
NEUROLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF NEW YORK.
Historical collection, 1917-1983 (bulk 1930-1960)
.5 cubic feet (2 boxes)

SUMMARY: Scrapbooks, photographs, and miscellaneous correspondence and documents relating to the Neurological Institute of New York and the Department of Neurology at the Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center, 1917-1983.

HISTORICAL NOTE: The Neurological Institute of New York was the first hospital in the western hemisphere founded solely for the treatment of diseases of the nervous system. Established in 1909 by Drs. Joseph Collins, Joseph Frankel, and Pearce Bailey, the Institute became part of the new Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center in 1925. It retained a separate corporate identity until 1937, when it was fully merged into Presbyterian Hospital. The Institute is also the Department of Neurology of the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Columbia University.

SCOPE AND CONTENT: This appears to be an artificial collection created by Archives & Special Collection staff sometime before 1996. The largest part consists of a scrapbook dating from 1921-1930; it largely contains newspaper and magazine reviews of books by Dr. Joseph Collins (1866-1950), one of the founders of the Neurological Institute. Another scrapbook appears to have been created by Flora Jo Bergstrom, probably a nurse at the Institute in the early 1920s. It dates from 1921 to the late 1970s and contains newspaper clippings (largely about the NI), Christmas cards, some correspondence, and snapshots of Institute nurses and staff from the 1920s.

Other material includes miscellaneous publications of the Institute, mostly fundraising appeals; photocopies of documents relating to the NI’s affiliation with the Medical Center in 1925; annual reports from the 1950s-1960s; a fiftieth anniversary program; and a tribute to Dr. Edwin Zabriskie on the occasion of his 80th birthday (1954) signed by members of the Institute staff.

The photographs are of the 4th International Congress of Neurological Surgery/9th International Congress of Neurology in 1969 and of 1970 symposium honoring Dr. H. Houston Merritt (Director of the NI/Chairman of the Dept. of Neurology, 1948-1967). There are also photos apparently produced for a short text entitled “First Aid to Spines” by Dr. Byron Stookey; they are undated but are probably from the 1930s.

ARRANGEMENT: Arranged in two series: I. Records; II. Photographs.

PROVENANCE: Unknown. No accession records exist. The Collins scrapbook appears to have been donated by Flora Jo Bergstrom. From internal evidence, some items came directly from the Neurological Institute while others may have been added by archives staff.
SUBJECTS

Neurology.
Neurological Institute of New York.
Merritt, H. Houston (Hiram Houston), 1902-1979.
Zabriskie, Edwin G., 1874-
Scrapbooks.
Photographs.

Collection reprocessed and finding aid rewritten by Stephen Novak, Nov. 1999
Box Folder List

Series I: Records

1 1 Affiliation with CPMC: correspondence, documents [photocopies], 1925-1955
3 “Chronological Account” of the NI and histories, 1917-1966
4 Collins, Joseph: Scrapbook, 1923-1930 [Folder 1 of 2]
5 Collins, Joseph: Scrapbook, 1923-1930 [Folder 2 of 2]
6 50th Anniversary Celebration: program, article, guest list, 1959
7 Miscellaneous material: correspondence, ephemera, etc., c.1920s-1970s & undated
8 Publications, 1924-1983
9 Scrapbook [created by Flora Jo Bergstrom?], 1920s-1970s: includes photographs of NI staff

2 1 Zabriskie, Edwin G.: tribute presented to him by the NI staff on the occasion of his 80th birthday, Oct. 1954

Series II: Photographs

2 “First Aid to Spines”: also includes text
3 Fourth International Congress of Neurological Surgery/9th International Congress of Neurology, 1969
4 Clinico-Pathological Experimental Symposium in Honor of H. Houston Merritt, April 30, 1970