

PAPERS OF DR. JOHN L. HEFFRON (1851-1924)

Overview of the Collection

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| Creator: | Heffron, John Lorenzo |
| Title: | Papers of Dr. John L. Heffron |
| Inclusive Dates: | 1873-1924 |
| Quantity: | 1.25 linear ft. |
| Abstract: | Papers previously belonging to John L. Heffron (1851-1924), a Student, Professor and Dean at the Syracuse University College of Medicine. The contents consist of correspondence, notes, speeches and articles which encompass his different capacities in the College of Medicine. |
| Language: | English |
| Repository: | Historical Collections, Health Sciences Library SUNY Upstate Medical University 766 Irving Avenue Syracuse, NY 13210 http://www.upstate.edu/library/ |

Biographical History

John Lorenzo Heffron: (1851-1924) was born November 29, 1851 in New Woodstock, NY. He attended and received degrees from Madison University, now called Colgate University. He then furthered his studies and graduated from Syracuse University College of Medicine with an M.D. in 1881. Graduate study followed in Vienna and Heidelberg. His 40 year teaching position at Syracuse University College of Medicine began in 1883 as an instructor of Histology and then in 1885 he was made Professor of Histology. Following, he was Professor of Materia Medica and Therapeutics, and Professor of Clinical Medicine. In 1907 John L. Heffron became Dean of the school and he held this position until 1922. Dr. Heffron then was named Dean Emeritus. Along with his many affiliations and memberships, Dr. Heffron was chairman of the public health committee of the New York State Medical Society for many years, vice-president of the American Medical Association and also held presidencies in the American Academy of Medicine, Central New York Medical Association, the Onondaga Medical Society, and the Syracuse Academy of Medicine. Dr. Heffron also authored many works and articles in medical journals. In September of 1924 John L. Heffron was struck by a car and died from his injuries.

Sources:

Alumni Record and General Catalogue of Syracuse University, Alumni Association of Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York, May 1899.

Pharos, v.6, no.1, pl; 12-13.

Syracuse Post Standard, "Dead: Death Comes to Physician this Morning," September 28, 1924.

Syracuse Post Standard, "Tributes Laud Loyal Service of Dr. Heffron," September 30, 1924.

Scope and Contents of the Collection

The collection of the papers of John L. Heffron (1851-1924) is divided into four main sections: Student, Professor, Dean and Dean Emeritus. There are also two additional sections, one for Undated Items and the other for Miscellaneous items.

Student (Box 1) consists of final examinations and notebooks from lectures while John Heffron was a student at Syracuse University College of Medicine from 1878-1881.

Professor (Boxes 1-2) consists of five parts: Correspondence, Speeches/Addresses/Lectures by John L. Heffron, Clippings/Journal Articles by John L. Heffron, other Clippings/Journal Articles, and Ephemera. These materials are dated from 1883-1906.

Dean (Boxes 2-3) consists of five parts: Correspondence, Speeches/Addresses/Lectures by John L. Heffron, Clippings/Journal Articles by John L. Heffron, other Clippings/Journal Articles, and Ephemera. These materials are dated 1907-1922.

Dean Emeritus (Box 3) consists of five parts: Correspondence, Speeches/Addresses/Lectures by John L. Heffron, Clippings/Journal Articles by John L. Heffron, other Clippings/Journal Articles, and Statistical Information on Death Rates. These materials are dated 1922-1924.

Undated Items (Box 3) consists of Speeches/Addresses/Lectures by John L. Heffron, Clippings/Journal Articles by John L. Heffron, and other Clippings/Journal Articles.

Miscellaneous (Box 3) consists of a few miscellaneous items.

Arrangement of the Collection

Student: both the final examinations and notebooks are chronologically ordered.

Professor: within each of the five parts, the materials are in date order.

Dean: within each of the five parts, the materials are in date order.

Dean Emeritus: within each of the five parts, the materials are in date order.

Undated & Miscellaneous: folders and items are in no specific order.

Newspaper Clippings: the last folder of the collection contains original clippings. Photocopies of the clippings are filed throughout the collection.

Restrictions

Access Restrictions

There are no access restrictions on this material, with the exception of personally identifiable patient information in Folder 14.

User Restrictions

Written permission must be obtained from Historical Collections, Health Sciences Library, SUNY Upstate Medical University and all relevant rights holders before publishing quotations, excerpts or images from any materials in this collection.

Related Material

There is a folder for John L. Heffron in the Historical Biographical files in Historical Collections.

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

Preferred Citation for this material is as follows:

Papers of John L. Heffron
Historical Collections
Health Sciences Library
SUNY Upstate Medical University

Finding Aid Information

Created by: Cheryl Clancy
Date: May 2008
Revision History : Materials were brought together from a historical subject file kept by the library and were incorporated with a separate group of Dean's papers to form this collection of papers.

CONTAINER LIST

STUDENT : 1879-1881 Graduate of Class of 1881

Box 1

F. 1 Examinations

02/03/1881 "Final Examination in Diseases of Women. On Lectures by Prof. W.W. Porter. M.D.," ms.
03/29/1881 "Examination in Pathology by Prof. Nivison," ms.
05/26/1881 "Final Examination in Prin. And Prac. Of Medicine. On Lectures by Prof. H.D. Didama. M.D.," ms.
05/30/1881 "Final Examination in Operative Surgery," ms.
06/02/1881 "Final Examination in Obstetrics," ms.

F. 2 Notebooks

10/--/1878 "Materia Medica – Lectures by Prof. E. Curtis," dated Oct. 8 – Jan. 29, 1879, ms.

F. 3

10/--/1878 "Surgery – Lectures by – Prof. Markoe," dated Oct. 8 – Dec. 10, 1878 ; "Materia Medica Vol. III Lectures by Prof. E. Curtis," dated Jan. 31 – Feb. 19, 1879, ms.

F. 4

10/--/1878 "Practice of Medicine. Lectures by – Prof. Delafield and Clark.," dated Oct. 7 – Dec. 23, 1878, ms.

- F. 5
10/--/1878 "Diseases of Women - Lectures by – Prof. Thomas," dated Oct. 7 – Dec. 9, 1878 ; "Obstetrics – Lectures by Prof. McLane," dated Oct. 7 – Dec. 16, 1878, ms.
- F. 6
--/--/1879 Notes from lectures while a student.
- F. 7
--/--/1879 Notes from lectures while a student.

PROFESSOR : 1882-1907

F. 8 Correspondence

- 06/15/1887 Letters from President E. Dodge of Madison University, Hamilton, N.Y. (06/15/1887, 06/26/1887, 11/27/1889 & 12/24/1889), ms.
11/03/1888 Letter from David Porter, ms.

F. 9 Speeches/Addresses/Lectures by John L. Heffron, M.D

- [--/--/1883?] "Three Cases of Combined External and Internal...", ms.
11/13/1883 "Vaccination, City Society, Nov. 13, 1883," ms.
02/10/1885 "A Case of Cerebro-Spinal Fever," ms.

- F. 10
06/08/1886 "Address before Annual Meeting of The Onon. Medical Society," ms.

Box 2

F. 11

- 01/--/1887 "Ladies and Gentlemen: A year ago it was your pleasure to make me the presiding officer of...", Address as President of Syracuse Medical Association, ms.

F. 12

06/--/1887 "The Use of Hydrogen Sulphide in the Treatment of Diseases of the Lungs," ms.
04/03/1888 "Clinical History," ms.
[10/03/1888?] "On Oct. 3, '88 I was asked to...," ms.
12/10/1889 "By intestinal obstruction in children...," ms.

F. 13

02/04/1890 "The Gene Theory of Disease and its Relation to Daily Living," ms.
12/02/1891 "Intestinal Antisepsis & Antiseptics. Read before Syracuse Medical Society," ms.
--/--/1895 "Mr. President and Gentlemen," address to Madison County Medical Society, ms.

F. 14

12/--/1897 "A Study of a Brain Tumor. The Clinical History and Post Mortem Findings," including daily chart from Dec. 29, 1897 – Jan. 27, 1898 and sketch of brain, ms.
05/06/1900 "The Science of Medicine and the Healing Art," ts.
02/27/1903 "Address to The Druggists Association of Syracuse," ms.

F. 15 Certificates

02/07/1889 Medical Society of the State of New York

F. 16 Clippings/Journal Articles by John L. Heffron

11/--/1903 "Original Communications. Our Relations to a Few of the Problems in State Medicine," *Buffalo Medical Journal*, vol. XLIII.-LIX., November, 1903, no.4.
--/--/1906 "To Ward Off Tuberculosis"
--/--/1906 "How to Escape "White Plague""
08/26/1906 "Fair Edinboro Town: Dr. John L. Heffron Describes Its Beauties For The Herald," *The Syracuse Herald*

F. 17 Clippings/Journal Articles

--/--/1890 "Miscellany. Death of President Dodge," *The Madisonensis*
08/20/1891 "Camping in the Wilderness. A Breezy Letter From an Ogdensburg Boy in the Woods"
--/--/1904 "Climatologists in Town: Eastern Doctors Here Looking for the Kind of Weather Their Patients Need."
--/--/1906 "For Safeguarding Purity of Water," *The Post Standard*.
09/19/1906 "Journal's Cry for Pure Water Taken Up by Physicians," Syracuse publication.
12/12/1906 "Health Safeguards Need of the County," *The Post Standard*.

F. 18 Ephemera: Programs, Brochures, Invites

03/31/1891 Central City Lodge, No. 305.

DEAN OF MEDICAL SCHOOL : 1907-1922

F. 19 Correspondence

nd "Research, 1911-12," ts.
nd Regarding new material for class work, research, curriculum, ts.
nd "Name. Pathology Department of, Syracuse University," ts.
nd Several pages with Weiskotten and Steensland information as well as department information, ts.
05/29/1909 Letter to Dean from Director with attached "Report of the Professor of Pathology and Bacteriology," ts.
06/01/1909 Letter from W.H. Howell, Dean, requesting information for annual announcement, ts.
Letterhead: The Johns Hopkins University
04/01/1912 Departmental fund, expenses, ts.
05/16/1913 Letter to Dean Heffron from Professor of Pathology, ts.
04/08/1914 Letter to Dean Heffron from H.S.S., ts.
05/18/1914 Letter to Dean Heffron from Professor of Pathology, ts.
10/22/1914 Letter to Dr. John C. MacEvitt from John L. Heffron, ts.
10/27/1914 Letter to Professor A. Clifford Mercer from John L. Heffron, ts.
10/29/1914 Letter to Doctor Heffron from A. Clifford Mercer, ms.
04/19/1915 Letter to Dean Heffron regarding salary rates from H.S.S., ts.
05/03/1915 Letter to "Dear Doctor," regarding improvements of department for coming year from John Heffron, ts.
Letterhead: The College of Medicine of Syracuse University.
05/04/1915 Letter to Dean Heffron from H.S.S., ts.
10/07/1915 Letter to Dr. Steensland regarding lecture room from John Heffron, ts.
Letterhead: The College of Medicine of Syracuse University.
10/08/1915 Letter to Dean Heffron in regards to lecture room, ts.
03/01/1916 Letter requesting data for publication for Bibliography, from Ross Jewell, ts. ; Attached ts. of publications of Dean Heffron
03/02/1916 Letter to Dean Heffron as statement of departmental needs for 1916-17 from Professor of Pathology, ts.
05/17/1917 Letter "Dear Doctor," regarding budget from John Heffron, ts.
05/18/1917 Letter to Dean Heffron in regards to budget from South Baltimore Hospital, ms.
05/21/1917 Letter to Dr. Steensland regarding illness from John Heffron, ts.
Letterhead: The College of Medicine of Syracuse University.
05/10/1918 Letter to Dean Heffron regarding salary budget for year 1918-19 from Director, ts.
06/17/1920 Letter to Faculty of the College of Medicine of Syracuse University Syracuse, N.Y., ts.
Letterhead: The College of Medicine of Syracuse University.

F. 20 Speeches/Addresses/Lectures by John L. Heffron, M.D.

12/04/1907 "Professional Schools," ts.
03/19/1909 "Charles Darwin," ts.
07/13/1911 "Currents and Counter-Currents In Medical Education," ts.
02/17/1913 "The Minimum Expense of Maintenance of the Clinical Department of an Acceptable Medical College," ts.
02/--/1914 "Mr. President and Gentlemen: In opening the discussion..." ts.
02/--/1914 "Hospitals and Their Relations to Medical College and the Training of Interns. Discussion," ts.

F. 21

06/19/1914 "Modern Medicine and Social Problems," ts.
10/20/1914 "Alfred Mercer A Memorial Tribute by John L. Heffron," ts.
12/14/1915 "A Review of the Tendencies in the Practice of Medicine," ts., two copies.
--/--/1916? "What the Physician Can Do to Aid in the Control of Venereal Diseases," ts.

F. 22

03/22/1916 "Dr. Henry L. Elsner died suddenly on the afternoon..." ts.
03/22/1916 "Sir Andrew Clark, Bart., M.D., F.R.S.," ts.
05/02/1919 "Medical Ethics," ts.
06/10/1919 "The Report of the Dean of the College of Medicine to the Chancellor and Board of Trustees of Syracuse University," ts.
11/10/1919 "The Obligatory Fifth Hospital Year," ts.

F. 23

01/--/1920 "The probable effects of a month's absolute rest in bed..." ts.
05/21/1920 "The Relation of Dentistry to the Practice of Medicine," ts.
01/17/1921 "The Fifth Hospital Year," ts.
06/15/1921 "Remarks at the Unveiling of a Bronze Tablet in Honor of the Alumni Who Served in the World War," ts., two copies.
06/18/1921 "The Present Status and the Future Prospects of the College of Medicine of Syracuse University," ts.
03/21/1922 "The Salaries of Pre-Clinical Teachers in College of Medicine," with chart, ts.;

F. 24 Certificates

02/13/1915 The American Genetic Association
09/10/1915 The American Public Health Association
04/01/1916 American Association for the Advancement of Science
06/06/1916 Syracuse University, Fraternity of Phi Kappa Phi

F. 25 Clippings/Journal Articles by John L. Heffron, M.D.

08/--/1913 "Report of the Committee on the Teaching of Hygiene and Preventive Medicine in Medical Schools." Reprinted from the *Bulletin of the American Academy of Medicine*, Vol. XV., No.4., August 1913.
10/09/1913 "One Hundred Years Young: Centennial Anniversary of Vermont State Medical Society. Dean Heffron of Syracuse Medical College Says Physician Should Have Co-operation of Community in Guarding Its Health," *Burlington Free Press and Times* ; with ts.
02/--/1914 "Should Not the Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States Adopt a Uniform Minimum Curriculum for Medical Schools?," with three ts. copies

F. 26

- 08/--/1914 "The Relation of Modern Medicine to Some of the Social Problems," Reprinted from *The American Academy of Medicine*, vol. XV, no. 4 August, 1914., two copies.
- 04/--/1916 "A Review of the Tendencies in the Practice of Medicine," Reprinted from the *Journal of Sociologic Medicine* vol. XVII, no. 2
- 09/--/1917 "The Status of Medical Students to the Draft," *The Syracusan*, two copies.
- 09/07/1918 "The Significance of Early Heart Lesions," Reprinted from *The Medical Record*.
- 10/13/1918 "Weather Does Not Make Influenza, Says Dr. Heffron," *The Syracuse Herald*.
- 11/02/1918 "The Importance of the Classics in Education, From the Standpoint of Medicine," Reprinted from *School and Society*, vol. VIII, no. 201, pgs. 518-521
- 11/10/1918 "The College of Medicine at the Front," *The Syracuse Herald*.

F. 27

- 12/--/1918 "Some Irregularities of the Heart and Their Treatment," Reprinted from the *New York State Journal of Medicine*, three copies, one copy includes ts. letter dated 11th March 1919, to Dr. Heffron from Mackenzie.
- 03/03/1919 "The Medical Educational Meetings in Chicago, March 3 and 4, 1919. Report of the Delegate of the Academy."
- 06/11/1921 "Present Status and Future Prospect of College of Medicine Syracuse University ; "attached: "Dr. Weiskotten Heads Medical College Alumni," with two copies of ts.
- 10/06/1921 "Dr. Heffron on Milk Problem," Syracuse paper.

F. 28 Clippings/Journal Articles

- /--/-- "Should Forbid Unfit Wedding: President Heffron Tells Medical Academy State Ought to Act"
- /--/-- "Militants Scored By Dean Heffron: Evidences of Triumph of Falseness, He Says. Pleads for the Truth."
- 12/15/1913 "Concerning the Health Officer," *The Syracuse Herald*.
- 06/19/1914 "Doctor Advocates Restricted Births," *Philadelphia Public Ledger*.
- 06/20/1914 "Sex Control in Humans is Near, Declares Scientist"
- 06/04/1916 "Emminent Physician Makes a Great Welsh Rabbit. Welfare of Medical College His Pet Hobby," *The Syracuse Herald*.
- 05/28/1918 "Twenty-seven Per Cent. Of Medical Alumni in Service," article continues to page 40 with heading "Dean Heffron Discusses Medical Education," *The Syracusan*.
- 08/14/1918 "Hold Up Plans For Students Training Corps: Dean Heffron Receives Official Explanation From Washington"
- 06/12/1921 "Heffron Talks at Dedication of War Tablet" and "Enlargement of Medical College Necessary to Care for Applicants of Future," *The Syracuse Herald*.

Box 3

F. 29 Emphera: Programs, Brochures, Invites

- /--/1910 List of items purchased in London, ms.
Stationery: R.M.S. "Lusitania."
- 08/--/1910 Handwritten notes from trip to England, August 13-21, ms.
- 08/--/1910 Handwritten notes from trip to England, August 24-26, ms.
Stationery: Clarendon Hotel, Shrewsbury.

- 02/25/1914 "Association of American Medical Colleges, Twenty-fourth Annual Meeting held at the Congress Hotel, Chicago Florentine Room," two copies.
- 02/25/1914 "The Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States, Second Annual Session, Congress Hotel, Chicago, Illinois."
- 06/19/1914 "Program of the Thirty-ninth Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Medicine (Specializing in Medical Sociology) Hotel Dennis, Atlantic City, N.J., June 19 to 22, 1914," three copies.
- 02/14/1915 Friendship Greeting
- 06/09/1916 "Program of the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Medicine, 1916, Hotel Statler, Detroit, Mich.," ts.
- 06/12/1917 "Annual Dinner College of Medicine Alumni Association, Onondaga Hotel," including "Fellow Alumni: I am glad indeed to be with you once more..." ts.

DEAN EMERITUS

F. 30 Correspondence

- 03/08/1924 Letter to Dr. John L. Heffron from Chief Statistician for Vital Statistics from Department of Commerce.

F. 31 Speeches/Addresses/Lectures by John L. Heffron, M.D.

- 02/09/1923 "The Remarks of the Chairman at a Conference at Syracuse, February 9, 1923 of Some Milbank Memorial Officers and Officials and Friends of the Department of Public Health," ts.
- 11/15/1923 "Remarks made at a Conference with the Advisory Council Milbank Memorial Fund," ts.
- /--/1924 "Brace W. Loomis, M.D.," ts.
- 01/16/1924 "Remarks at Dinner of Chancellor Flint with Faculty of College of Medicine," ts.
- 02/28/1924 "Death and Disability from Heart Disease. A Public Health Problem," ts.

F. 32 Clippings/Journal Articles by John L. Heffron, M.D.

- 10/02/1923 "As to College of Medicine Scholarships."
- 12/19/1923 "David Maydole Totman, A.M., M.D., or Dr. P.H." ; with two copies of ts.
- 04/13/1924 "Cancer (Written Expressly for The Syracuse Sunday Herald.) By Dr. John L. Heffron Dean Emeritus of the Syracuse College of Medicine," *The Syracuse Herald* ; with ts.

F. 33 Clippings/Journal Articles

- 06/10/1922 "Great Medical Plant Planned at University: Dr. Heffron, Appointed Dean Emeritus, Suggest Yates Castle Property as Ideal Site," Syracuse paper.

F. 34 Statistical Information on Death Rates in Syracuse, New York City & New York State, 1920-1924

- 02/21/1924 Correspondence from John Metz, Registrar, City of Syracuse Department of Health Deaths from Heart Disease returned in 1921, U.S. Bureau of Census, Dept. Vital Statistics Notes

References
Charts

UNDATED ITEMS

F. 35 Speeches/Addresses/Lectures by John L. Heffron, M.D.

nd Notebook: begins with "Atlantic City..." ms.

F. 36

nd "No Antagonisms Between Home and School," ms. ; including two newspaper clippings titled
"Training Rules," and " "Mother" Mary Jones Attacks Rockefeller."
nd "The subject of temperance at the present day in a certain sense..." ms.
nd "Man's Redemption From Disease," with few duplicate pages, ts.

F. 37

nd "Med. Professions," ms., included with "Lecture Four," ts.
nd "The Mechanism for Maintaining the Normal Reaction of the Blood," ts.
nd "The Minimum Expense of Maintenance of the Clinical Department of an Acceptable Medical
College," ts.
nd "The Relation of Clergymen to the Practice of Medicine," ts.

F. 38

nd "Nathan Jacobson, M.D., A Memorial Tribute by John L. Heffron," ts.
nd "Ladies and Gentlemen, In the language of the familiar college song... ," ms.
nd "Tendencies in Medical Education and in the Practice of Medicine," ts.
nd "Physical Examination," ms.

F. 39

nd "Prophylaxis in Scarlet Fever," ms.
nd "The Diagnosis of Typhoid Fever," ms.
nd "On Protecting Water Supplies," ms.
nd "The Treatment of Diabetes," ms.
nd "Etiology of Tuberculosis," ms.
nd "The Faculty of the College of Medicine of Syracuse University has received the news of the
death of Dr. Henry D. Didama..." ms.

F. 40

nd "Cerebro-Spinal Fever," ms.

nd "The Treatment of Haematuria," ts.
nd "The Diagnosis of Irregularities of the Heart Beat by Non-Instrumental Methods," two copies, ts.
nd "Some Disorders of the Heart," ts.

F. 41

nd "Mr. President and Fellow Alumni: Twenty-five years ago the members..." ts.
nd "Hospitals and their Relations to Medical Colleges and the Training of Interns," ts.
nd "On the So-called Stokes-Adams Disease (Heart Block.)," ts.

F. 42

nd "Discussion on Dr. Dodson's Paper," ts.
nd "Mr. President and Gentlemen:- In opening the discussion on the question..." ts.
nd "Vaccination," two copies, ts.

F. 43 Clippings/Journal Articles by John L. Heffron, M.D.

nd "The New Conception of Diabetes and its Treatment."
nd "A Report of a Conference of the Surgeon General with the Deans of Medical Schools
Concerning Medical Education and the War."

F. 44 Clippings/Journal Articles

nd "Facts of Tuberculosis Are Told to Workers"
nd "Labor Fighting Tuberculosis."
nd "Bureau of Health as Party Spoils Arouses Heffron"
nd "We doubt if ever the lovers of fine music in this section..."

MISCELLANEOUS

F. 45

06/18/1873 Fifty-Fourth Commencement of Madison University
nd Three pages of notes titled "The Wonders of Medicine"
nd Old finding aid, ts., two copies.

NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS

F. 46

This folder contains all original clippings. These newspaper clippings are photocopied and filed in corresponding folders.