George F. Crikelair collection

CRIKELAIR, GEORGE F., 1921-2005, collector.
.66 cubic feet (2 boxes)

Biographical Note: George F. Crikelair, plastic surgeon, was born in Green Bay, Wisconsin. He graduated from St. Norbert College and received his medical degree in 1944 from the University of Wisconsin.

He arrived at the Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center in 1952, and by 1960 was named professor of clinical surgery, a position he held until his retirement in 1977. He directed the plastic surgery service at Presbyterian Hospital from 1959 to 1977 and was affiliated with Harlem Hospital and Francis Delafield Hospital.

Crikelair served as chair of the American Board of Plastic Surgery (1970-1971); president of the American Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons (1971); and was a founder of the Information Council on Fabric Flammability (1967).

He died in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, of a stroke, on Feb. 24, 2005.

Historical Note: The Information Council on Fabric Flammability was founded by George F. Crikelair, a plastic surgeon affiliated with Columbia University, in 1967.

Crikelair founded the organization after becoming interested in burn prevention after treating numerous children with severe burns. With Fritz Agate, a burn expert at Columbia, he conducted experiments that supported the existence of a causal connection between nightwear made with untreated fabrics and severe burns in children.

Based on these observations Crikelair was invited to speak at Senate hearings on the subject, and also appointed to the Consumer Product Safety Committee. This national advisory committee drafted and promoted the federal Flammable Fabrics Act, which was ratified in 1972 and set safety standards for certain fabrics.

He also was instrumental in getting prevention included as part of the mission of the American Burn Association, and started a prevention section with the organization.

Scope & Content: Letters from George F. Crikelair to presidents of the Babies Hospital Alumni Association regarding the founding of the Information Council on Fabric Flammability (ICFF) and publications of the ICFF, including annual meeting programs and proceedings.

Arrangement/Organization: The collection has been divided into two series: I. Correspondence and pamphlets; II. Bound volumes.
SERIES I. CORRESPONDENCE AND PAMPHLETS
BOX 1
Two copies of a letter from Crikelair to presidents of the Babies Hospital Alumni Association, detailing the history of the founding of the Information Council on Fabric Flammability.

SERIES II. BOUND VOLUMES
BOX 1-2

LANGUAGE: English.

ACCESS: These records are open for research without restriction.

PROVENANCE: Gift of George Crikelair to the Babies Hospital Alumni Association, 1985. Transferred to the Archives with the Babies Hospital Alumni Association records in 2009. (Accession # 2009.12.03)

RELATED COLLECTIONS:
Babies Hospital Historical Collection. Series X: Oversize, includes Conference on Burns and Flame Retardant Fabric, 1966

PROCESSING NOTE:

SUBJECTS
Crikelair, George F.
Agate, Fritz.
Babies Hospital Alumni Association.
Information Council on Fabric Flammability.
Burns and scalds in children.
Burns and scalds in children--Law and legislation--United States.
Burns and scalds--Prevention.
Burns and scalds—Research.

Box Folder

SERIES I: CORRESPONDENCE AND PROGRAMS


SERIES II: BOUND VOLUMES

“Conference on Burns and Flame Retardant Fabric,” Bulletin of the New York Academy of Medicine, v. 43, no. 8, August 1967

Crikelair, G.K. et al, Textile Flammability and Consumer Safety, Gottlieb Duttweiler Institute for Economic and Social Studies: Rüschlikon-Zurich, 1969


