

News, Notes and Queries

place in the remarkable hall of the former University of Alcalá de Henares. That final day was rounded off by a banquet at which the proceedings were marked by dignity and restraint. The Congress was altogether a memorable occasion.

E. ASHWORTH UNDERWOOD

NEWS FROM SCOTLAND

A REPORT on the Eighth Annual Meeting of the Scottish Society of the History of Medicine held on 12 October 1956 is given above. Reference may here be made to the published *Reports of Proceedings for the Session 1955-56*, a well-printed pamphlet of thirty-four pages which provides further evidence of the enthusiasm and energy with which the history of medicine is being cultivated in Scotland. The membership of the Society now stands at well over one hundred and new adherents continue to be recruited. The *Report of Proceedings* includes a useful survey of medico-historical events and publications in 1955-56 as well as the full text of papers on 'Some Peeblesshire Doctors, with Special Reference to Mungo Park', by the Rev. Dr. A. M. Gillespie; on 'John Goodsir', by Dr. Hugh W. Y. Taylor; and on 'The Maladies of Mary Queen of Scots and her Husbands', by Dr. M. H. Armstrong Davison—all extremely interesting and well-documented studies.

In February 1956 the Society held a special luncheon party in celebration of the seventieth birthday of Dr. Douglas Guthrie, its founder and first president. Mr. A. L. Goodall, the President, paid tribute to Dr. Guthrie as a man, and as a medical historian, and spoke appreciatively of the great work he had done and continued to do for the Society. He then presented Mrs. Guthrie with a suitably inscribed and bound volume of the Society's Annual Reports and reprinted papers as a tangible token of the Society's great affection for her husband. In May 1956 Dr. Guthrie retired from the post of Lecturer on the History of Medicine in the University of Edinburgh, an office which he had held with great distinction for eleven years. By his work on behalf of the Scottish Society of the History of Medicine, his lectures and demonstrations at Edinburgh University, his numerous writings and world-wide travels, and by his infectious enthusiasm for his subject, Dr. Guthrie has contributed enormously to the present-day interest in medico-historical studies. It is very gratifying to his numerous friends and admirers that Dr. Guthrie has been elected President of the Section of History of Medicine of the Royal Society of Medicine for the Session 1956-57. His Presidential Address on 6 February 1957 will deal with the timely subject of 'A Renaissance of Medical History?'