Bulletin of the
Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania

Vol. 81  April, 1931  No. 4

Chemistry at the
Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania

Published by
THE WOMAN'S MEDICAL COLLEGE OF PENNSYLVANIA
Henry Avenue and Abbotsford Road
EDITORIAL

In this number of the Bulletin we initiate a series of articles descriptive of the laboratory departments of the College as they are housed in our new building.

To Chemistry has been assigned the first place in the series, for chemistry was the first of the sciences fundamental to medicine to receive recognition and place in medical curriculums.

To those of us who graduated from the Woman's Medical College forty and fifty years ago the modern chemistry laboratory is almost bewildering in its elaborateness of equipment, and the course which must be mastered by the first year medical student of today with its complexity of experiment and program, carries us speedily beyond our depth in this field.

It was extraordinarily difficult to modernize the work of this department in the old laboratory on North College Avenue, built over fifty years ago and slowly and painfully equipped with facilities for teaching the methods required these later years by a rapidly advancing science.

That the work was well done, against odds, by Professor Bunzell and his predecessors the records of our students testify.

The description of the department as now organized and equipped will be of great interest, we are sure, to all alumnae.
CHEMISTRY AT THE WOMAN'S MEDICAL COLLEGE OF PENNSYLVANIA

By HERBERT H. BUNZELL, Professor of Biochemistry

“And where the vanguard camps today,
The rear shall rest tomorrow.”
—Gerald Massey

When the Female Medical College of Pennsylvania was chartered on March 11, 1850, and its first classes assembled on October 12th of the same year, the building and equipment available at 229 Arch Street was very meager. It is impossible to visualize the laboratory facilities of the first decade of the College history.

In 1862 the scene changed to more commodious quarters rented from the young daughter institution, the Woman's Hospital of Philadelphia, just opened under the auspices of the College.

In 1875, however, the College had outgrown its rented quarters in the Hospital and through the beneficence of Isaac Barton erected and occupied the building at North College Avenue and Twenty-first Street from which we have recently moved. There laboratories of ample size when built have become of recent years inconvenient and ill-adapted to the teaching required in a modern medical school.

In September, 1930, with the opening of the current session, the eighty-first of the institution's activity, the transfer of the College to its new building at East Falls, Philadelphia, all laboratory departments have come into occupancy of rooms and facilities modern and well adapted to their several purposes.

With this healthy growth of the College over a period of eighty years, the teaching of the science of chemistry had its counterpart. Records show chemistry professors on the Faculty dating back to 1850. No records could be found to show what kind of chemistry was taught to the woman medical student in those days. With practically no entrance requirements, they probably acquired all of their chemical knowledge here. The so-called Animal Chemistry comprised a primitive study of blood and the secretions. There was, of course, no laboratory work worthy of the name. Chemistry, in fact, was merely an adjunct to botany and physiology. The various professors of chemistry in those early days did not seem to become properly rooted. In the period from 1850 to 1866 we find the chair of chemistry changing occupants frequently. The catalogues carry the names A. D. Challoner, M.D., 1850-1851; David J. Johnson, M.D., 1851-1855; Clinton Gillingham, M.D., 1855-1857; Ellwood Harvey, M.D., 1857-1859; M. Semple, M.D., 1859-1866. The first professor of chemistry with staying qualities was a woman, Dr. Rachael Bodley, 1866-1888. She was succeeded
by Dr. Henry Leffmann who held the chair of chemistry for twenty-seven years, 1888-1915, and was succeeded by his former assistant Dr. Martha Tracy, 1915-1920, now Dean of the College.

During the second half of the 19th Century especially in Germany, work in plant and animal chemistry progressed with increased vigor. Able men such as Voit, Kühne, Pflüger, Kossel, Zuntz, and Hofmeister, supplied their energy and time to researches on the chemistry of the animal body. Each one was surrounded by enthusiastic students who carried on the work of their teachers. Through these combined efforts, the science of physiological chemistry developed as a separate branch of the medical sciences.

The leaders of the Woman's Medical College became cognizant of the need of more thorough training in chemistry for their medical students. The importance of laboratory work in physiological chemistry was quite apparent. It was no more enough for a student of medicine to know that gastric juice contained a strong mineral acid, that urine contained urea and other interesting organic compounds. It seemed essential that the modern student should actually test for the acid in stomach contents, determine its quantity and should isolate in pure form from the urine such compounds as urea, uric acid, etc. Laboratory work in chemistry was initiated, therefore, in 1871. The catalogue for the session 1872 to 1873 reads, "Practical laboratory work including Toxicological Analysis and Urine Analysis, has been made a feature of the exercises of the last session, and as there is a prospect of more improved laboratory conditions, this department of instruction promises to take an important place in the exercises of the College." And in the catalogue of 1873 to 1874: "Practical Chemistry including Toxicological Analysis and Urine Analysis, continues to receive full and careful attention under the charge of the Professor of Chemistry." The building on North
College Avenue new in 1875 had, therefore, among others, a laboratory for chemistry.

Dr. Henry Leffmann, a food chemist of wide reputation in his period, made full use of his new opportunities. Physiological Chemistry, as it is known today, had as yet no standing in this country. There was no true appreciation of the important part chemistry might play in bringing about a proper understanding of the functions of the animal body. For many years it meant no more nor less than the examination of animal and vegetable tissues and fluids, and the testing for abnormal constituents in urine. Many students developed by the great masters of Germany, transferred their enthusiasm to this country and nuclei of teaching and research started here as well. Through these combined efforts the American workers have attained leadership in this field during recent years. The outstanding accomplishments in American laboratories are numerous in the field of biochemistry. Some of these are along the lines of nutrition, food requirements, chemical composition of foods, normal diets, specific dynamic action, nitrogen equilibrium, calorimetry, intermediary metabolism, basal metabolism, metabolism in disease. These are only a few of the activities pursued successfully in America. Much fundamental work has been done here to clear up the chemistry of the cell constituents, proteins, fatty substances and carbohydrates. The important field of true acidity, or hydrogen-ion concen-

MAIN LABORATORY ON NORTH COLLEGE AVENUE

Dr. Leffmann at extreme left. Most of these students graduated in 1898. The picture was probably taken in 1895.
tration, is a development of the last thirty years. Our present knowledge of colloids, oxidases, reductases, vitamins and hormones is a recent acquisition. We should also mention the study of the factors controlling the reaction of fluid and tissues, the physical chemistry of respiration and many similar topics.

Biochemistry besides being an indispensable basis for the study of physiology and pathology, became also a servant to bacteriology and through the clinical applications, a reliable adjunct to medical diagnosis. The surgeon learned to make use of its methods and through these satisfied himself as to reasonable safety for certain major operations. It was no longer sufficient to study the composition of urine in a patient but quantitative blood analysis became also a matter of regular routine.

It was not to be wondered at that the facilities on North College Avenue became obsolete nor is it surprising that we began to breathe more freely when the Dean requested us to draw up plans for chemistry laboratories in a new building the financing of which was already underway.

In 1926 a new site of nine acres was purchased and on June 11, 1929, ground was broken for the first building in the expansion program. After the usual game of tug and pull with architects, contractors, furniture dealers and artisans, we triumphantly ended with the floor plan illustrated.

The Department of Chemistry occupies the first floor in one of the wings of the new building. The central corridor leads straight to the main laboratory (see frontispiece). This furnishes cupboard space for one hundred students with accommodations for fifty working at one time. Each student has a working space of about four feet, provided with a large cupboard and two drawers. One of these is shallow and the other about three feet deep, the deeper one provided with a sliding cover which serves as a miniature writing desk. Each space is provided with a sink, hot and cold water outlets, gas, electricity and suction. The side tables along the outside walls are also served with compressed air.

Along the wall on one side of the main entrance is a battery of eighteen steam baths each supplied with water and drain for condensers. A large hood with an efficient exhaust fan eliminates the surplus steam and other vapors. On the other side of the entrance is a spacious blackboard for laboratory instructions. Large apparatus such as incubators, ovens, colorimeters, balances, etc., are used on the side tables. Besides the common reagents found on each desk there are readily accessible special reagents on the side shelves, placed conveniently between the wall tables. The smaller door by the blackboard leads to the fume room, equipped for twenty-four nitrogen determinations carried on simultaneously. Besides the digestion apparatus provided with its own exhaust fan, there is also a large well ventilated hood.

From this room we pass into the laboratory for special work. It is sixteen by twenty feet and contains for eight workers provisions similar to those found in the main laboratory. Here is the desk of the chemistry instructor who supervises the preparation for the laboratory ses-
Floor Plan of Department of Chemistry

The entrance to the corridor is north, and the further end of the laboratory is south.
sions. The still, with a fifty gallon storage tank in one corner, serves all the departments as well as the Hospital with distilled water. Such special apparatus as the centrifuge, constant temperature ovens, etc., are permanently located here. Other doors from this room lead into the storeroom, the main corridor and through an alcove for glass blowing and shop work into the dark room. We are proud of the store-room. It is equipped with a serving window opening into the corridor, next to the entrance of the main laboratory. There are numerous shelves, drawers and bins. It has provision for every type of apparatus in the department.

On the opposite side of the corridor is a suite of four connecting rooms consisting of the offices of the assistant professor, the professor, the latter's private laboratory, the library and conference room. A fifth room on this side of the corridor is equipped with refrigeration.

With the improved equipment the first function of a medical school, the teaching of undergraduate medical students, is met. We still need, however, equipment for the teaching of special phases of biochemistry. For example, for the teaching of absorption bands of the blood pigments, the spectroscope on hand suggests the time of J. H. Gladstone and Amici, both early workers in spectroscopy. Our one and only polariscope was probably purchased fifty years ago. For the second function of a medical school, research, the individual work of the teaching staff and of advanced students, special apparatus is definitely needed. Thermostats and physico-chemical equipment for enzyme work are among the needs encountered.

Owing to the small general laboratory on North College Avenue, each class had to be divided into two laboratory sections, the handling of which consumed most of the instructor's time. Notwithstanding these difficulties, we have carried on a modest scale research, even in the old quarters. From 1920 to 1930 most of our work was on the chemistry of saliva and tooth decay. Under a fellowship granted for four consecutive years by a friendly firm, work was done and published in four scientific bulletins. An article from this department also appeared in the 75th Anniversary Volume of the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania. Some of our work on acid decay of enamel has also been published.

This year, our first in the new building, besides the two Associates three students are making special studies of the conditions governing


2"The Effect of Various Dentifrices on the Starch Digestive Power of Human Saliva."

catalase activity.\textsuperscript{4} We hope soon to reach a stage where we shall be able to study this particular kind of enzyme activity in animal and human tissues and to compare normal tissues with diseased ones in this respect.

If our department is to become truly great we must not only teach well, but in addition do our part in contributing to the fund of scientific knowledge. The status of medicine depends to a large extent on advances made in the fundamental sciences. Some of the greatest benefits to the human race have come through research by workers in biochemistry and physiology. To carry our point we need only mention the discovery of insulin and the development of vitamin D by irradiation.

The department will continue to expand its activities. With the modern facilities and the better working conditions in our new building at East Falls, the best of teaching and research have become possibilities. We on the chemistry staff will do our share and we hope that our needs for special equipment, fellowship grants and other concomitant essentials for scientific progress may be satisfied in the not too distant future.

In Memoriam

Since our Bulletin of December, 1930, was mailed to the Alumnae three outstanding figures on the Faculty of the College during the past fifty years have passed to the "great beyond," Dr. Anna E. Broomall, Dr. Clara Marshall and Dr. Henry Leffmann.

Dr. Anna E. Broomall, Professor of Obstetrics at the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania from 1879 to 1904, and Professor Emeritus until her death, died at her home in Chester, Pennsylvania, on April 4, 1931, in her eighty-fifth year.

She was one of the outstanding figures of her time, playing her part while still a student in the stirring episodes connected with the opening to women students of the clinics at the Pennsylvania Hospital (1869), and later as an inspiring practitioner and teacher of obstetrics, laying the foundation upon which is built the wide reputation for skill in this field of practice constantly maintained by the graduates of the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Broomall graduated from this College in the Class of 1871, studied for three years in Paris and Vienna, and returned to become in 1875 a resident physician at the Woman's Hospital of Philadelphia.

Her teaching at the College began with the session of 1875-76 when she held the title of Instructor in Obstetrics. For three years after this she assisted Dr. Emeline Cleveland, Professor of Obstetrics, who was in failing health, and though she received no title in the department, Dr. Broomall carried the burden of the teaching, declining to accept the professorship until 1879, after Dr. Cleveland's death.

Dr. Broomall spent several years in the Orient and an interesting and valuable collection of souvenirs gathered from many countries was given by her a few years ago to the College, where they are displayed in the new Library.

In appreciation of Dr. Broomall's service to the College the Faculty at its meeting on April 10th placed upon its minutes the following resolution:

"Whereas, in the death of Dr. Anna E. Broomall on April 4, 1931, the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania has lost one of its most brilliant alumnae who as Professor of Obstetrics from 1879 to 1904 maintained a Department of Obstetrics second to none in this country and whose fame drew students from all parts of the world to this College.

Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the Corporation and Faculty of the College and the Medical Staff of the College Hospital hereby pay a tribute of respect and affection to this great leader who for twenty-five years worked faithfully and untiringly for the best interests of this institution.

"Fresh from study in the Vienna Frauenklinik, Dr. Broomall brought to the Department of Obstetrics in the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania the standards of that great teaching centre. She lectured with dramatic fervor. In season and out of season, she taught at the bedside and in the delivery room. She established an out practice maternity service in the southern part of Philadelphia and raised the necessary funds for its equipment and support. Every advance in obstetric science was promptly adopted by her department. At a time when women physicians were still on trial and regarded with mistrust and
prejudice, her work and that of her pupils demonstrated their ability to practice the highest type of obstetrics and to meet every obstetric emergency.

“Dr. Broomall's life was an inspiration to hundreds of graduates of the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania in this and other lands; her death marks the closing of an epoch in the history of women in medicine; her achievements are a challenge to the medical women of the future.”

An appraisal of Dr. Broomall's work and influence cannot be given adequately in the brief space at our disposal. That Philadelphia was not unmindful of her contribution to society is indicated by the following editorial from the Evening Bulletin of April 6, 1931:

“In the sixty years since Dr. Anna E. Broomall qualified to practice medicine, the progress of women in the medical profession has been one of the concomitants of the social revolution which has brought the sex to its present position of unrestricted activity in every department of life. Women doctors have multiplied and the eagerness of ambitious and independence-loving girls to matriculate in such institutions as the Woman’s Medical College is evidence of their success.

“Dr. Broomall was a pioneer who held high the best ideals of her profession. She became in time a symbol of woman’s place in medicine, and the Broomall Department of Obstetrics in the new Woman’s Medical College and its Hospital at Falls of Schuylkill is a permanent memorial to the venerable graduate of the parent institution.

“Within the compass of her long and faithful life has been the rise and development of rigorously trained nurses as an auxiliary to the practice of medicine and surgery in all their branches. Dr. Broomall, in this as in all else, was forward in promoting every movement for the advancement of her sex, and as practitioner and teacher she exercised an influence that won her the loyal respect of all with whom she was associated or who came within her sphere of influence.”

Dr. Clara Marshall, Professor of Materia Medica and Therapeutics from 1876 to 1906, and Dean of the Faculty of the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania from 1888 to 1917, died in the Bryn Mawr Hospital, March 13, 1931, at the age of eighty-three years.

Dr. Marshall graduated from this College in the Class of 1875, and having previously received a degree at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy she was well qualified to assume the professorship in Materia Medica to which she was appointed so soon after her graduation in medicine.

Her single-hearted devotion to the College interests during all of the years of her active professional life, and the lively part she took in the struggle to win recognition for women physicians in the Philadelphia County Medical Society and elsewhere, are matters of history. And her name will not be forgotten, for she has left as an enduring monument the Hospital of the Woman’s Medical College of Pennsylvania. From the foundations laid by her on North College Avenue in 1904 has now grown the larger and fairer building at East Falls, and in the Corporation Room in the new College building hangs her portrait given to the College by the Alumnae.

The Corporation and Faculty of the College and the Staff of the College Hospital have placed on their minutes the following resolution:

“WHEREAS, in the death of Dr. Clara Marshall on March 13, 1931, there has passed away one who for twenty-nine years of her active professional life
was, as Professor of Materia Medica and Dean of the Faculty, intimately connected with the work and progress of the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania.

"Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the Corporation and Faculty of the College and the Medical Staff of the College Hospital here place on record their appreciation of Dr. Marshall's loyal and disinterested service to the institution. During the years in which she occupied the position of Dean medical education made rapid progress, and the survival of any medical school through this period must be credited to those holding positions of leadership in such institution.

"When in 1903 it became necessary for the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania to organize its own Hospital under the direct control of the College Faculty, in order that the requirements of the American Medical Association for an acceptable school of medicine might be met, Dr. Marshall with undiminished faith and keen vision inspired and guided those in control of the institution's destinies to a successful consummation of this essential project.

"The Hospital of the Woman's Medical College is her monument.

"When in the period of 1905-1909 medical schools were studied and standardized with respect to equipment, quality of teaching staff, and achievement of graduates, it is to the credit of the Dean, Dr. Marshall, that the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania met the test and received rating in 'Class A.' Those who now hold responsibility for the institution's achievement and progress must always look upon her as one of those who bore the burden and heat of the day and who has handed on to us a torch which we must, in her memory, as in the memory of the early pioneers, continue to hold high.

DR. HENRY LEFFMANN, Professor of Chemistry at the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania from 1888 to 1915, died at his home in Philadelphia on December 25, 1930, in his eighty-fourth year.

All who knew Dr. Leffmann admired and loved him. The following paragraphs from addresses made at a Memorial Meeting at the Wagner Institute on January 16, 1931, attest the universal esteem in which he was held by his associates.

Dr. Charles H. LaWall, Dean of Pharmacy of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, said:

"When asked to submit a few of the outstanding facts which should form the basis of his life's story, Dr. Leffmann once replied, with his characteristic humor and a twinkle of merriment in his eye—for he was an inimitable teller of tales, always welcomed as a dinner guest or at a gathering of what in these days is sometimes called 'the intelligentsia'—for he was an inimitable teller of tales, always welcomed as a dinner guest or at a gathering of what in these days is sometimes called 'the intelligentsia'—'I would like my biography to begin as follows: ‘Henry Leffmann was born on September 9, 1847, in Philadelphia. His ancestry on his father's side is partly Russian Jewish; on his mother's side, partly Welsh Quaker. He was educated in the public schools, completing the course of B.A. at Central High School, Philadelphia, and subsequently receiving the degree of M.A. honoris causa.'" He then added: 'In these days of genetics and eugenics it is worth while to show that a mongrel may have some merit.' This might be called unassuming pride, but it is characteristic of the man who has taught more physicians and teachers, compiled more reference books and textbooks, and written more original articles and reviews than any chemist in America today.'

Dr. S. Solis-Cohen, Dr. Leffmann's personal physician, said:

"With Dr. John Roberts, among others, he was largely instrumental in bringing about the establishment of a board of medical examiners in Pennsylvania, and in the gradual elevation of the standards for entrance into medical colleges and for admission into practice. I do not mean to intimate that the legislation contained in the first medical practice act, or its numerous amendments, met
with his full approval. I merely cite this in illustration of one phase of his activities. Another advance that he and Dr. Roberts did much to bring about was the admission of women into the County Medical Society. To those who do not know of the controversies aroused by this proposition, it may seem a small matter; but it was a movement for justice which entailed earnest and untiring effort, before it was brought to a successful conclusion. * * *

"In a talk I had with Dr. Leffmann only a few weeks before his death, he recalled some instances of that struggle, in which I had shared as one of his junior lieutenants, and then sadly confessed his disappointment at the small bulk of the contributions that women physicians had made to the scientific work of the Society, seeking even then to find out what was the obstacle to a greater participation in the Society's most important work by the feminine element, and wondering whether the fact that they were not elected to important offices, acted as a deterrent—and why they should not be chosen."

Mr. S. Burns Weston, Director of the Society for Ethical Culture of Philadelphia, said:

"From my very first conference with Dr. Leffmann, he impressed me as a man of great ability and high character. His wide knowledge, his keen wit and genial personality were marked. The natural gifts of mind and heart shone out brightly." * * * "He was the embodiment of a great scholar and a noble man."

Dr. Martha Tracy, Dean of the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania said:

"In behalf of the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania I feel it an honor to pay today our tribute to the memory of Dr. Leffmann. He was Professor of Chemistry at the College for twenty-eight years, from 1888 to 1916, and Emeritus Professor after his retirement from active work, and I have no hesitation in saying that few if any of those ever associated with the institution are remembered with the universal respect and affection that are accorded to Dr. Leffmann."

"I knew him first when I entered the medical school as a student in 1899, and in 1909 I was privileged to receive appointment as Instructor in Chemistry under him. The association with him during the following fifteen years constitutes one of the pleasantest experiences of my life."

"There is no one here who does not know of his skill as a teacher in his technical field; but beyond that the amazing breadth of his knowledge in related fields, and in literature and philosophy made conversation with him an education and a rare privilege."

"His genial, friendly smile, his delightful sense of humor, his tolerant attitude toward all differences of opinion, and his wisdom and tact in the conduct of his department and in guiding students and assistants as we progressed through the problems of chemistry under his direction, I am sure no student of those years will ever forget. He continued always a friend to the student who had passed beyond his classroom and his colleagues on the Faculty valued highly his wise and practical attitude toward the problems under discussion."

"His interest in the progress of the College was very warm and continuous. Indeed many years ago he established there a scholarship fund in memory of his mother, Sarah Ann Leffmann, and he has remembered the institution in one of the trust funds established in his will."

"It is about a year ago that I last had conversation with him at the Wagner Institute and he expressed the greatest pleasure in hearing of the plans under way for the new buildings of the Woman's Medical College."

"To many women physicians here in Philadelphia and scattered abroad through the world his friendship will long remain a beautiful memory."
NEWS NOTES

In celebration of Founder’s Day, March 11, 1931, the first year students presented for the edification of the College community a chronicle of College history from 1850 to 1890.

Dean Tracy, dressed as Ann Preston, in the period of 1860, read from minute books of the Corporation, and newspaper clippings of those bygone days, a rambling account of the institution’s progress, and as she read members of the Faculty and student body of those early days, in the costumes of their times, stepped before the audience.

There were Dr. Joseph S. Longshore, one of the founders of the College and a member of the first Faculty; William T. Mullen, the first president of the Corporation; Dr. Hannah Longshore, that intrepid soul who was the first woman physician to “hang out her shingle” in Philadelphia; Dr. Elwood Harvey, the venturesome gentleman of the Faculty, who by rescuing a runaway slave secured a prize of $300 with which he purchased the College’s first manikin; Dr. Emeline Cleveland and Dr. Rachel Bodley, two honored Deans of the Faculty; and a long line of distinguished Alumnae, Anna Broomall, Mary Putnam Jacobi, Elizabeth Reifsnnyder, Hu King Eng, Gurubai Karmarkar, Kei Okami and many others. These of the more picturesque pioneering days rubbed shoulders with the shirt-waist girls of the nineties as all drank tea together later. And all saw with joy the moving picture reel showing College and Hospital activities in 1915.

We congratulate the first year students on an outstanding event of the year.

Our President, Mrs. James Starr, on her trip around the world has met with mutual interest, we are sure, several Alumnae of the College who are practicing in foreign lands.

In Bombay she was greeted by Dr. Gurubai Karmarkar who presented to her a garland of flowers, in the manner of her country.

In Shanghai Dr. Josephine C. Lawney, Dr. Grace K. Martin, Dr. Eula Eno, Dr. Frances Cattell-Ancell and Dr. Mary Ayer-MacKinnon welcomed Mrs. Starr at a luncheon at the Margaret Williamson Hospital.

In Manila Dr. Honoria Acosta-Sison and Dr. Paz Pamintuan-Faustino gave a luncheon in Mrs. Starr’s honor inviting prominent ladies of the city to meet her.

In Honolulu Dr. Minnette Burnham, 1899, and Dr. Ruth Alexander, 1909, welcomed Mrs. Starr and arranged for her an interesting visit to the University of Hawaii.

We are glad that these distant but loyal Alumnae have had opportunity to meet our President. However, we are rejoicing that this month we shall welcome her home to Philadelphia and to the College.

Dr. Winifred B. Cullis, Professor of Physiology of the University of London and President of the International Federation of University Women, was the guest of the Faculty at a luncheon held at the College on April twenty-seventh.
Ursinus College, Collegeville, Pennsylvania, on the occasion of their Founder's Day Celebration, February 19, 1931, conferred upon Mrs. James Starr, our President, the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws.

In presenting Mrs. Starr to President George L. Omwake for the degree, which on account of her absence in China, her sister, Mrs. Arthur B. Meigs, received for her, Rev. Whorten A. Kline, Dean of Ursinus College, said:

"Mr. President—It has pleased the College to bestow a well merited honor upon one of Philadelphia's distinguished citizens in the person of Sarah Logan Wister Starr. Mrs. Starr very much regrets that she cannot be present at the exercises today, but the fact that she is travelling in Europe, makes this impossible, and her sister, Margaret Wister Meigs, is here to represent her on this occasion and to act in her capacity.

"Mrs. Starr comes from a long line of noble ancestry both on her mother and her father's side, and she in turn by her various activities and philanthropic work is upholding the good name and honor of her illustrious forebears. She is a member of the Pennsylvania Society of Colonial Dames and served as its president from 1915 to 1924. During the Sesqui-Centennial, held in Philadelphia for celebrating the founding of the Nation, Mrs. Starr conceived and carried out the idea of reproducing Sulgrave Manor, the birthplace of George Washington's ancestors, as a patriotic and educational exhibit.

"Among her many humanitarian and philanthropic adventures for organization through which women, rich and poor, might find means of expression of their powers and energies in rendering service of all kinds to their country and its people, is the Women's Permanent Emergency Association of Germantown of which she is president. This organization grew out of a voluntary group to furnish relief to the sufferers of the Johnstown flood and now stands ready to contribute its utmost resources in reference to similar unforeseen emergencies.

"During the World War Mrs. Starr organized in Germantown the National League for Women's Service to instruct and help women in their homes in the essential and practical problems of food conservation. She also assumed the Chairmanship of the Third Federal Reserve District of the Women's Liberty Loan Committee and by her leadership and untiring energy made this venture a signal success.

"Perhaps her greatest and most outstanding achievement has been attained in coming into contact with the work of the woman physician. In 1919 she accepted membership on the Board of Corporators of the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, the oldest school in the world for the education of women in Medicine, and in the following year she became President of the Board. Under her leadership and direction the plans for a greater Woman's Medical College were formulated and carried out, resulting in a complete transformation of the institution in location and environment, as well as in buildings and equipment, making it a modern and up-to-date college and hospital not only for the present needs of today but to meet the demands of the future.

"And now, Mr. President, in order that we may honor ourselves by honoring her, I take pleasure in presenting Sarah Logan Wister Starr through her personal representative, Margaret Wister Meigs, that she may receive the degree of Doctor of Laws."

We record with sorrow the death of Dr. Harriette McCalmont-Stone, 1893, on March 8, 1931.

Dr. Li Bi Cu, 1905, wrote from the Lucie F. Harrison Hospital, Futing, China, early in the year:

"I suspect that as you have read in the papers of all the trouble in China you have thought of us as not being able to have any Christmas because of war,
famine, bandits, and communistic uprisings. So you will perhaps be surprised when I tell you that this was the happiest Christmas we have ever had. As it is thirty years since the hospital was opened and twenty-five years since I returned to China to take charge of the work, the nurses decided that they would have a celebration. All graduates were invited to come for this at Christmas time and many of them were able to do so. Happily we had representatives from each of the classes which have been sent out. At this meeting the nurses pledged themselves to raise money for a nurses' home. They may not be able to accomplish such a big undertaking but we are glad they want to do their share in advancing the work.

Dr. Emmy C. Behn, 1908, now living at Kassel, Germany, writes in a letter dated February 4, 1931, that she has just received the "German Approbation" granting her the privilege of practicing medicine without official examination. Since a new law regulating medical practice went into effect in 1927, Dr. Behn is the first woman who has not studied medicine in Germany, nor held internship there, nor taken the State Examination, to receive this recognition.

Dr. Laura B. McComb-Muller, 1908, sent us a New Year's greeting from Rezaieh, Persia. She and her husband and two boys look very happy in the photograph which accompanied her card. Rejoicing in a new school building just erected under their supervision, Dr. Muller expressed her understanding of our sense of achievement as our new medical school reached completion.

Dr. Lora G. Dyer, 1914, of Foo Chow, China, visited the College on April 6, 1931, and was greatly interested in the new building and our increased facilities in both College and Hospital.

Dr. Eula Eno, 1920, writes in the Missionary Link of March, 1931, of her work at the Margaret Williamson Hospital which co-operates with the Woman's Christian Medical College at Shanghai, China. She says:

"I am so-called 'Medical Director' of the hospital and therefore seem to have myriad administrative tasks which come and go in the attempt to keep a complicated organization like that of a teaching hospital running smoothly. Patients must be well taken care of and at the same time interns must be given the opportunity for such study of patients as will give them the experience they need. Underclassmen too must have access to the wards, and staff members must have as frequent meetings and consultations as are feasible."

How familiar this all sounds to those on our own Faculty and Hospital Staff here at home.

Dr. Stella L. Dodd, 1921, is Superintendent and Physician-in-Charge of the Clason Memorial Hospital Dorcas Baby Home in Sironcha District, India. We received this winter an interesting folder reporting on her work.

Dr. Sara Dinger Schweinsberg, 1923, has been appointed ophthalmologist on the travelling staff of the Couzens Foundation which is carrying on a program of rural health work for children in Michigan.
Dr. Reuben Alley, 1925, has been Acting Director of the X-ray Department of the Western Pennsylvania Hospital, Pittsburgh, since January 1, 1931. Dr. Alley writes: "The Board was unwilling to put a woman in complete charge so they just haven't filled the place at all." So she does all the work but doesn't get the recognition! Good for you, Reuben.

Dr. Eleanor E. Seidler, 1927, was married on September 15, 1930, to Mr. Alan Rogers. She has moved with her husband to Norristown, Pennsylvania, where she has opened an office for practice.

Dr. Sonia Cheifetz, 1928, has been appointed Field Assistant in Midwifery, under the Department of Health of the State of Pennsylvania.

COMMENCEMENT

Commencement week, this year will be noteworthy because of the meeting in Philadelphia at that time of the AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION and the MEDICAL WOMEN'S NATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, June 7th, the members of the Medical Women's National Association will be the guests of the College at luncheon, and in the afternoon an automobile drive to Valley Forge will be arranged for all wishing to visit this historic spot.

On Monday, June 8th, the annual meeting of the Medical Women's National Association will be held, with headquarters at the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel.

On Monday evening, June 8th, the women physicians of Philadelphia will entertain all visiting women physicians at a banquet at the Bellevue-Stratford. Dr. T. Ruth Hartley-Weaver is Chairman of the Banquet Committee and all wishing to attend this dinner are requested to notify Dr. Weaver, 1433 Spruce Street, as promptly as possible.

Tuesday, June 9th, is Woman's Medical College Alumnae Day. The annual meeting of the Alumnae Association will be held in the College building, and the usual buffet luncheon will be served at the Inn on the College grounds.

The Woman's Medical College Chapter of the Zeta Phi Fraternity will entertain visiting members of the Fraternity at breakfast from 8:30 to 9:30 at the Fraternity House, 3500 Midvale Avenue, Tuesday morning, preceding the Alumnae Association meeting.

Wednesday, June 10th, is Commencement Day. As the Commencement Day assembly is too large for our College auditorium the Confering of Degrees will take place at the West Side Presbyterian Church, Pulaski Avenue and School Lane, Germantown, not far from
the College. This is a beautiful stone church in which our academic procession will be particularly effective. After the exercises the reception in honor of the graduating class will be held at the College.

The Alpha Epsilon Iota Fraternity will hold its banquet on Wednesday evening, June 10th, at seven o'clock. Those desiring to attend this event are requested to write for tickets to Dr. A. Catherine Arthurs, 1831 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

Sessions of the American Medical Association, Tuesday, June 9th, to Friday, June 12th, will be announced as usual from the Association Headquarters.

Alumnae: Why not make June 7th to 12th an “old home” week and visit your Alma Mater?

Form of Gift or Bequest

I give (or bequeath) $..................to the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, to be used at the discretion of the Corporation.

I give (or bequeath) $..................to the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, for...................(specify object).

While gifts and bequests for specified purposes are always greatly appreciated, nevertheless anyone who wishes to benefit the College most promptly and effectively can best do so by contributing funds to be used at the discretion of the Corporators.