



J. H. J. Upham : a Leader of Our Medical Community

By Charles F. Wooley, M. D., taken in part from his book *Academic Heritage : the transmission of excellence*.

John Howell Janeway Upham was born in New Jersey, the son of Nathaniel Lord Upham and Anna Howell Janeway. He attended the University of Pennsylvania where he obtained his M.D. degree in 1894. Dr. Upham recalled this era later on in his life.

“It was my fortune to take my medical course at the University of Pennsylvania in the early nineties and afterward to receive an appointment as assistant resident in the Johns Hopkins Hospital for two years, at that time the very leader in medical science and medical practice in the country. At its head were William Osler, often called the greatest of modern physicians, an incomparable teacher and an inspiration to all who came in contact with him; Howard Kelly, the foremost gynecologist in the world at that time, an expert diagnostician and operator, and the first to catheterize the female ureters in this country; William Halstead, one of the greatest surgeons and developers of surgical technique of his day; and William Welch, the very father of American pathology. Living in the hospital also, as residents and assistants were Simon Flexner, William Thayer, Joseph Bloodgood, Harvey Cushing, Llewellys Barker, John G. Clark, Thomas Cullen, Hugh Young, and others not so well known.” All were destined for illustrious careers in twentieth century medicine.

practice of medicine. Within a year of his arrival, he met and married Miss Alice Lee of Columbus.



Upham’s association with the teaching facilities at the various Columbus medical colleges began in 1897, first as an instructor in medicine at the Starling Medical College, 1897-1899. In 1899 he spent a year of study at Prague, Leipzig, and Berlin. He was certified later by the American Board of Internal Medicine and described as a prominent internist and a consultant in internal medicine. He was an associate professor (1902-1908) and professor (1908-1914) at the Starling-Ohio Medical College. The Ohio State University College of Medicine came into existence in 1914, and he spent the rest of his active medical career at Ohio State until his retirement in 1941.

Early in his career, 1907-1913, Upham was secretary of the Ohio State Medical Association and editor of the Ohio State Medical Journal. He served as president of the Ohio State Medical Association in 1914-1915. He was president of the Columbus Academy of Medicine in 1919, and was held in high regard by Academy leaders, editorialists and spokesmen throughout his career. During this period he worked his way through the ranks of the American Medical Association, first as a delegate in the

Upham came to Columbus in 1896 and entered the

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Nursing Heritage

Professional nursing in Central Ohio has a rich history and the Medical Heritage Center is expanding its initial collection of nursing texts, oral histories, and memorabilia to reflect this heritage. Serving as a repository for historically significant items, or as a “clearinghouse” to which people may turn to find items held elsewhere, the Center currently is able to offer research support with nursing texts and proceedings and manuals collected through donations and acquisitions. An early (c. 1860) edition of Florence Nightingale’s *Notes on Nursing* is of special interest to the collection, as is M. Adelaide Nutting and Lavinia L. Dock’s 1907 *A History of Nursing from the Earliest Times to the Foundation of the First English and American Training Schools for Nurses*, Bertha Harmer’s *Textbook of the Principles and Practice of Nursing* (1940), Mildred Montag’s *The Education of Nursing Technicians* (1951), and Amy Frances Brown’s *Research in Nursing* (1958).

An effort is underway to expand the collection of nursing texts, directories and proceedings (at present over 150) housed at the Center, to record oral histories of Central Ohio nursing leaders, and to collect and catalog significant papers, letters and official correspondence that document the growth of professional nursing in Central Ohio over the last century. Inquiries about the Center or regarding donations of nursing texts or memorabilia may be directed to Barbara Van Brimmer, Curator, Medical Heritage Center (292-4891) or Carol Robinson, RN, MS (885-1315).

Copies of *The History of the OSU College of Medicine* by Dr. George Paulson are still available in the Medical Heritage Center. There are 330 pages and over 200 photographs documenting the College of Medicine and the other parts of the Health Sciences Center. This would be a wonderful gift for any Medical Center Alumni or current faculty, staff and students. Copies signed by the author are available upon request. The cost is \$25.00 and proceeds benefit the Medical Heritage Center endowment fund.

Recent Donations

The Medical Heritage Center thanks those listed for their recent support. If you are interested in making a donation to the Center, please contact Barbara Van Brimmer, 614-292-4891.

Donald F. Bowers, DDS: Donated History of Dental Surgery and Genesis of Dental Education in the U.S. ■ Agnes Locke: Birmingham Nasal Douche ■ Ellen Buckridge: 21 nursing books ■ Olivia Corson: 21 boxes of papers from Samuel Corson and Elizabeth O’Leary Corson ■ Dale Dickens, MD: “Surgery of the Gall-Bladder and Extrahepatic Bile Ducts.” Signed by authors Cutler and Zollinger ■ Dr. Nathan S. and Margery Hale: Feeding bottle collection ■ Dr. Edwin and Nancy Hamilton: Donated eye glass (in memory of Frank Small, Nancy’s father), biography of Edwin Hamilton Sr., Mt. Carmel postcard ■ James Hamilton, MD: rare books ■ Dr. Walter Holbrook: 37 books and 3 artifacts ■ Tearle L. Meyer M.D.: books and sphygmomanometer ■ Drs. George and Ruth Paulson: Donated 50 books ■ Mrs. Harry (Margaret) Postle: Biographical information about Dr. Harry Postle, photographs, information on Postle and Callahan medal ■ Ronald Stuckey, PhD.: Books and archival materials ■ Charles Wooley, MD: Donated books “Dinner to Dr. William Osler” and “History of Catalan Cardiology (1872-1992)”

Monetary donations: Donald F. Bowers, DDS ■ Dr. Edwin and Nancy Hamilton (In Memory of Dr. Harry Postle) ■ Susan Kroll ■ Dr. Jack R. Parrish ■ Drs. George and Ruth Paulson (In Memory of Dr. Larry Mervis).

Congratulations on 100 Years of Caring

Grant Medical Center (originally named Grant Hospital) was founded by James Fairchild Baldwin, M. D. on July 14, 1900. Not only was Grant the first private hospital in Columbus, it also was the first hospital in Columbus to have full x-ray equipment. Happy Birthday Grant!

House of Delegates from 1913 to 1923, then as a member of the Board of Trustees 1923-1935, serving as Chairman of the Board in 1933-1935. When he was elected president of the American Medical Association in 1937-1938, this was a singular honor as the position was one of great prestige in that era prior to the ascendancy of the specialty societies. Jonathan Forman, a major figure in Academy of Medicine activities and in Columbus medicine commented in a special Academy Bulletin editorial:

“In selection of our conferee, John Howell Janeway Upham, to be the president of the American Medical Association, a great honor has been conferred upon our city and our Academy.”

Upham also served with the Ohio Hospital Association, the Ohio State Medical Board, The National Board of Medical Examiners, the American Red Cross, the Planned Parenthood Federation of America, and was involved early with the Blue Cross insurance plan.



Upham sitting proudly in his 1903 Oldsmobile.

Upham was the first chairman of the Department of Medicine at Ohio State from 1914 until 1927. He was then asked to assume the leadership of The Ohio State University College of Medicine and replaced Eugene Campbell as Dean. He was named director of University Hospital in 1938, establishing the close relationship between the College of Medicine and the University Hospitals that has continued to the present. Upham's goals for the College of Medicine were circumscribed; they were to provide the state with well equipped medical practitioners, and to do its part in advancing medical science through research. Hardly a clarion call for excellence, but perhaps a practical stance considering the financial limitations of the 1930s and the level of support contributed by the state of Ohio during that era.

Upham's legacy was the recruitment of educators of stature to the College of Medicine. The arrival of Charles Austin



Doan and Wiseman

Doan and Bruce K. Wiseman in 1930 “created a turning point in the development of the College of Medicine and in the concept of the Health Center.” Upham anticipated that the new group would contribute to Ohio State's future in the field of research. Doan was chairman of the Department of Medical and Surgical Research, and in 1932, George Curtis joined the research staff as professor of research surgery. Doan went on to become chairman of the Department of Medicine in 1936 through 1944 when he became Dean of the College of Medicine. In retrospect, it may be seen that when Upham brought Charles Austin Doan from John Hopkins and the Rockefeller Institute to the Ohio State University, he assured the future of the College of Medicine.

Dr. Upham passed away on January 29, 1960. The resolution by the Board of Trustees of The Ohio State University noted that his “greatest pride and constant concern and interest throughout his life was his teaching career and his relationship during the critical formative years to the College of Medicine at The Ohio State University.”

On The Web

Of course you can find just about anything on the Internet, but featured here are some interesting sites on the history of different medical specialties.

International Bibliographic Guide to the History of Pathology
<http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/institute/fak5/igm/g47/bauerpat.htm>

Neuroscience History Archives
<http://www.medsch.ucla.edu/som/bri/archives/nhahome.htm>

Displays

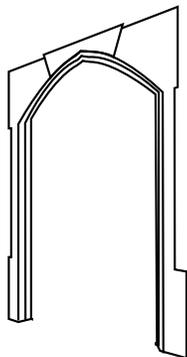
In the main hall of the Medical Heritage Center, new displays are available for viewing. The south display "In Their Own Time: Technological Creations of the Past" is an eclectic collection of medical equipment developed during the actual practice of medicine.

The north display "Treating Thyself: Home Remedies of the 1800-1900s" features books used for the treatment of everyday health problems. Rural populations generally used these treatises in lieu of finding a doctor.

Some of the recent donations are also on display. The displays may be viewed Monday-Friday from 1-5 p.m. through December.



Skin graft instrument made from an 88mm shell during WWII



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Coming Up

The first lecture in the John C. Burnham Lecture Series is scheduled to take place in the Medical Heritage Center March 1, 2001. Jointly sponsored by the Department of History, the lecture will feature Charles E. Rosenberg, Ph. D. More details will be forthcoming.



The Medical Heritage Center James V. Warren Humanities Lecture is scheduled for March 13, 2001 at 4:30 p.m. Peter E. Dans, M. D. will be presenting a lecture based on his recent book, "Doctors in the Movies." Dans is an associate professor of medicine, as well as health policy and management at Johns

Hopkins University and a clinical professor of medicine at Marshall University.

A book signing will be available after the lecture. Please reserve this date on your calendar!