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Collections


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Military Medicine

 Military Medicine Collection


There is a considerable amount of material on this subject in the collection. Medical treatment during wars in ancient times up through the Middle Ages to the American Civil War, World War I and World War II, Korea and Vietnam. Doctors, nurses, ambulance drivers are all represented. A great many techniques and therapies were discovered and/or expanded during these traumatic conflicts. It is a fascinating subject and extremely important to the evolution of medicine. The material is found in both the open shelves and the locked cabinets of the History of Medicine Room, under the UH call number for the most part. Biographies of individuals are available in the WZ 100 call number section. An excellent primary source is the Oral History Collection located in the Archives. This collection includes material on medicine in the Warsaw ghetto and among POWs during WWII.

Mental Health and Psychiatry

 Mental Health and Psychiatry

Annual reports from lunatic asylums in Canada, United States, Great Britain and Australia. This is another invaluable source of primary source materials in 19th century studies. Loads of case studies, equipment lists and statistics. Everything you need to know (officially) about running a lunatic asylum. Compare and contrast the institutions or compare the official version of life in the asylum versus what other sources say to the contrary. Six countries are represented, Canada, U.S.A., England, Scotland, Ireland and Australia, 90 institutions and 313 publications, all from the mid 19th century.

Radiology

 Radiology

Dr. Peter Cockshott, Chairman of the Department of Radiology, 1967-77, was deeply interested in the history of medicine, in particular radiology. In 1986 he donated his collection of historical radiology materials to the History of Medicine collection.

Nineteenth-Century Canadian Medical Journals on Microfiche

 Nineteenth-Century Canadian Medical Journals on Microfiche


This collection consists of 54 medical journals copied onto microfiche, all dating from the early nineteenth to the early 20th century. It includes the full contents of every journal published in Canada, beginning with the first (The Quebec Medical Journal/Journal de medicine de Quebec, 1826)

through the year 1900. In their original form most of these journals are now extremely scarce, and several exist only in one or two libraries in the world. The collection is an invaluable tool for research into medical history in the formative years for Canada and for Canadian medicine.

Nineteenth-Century and Twentieth-Century Canadian Medical Journals


There are 42 hardcopy journals available in runs of various lengths, all dating from the early 19th and early 20th century.

Ephemera

 Ephemera

This is another excellent source of primary materials such as advertisements and almanacs especially for popular medicine, herbal medicine and homeopathy.

Oral History Collection

 Oral History Collection

The collection was created by Dr. Charles Roland, former Hannah Professor of the History of Medicine. It contains oral history tapes and their transcriptions on such diverse subjects as the founding of McMaster University Medical School, World War I and II POW's, Nursing WWI, medicine in the Warsaw Ghetto, the Winnipeg Clinic, the discovery of heparin and Canadian medical experience in the early 20th century.

