

## EDITORIALS

### DICP—20th ANNIVERSARY

#### A MAN'S CREATION IS A LIVING MEMORIAL

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WITH THIS ISSUE we begin our 20th year of publication. The significance of 20 years is important enough to any journal, but to *DICP* there is added meaning in that it coincides with 20 years of growth in the clinical pharmacy movement.

In this and subsequent issues, we plan to give readers who have been with us from the beginning some pleasant reminders of how *DICP* and the clinical pharmacy movement have progressed. For the younger readers, we will provide information that they may not have read previously and remind them that Euripides (485-406 B.C.) said:

Whoso neglects learning in his youth,  
Loses the past and is dead for the future.

By exploring the historical depths of *DICP* and clinical pharmacy, we honor one of the fathers of clinical pharmacy, Dr. Donald E. Francke, who spent a large part of his life inspiring others to set a new course for the profession. *DICP* was Francke's creation; his writing and editorial brilliance exuded from the pages of this journal during its first 12 years. The journal's philosophy is one Francke learned in his young professional life and maintained throughout his career.

Francke's early training as an intern at one of the nation's most progressive hospital pharmacies, the University of Michigan Hospital (Figure 1), led him to believe that pharmacists should practice "clinically." This was in the 1930s and even though the word clinical was not then applied to pharmacy, the pharmacists and interns of the "U. Hospital" were taught the importance of concern and caring for the patient. The philosophy of pharmacy practice was conducted by Francke's mentor, who went on medical rounds, operated a drug information center, and provided advice and consultation to physicians and patients. The care of the patient and high standards of professional practice that were taught to Francke are best typified in a letter written by the chief pharmacist to the hospital director. The letter was written for the purpose of itemizing the needs for additional personnel, space, and equipment. It said, in part:

Because these needs are regarded as necessary for the maximum interest and welfare of the care of patients, and because they are held as accessories to the efficiency of the pharmacy, they are not presented as debatable. In the event some reason must be attached to each request, I shall be glad to furnish this added information.<sup>1</sup>

Imbued with clinical insight and direction, Francke imparted this same dogma to his interns and residents. The "clinical family tree" has evolved over six or more generations with many adopted sons and daughters now comprising the extended family.

Francke's vision of clinical pharmacy practice in the early years of the movement was focused on hospitals. The highly professional environment with members of the extended clinical family promoting practice in the patient care areas made hospital pharmacies the logical seedbed for nurturing the new concept. Models of practice, which hospitals provided, were essential to the development of the clinical concept. Francke used *DICP* to give readers information about some of the hospital pharmacies that had high standards and were establishing a clinical practice for their pharmacists.

In creating *Drug Intelligence*, Francke considered that hospital pharmacists were the most likely readers of his new journal. Thus he declared in his first editorial: "*Drug Intelligence* is an independent journal of hospital pharmacy, international in scope."<sup>2</sup>

This one sentence epitomizes the thinking Francke had about his new journal. Not only was it to be for hospital pharmacists, it was to be independent and international. Francke told me not too long before his death that having an independent voice in pharmacy was an asset he considered priceless. He knew what it was like to be a part of organized pharmacy; he worked both with and for pharmacy's professional organizations. But as an editor most of his professional life, Francke highly cherished his freedom of expression.

The international scope of the journal was important to Francke because he had travelled abroad sufficiently and knew the value of learning from foreign colleagues. Therefore, he wanted to use the journal as a forum for bringing ideas from all countries to the attention of his international audience.

Finally, the words "drug intelligence" had special importance. For Francke the title implied "the ability to select, to discern, and to understand the subject matter related to drugs."<sup>2</sup> Although *Drug Intelligence* embodied the concept of clinical pharmacy, it was not until the June 1969 issue that Francke felt comfortable enough with the clinical pharmacy label to decide to use it as part of the journal's name. Then he wrote that the name was being changed "to more clearly establish and depict the interrelationships between these two subjects."<sup>3</sup> The complete text of Francke's first editorial is reproduced here for our readers' interest and as a tribute to the first editor and publisher of *DICP*.

Francke's creation has forged the path for clinical pharmacists, and it is a living memorial to him.

#### References

1. PHILLIPS GL. 1973 Harvey A.K. Whitney lecture: Uncle Harvey. *Am J Hosp Pharm* 1973;30:886-91.
2. FRANCKE DE. *Drug Intelligence*—objectives and scope. *Drug Intell* 1967;1:5.
3. FRANCKE DE. *Drug Intelligence and Clinical Pharmacy*. *Drug Intell Clin Pharm* 1969;3:157.