the Osler Library; c) Charles G. Roland, "Some addenda to Abbott's *Classified Bibliography of Sir William Osler*," *Bull. Hist. Med.*, 1964, 38:78-9; and d) H. Alexander Heggveit in the *Osler Library Newsletter*, number 35, October 1980.

Philip M. Teigen



*The Montreal Veterinary College at 6 & 8 Union Avenue, built in 1875 and its home until 1903. (Courtesy of the McGill University Archives)*

## A BEQUEST FROM WILLIAM JAMES DOWNS

The Osler Library has received a generous bequest, amounting to \$10,000, from the Estate of the late William James Downs, M.D., C.M., McGill, 1934. The greater part of Dr. Downs' professional life was spent in Edmonton, Alberta. His special field there was tuberculosis and a part of his postgraduate training had been taken at the Laurentian Sanatorium at Ste. Agathe, Quebec. In his Will, he stipulated that his bequest should be treated as an endowment, the income from which will be used to buy rare books and manuscripts. The Editorial Committee of the *Newsletter* welcomes this opportunity to express appreciation of Dr. Downs' thoughtful gift.

## OSLER DAY - 1982

Osler Day this year falls on Wednesday, April 21st. The Osler Lecturer is to be John Kenneth Galbraith, Emeritus Professor at Harvard University and internationally famous economist, writer, and diplomatist. The subject of his lecture will be "The economics of the arms race."

Other events of Osler Day are the annual meeting of the Board of Curators of the Osler Library in the morning and the Osler Banquet in the evening. Professor Galbraith will be the honoured guest at the Banquet and will respond to questions from the floor about his Osler Lecture delivered that afternoon.

## OSLER LIBRARY EXHIBIT "CANADIAN MEDICAL ARCHIVES"

The Library's first exhibit for 1982 is a travelling one entitled "Canadian Medical Archives: A selection of archival material relating to the history of medicine in Canada." Coming to us from the Hannah Institute for the History of Medicine, it is a co-operative effort of that Institute, the Public Archives of Canada, and the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. The display material, divided into three sections, has been selected and edited by Dr. C.G. Roland, Hannah Professor of the History of Medicine, McMaster University (Cholera); Dr. S.E.D. Shortt, Hannah Professor of the History of Medicine, Queen's University (Access to Health Care); and Dr. G.R. Paterson, Executive Director, Hannah Institute for the History of Medicine (The Spectrum of Medical Archives). The exhibit is accompanied by a catalogue printed in French and English.

Those wishing further information about this travelling exhibit, including its availability, should communicate with Dr. G.R. Paterson, Hannah Institute for the History of Medicine, Suite 105, 50 Prince Arthur Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, M5R 1B5.

## 1981-82 CONTRIBUTORS TO THE FRIENDS OF THE OSLER LIBRARY

The Library gratefully acknowledges the support it has received from Friends, both old and new, who have responded to the appeal for funds for the 1981-82 academic year. To date 180 Friends have given a total of approximately \$5,100. Most of the contributions have come from Friends in Canada and the United States of America. However very welcome contributions have come also from Australia, England, The Republic of South Africa, and Switzerland.

The names of Friends whose contributions are received after January 31, 1982, will be listed in the June issue of the *Newsletter*.

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