

HSTC Bulletin

Journal of the History of Canadian Science, Technology and Medicine
Revue d'histoire des sciences, des techniques et de la médecine au Canada

hstc
bulletin

Progress

Volume 2, Number 4 (8), August 1978

URI: <https://id.erudit.org/iderudit/1082225ar>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.7202/1082225ar>

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Publisher(s)

HSTC Publications

ISSN

0228-0086 (print)

1918-7742 (digital)

[Explore this journal](#)

Cite this document

(1978). Progress. *HSTC Bulletin*, 2(4), 1–1. <https://doi.org/10.7202/1082225ar>

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HSTC



BULLETIN

Quarterly Newsletter for the
History of Science and Tech-
nology of Canada

Publication trimestrielle
pour l'histoire des sciences
et de la technologie canadiennes

Vol. III, No. 4

August/Août 1978

PROGRESS

With this issue, the Bulletin completes its second full year of publication. The newsletter came about both in recognition of a need to expedite communication and in hopes of stimulating an interest in science and technology across the country that was there, but diffuse. In these last two years the pace of activities in our field has quickened noticeably. What is encouraging is that several steps towards the creation of a field have come about, albeit in an unorganized, often ad hoc manner. Some of these steps include:

- *Meetings were held in Ottawa to discuss archival resources
- *Publication of books and articles has increased
- *Interest in Canadian studies in the Canadian Society for History and Philosophy of Science, and the Canadian Society for History of Medicine has increased
- *The Hannah Foundation is actively pursuing the history of Canadian medicine
- *Bibliographies are being compiled for the field
- *Theses and dissertations have been produced on Canadian topics
- *An informal network of scholars has sprung up

The upcoming meeting at Kingston (see Page 2) signals, we feel, the end of the heroic period of the field. It will be an attempt to define our problems and set our sights on obtainable goals. After that, assuming that interest does not fade, the field will become more formalized--as all emerging fields of intellectual study do--with formal organizations, journals, and regularized patterns of publication. In time, we can expect the historians of science, of technology, and of medicine to go their separate ways.

Until that time, the Bulletin will remain informal and, we hope, useful. We will change its format and content as the need arises and, if the field continues to mature, as all signs now indicate, we can look forward to its demise as the greater needs of the future call for a vehicle of a more formal nature.