

Guide to the John E. Weeks Collection 2001-003

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Oregon Health & Science University Historical Collections & Archives
2012-12-10
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Summary Information

Repository	Oregon Health & Science University Historical Collections & Archives
Creator	Weeks, John E.
Title	John E. Weeks Collection
Date [inclusive]	1880-1954
Extent	1.7 Linear feet 3 Boxes
General Physical Description	Paper materials are generally in good to fair condition with some of the paper being fragile. Books and publications are in good condition.
Location	Archives, Room 440, Old Library
Language	English
Abstract	Primarily materials used in the composition of his autobiography, the collection contains drafts of manuscripts, correspondence and some photographs. Bulk dates between 1940 and 1954.

Preferred Citation

John E. Weeks Collection, Accession Number 2001-003, Oregon Health & Science University, Historical Collections & Archives

Biography - Historical Note

John Elmer Weeks was born on August 9, 1853 in Painesville, Ohio. In 1881 he received a medical degree from the University of Michigan and completed an internship at the Alms House and Workhouse Hospital on Welfare Island, New York. He became a clinical assistant in 1882 and later became a resident physician in 1885 and an assistant surgeon in 1887 at the Ophthalmic and Aural Institute under Dr. Herman Knapp. In 1884 he spent a year taking postgraduate studies at the University of Berlin. In 1886 he identified a bacteria, causative in acute epidemic conjunctivitis, named in his honor, Koch-Weeks bacillus.

After serving as chief of clinic at the Vanderbilt Clinic, College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1888, he maintained a position as surgeon with the New York Eye and Ear Infirmary until his retirement in 1920 at which time he became a consulting surgeon. He was one of the founders of the Board of Ophthalmology and authored numerous articles and two textbooks, Diseases of the Eyes Ears Nose and Throat: A Manual for Students and Practitioners, 1892 and Diseases of the Eye, 1910.

Dr. Weeks traveled extensively as a much sought after lecturer. He received wide acclaim for his manual dexterity and for his method of reconstructing the orbital socket and surgical treatment of glaucoma and cataracts. He received many honors and held chairmanships and memberships in many professional and secular clubs and societies and was known for his diligence, honesty and modesty.

He married Jennie Post Parker April 29, 1890. She was his constant companion and devoted her life to his care. They had one daughter, Eveline Weeks Mount. After his retirement in 1924, he moved to Portland, Oregon to be near her and his grandchildren. While living in Portland he spent a great deal of time at the University of Oregon Medical School. He advised in the Department of Ophthalmology and supported research. Seeing the need for a medical library, he donated \$100,000 for its construction. After a long illness he died in La Jolla, California, February 2, 1949.

Scope and Contents

The bulk of the materials are manuscripts of the autobiography of Dr. John E. Weeks. They are dated ca.1940-1954. Various correspondence and photographs date ca.1880-1954. The collection contains various stages of the manuscript with corrections, photographs and legends to be used in the publication, the bibliography and correspondence with publishers, persons and organizations as sources of information. Also included is a copy of the completed autobiography and other publications. For a complete description of the collection please see the accompanying inventory. There was no apparent order of chronology or subject. Staples and clips were removed during processing and materials were placed in folders.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Oregon Health & Science University Historical Collections & Archives 2012-12-10

Restrictions on Access

No restrictions on access.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use

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Acquisition Information

Dr. John E. Weeks and his wife, Jennie, created and accumulated the materials while writing his autobiography. The collection was transferred to the University of Oregon Medical School Library. The OHSU Special Collections staff processed them July 2001.

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- American Medical Association.
- Medical Library Association.
- Oregon State Medical Society.

Geographic Name(s)

- Oregon

Personal Name(s)

- Hallam, Bertha, Miss
- Richard, Dillehunt, Dr., Dean , 1920-1943

Subject(s)

- Medical Libraries - Oregon
- Medicine and Health
- University of Oregon.Medical School

Box 1

Collection Inventory

Box 1
F1
Photographs
John E. Weeks, family and colleagues
F2
Negatives of photographs
F3
News clippings
Honors and obituary notices; only one contains a date [Mother's Day 1947]
F4

F5

Dinner announcement, 1961 October 6 -Remarks by Weeks at dinner given in his honor

UOMS 53rd Annual Commencement exercises announcement 1941

Catalog of Opera on Records

Souvenir of the Research Study Club of Los Angeles 1923-1939 -Contains photographs

F5

Biography of John E. Weeks by John H. Dunnington, 1949 April (7 copies)

F6

Miscellany

Personal notes

Correspondence

Dinner invitation

Address given at the Medical Library Association meeting, Portland, Oregon 1940

Announcements

F7

Version of autobiography with corrections

F8A

Version of autobiography with corrections

Published articles

Handwritten bibliography

List of publications and correspondence (1954) interspersed within text

Handwritten version of a portion of the autobiography titled "For My Great Grandchildren"

Rewrites

List of appointments in lay society and club memberships, honorary, medical society memberships

F8B - Continuation of F8A

Box 2

Box 2

F9

Version of autobiography with corrections

F10

Version of autobiography with corrections

F11

Version of autobiography with corrections

F12

Service Bulletin, Oregon State Medical Society, 1943 September

Credentials of delegate to the International Association of Physicians and Surgeons 1908

Portions of autobiography

Obituary

Bibliography

Correspondence

Speech upon dedication of Medical Library

Tentative Program for dedication ceremony of Medical Library, 1940 June 7, dated 1940 May 20

Speeches [ND]

Notification of nomination as visiting ophthalmologist at Bellevue Hospital Medical College, 1895
October 26

Notification of appointment as delegate to the International Association of Physicians and Surgeons,
1929 July 25

Letter to Bertha Hallam from R. B.Dillehunt, in appreciation to committee for preparation for
dedication of plaque of Weeks in Medical Library

Notification of election as secretary to Ophthalmological Section of the Congress for the United
States to be held in Havana, Cuba, 1900 November 21

Photograph of bronze plaque in Library

Box 3

Hallam's request to Dr. Bogart for the New York Eye and Ear Infirmary Reports published under the sponsorship of Weeks, 1951 January 29

Editorial, "Notable Medical Library" in Northwest Medicine V39 No.8 p. 277, 1940 August.

Notification of election as fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Certificate of appointment as a delegate to the American Medical Association, 1892 May 9

Correspondence to Bertha Hallam, 1942 February 2

Addresses delivered at the dinner to honor Weeks at the Union Club, 1941 October 6

List: articles written by Weeks, handwritten

Box 3

Publications

The Bellevue Violet. 1928

Standard Orders for Ward Patients and Recovery Room Patients. Woman's Hospital in the State of New York, revised 1923 July.

Publications

The Hospital Graduate's Club. New York: Organized 1886 January 20 (2 copies).

Weeks, John E. An Autobiography of John E. Weeks M. D. Portland: Metropolitan Printing Company, 1954.

Archives de L'Institut Pasteur de Tunis. No. 2 Tome XV, 1926 Juin.

Library card files - Weeks publications

Resolution to retain Weeks as a consulting surgeon after his retirement by the Board of Surgeons of the New York Eye Infirmary

AMA research medal, Prize in Ophthalmology 1929