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Part III: Clinical Departments and Divisions ---
Chapter 26: Department of Pediatrics (pages 447-456)

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"Children are not simply micro-adults, but have their own specific problems."
—Bela Schick (1877–1967)
Philadelphia, an increasingly fervent interest in the study of childhood diseases. Shortly thereafter, Jefferson faculty, including Drs. John Eberle (Professor of Medicine), Charles D. Meigs (Professor of Obstetrics and Diseases of Children), and William Keating (later Professor of Obstetrics and Diseases of Children), added their impressive contributions to children's medical literature.1-7 Dr. Eberle, already a recognized medical writer, published his Treatise on the Diseases and Physical Education of Children in 1833. Eberle's viewpoint differed from that of Dewees; he approached the subject in relation to the practice of medicine, whereas Dewees looked upon the diseases of children as related to obstetrics. An astute observation that placed Eberle's thinking ahead of his time was that children with cholera infantum craved smoked and salted foods. This has a modern counterpart in the correction of hyponatremia in children with acute diarrheal diseases by fluid and electrolyte replacement.

Dr. Charles Delucena Meigs, Professor of Obstetrics and Diseases of Children (1841–1861), published his Observations on Certain Diseases of Young Children in 1850. This was an incomplete text that reflected mainly his pediatric lectures of 1849 but exhibited an emphasis on health and diseases of children as a developing discipline.

Pediatrics in the Twentieth Century

It was not until the late nineteenth century that the prevention and treatment of diseases of children as a separate branch of medicine began to emerge. There was a movement toward specialization and subspecialization in all branches of medicine with increasing emphasis on preventive health care. New needs developed, both in educating physicians and in treating patients.

Jefferson responded to the changing times. In 1888 under Dr. J. N. Rhoads an outpatient department for Children's Diseases was established. Dr. Oliver Rex was appointed the first Clinical Lecturer of Diseases of Children.8 In 1892 Professor Edwin E. Graham (Jefferson, 1887) became Clinical Professor of Children's Diseases. Much credit is due Dr. Graham for his persistence in expanding outpatient services and in developing clinical and didactic sessions for ambulatory and inpatient services. In 1910 he added the didactic pediatric course to the curriculum, and the instructional program was increased to 99 hours for both clinical experience and didactic lectures. This represented a significant achievement for a Medical College in which, only a decade before, the medical uniqueness of children was allocated a minor education role. The Department was titled "Diseases of Children." This designation was retained until 1944, when it became the Department of Pediatrics. The outpatient clinic, however, employed the term "Pediatric Dispensary" beginning in 1909.

Edwin E. Graham, M.D.; First Chairman of Diseases of Children (1908–1926)

Jefferson established an independent Department of Diseases of Children in 1908 and appointed Dr. Edwin E. Graham (Figure 26-1) as its first Chairman.8 The Department under Dr. Graham's leadership developed its own medical education program and a clinical service of approximately 40 to 50 beds located on the eighth floor of the "Old Main" Hospital. The Pediatric Ambulatory Facility was located in the basement of the main building.

The development of a freestanding Department of Diseases of Children at Jefferson represented a monumental step toward disassociating the care of infants and children from adults and toward satisfying the need for specialty training for physicians who provided health care for the young. In 1916 Dr. Graham authored a major textbook, Diseases of Children, published by Lea and Febiger.

Dr. Graham held the Professorship until 1926, at which time he was named Emeritus; he had served his alma mater for 38 years. Physician associates working with him included: Warren H. Johnston, Ralph L. Engle, Eugene Rush, S. Lincoln Baron, Henry Harris Perlman, Howard M. Kuehner, Robert A. Schless, Ralph M. Tyson, Clark O.
Among these, Dr. Perlman (Jefferson, 1918) had a long career in pediatrics and later was the first board-certified pediatric dermatologist in the United States (Figure 26-2). Dr. John Coppolino (Jefferson, 1922) was for many years the leader in pediatrics among the physicians of South Philadelphia and referred many children to Jefferson’s Hospital and Pediatric Clinic. Dr. Ralph M. Tyson (Jefferson, 1915) became Chairman of Pediatrics at Temple University School of Medicine in 1930.

Edward L. Bauer, M.D.; Second Chairman (1926–1954)

Edward L. Bauer, M.D. (Jefferson, 1914) (Figure 26-3) who succeeded Dr. Graham in 1926, represented the seventh in eight generations of sons who became physicians—four generations are recorded as alumni of Jefferson. Dr. Bauer led the crusade against diphtheria in the City of Philadelphia in the early twentieth century and was credited with major public health accomplishments during that period. He had also become Physician to Girard College, a post he was to hold for many years. These accomplishments, especially the diphtheria campaign, impressed Dr. Graham, who favored him as his successor.

Soon after his appointment at Jefferson, Dr. Bauer developed new outpatient programs that included neuropsychiatric services for children in cooperation with Dr. Baldwin L. Keyes. For some years, he arranged for students to rotate through

Fig. 26-1. Edwin E. Graham, M.D.; First Chairman (1908–1926).

Fig. 26-2. Henry Harris Perlman, M.D., first certified Pediatric Dermatologist.
the Philadelphia Hospital for Contagious Diseases. Although there was little organized research during his tenure, the outpatient program was especially active for students, and the members of the staff were highly respected. Dr. Norman M. MacNeill (Jefferson, 1906) (Figure 26-4) was perhaps the best known by the students. Dr. MacNeill embodied the combination of ideal teacher, humanitarian, Catholic scholar, historian, and role model for two generations of Jefferson students. During the Depression of the 1930s he often paid for medications himself and at times supplied coal for heating homes. He also assisted needy medical students with tuition payments. Following his death in 1965, Dr. Bauer honored his memory with a book, Profile of a Gentle Man, published in 1967.

Dr. John Holmes (Jefferson, 1908) was also an able member of the staff at the time, especially known for his diagnostic skills. He had a strong following among patients and physicians in West Philadelphia. Staff members of note during this period included Drs. Edward F. Burt, Aaron Capper, Edward J. Moore, Ruth P. Zager, K. Kalman Faber, LeRoy R. Newman, and Augustin T. Giordano. Many of these continued on the staff after Dr. Bauer’s retirement.

Medical education consisted mainly of weekly lectures and case presentations by Dr. Bauer or one of his associates, plus experience in the busy outpatient clinic, where 35 to 50 patients were seen each day.9

Charles McKhann, M.D.; Third Chairman (1954–1956)

Dr. Charles McKhann (Figure 26-5) came to Jefferson as Chairman of the Department in 1954.
and was hopeful of developing a children's hospital at Broad and Fitzwater Streets, the site of the Barton Division of Jefferson and later the Broad Street Hospital.

Dr. McKhann was a nationally recognized pediatrician who had trained in Boston and became Chairman of Pediatrics at Case-Western Reserve Medical School. He left Western Reserve over the notoriety given a controversial procedure performed in his Department; namely, the anastomosis of the carotid artery and jugular vein for treatment of the mental retardation symptoms present in Down's syndrome. He brought with him an excellent teacher and clinician, Felix Karpinski, Jr., M.D., (Jefferson, Si944).

Dr. McKhann left after two years because of outside financial responsibilities and because the children's hospital did not become a reality. He served for some years as President of the American Board of Pediatrics, one of the major appointments in American Medicine.

Dr. Edward Bauer was recalled briefly from retirement to serve as Interim Chairman when Dr. McKhann departed in 1956. He spent his later years researching the history of Jefferson Medical College. These studies led to the publication of Doctors Made in America in 1963. A Search Committee was created to recruit a new Chairman, preferably a pediatrician with a strong background in clinical or basic research.

Hans G. Keitel, M.D.; Fourth Chairman (1956–1966)

Dr. Hans G. Keitel (Figure 26-6) came to Jefferson from his research position at the
National Institutes of Health where he made significant contributions in the field of fluid and electrolyte balance. During his Chairmanship he published a book, *The Pathophysiology and Treatment of Body Fluid Disturbances* (1962). He was also the first scientist to recognize the hypostenuria that is associated with sickle cell disease. Keitel graduated from Columbia University Medical School, received his pediatric training at New York University Department of Pediatrics, then studied endocrinology at the Massachusetts General Hospital. Dr. Keitel trained under some famous American pediatricians: Dr. Rustin McIntosh (Columbia), Dr. Emmett Holt (New York University), and Drs. Allen Butler and Nathan Talbot (Harvard).

When he arrived at Jefferson, Dr. Keitel had the advantage of having the association of Dr. Felix Karpinski (Figure 26-7), a superb pediatrician and teacher. Dr. Karpinski served as the foundation of the clinical and teaching program, which provided Dr. Keitel with time needed for his research, since he was primarily an investigator. Dr. Karpinski proved to be the first to espouse modern pediatric teaching at Jefferson. He was aggressive, devoted, innovative, and able to carry a full teaching load. A master of bedside grand rounds, he evoked the loyalty and admiration of students and house staff and made a lasting contribution to excellence in teaching.

Dr. Keitel proceeded to develop the first full-time faculty. Dr. Henry Kane (Jefferson, 1953), who trained in Pediatric Cardiology with Dr. Helen Taussig at Johns Hopkins, became Jefferson's first pediatric cardiologist. Dr. William McClean from Bowman-Gray and Johns Hopkins became Jefferson's first pediatric neurologist. Dr. Irving Olshin joined the Department in 1961 as a generalist and teacher. Dr. Sumner Root Ziegra from New York University, who was interested in general pediatrics and infectious disease, joined the Department in 1960 and later became Chairman of Pediatrics at the Medical College of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Daniel S. Rowe (Jefferson, 1948) joined the Department in 1960 following a period of general practice and a Residency in Pediatrics at Babies' Hospital in New York City. In 1971 he became Professor of Pediatrics and Public Health at Yale University School of Medicine and Director of Yale University Health Services.

Volunteer faculty members during this period included Drs. Aaron Capper, Kalman Faber, Constantine R. Roscoe (Jefferson, 1938) and James V. Mackell (Jefferson, 1946).  

Dr. K. Kalman Faber's (Figure 26-8) career at Jefferson began in 1947 as the first Pediatric Resident. His own growth virtually paralleled the development of the Department into a modern pediatric facility. Early in his career he participated in adaptation of specialized technical procedures to infants and children including the opening of the first intensive care nursery. Dr. Faber became a respected member of the Volunteer Faculty, advancing to Clinical Associate Professor. He developed an extensive practice that included the families of many Jefferson colleagues, students, nurses, and hospital employees.

Dr. Aaron Capper was a scholarly, clinically oriented member of the pediatric staff for many years. He was the author of a complete textbook of pediatrics that unfortunately was never published. He advanced to the status of Professor of Clinical Pediatrics.

Dr. Robert L. Brent, destined to become Chairman of the Department nine years later, came to Jefferson in 1957 directly from his position as Chief of Radiation Biology at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research during the golden years of National Institutes of Health research funding. When Dr. Brent joined the Department, he had already received three research grants from the National Institutes of Health and the Atomic Energy Commission. These research programs in developmental biology and radiation biology were the first funded research programs in the Department of Pediatrics.

The group of faculty members under Dr. Keitel's Chairmanship worked together effectively to provide an excellent pediatric educational program.

Robert L. Brent, M.D., Ph.D.;  
Chairman (1966–)

The appointment of Robert L. Brent, M.D., Ph.D. (Figure 26-9), to replace Dr. Keitel as Head of the Department and attending
Pediatrician-in-Chief at Jefferson Hospital was announced by Dr. William A. Sodeman, Dean and Vice President for Medical Affairs in 1966. Dr. Brent received degrees at three levels at the University of Rochester in New York. In 1948 he received his A.B. with the Gamma Sigma Award; he received a four-year New York State Professional Scholarship through medical school and graduated in 1953 with honors after being elected to Alpha Omega Alpha; and in 1955 he received his Ph.D. in embryology. Dr. Brent was on the Rochester faculty before entering medical school and continued there until he became a Clinical Fellow of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis at the Massachusetts General Hospital (1954–1955). He was then appointed Chief of the Radiobiology Department at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., after which he joined the faculty of Jefferson as an Associate Professor of Pediatrics in 1957. He was promoted to Clinical Professor in 1960 and to full Professor in 1961. He has also held full Professorships in Anatomy and Radiology. Dr. Brent was certified by the American Board of Pediatrics, and he clinically subspecialized in pediatric dermatology.
Dr. Irving J. Olshin (Figure 26-10) joined the Department briefly as an Associate in Clinical Pediatrics (1961–1963), then returned to Jefferson in 1967 after various teaching and clinical experiences. In 1968 he became full Professor and Director of Pediatric Education Services. Dr. Olshin has been one of the most admired teachers of Pediatrics in Jefferson’s history. A well-rounded physician, scholar, humanist, and historian, he has been able to reflect all these values in his contacts with students, to whom he was always available. His portrait was presented to Jefferson by the graduating Class in 1973.

Dr. Arturo R. Hervada (Medical Faculty of Salamanca University, Spain, 1953), joined the first full-time faculty as Instructor in the early 1960s following training under Drs. Keitel and Karpinski. After several appointments elsewhere, Hervada returned to Jefferson in 1969 as Professor of Pediatrics. At the same time he advanced to the Chairmanship of Pediatrics at Mercy Catholic Medical Center, where he developed one of the first intensive care nurseries in the United States. At Jefferson Dr. Hervada served as the first Associate Chairman of the Department. He was the only Jefferson faculty member to be President of the Philadelphia Pediatric Society, the second oldest pediatric medical society in the United States. He was also elected an Honorary Member of the Sociedad Catalana de Pediatria of Barcelona, Spain, and of the Alumni Association of Jefferson Medical College.

Fig. 26-8. K. Kalman Faber, M.D.; First Pediatric Resident.
Dr. Gary G. Carpenter (Jefferson, 1960) has been an important member of the Department since his return in 1968 as Associate Professor and Director of the Endocrine and Metabolic Division. One of the first to be certified in pediatric endocrinology, he has also been interested in child neurology and neonatology. A humanist, biology student, and gifted artist, his watercolors have been exhibited at Jefferson and in other cities in the United States.

Two Jefferson alumni who have achieved important positions in pediatric education are Drs. Thomas Aceto, Jr., (Jefferson, 1954), Professor and Chairman of the Department of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine at St. Louis University School of Medicine; and James Anthony Stockman, III (Jefferson, 1969), Professor and Chairman of Pediatrics at Northwestern University School of Medicine and Children's Memorial Hospital, Chicago. Dr. Stockman is also Coeditor of the *Year Book of Pediatrics*.

Dr. Brent founded the Clinical Teratology and Radiation Biology Division at the Stein Research Center and has served as its Director since 1957. The Stein Center has been supported through the generous efforts of the Louis and Bess Stein Foundation, the Harry Block Charities, and Federal agencies. Under Dr. Brent's direction, Divisional personnel have performed animal studies on the effects of high energy radiation on the developing embryo, placenta transport, embryonic nutrition, developmental immunological studies, biochemical embryology, and various techniques of embryo culture. Outside funding received by the Clinical Teratology and Developmental Biology Division, under Dr. Brent's supervision, represented a significant portion of the ongoing outside support received...
by the Department of Pediatrics, which became at this time the second most research-prolificative Department at Jefferson, despite its relatively small size. Before Dr. Brent assumed the Chairmanship, research activities in Pediatrics were minimal, and the development and expansion of the Department’s investigative endeavors became largely attributable to his efforts.

In 1985 the Louis and Bess Stein Endowed Professorship in Pediatrics was established by the Stein Foundation. This represented the first Pediatric research endowment at Jefferson, and Dr. Brent was named as the first recipient of the award.

Dr. Brent has an exceptional record of professional accomplishments. In addition to holding Professorships in three Departments at Jefferson, he has contributed over 340 publications to the scientific and medical literature, particularly in the areas of congenital malformations and developmental biology. He is an international authority on the causes of congenital malformations. He has served on the Editorial Boards of Pediatrics, Teratology, and Fetal Medicine, and has served on numerous committees of the American Academy of Pediatrics, various Federal agencies and professional societies including the American Association of Pediatric Department Chairmen. Dr. Brent's expertise has been used to establish acceptable guidelines for working women of reproductive age relative to the maximum exposure they may receive from radiation or chemicals without significant risk to the embryo.

Pediatric Medical Education

Dr. Brent has maintained an upwardly mobile profile for a Department faced with increasing competition from freestanding children's hospitals, changing patient populations, and burgeoning pressures from prospective payment systems. Under his direction, the pediatric medical education of students and house staff has been improved and broadened. Outstanding patient care programs have been developed in the pediatric subspecialties.

The recent pediatric curriculum consisted of clinical clerkships during which third- and fourth-year students spent six weeks on the pediatric service at the Jefferson Hospital or at one of the affiliates (Mercy Catholic Medical Center in Darby, Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital in Camden, and the Medical Center of Delaware in Wilmington). The students' clinical experience included inpatient, outpatient, and nursery care, and involved formal lectures and teaching sessions as well as hands-on clinical experience. The senior clerkships were available in a variety of subspecialties, offering those students considering pediatrics as their field of endeavor an opportunity to learn about current concepts and methods of treatment in specific areas.

The quality of pediatric teaching under Dr. Brent's Chairmanship is reflected by Lindback Awards for distinguished teaching to three of the leading members of the Department: Dr. Brent himself in 1968, Dr. Olshin in 1969, and Dr. Hervada in 1975.

The Department in its total history reflects changing concepts of the management of health and disease in the first specialty that separated people on the basis of age. It has also responded to increasing needs and opportunities in interdisciplinary research and its adaptation to patient care.

References

9. Notes compiled by Mr. Samuel Davis, Director of Special Collections, Scott Memorial Library, August 1986.