A Poughkeepsie, NY resident cleaning out the debris in his basement left by the previous owner discovered a small bronze plaque of historic interest to NYCPM. The plaque commemorates a testimonial dinner that honored Maurice J. Lewi, MD, in December 1929. Measuring 2-1/4” x 3-1/2”, the plaque was produced in multiples and was likely a memento given to dinner attendees.

Dr. Lewi, a physician, educator and activist, dedicated himself to making podiatry “a recognized and dignified profession.” In 1913 he resigned his post as secretary of the (NY) State Board of Medical Examiners to become president of what is now NYCPM (then called the New York School of Chiropody). He traced his interest in podiatry to his father’s cure of chronic foot pain by a chiropodist, and worked to create curricula and training programs at the school.

He remained president of the College as it evolved until his death at age 99 in 1957, when the school was renamed M. J. Lewi College of Podiatry in his honor. (For more detail, visit ‘History of the College’ on NYCPM’s website [https://nycpm.edu/history.asp].)

The plaque has been brought to the College and will be displayed.