

INTRODUCTION

The following bibliography comprises titles of books and articles about health care in Newfoundland and Labrador, a subject which has been, for the most part, overlooked by bibliographers. When we began this work in 1980, we believed that there was a clear need to locate and organize the literature of sickness, health, and related matters in this province so that it would be, easily accessible to medical researchers and medical historians as well as to other interested readers. Dr. Gordon Johnson, Associate Professor of Surgery, Faculty of Medicine, Memorial University of Newfoundland*, had, with the help of Jane Green, already gathered a body of relevant historical material which he most kindly donated to the Health Sciences Library's Historical Collection.

With Dr. Johnson's gift as a starting point, we began to look for articles and books about sickness and health, about patients and caregivers and institutions in the province from early times to the present. The bibliography spans the years between 1878 and 1984 with one exception, Dr. Nigel Rusted's 1985 book It's Devil Deep Down There. This has been included since it is also a volume of the series Occasional Papers in the History of Medicine. We considered material ranging from anecdotal pieces and case reports through scholarly research at the Faculty of Medicine of Memorial University of Newfoundland in St. John's. The chief criteria for inclusion in the list were that the article or book must have been written about an institution concerned with health or health education or illness in Newfoundland and Labrador; or that the writing must be about a disease or condition occurring in or peculiar to Newfoundland and Labrador; or, if research material, that it must involve residents of the province; and that the material must be published.

* now at the Institute of Ophthalmology, University of London, England

Fortunately, we were able to retrieve and examine all of the papers and the books we have cited, and most of the material is available for use in the Health Sciences Library at Memorial University.

Time did not permit us to include archival material, with a few exceptions, so that although a great mass of information was found in the Public Archives of Newfoundland and Labrador, the Newfoundland Historical Society files and in the Journals of the House of Assembly, it has to be omitted from this edition of A Bibliography of Health Care in Newfoundland.

Other archival material, government documents, submissions, reports and briefs to Royal Commissions, as well as annual reports, statutes, directories, labour agreements, bylaws and obituaries, were also, for the most part, excluded.

We first started our compilation by searching the Index Catalog of the Library of the Surgeon-General's Office, which began publication in 1880; Index Medicus, First, Second and Third Series; the Quarterly Cumulative Index Medicus; and Cumulated Index Medicus. The availability of automated data bases beginning in 1966 made searching the journal literature much faster and easier, and easily enabled us to remain abreast of new publications. V. Herderson's Nursing Studies Index, 4 vol., Philadelphia: Lippincott, 1963-1970, was also consulted. In searching early medical indexes, we chose subject headings which were geographically and topically applicable to the area of interest. Newfoundland, Labrador, infectious diseases, deficiency diseases, Eskimos, fishermen, nurses, medical geography, tuberculosis, and so on.

In addition to the indexes, several published bibliographies were consulted. They were The Atlantic Provinces Checklist, Halifax, N.S.: Dalhousie University School of Library Service; R. Fortune, The Health of Eskimos: a Bibliography 1857-1967, Hanover, N.H.: Dartmouth College Libraries, 1968; G. Miller, Bibliography of the History of Medicine in the United States and Canada, 1939-1960, Baltimore: John's

Hopkins Press, 1964; C.G. Roland, Secondary Sources in the History of Canadian Medicine: A Bibliography, Toronto: Hannah Institute for the History of Medicine, 1984.

Some journals were scanned which had either not been indexed at all or had been indexed only after being in publication for several years including Canadian Family Physician; Canadian Journal of Public Health; Canadian Medical Association Journal; Canadian Nurse; Canadian Pharmaceutical Association Journal; Dalhousie Medical Journal; McGill Medical Journal; Newfoundland Medical Association Journal; Newfoundland Medical Association Newsletter; Newfoundland Quarterly; Nova Scotia Medical Bulletin; and the Canadian Medical Journals, 1826-1910; microfiche edition, Hamilton, Ontario; Hannah Institute for the History of Medicine and Associated Medical Services, Inc., 1982. Since the project of indexing Among the Deep Sea Fishers, the Northern Light and its forerunner the Happy Warrior is ongoing, we have omitted, with a few exceptions, references from these publications.

We also sought material in the card catalogues of the Centre for Newfoundland Studies in the Queen Elizabeth II Library and in the Health Sciences Library at Memorial University, as well as the Historical Section of the National Library of Medicine (NLM) in Bethesda, Maryland.

In order to facilitate use of this bibliography, we have arranged the numbered citations in broad subject categories according to the classification system of the National Library of Medicine. Within each category arrangement is alphabetical by author and then chronological. The Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) of the NLM were used for the subject index with one exception: MeSH includes the pejorative term "Eskimos" rather than the more acceptable designation "Inuit" which appears in our index. Names also appear in the subject index for articles about individuals with the following exception: "Grenfell WT" has not been added to the subject index because such information is readily found under the category International Grenfell Association and under the medical subject heading

“Medical missions, official”.

Throughout this endeavour, we have received constant encouragement, help, and advice from a great many people. We wish to thank the staff of the Health Sciences Library for their support and patience, and particularly Melissa Mercer for her assistance in obtaining so much of the cited material for us through interlibrary loan; and Darlene Kennedy and Sandra McCarthy for transferring the citations into a computer database.

We wish also to thank the Dean of Medicine, (Dr. A.R. Cox) and the Research and Development Committee of the Faculty of Medicine for their generous grants in support of this project, and Sibylle Anderton not only for her researching assistance but also for her valuable work indexing a great deal of material on health care in Newfoundland and Labrador; we are grateful also to Deborah Hyam for her assistance with the composition of the completed work, and to Sylvia Benza for her charming illustrations. We are particularly indebted to Catherine Quinlan, the present Health Sciences Librarian, for the many hours she has devoted to adapting a software program to our needs, and to Ken Roberts for his inspiration, guidance, and editorial expertise.

Finally, my colleague, Shelagh Wotherspoon, must take credit for most of the work of this compilation. We have seen it, from the beginning, as a point of departure, as the first edition of what may become an exhaustive bibliography in the future.

Isabel Hunter

Isabel Hunter was Health Sciences Librarian, Memorial University of Newfoundland from 1979 to 1984. She is presently the Director of the Health Sciences Library at Baystate Medical Center, Springfield, Mass., U.S.A. Shelagh Wotherspoon has been Head of Public Services, Health Sciences Library, Memorial University of Newfoundland since 1974.