

THE INTERNAT DES HOPITAUX DE
PARIS: THE SHAPING AND
TRANSFORMATION OF THE FRENCH
MEDICAL ELITE, 1802-1914

GROOPMAN, LEONARD CHARLES
DEGREE DATE: 1986

U·M·I Dissertation
Information Service

8704406

Groopman, Leonard Charles

THE INTERNAT DES HOPITAUX DE PARIS: THE SHAPING AND
TRANSFORMATION OF THE FRENCH MEDICAL ELITE, 1802-1914

Harvard University

Ph.D. 1986

University
Microfilms
International 300 N. Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48106

Copyright 1986

by

Groopman, Leonard Charles

All Rights Reserved

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES



THESIS ACCEPTANCE CERTIFICATE
(To be placed in Original Copy)

The undersigned, appointed by the

Division

Department History

Committee

have examined a thesis entitled

The Internat des Hopitaux de Paris: the shaping
and transformation of the French medical elite,
1802-1914.

presented by Leonard Charles Groopman

candidate for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy and hereby
certify that it is worthy of acceptance.

Signature 

Typed name Patrice Higonnet

Signature 

Typed name Simon Schama

Signature'

Typed name

Date October 9, 1986

The Internat des Hôpitaux de Paris: the Shaping and
Transformation of the French Medical Elite, 1802-1914

A thesis presented

by

Leonard Charles Groopman

to

The Department of History

in partial fulfillment of the requirements

for the degree of

Doctor of Philosophy

in the subject of

History

Harvard University

Cambridge, Massachusetts

October 1986

Abstract

The Internat des Hôpitaux de Paris: the Shaping and Transformation of the French Medical Elite, 1802-1914

Leonard Charles Groopman

The internat des hôpitaux de Paris was the grande école of French medicine, the institution for the recruitment and formation of the professional elite. My study of the internat in the nineteenth century is divided into three parts.

Part I views the "shaping" of the elite from two complementary perspectives: from the perspective of the elite's ideology as elaborated around the process of selection by concours; and from the perspective of internat subculture centered around the salles de garde of the Paris hospitals.

Part II examines the transformation of the Paris hospitals in the late nineteenth century, with reference to its effects upon the privileges and traditions of the internat. The interplay of political, social, and technological forces in the structural metamorphosis of the Paris hospitals is highlighted. First the organization of the hospitals before the Third Republic is described. Then the impact of laicisation, specialization, and the admission of women in the 1880s is discussed. A separate chapter is devoted to the influence of chronic budgetary crisis on institutional reorganization in the 1890s. As the hospitals

became "medicalised", they were also increasingly bureaucratized. In Paris, the emergence of the modern hospital did not shift power and authority to the medical staff. On the contrary, it strengthened the hand of the administration over the doctors and interns. With "medicalisation" came tighter bureaucratic control and a new work discipline for doctors and interns. The effect of the new hospital order upon the subculture of the internat is analyzed, with special attention to the form and content of the fin-de-siècle bal de l'internat.

Finally, Part III focuses upon the relationship of the internat to the syndicalist movement of the medical profession in the decade before the First World War. The internat's "politics of survival" between an increasingly interventionist state and a progressively corporatist profession is discussed.

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION.....	1
PART I: THE SHAPING OF AN ELITE	
CHAPTER I. ORIGINS AND IDEOLOGY.....	8
CHAPTER II. <u>SALLE DE GARDE</u> SOCIETY.....	41
PART II: THE <u>INTERNAT</u> AND THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE PARIS HOSPITALS	
CHAPTER III. THE PARIS HOSPITALS AND THEIR DOCTORS BEFORE THE THIRD REPUBLIC.....	76
CHAPTER IV. SISTERS, SPECIALISTS, AND SKIRTS.....	99
CHAPTER V. BUDGETS AND BUREAUCRACY.....	136
CHAPTER VI. THE FOETUS AND THE EUNUCH.....	200
PART III: ELITE, STATE, AND PROFESSION	
CHAPTER VII. THE <u>INTERNAT</u> BETWEEN STATE AND PROFESSION.....	230
CONCLUSION.....	265
BIBLIOGRAPHY.....	269