

10th Scientific Meeting

RIJEKA AND ITS RESIDENTS IN THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE

Rijeka, 6-7 November 2009

Thirty-seven authors, twenty-one presentation, two working days, and ten years in a row, this is but a part of the story told in figures about the scientific meeting “Rijeka and Its Residents in the History of Medicine” held at the University of Rijeka School of Medicine on 6 and 7 November 2009. The meeting was organised by the Croatian Scientific Society for the History of Health Culture with professor Anton Škrobonja at its helm, under the auspices of the City of Rijeka, Primorsko-Goranska County, Ministry of Science, Education and Sports of the Republic of Croatia, Jadran Galenski Laboratorij, and the Rijeka University Foundation.

The first decade of the Meeting has seen a constructive interaction of reminiscences of medical heritage from Ljubljana and Celje to Novi Sad, Belgrade, Sarajevo, Zagreb, and Rijeka. The meeting started with an intriguing medico-historical account by Ana Alebić Juretić about the early 20th century sanitary conditions in Rijeka. Nana Palinić also touched upon this period, presenting Mattiassi’s design of the central hospital of Rijeka, which had not had the luck to see the light of day. Višnja Jovanović spoke about the famine pandemic in the Croatian Littoral in 1817, and Franjo Gruber and Zdravko Periš remembered professor Anđelko Wolf, an eminent epidemiologist and dermatovenerologist. Theodor de Canziani presented medical books belonging to the library of Rijeka’s renowned families Mažuranić, Brlić, and Ružić. Ljubomir Radovančević and Eduard Pavlović spoke about poet and psychiatrist Srećko Maroč. Janez Fischinger, Aleš Fischinger, and Duša Fischinger presented the activities of Opatija’s Medicinsko-mehanički institute dr. Zander (Dr Zander Institute of Mechanical Medicine). Dušica Krajnović and Leontina Kerničan pre-



Audience on the first day of the meeting

Dio auditorija prvog dana skupa

sented their History of Pharmacy Museum owned by the Faculty of Pharmacy in Belgrade. Ivica Vučak closed the first day of the Meeting with a lecture on Ante Marić, dermatologist, psychiatrist, and balneologist.

The working Saturday started with a presentation by Đorđe Milović and Grozdana Milović Karić on the traces of health culture in the ancient statute of the town of Budva, Montenegro. The meeting continued with a history of pharmacy in Celje, Slovenia by Marija Počivavšek. Zvonka Zupanič Slavec spoke about the 90 years of the Ljubljana University School of Medicine. Nikola Kujundžić, Milan Glibota, Suzana Inić, and Jasna Jablan pointed to the importance of popular healing books, while Ajnija Omanić, Amer Ovčina, Hajrunisa Omanić, and Jasna Omanić tackled the role of women in the recent war in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The closing section was dedicated to early Christian martyrs from the times of the Emperor Diocletian, presented by Jovan Maksimović and Marko Maksimović, while Anja Petaros discussed the origins, relevance, and classification of mummies and relics. Ana Lesac and Anton Škrobonja spoke about the worship of St Fosca in Istria, and Mirko Jamnicki Dojmi discussed the work of Dr Lorenzo Dojmi di Delupis. Vladimir Dugački remembered the first Zagreb University medical lecturer Dr Mavro Sach.

The Meeting was concluded with a report by Zvonimir Kaić, Ranka Franz-Štern, and Lucia Brajković about the work of Blaženka Marković Peičić, an outstanding physician, educator, and scientist. All contributions will be published as full-text articles in the scientific journal *Acta medico-historica Adriatica*, which has recently been included in the world's greatest abstracting and indexing medical database PubMed.

The presentations were followed by lively discussions that raised a number of new issues and fully justified the meeting's purpose. The crown to the tenth scientific meeting "Rijeka and Its Residents in the History of Medicine" was a trip to the inland of Istria, whose magic never stops to enchant the meeting participants.

I will conclude this meeting's report with a note that Ante Škrobonja was the first foreigner who received a distinguished Slovene award *Pintarjevo priznanje* (Pintar's Award) issued by the Ljubljana University School of Medicine's Institute for the History of Medicine for, I quote: "long and wholehearted cooperation with Slovene historians of medicine



Working atmosphere of the second day of the meeting

Radna atmosfera tijekom drugog dana skupa



Professor Ante Škrobonja holding Pintar's Award in the company of his Slovene colleagues professor Duša Fischinger, professor Janez Fischinger, and professor Zvonka Zupanič Slavec

Prof. dr. Ante Škrobonja s Pintarevim priznanjem u društvu slovenskih kolega – prof. Duša Fischinger, doc. dr. Janez Fischinger i prof. dr. Zvonka Zupanič Slavec

and amateur artists with profession in health care, and for his contribution to the history of medicine". Professor Škrobonja received the award from the hands of the Institute's head, professor Zvonka Zupanič Slavec in recognition of numerous joint activities and close cooperation between the Croatian Scientific Society for the History of Health Culture and its Slovene counterpart, as well as between the Rijeka University School of Medicine Department of the History of Medicine and the Ljubljana University School of Medicine Institute for the History of Medicine.

Igor Salopek