British paediatrics

The British Paediatric Association: 60 years

The British Paediatric Association (BPA) celebrates its Diamond Jubilee this year. The Association was founded by a group of six eminent paediatricians at a meeting in George Frederic Still's house in Queen Anne Street, London on 2 February 1928. Still was the accepted leader of the small band of physicians who were interested in the diseases of children and was the natural choice for president of their Association. Donald Paterson, who conceived the idea of a paediatric association and was the driving force in the enterprise, was unanimously elected honorary secretary. The founder members included such well known personalities as Hector Cameron, Robert Hutchison, Leonard Parsons, Bernard Schlesinger, and James Spence.

The BPA has planned a series of events during the year to commemorate this important milestone in the history of British paediatrics. The first of these will be a reception for past and present officers of the Association in February. In March a press

conference will be held to launch the Diamond Jubilee book, *Child health in a changing society* edited by the current president, John Forfar. At the Jubilee scientific meeting at the University of York in April the publication of the latest volume of the History of the BPA will be announced, and in May a reception will be held at the House of Lords.

During October there will be a Child Health Week to celebrate the achievements of the child health services and to publicise the work of paediatricians, a service will be held in Westminster Abbey, and the celebrations will conclude with a conference and dinner at the Royal College of Physicians of London.

Further details of all these events will be announced by the BPA during the year and this page of the Archives will feature a series of related reports and reviews.

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