

A Tribute to David L. Cowen (1909-2006)

The American Institute of the History of Pharmacy mourns the death of esteemed historian Professor David L. Cowen on 18 April 2006. David served for many years as the chairman of our board and in several other capacities. Above all, Prof. Cowen was a consummate scholar who shared his expertise and enthusiasm for history with all. A role model for retirees, David continued writing into his nineties, with a publishing record of 70 years in the history of pharmacy.

On learning of his death a number of historians paid tribute to David's contributions, both personal and professional. Their remarks follow here in Pharmacy in History.

Cowen's own reminiscences on a long career in history of pharmacy are included next in this issue. The inspiration for his belated reflection in 1997 was a letter from AIHP Honorary Director Glenn Sonnedecker. David's response paints a very personal picture of his difficult and serendipitous journey and mirrors the rich web of personal interactions that appear in the tributes.

The breadth of his publishing record, from his first article in history of pharmacy, "Colonial Laws Pertaining to Pharmacy" (reprinted on pp. 24-30), to an article in Pharmacy in History with Frank Pinchak in 2004 is reflected in the last element in our tribute to Cowen: a list of his publications taken from his Curriculum Vitae updated 2005.—Eds.



David was always a true inspiration. He had a genuine mentor's heart and was gracious in opening his home to me when I was researching my Civil War pharmacy book. I later found out that I had been one among many to whom he had been so kind. David was generous with his time and expertise as well. During my stay there I would come back each evening and share my discoveries with him. He seemed as excited and interested as I as we went over the materials I had uncovered at the National Archives, Pennsylvania Historical Society and Merck Archives together. Each scrap of paper seemed to conjure up one of his own research tales, rich with the enthusiasm and color that only he could impart. I shall not soon forget that week-long prospecting expedition, not so much for what I found but for context in which I was able to work and share with the field's senior sage and scholar.

Another episode underscores the generosity of Dave and my genuine gratification at having known him. Several years ago David was kind enough to send me copies of many (perhaps nearly all!) of his journal articles. Many of them now reside as a vertical file within the Reynolds Historical Library along with the 20-odd-year run of *Isis* that he so graciously donated to us just before his passing. In perusing the voluminous stack of offprints and photocopies that represented some 70 years of scholarship in the history of pharmacy, I noted that many appeared in a variety of journals that would be difficult for one researcher to collect. To provide an answer to this otherwise time consuming task I persuaded Dave to compile what he considered his most important pieces into one volume. He did, and the result was his *Pharmacopoeias and Related Literature in Britain and America, 1618-1847* published by Ashgate in 2001. Even this barely scratches the surface of Cowen's prolific pen, but it is extremely useful and very satisfying to have suggested the compilation and see the work in print.

I do not think of David Cowen as gone but rather as living on in the massive body of writing that has enriched the history of pharmacy.—*Michael Flannery*

David Cowen's tireless contribution to pharmacy's history is an enduring monument visible to all. Invisible to those not privileged to know Dave personally was the spirit of generosity—a readiness to invest time and talent in helping others realize their aspirations. Not least among beneficiaries was our American Institute of the History of Pharmacy. His zest seemed unquenchable, to think, question, search, produce—altogether a personality unforgettable. A caring soul, high-test historian, a life-force unready, at 96, for incapacity or farewell.—*Glenn Sonnedecker*



While the news of Dave Cowen's passing came as no surprise, I still wasn't prepared for it. He was always there—at the other end of my e-mail. My memories of the gentleman, for that is what he was, are relatively recent. I will never forget meeting him for the first time; it was March, 1997, at the American Institute of the History of Pharmacy sessions during the APhA annual meeting in Los Angeles. He had already left his mark on the history of pharmacy and had been retired from active teaching for a number of years. I was starting to work on pharmacy in World War II and when he learned of the project, Dave became a mentor, tutor, and friend. He never forgot his pharmacy students who left college during the war and lost their lives in the Battle of the Bulge; he memorialized Alex Chase, Manfred Keitsch, and Salvatore F. Procopio in the preface for *Pharmacy in World War II*. His interest in and support of my writing continued through searches for professional heroes and other projects. His early morning responses to the latest questions about whatever I was engaged in at the time were always helpful. Perhaps his willingness to help was explained in part by the story he shared several years ago about how he also found a home in the history of pharmacy after starting in a different direction. While his passing is a loss, I continue to cherish the gift of his friendship and involvement. —*Dennis B. Worthen*



Editor's Note: In 2001, the Institute published Apothecaries and the Drug Trade: Essays in Celebration of the Work of David L. Cowen. This small book came out of a symposium held in Professor Cowen's honor in May 1999. The introduction to the symposium is reprinted below (with slight editorial changes) as an excellent summary of his long career and the breadth of his contributions to history.

The Contributions of David L. Cowen

By John Parascandola

David Cowen's career has spanned well over half a century. It is remarkable to think that this still active scholar published his first paper in 1934. That paper dealt with "Colonial Laws Pertaining to Pharmacy," and began Dave's journey into the history of pharmacy. [Ed. Note: That paper is reprinted in this issue.] When we decided to hold this session, we thought it appropriate to choose paper topics that reflect Dave's research interests in some way. This has not been difficult to do because his interests have been so broad. He has made significant contributions in

a number of different areas.

Certainly the subject he began with, pharmaceutical legislation, has been enriched by a number of seminal papers by Cowen. This first publication also reflects another continuing interest of Dave's, namely Colonial and Revolutionary pharmacy and medicine, as exemplified by his illuminating series of articles on the Colonial and Revolutionary heritage of pharmacy in America and his excellent monograph on medicine in Revolutionary New Jersey. This latter work reminds us that New Jersey pharmacy and

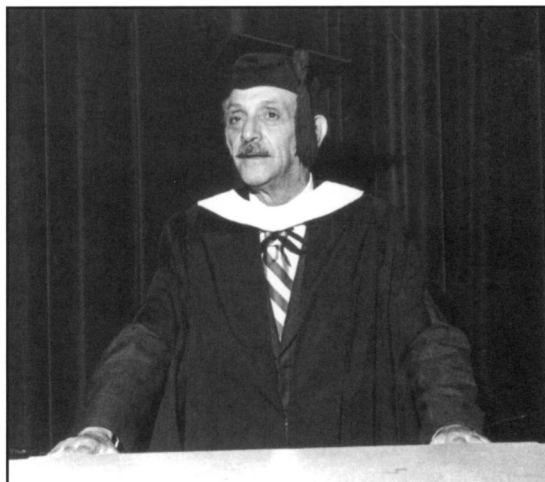
medicine have also been subjects that have benefitted from Dave's pen. Dave's histories of the New Jersey Pharmaceutical Association and the Rutgers College of Pharmacy, and his history of medicine and health in New Jersey, come readily to mind as models of local history.

David Cowen's name is also inextricably linked to the history of pharmacopeial and related literature. His "Spread and Influence of British Pharmacopeial and Related Literature" is the definitive historical and bibliographic study of the subject. Dave is a master bibliographer as well as a fine historian, as demonstrated particularly by his works on pharmaceutical literature. Another Cowen classic in this area is "America's Pre-Pharmacopeial Literature."

But we have by no means exhausted the range of David Cowen's research interests. The history of materia medica, the German influence on American pharmacy, and the pharmaceutical industry are just a few of the other areas in which he has made substantial contributions. Dave was also probably the first historian of pharmacy to emphasize strongly the need for research in the history of the pharmaceutical sciences, back in 1962 in his presidential address to the American Institute of the History of Pharmacy. A number of historians have since taken up his challenge. Although Dave would be the first to admit that he is not a historian of the pharmaceutical sciences, yet he has also enriched this field with his efforts. I am thinking particularly of his superb account of the teaching of pharmacology in American medical schools.

And just to show that he could keep abreast with technology, in the 1980s Dave became involved in a collaborative study using the computer to analyze prescriptions from the nineteenth century. Although I think I have given enough examples of the breadth and significance of Dave's scholarship, I cannot leave the subject without mentioning one more milestone work, and that is the invaluable book *Pharmacy: An Illustrated History*, written in collaboration with Bill Helfand and published in 1990.

Dave's professional service contributions have also been extensive, especially for the American Institute of the History of Pharmacy. He has served the AIHP in a variety of roles, as officer and committee chair or member, but perhaps most valuable were his years of service as chairman of the AIHP council and as book



In his role as Chairman of the AIHP Council, Cowen dedicated the AIHP historical marker on the founding site of the Rho Chi Society at the University of Michigan during the 50th anniversary celebration of national Rho Chi in May 1972.

review editor of *Pharmacy in History*. He built and indexed a massive reprint collection which he has donated to the AIHP and which will prove a valuable resource for the Institute staff and interested scholars. He has been a mentor and a friend to numerous historians of pharmacy and medicine. In discussing Dave's contributions to scholarship and professional service, we must not forget that of course he also had a full-time career as a teacher and administrator at Rutgers University, where he was on the faculty from 1933 to 1974.

David Cowen has been recognized by a host of honors. Just to name a few examples, he has received the Edward Kremers Award and the George Urdang Medal of the American Institute of the History of Pharmacy and the Schelenz Plaque of the International Society for the History of Pharmacy. He was also given the American Association for the History of Medicine's Lifetime Achievement Award in 1994. On the occasion of his 80th birthday in 1989, the Rutgers University School of Pharmacy established a named-lectureship in his honor. Today we pay one more tribute to David Cowen through this session.



Reminiscence

by David L. Cowen

The following is a letter written to Glenn Sonnedecker, who had asked Dave Cowen to “put down some memoirs.”

4 January 1997

Dear Glenn,

What follows will not be written at a single sitting. It is a response to the comment in your last letter that I put down some memoirs, and that will take not only time, but effort, which these days is somewhat at a premium.

...

To return to the reminiscences: you ask if I ever completed mine. I have no recollection of having ever contemplated writing any. My vanity is private. I have all these years, for example, been keeping a record of every citation to anything I did. No one knows about it and this is the first time I think I've mentioned it to anyone, but it gave me a personal sense of accomplishment. There is still another, and perhaps more basic reason that I have never contemplated any autobiographical writing. I have never felt that I had been a master of my own fate; I had not planned or directed my life to philosophical or practical goals that I had established for myself.

Let me illustrate. I had in high school intended to go into law. (If I ever had any boyhood ambitions, it was to become a member of the Supreme Court—not the Presidency, that was beyond a Jewish boy.) But I wasn't 17 when I graduated from high school and in those days (1926) one could go into the New Jersey Law School directly from high school, and that would mean that I would have a law degree at 20 and would have to wait a year before I would be eligible to take the bar exam. So I decided to go to College and to Rutgers where a close friend had just finished his freshman year and with whom I could room. At the end of my freshman year I almost had a job in a broker's office posting prices, but I hadn't worked an hour when last year's summer help showed up and I was dismissed. I had planned to work that job and go to law school in the evening. So I returned to college—if that young man had not turned up my whole life would have been very, very different.

But once I was back in college, I gave up law and decided on teaching as a career. I was given a graduate assistantship on graduation in 1930 and had my master's in 1931, but no job. I did try for a fellowship at the University of Chicago, but didn't make it. I had a nice letter from one of the country's leading political scientists—Charles Merriam, inviting me to come anyway, but I couldn't afford it. My college class was the first to graduate after the crash, and jobs were not easy. Even teacher's agencies wouldn't take on Jewish clients; they bluntly said they could not find jobs for them. I did take a couple

of courses at Columbia at the behests of one of my professors who insisted on lending me \$100 for tuition. I took the teacher's examination in Newark and when I was offered a grade-school job, I eagerly took it, in 1933. It was not a job I liked, I am sure I short-changed the children, although I hope they were not aware of it. The same year—1933—I was offered the opportunity to teach history at the College of Pharmacy (\$150.00 per semester). The bachelor's degree had been inaugurated the year before, and Mark M. Heald, the professor who had come up from Rutgers to teach the course then known as "The Rise of Contemporary Civilization," did not want to continue. He had been my instructor in my freshman year and I had graded his papers when I was a graduate assistant. He recommended me and I jumped at the chance. (If it had been another professor involved who did not know me, what then?) Anyway, for eleven years I taught at the Pharmacy College, adding Economics to the history course, and breaking up my very large history course into sections to do a better job, without extra compensation. For me, my day would begin at 4 PM at the Col-

lege; I would leave the public school promptly at 3:15 and go by cab—I couldn't possibly afford a car—and arrive at the college just in time for my class to begin. I had, by the way, no qualifications to teach Economics. The man who was supposed to teach it and who had a doctorate in the field from Vienna, backed out at the last moment fearing he did not have sufficient command of English. [Dean Ernest] Little called me in one day and told me that I was to teach it. I protested that I had but one undergraduate course in the field, but he was sure I could do it. (Little had occasionally dropped into my classes to listen to me, and was always complimentary.) I couldn't refuse, both because it might jeopardize the course I was already teaching and because \$300 more a year was very important to a newly married man.

Withal, my interest in historical research was still very much alive. As an undergraduate I had twice won the Society of Colonial Wars Essay prize—a whopping big prize of \$100, my master's thesis was on the government of the town of Newark from 1666 to 1836, and one of the courses I had taken at Columbia was in colo-



Classroom at the Rutgers University College of Pharmacy in Newark from the 1932-33 catalogue.

HISTORY Mr. COWEN	ECONOMICS Mr. COWEN
<p>150 a, b <i>Contemporary Civilization</i></p> <p>This course might be termed an orientation course for its chief purpose is to give the student a clear conception of the evolution of our modern civilization and the relation which he, as a member of society, has to it. It is intended to introduce the student to some of the controlling ideas and institutions which constitute the framework of our civilization, to present the factors responsible for these ideas and institutions, and to sketch in a general way the historical background of our contemporary civilization.</p> <p>Freshman year. First and second semesters. Lecture and recitation, three hours per week. Credit: 6 hours.</p> <p>Text: Hedger's <i>Introduction to Western Civilization</i>.</p> <p>Mr. COWEN</p>	<p>490 a, b <i>General Economics</i></p> <p>The nature, scope and organization of our economic activities are surveyed in this course. The price system, mechanism and processes of exchange; the organization of industry, processes and conditions governing price making and the division of national income among the various economic groups are studied in some detail. Problems more closely associated with business and plant management are also studied. A survey is made of problems of location, ownership, organization, purchasing, labor management, selling, and financing.</p> <p>Senior year. First and second semesters. Lecture and recitation, three hours per week. Credit: 6 hours.</p> <p>Mr. COWEN</p>

The curriculum outlined in the 1936-37 Rutgers College of Pharmacy catalogue included three credits of history each semester of the Freshman year, and three credits of Economics each semester of the Senior year, both courses taught by "Mr. Cowen" late in the school day.

nial history. I had thus begun to think of myself as a colonial historian. So, when I realized that there was no professional work being done in the history of pharmacy, I looked about for a finite subject I could handle, and came up with colonial laws pertaining to pharmacy. [Dean] Little asked me one day if there was anything I could present to the Northern New Jersey Branch of the APhA. I told him what I had been working on and he was delighted. The next thing I knew I had [a] proof from the APhA Journal. Little had asked for a copy of my paper and he had sent it to the journal. Thus my initiation to the history of pharmacy.

Here I must interject a tribute to my late wife, Mae. Constantly at work in preparation and grading for my various jobs, going off weekends and whenever I could to New York libraries, I left little time for socializing. She never complained and backed me in everything I was doing. And my son Bruce, always able to care for himself—it wasn't really a joke that even as a boy he always had more money than his father—never complained that he wasn't getting enough attention from his dad.

Thus my teaching at a college of pharmacy, my entrance into the field of the history of pharmacy all hinged on the circumstance that it was Mark Heald who had been teaching at the college. Ernest Little's national importance, moreover, facilitated my first publication, which I suspect, I would not have known what to do with.

Similarly, the next important change in my life came about without my initiative or planning. University College of Rutgers was beginning a tremendous expansion as the war was ending. At bridge, a member of the University College administration (Helen Hurd, later Professor of Sociology and Dean of Students) mentioned to Ernest Little that University College needed an historian. Little mentioned me, and as a result in 1944 I taught in the Newark Schools until 3:15, at the College of Pharmacy until 6, and at University College until 10. Not every night, and in 1945 I was offered a full-time position in University College. I took a leave-of-absence from the Newark schools (and resigned the next year), continued to teach at the College of Pharmacy (which, after the integration of Newark University into Rutgers in 1946 no longer had need for me), and in 1946 was made an assistant professor. University College grew with the incoming G.I.s; I became the chairman of the Department of History and Political Science, and after some years when the Political Science program was big enough for its own chairman, Chairman of the History Department. I remained chairman until my retirement as Professor II (a distinguished rank) in 1974.

I pride myself that my work in the history of pharmacy convinced my colleagues in the history section of the University (all historians in the various college were part of the "Section" whose major function was the approval of ap-

pointments and promotions) that the history of pharmacy was a viable academic field. I went through the promotional processes even though I did not have a Ph.D. My promotion to tenure was aided by an interesting little event. One ranking member of the history section insisted that no Rutgers historian should be granted tenure unless he had an international reputation. Opportunely, just then a colleague saw a letter to the *Literary Times of London* from F. N. L. Poynter lamenting the low state of the history of science and medicine in Great Britain. He pointed to the work in the United States: the historian at North Carolina on medieval medicine, one at the University of California on Vesalius; a third at Rutgers in the history of pharmacy. My international reputation had been established.

In the meantime, Roy Bowers had become dean of the Rutgers College of Pharmacy. In the spring of 1952 I testified in the case of the New Jersey State Board of Pharmacy against a grocer (really the Proprietary Association) and Roy was in court when I testified. He introduced himself—later he was to show me that we had met at the first annual meeting of the AIHP. And, he asked me to teach a course in the history of pharmacy at the College. So again I began to teach at the College of Pharmacy. At first the course was required, but the pressures on the students brought on by the burgeoning clinical studies led to their protest that I was demanding too much (they were probably right) and the course became an elective. I taught the course, even after my retirement, until 1976 or 1977. It had never occurred to me to suggest to a Dean of the College of Pharmacy that there ought to be a course in the history of pharmacy. If Roy Bowers had not arrived on the scene I would probably never have developed the course. Roy, by the way, may have had a hand in my promotion to tenure, for the Provost of the University apparently discussed it with him.

Thus it was usually the action of others that opened up the paths I was to follow. Even my major accomplishments as a scholar originated not with me but in the minds of others. The history of the New Jersey Pharmaceutical Association (the article) was Little's idea; the book was [Alvin] Geser's idea. The history of the Rho Chi Society and later of the College, were Roy's ideas. I was invited by the N. J. Tercentenary Commission to do *Medicine and Health in New*

Jersey: A History; I did not originate the idea. *Pharmacy: An Illustrated History* was Bill's idea. I admit that something of the phenomenon of the prepared mind was also involved, and that there were a good number of publications that did burst forth from my own mind, but I think I have made my point.

I close with an account of those things that have made me most proud in my career. I think the first thing that gave me satisfaction was finding the references to me and my work in Kremers and Urdang. It meant that what I had done was a contribution, was my contribution. The process continued with each edition, and the Sonnedecker-Kremers-Urdang edition named me in the acknowledgments, the text, the appendix, and cited from 21 of my works 50 times. (That I made this count is evidence of how much satisfaction and pride I got from it.) Then there was the title page of *Vital Speeches* in the summer of 1952. The cover is the table of contents and on it first came Adlai E. Stevenson, then Dwight D. Eisenhower, then two others, then David L. Cowen, and at the end Syngman Rhee. (My topic: Issues Facing Labor in 1952.) Then there was the publication of the *Medicine and Health in New Jersey*, and the excellent reviews it received. Then there was the invitation to speak at the 250th Anniversary of the founding of the Medical Faculty of Edinburgh in 1976—the Jewish boy born in a tenement in the Lower Eastside of New York whose father had no formal schooling after the age of fourteen and whose mother never had any formal schooling. There was more than pride in this, there was gratitude. Gratitude to my parents for having left Europe just about a century ago and for having nurtured me and having taught me the importance of doing well and doing the right thing, gratitude to my country for having provided me with an education, the opportunity, and the sense of achievement. And then there was the pride in the publication of our *Pharmacy: An Illustrated History*, which sold and is selling in the United States, Spain, Germany, and Latin America.

And I end with my thanks to the Almighty for a physician son, a physicist grandson, and a grandson who is just taking on a new post as Program Director of a Clinical Study Group at Cornell Medical Center in New York. And I must give my thanks too, for the many friends I have made along the way—you, Bill, and

John Parascandola stand out.

Dear friend, you asked for it.

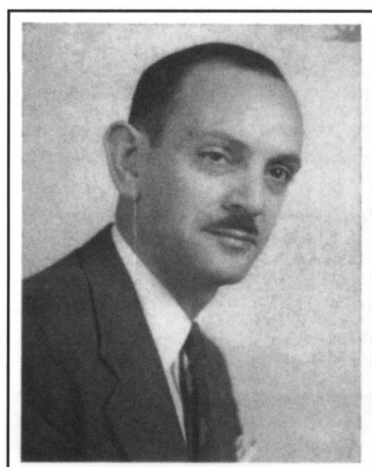
P. S. I shall probably lie awake tonight thinking of what I should have said. So I'll not print this out until tomorrow.

Post lying awake:

One thing I have been trying to fathom. Why did my list of things I named in which I took pride not include the honors bestowed upon me by the University? They—Distinguished Teaching Award, the Rutgers Medal, the promotion to Professor II, the honorary degree, the election to the Hall of Distinguished Alumni—were not only individually significant, but there must be very, very few other faculty who have received so many. And why did my list not include the

Kremers, Urdang, and Schelenz awards, among others, in the history of pharmacy? And why no mention of the David L. Cowen Lecture in the History of Pharmacy? I thought that perhaps those I mentioned were not so public, that they represented very private satisfactions, but that doesn't quite hold true. Any ideas?

And then I did not mention that I went back to Columbia in the 1940s to complete my degree. I finished the course work, passed the German and French exams, started on my dissertation, and passed the preliminary orals. Yet I never finished. There were several reasons. One, I was overworked. I had a teaching load of 15 hours at the time and was administratively responsible for the political science and history courses in nine centers in the state. Then there were the economic pressures. In 1947 I found my salary lasting just three weeks. At the beginning of the fourth week I would stop on my way



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Starting in 1946 Rutgers University broadcast a radio series known as the "Rutgers Report on World Affairs." In 1948 Cowen spoke about "Two Years of Peacemaking" for the 200th broadcast in this series. The photograph above accompanied the printed lecture in the February 1948 Rutgers Alumni Monthly. Four years later, in 1952, another one of his speeches was included in Vital Speeches of the Day.

to Columbia at a benevolent pawn shop (that I had learned about in my Economics class!), pawn a diamond ring my mother had given me for \$35 and retrieve it the next week. Then there was my dislike for my dissertation topic, assigned by Allan Nevins. It was on the enforcement of the narcotic laws under the New Deal and I was working on it in the Morgenthau Diaries, then at his office in Madison Avenue in New York. But all of these are rationalizations. The straw that broke the camel's back was the oral examination. The examiners were Nevins and the American historian who was then dean of Columbia College. They passed me, but I would not have passed myself. It was obvious that I was not at all as conversant with the bibliography of American history as I should be, and I saw no possibility of getting conversant enough to go on. So I quit. I have sometimes wondered whether the degree would have made any great difference, since I attained my status without it. But I always suspected that I would have been much more assertive with my history colleagues and perhaps more creative in terms of establishing programs in which I had a particular interest had I the degree.

Some animadversions on the history of pharmacy

My attitude toward the history of pharmacy is old fashioned: tell it as it was. I have never liked—perhaps because of my own limitations—

a priori conceptualizing that seems to me always to color the results. Analysis should follow the accumulation and sifting of data.

Why the history of pharmacy? In some measure, like Everest, because it was there and because in the United States at the time it was a virgin field in which I could make a contribution. And I was soon convinced that the knowledge and appreciation of its history was important to the professional awareness and growth of pharmacy.

Why my interest in law and bibliographic history? Law, as I already noted, was a finite area which I could do while still very much occupied in my teaching and administrative responsibilities. Bibliography derived from the request of the Pharmacy librarian to identify a fragment of the *Edinburgh New Dispensatory* which she had received. It was an intriguing experience (I never did definitely identify that particular fragment! Its printer's signatures did not match any other *Edinburgh New Dispensatory* I saw, and I had to conjecture it was from one mentioned in the literature but of which I had never found a copy.) It lead me from the *Dispensatory* to the *Edinburgh Pharmacopoeia*, to *America's Pre-Pharmacopoeial Literature*, to *German-American Domestic Medicine*, to the *Spread and Influence of the British Literature*.

Other things I did met particular situations. Asked to contribute to the Festschrift for Lutz, and knowing that he was in the liberal tradition,

Hugh Schaefer (right) confers the American Institute of the History of Pharmacy Kremers Award for distinguished pharmacohistorical writing on David L. Cowen, at its annual meeting in 1965.



I did a piece of the history of the Jews and the history of pharmacy. For the Schmitz Festschrift I did a study of the German immigrant pharmacists to the United States. For the Schneider Festschrift I made use of our computer study of the 1854 prescriptions (which, however, received its original motivation from the College's receipt of the Rx file and the potentiality for computerization). For the Hein Festschrift I did the study of the German-American publications. My work on physician-pharmacist relations derived from the invitation to give the Saffron Lecture to the Medical History Society of New Jersey and my feeling that I should join up the history of medicine and the history of pharmacy. My work on the Idea of Freedom was an attempt to join up my general training in history and political science with my interest in the history of pharmacy and the feeling that the presentation before an international audience required a catholic rather than a parochial approach. I might add here that the organization of our *Pharmacy: An Illustrated History* reflected my years of teaching the course in Western Civilizations.

And I have gotten a great deal more out of my work in the history of pharmacy than indicated by my publications. Research, presentations, and participation have taken me to every major country of western Europe (with the exception of Portugal, Belgium, Denmark, and Sweden where I have been but not with regard to history of pharmacy activity) and to Czechoslovakia, Jugoslavia, Hungary, and Israel. And

the History of Pharmacy has taken me from Montreal to Miami to New Orleans, Madison, San Francisco, etc., etc. Who said historians lead a sedentary life?

And then there are the many friends I have made. My house guests have included Glenn Sonnedecker, John Parascandola, Ernie Stieb, John Crellin, Reg and Nan Short, Leslie Matthews, Anne Hutton, Melvin Earles and wife and daughter, Doug Whittet, Jim Bloomfield, Greg Higby, Lloyd Stevenson, John Swann, Harvey Young, Wittop Koning, Hein, Wankmüller and Frau, the Schmitzes, Hans Fehlmann, among those I remember (but not Bill Helfand!). And I have been the house guest of Sonnedecker, Parascandola, Stieb, Crellin (both in England and North Carolina), the Shorts, Wittop Koning, Hein, Wankmüller, Schmitz, and Helfand.

And you and Cleo certainly are not strangers to the pleasure of having such friendships and certainly can outdo me in such listings.

The history of pharmacy has given me a full life, given me many dear friends, taken me to many places, and given me the satisfaction of achievement.

Wow! You sure got me to let my hair down.



The 1952 Report from Rutgers (vol. 3, no. 12) highlighted the "Historian of an Ancient Art," Professor David L. Cowen, pictured with a seventeenth-century pharmacopeia. Cowen's then 20-year history career at Rutgers and his attention to the history of pharmacy were noted.