

Guide to the Harold B. Meyers Collection 2002-006

Finding aid prepared by Karen Peterson and Max Johnson

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Oregon Health & Science University Historical Collections & Archives
2013-02-26
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Summary Information

Repository	Oregon Health & Science University Historical Collections & Archives
Creator	Myers, Harold B., M.D.
Title	Harold B. Myers Collection
Date [inclusive]	1920-1935
Extent	1.25 Linear feet 2 Boxes
General Physical Description	Materials are in general good condition with some fraying of paper and some dissolution of adhesives. Care should be exercised when handling materials, although no special equipment (gloves, etc) are required.
Location	Archives, Room 440, Old Library, Marquam Hill Campus
Language	English
Abstract	Harold B. Myers came to Portland in 1915 to take over the Pharmacology department at the University of Oregon Medical School. When the campus moved to Marquam Hill, Myers personally interviewed thousands of admissions candidates over the next few years as aprt of his new position. The materials in this collection consist of manuscripts and research data Myers used in his experiments and papers.

Preferred Citation

Harold B. Myers Collection, Accession Number 2002-006, Oregon Health & Science University Historical Collections & Archives

Biography - Historical Note

Dr. Harold Bunce Myers was born on July 31, 1886 in Oberlin, Ohio. His mother's father was a doctor and Harold was determined to become the seventh doctor in the family. He spent his formative years in Janesville, Wisconsin where his father owned the Hotel Myers. When his mother died, Harold was only six years old and he returned to Oberlin to live with his mother's family. Harold returned to Janesville when he was old enough for high school. In high school he became involved in track to build up his physical strength. He developed into a determined runner. He continued with his running while in college and declined an opportunity to run in the Olympic games so his studies would not be interrupted.

In 1904, at the age of eighteen, he entered the University of Wisconsin in Madison. Harold arrived in Madison with only 30 dollars, which was soon stolen. His father did not contribute to the cost of his medical education. He secured all sorts of odd jobs and was determined to accomplish what he had set out to do even though friends tried to discourage his college education. In his sophomore year he met his future wife, Isabel, the sister of a team member. In his junior year, he was elected captain of the track team and held the western record for the half-mile.

In 1907 the University of Wisconsin began offering first year medical studies. Harold Myers had always been interested in medicine and in 1908 he graduated with a degree in Letters and Science. He was chosen as a member of the Bronze Key Sophomore Honor Society and the Iron Cross, Senior Honor Society. His early interest in medicine was in toxicology and pharmacology.

Dr. Myers chose the Western Reserve University in Cleveland to continue his medical studies because he had relatives living near and because classes were small. He entered as a sophomore in the fall of 1908. In 1909, Myers was made coach of the track team. He became a member of the Phi Rho Sigma medical fraternity and was a bit of a practical joker while living in the house. He was offered the position of intern at the German Hospital in Cleveland while still a senior and he refused an offer from the University of Wisconsin to become their track coach. In 1911 he graduated from the Western Reserve Medical College.

After graduation he married Isabel Hean and went into practice with an older relative, considering retirement, in Kankana, Wisconsin. When this didn't happen, Dr. Myers, with the help of Dr. Sollman, obtained the position of instructor at Bellvue Hospital Medical School. At the same time he acquired clinical training from Bellvue Hospital. In 1915, at 28 years old, Dr. Myers came to Portland to succeed Dr. Franklin McLean in the pharmacology department of UOMS. At this time the department was no more than an attic in the old building on 23rd and Lovejoy Street. Two years later he was made assistant dean when Dr. Richard Dillehunt went to war.

When the school moved to Marquam Hill, Dr. Myers helped turn the school into an excellent scholastic establishment by insisting on the highest standards. As Chairman of the committee on admissions, he personally interviewed thousands of candidates for entrance to the school. He did more than any one man to raise the standards of the medical schools in the northwest. Dr. Hanzlik, of Stanford, said Dr. Myers made pharmacology a living branch of medicine. He was also active in the field of toxicology and was called upon as an expert witness in cases of suspected poisoning.

Dr. Myers was always interested in the actual treatment of patients and although he did not have a private practice, he spent a good deal of time at the Out-patient Clinic at the school and helping neighbors. In addition to these services, for which he never charged, he took over the general practice of Dr. C. L. Booth on occasion and was liked by the doctor's patients. Dr. Myers did essential and lasting work in pharmacology. He published approximately twenty papers in his lifetime.

In 1934, Dr. Myers had an attack, which he believed to be coronary thrombosis. He was unwilling to admit that his physical capacity had diminished but he was worried and felt that he did not have long to live. In the summer of 1936, he was unable to walk more than a few feet without resting. He collapsed in front of his class and it was hard for him to go back and lecture again because he was extremely sensitive about his condition. In the spring of 1937, after a strenuous week with the alumni association, he suffered a coronary thrombosis and died on March 17th at the age of 51. His wife, Isabel and four children survived him.

CURRICULUM VITAE

University of Wisconsin Western Reserve University Bellevue Hospital Medical College Intern at the German Hospital in Cleveland

Professional Career Positions Occupied in Regular Calling

Instructor of Pharmacology, Bellevue Hospital Medical College General Practice, Kaukauna, Wisconsin 1915, Professorship of Pharmacology, University of Oregon Medical School 1917, Assistant Dean, University of Oregon Medical School Professor of Pharmacology, University of Oregon Medical School Chairman of Admissions, University of Oregon Medical School Assistant Dean, University of Oregon Medical School

Societies and Clubs

Phi Rho Sigma Alpha Omega Alpha The University Club The Multnomah Club American College of Physicians American Medical Association Pacific Northwest Medical Association Deacon for the First Presbyterian Church Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine The American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics The American Academy for the Advancement of science Fellow in the American College of Physicians Portland Academy of Medicine

Scope and Contents

The materials in this collection primarily consist of Myers' work with Xanthines and his tests on rabbits regarding pharmacological toxicity. Experimental research data and manuscripts make up the majority of the collection.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Oregon Health & Science University Historical Collections & Archives 2013-02-26

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Acquisition Information

The materials have been created and/or collected by Dr. Harold B. Myers and were transferred to the Oregon Health and Science University Library. The OHSU Library Special Collections staff processed the collection in May, 2002.

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Controlled Access Headings

Geographic Name(s)

- Oregon

Subject(s)

- Caffeine
- Iodine

- **Medicine and Health**
- **Pharmacology**
- **Xanthines**

Box 1

Collection Inventory

Box 1

Envelope 1

Notebook: "Crossed Tolerance/Xanthines"; contains loose pages with extra data

Envelope 2

Notebook: "Caffeine Toleration"; contains loose papers with extra data, back of note book has record of work begun Oct. 15, 1923

Envelope 3

Notebook: "Iodine Toxicology"

Envelope 4

Notebook: "Systemic Reaction Between Iodine and Thiosulphate"

Reprint: "Loeser's Intravenous Solution of Sodium Thiosulphate"

Envelope 5

Envelope 5

Notebook: "Salieylate Work"

Envelope 6

Notebook: "Harold Myers Estate" contains loose paper some of which have been placed in smaller envelopes and left in the notebook in its original place. Larger papers (correspondence and mss.) have been removed to Box 2, Folder 1 but its original location has been marked.

Envelope 7

Notebook: "Renal toleration of Theophylline" contains some loose paper

Envelope 8

Notebook: "Salieglates"

Box 2

F1 - Items removed from notebook in envelope 6

Correspondence

F2

Manuscript: Shutter, Lillian & Harold B. Myers "Picrotoxin-Stramonium Antagonism"

Manuscript, preliminary draft: Shutter, Lillian & Harold B. Myers "Picrotoxin-Stramonium Antagonism"

One page manuscript: Shutter, Lillian & Harold B. Myers "A Bio Assay of Stramonium"

Hand written note for item listed above

Two page manuscript: "A Bio Assay of Stramonium"; with 3 pages of handwritten data in table form and one page of handwritten text

Untitled or signed manuscript plus two pages of handwritten text

F2

Two handwritten notes stating that the collection comes from the department of Pharmacology, 1963

Notebook titled "Morphine on Oestrus"

From envelope labeled Young A.G. manuscript and letters, addressed to Dr. Myers

Correspondence

From envelope labeled Comparative Toxicity of Certain Volatile Oils Found ...

Manuscript: Young, A. G., F. H. L. Taylor and H. H. Merritt, "Studies of the Distribution and Excretion of Mercury"

Photographs (9) of graphs, glued to paper with editorial comments all for the item listed above

Reprint: "The Journal of Laboratory And Clinical Medicine", April 1928; Young, A. G., The Studies of the Action of Sodium Thiosulphate in Metallic Intoxications

Reprint: "The New England Journal of Medicine", Dec. 1928; Young, A. G. A clinical Study of the Effects of O-Iodoxybenzoic Acid in the Treatment of Arthritis

Reprint: "The Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery January", 1935; Young, Albert G., Harold E. MacMatton, Chronic Proliferative Arthritis in Patients with Rheumatic Fever

From envelope labeled Comparative Toxicity of Certain Volatile Oils Found in Yeast

Manuscript: Myers Harold B., "The Comparative Toxicity of Certain Volatile Oils Toward Pathogenic Yeasts"

From a folder: "Toxicity of Volatile Oils and Stearoptenes Against Pathogenic Fungi"

Manuscript: Myers, Harold B., "An Unappreciated Fungicidal Action of Certain Volatile Oils"

From a folder: "Toxicity of Volatile Oils and Stearoptenes Against Pathoge..."

Reprint: "The Journal of the American Medical Association", June 1925; Myers, Harold B. and Clinton H. Thienes, The Fungicidal Activity of Certain Volatile Oils and Stearoptenes.

Manuscript: Myers, Harold B., "The Comparative Toxicity of Certain Volatile Oils Toward Pathogenic Yeasts"

Manuscript: Myers, Harold B., "The Comparative Toxicity of Certain Volatile Oils Toward Pathogenic Yeasts"

Manuscript: Myers, Harold B., "The Comparative Toxicity of Certain Volatile Oils Toward Pathogenic Yeasts"

Manuscript: "The Fungicidal Activity of Certain Volatile Oils and Stearoptenes"

Manuscript; Myers, Harold B., "The Value of Essential Oils in Treating Fungoid Infections"

Correspondence and Abstracts: "Comparative Fungicidal Action of Certain Volatile Oils"

Manuscript: "Comparative Fungicidal Action of Certain Volatile Oils"

Manuscript: "The Value of Essential Oils in Treating Fungoid Infections"

Correspondence

Manuscript: Myers, Harold B., “Comparative Fungicidal Action of Certain Volatile Oils”

Manuscript: Myers, Harold B., “Comparative Fungicidal Action of Certain Volatile Oils”

Note and hand constructed tables of experimental data

F3

Manuscript: “Renal Toleration of Caffein”

Manuscript: “Renal Toleration of Caffein”

From a folder labeled Evidence of Systemic Interaction Between Iodine and Thiosulphate

Manuscript: Myers, Harold B. and Charles Ferguson “Evidence of Systemic Interaction Between Iodine and Thiosulphate”

Manuscript: Myers, Harold B. and Charles Ferguson, “Evidence of Systemic Interaction Between Iodine and Thiosulphate”; incomplete with a small note and some hand written experiment graph data

Manuscript: Ferguson, Charles, “Evidence of Systemic Interaction of Iodine and Sodium - Thiosulphate” thesis

F4

Manuscript copy: "Evidence of Systemic Interaction Between Iodine and Thiosulphate"

Hand written copy: class schedule for 1920 second year and the same for 3rd year

Graphs: blood press tracing for salicyate rabbit and second unidentified tracing

Manuscript copy: "Evidence of Systemic Interaction Between Iodine and Thiosulphate"

Two copies of experiment instructions for acetone from b-oxybutyric acid plus abstract: "Marriott Modification of Scott-Wilson Method of Estimating Acetone and Di-Acetic Acid" plus 2 statements of work done in the Dept. of Pathology, one hand written and one typed

F4

From a folder labeled Crossed Tolerance

Manuscript: "Crossed Tolerance"

From a folder titled Lack of Salicylate Action upon Acetone Metabolism

Manuscript: "A Case of Methyl Salicylate Poisoning"

Abstracts typed and handwritten in German and English

From a folder titled Cross Tolerance Caffein

Experiment data, front and back, labeled as tables 4 through 9

Manuscript: "Lack of Salicylate Effect on the Acetone Body Content of the Blood"

Notebook: Rabbit Yeast Experiments

From a folder titled Cross Tolerance Caffein

Correspondence

Manuscript: "Cross Tolerance: Renal Response to Caffein and Theobromin in Rabbits Tolerant to Caffein"

Manuscript: "Cross Tolerance Comparative Renal Response to Theobromin and Theophyllin in Rabbits Tolerant Toward Caffein"

Manuscript: "Renal Toleration of Caffein"

Manuscript: "Renal Toleration of Caffein"

Manuscript: "Renal Toleration of Caffein"

From a folder titled Cross Tolerance Decreased Renal Response

From an envelope marked submitted draft and corrections of Nitrate Tolerat...

Manuscript; Myers, Harold B., "Cross Tolerance: Decreased Renal Response to Theobromin and Theophyllin in Rabbits Tolerant Toward Caffeine"

Many graphs, some labeled and some mounted on paper

Manuscript of -"Cross Tolerance Comparative Renal Response Theobromin and Theophyllin in Rabbits Tolerant Toward Caffeine"

From an envelope marked submitted draft and corrections of Nitrate Toleration by H. B. Myers and Thomas Austin

Manuscript: "Nitrite Toleration" by Harold B. Myers and V. Thomas Austin

Two large graphs, folded

Manuscript; "Nitrite Toleration"

Graphs, 2 drafts and two smaller graphs on the same background

Proof correction sheets of title, references and figure descriptions, typed and handwritten