

**MEDICAL CENTER ARCHIVES  
OF  
NEWYORK-PRESBYTERIAN/WEILL CORNELL**

**1300 York Avenue # 34  
New York, NY 10065**

**Finding Aid To  
THE CHARLES RUPERT STOCKARD, PHD (1879-1939)  
PAPERS**

**Dates of Papers:  
1903-1938**

**22 Linear Inches  
(2 Boxes, 10 Volumes)**

**Finding Aid Prepared By:  
Elizabeth Shepard  
Assistant Archivist  
10/2001  
Revised 11/2009**

## **NOTE OF PROVENANCE**

Dr. Stockard's daughter, Marie Louise Stockard Cullinan on June 12, 1990, donated the Charles Rupert Stockard Papers to the New York Weill Cornell Medical Center Archives. Additional materials were added from Marie Louise Cullinan's estate in 2009.

## **BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE**

Charles Rupert Stockard, a pioneer in the fields of embryology and zoology, was born on February 27, 1879, in Washington County, Miss. He received a BS at the Mississippi Agricultural and Mechanical College in 1899 and a MS at the same school in 1901. At the same school he started his teaching career as an acting professor of Military Science and later at the Jefferson Military College. From there he went on to receive a PhD in Zoology at Columbia University in 1906. In 1922, he received a Doctor of Medicine Degree at Wurzburg, Germany.

His first faculty position at the Cornell University Medical College was as an Assistant in Embryology and Histology in 1906. In 1908, he was the Instructor of Comparative Morphology and in 1909 the Assistant Professor of Embryology and Experimental Morphology. By 1911, he was the Professor of Anatomy and the Head of the Department of Anatomy.

His early studies focused on fish embryology, birds, and botany. He was particularly interested in the development of the eye lens of fish and chick embryos.

Later he spent 13 years doing various studies on the effects of alcohol on germ cells, embryos and offspring. He did prove that alcohol had adverse affects on the offspring of male guinea pigs. He used over 100 guinea pigs. During his studies, he noticed that some of the guinea pigs had an extra toe. He did studies of the extra toe in guinea pigs and dogs and how this was inherited.

Other studies focused on the study of the origin of vascular endothelium and blood cells and the study of the origin of identical twins in humans and other animals.

He also worked with George Papanicolaou on the sexual cycle of guinea pigs. This proved useful to George Papanicolaou's studies on the female human sexual cycle through the study of vaginal smears.

His final 12 years of his life he was studying the premise that "the constitutional differences in humans may depend upon definite heredity patterns of the endocrine complex of the individual."\* For this study he established the Experimental Morphology Farm of Cornell University in Mohegan Lake, NY. At this farm he crossed bred hundreds of dogs to study "the inheritance of

morphological characters, behavior and instincts, and histological exams of the endocrine glands."\* Through this research he also advanced veterinary medicine in his treatment of canine distemper and rickets.

He died on April 7, 1939, after suffering a possible stroke at the age of 60.

\*"Charles Rupert Stockard." pp. 29-30 article found in the biography files.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENTS NOTE**

Charles Rupert Stockard Papers offers a comprehensive documentation of his pioneer medical research in the fields of embryology, morphology, zoology, veterinary medicine, and anatomy, 1904-1938. The collection is divided up into six series.

### **Series I: Publications: Reprints of Articles and Books, 1906-1936**

This series, arranged alphabetically, includes reprints of articles and books covering his pioneer research in the fields of embryology, morphology, zoology, veterinary medicine, and anatomy from 1906-1936. The articles include his famed studies in eyes of fish and chick embryos, the affect of alcohol on embryos, germ cells and offspring, and studies on physical inheritance. Also included is George Papanicolaou's **Sexual Cycle in the Human Female as Revealed by Vaginal Smears.** (1933). This study was influenced by Stockard's studies on the sexual cycle of guinea pigs.

### **Series II: Speeches, undated**

This series, arranged alphabetically by title, includes unpublished speeches to various unidentified medical institutions.

### **Series III: Correspondence, 1908-1938**

A small correspondence file, arranged alphabetically by subject, contains letters to Dr. Stockard from various people regarding professional lecture requests, membership activities, and visits, 1908-1938.

### **Series IV: Biographical Information, 1927-1939**

Memorials and biographies give background information about Dr. Stockard's life and his important contributions to the history and advancement of medicine in the early twentieth century.

## **Series V: Miscellaneous, 1903-1938**

This series, arranged alphabetically by subject, includes invitations and membership certificates, 1903-1938.

## **Series VI: Photographs, 1920-1936**

This series, arranged alphabetically by subject, includes photographs of Charles Stockard, Rockefeller Institute, and the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, MA, 1920-1936. These images were removed to the personal photographic collections. See photo catalog.

## **BOX AND FOLDER DESCRIPTION LIST**

### **BX/FL DESCRIPTION**

#### **SERIES I: PUBLICATIONS-ARTICLE REPRINTS, 1906-1936** **Arranged alphabetically by title**

##### Biology Papers, Vol I, 1906-1909, bound

Bound volume contains articles on his research on fish embryology, eye lens of fish embryos, nectar glands of plants, walking sticks (insect), frog eggs, woodpeckers, and Mississippi birds

##### Biology Papers, Vol II, 1910-1913, bound

Bound volume contains articles on his research on eye lens of fish and chick embryos, influence of alcohol on mammal embryos and germ cells, tissue growth, and mammal embryology

##### Biology Papers, Vol III, 1914-1918, bound

Bound volume contains articles on his research on origin of blood in fish embryos, fish eggs, alcohol influence on mammal embryos, and guinea pig sexual cycle

##### Biology Papers, Vol IV, 1919-1923, bound

Bound volume contains articles on his research on twins' embryology, armadillo embryology, guinea pig sexual cycle, modifications in body structure, human and mammal embryology, vertebra eye, inherited deficiencies of sense of smell, and centennial celebrations of medical training in the USA

Biology Papers, Vol V, 1924-1929, bound

Bound volume contains articles and lectures on constructive medicine, inheritance and its relationship to disease, cattle sexual glands, constitution and type and relation to disease, medical education, physical inheritance, hormones, rejuvenation, canine rickets, alcohol and its biological effects, and morphology

1/1 "Biological Science," n.d.

on shelf Development of Artificially Produced Cyclopean Fish-The Magnesium Embryo, n.d.

1/2 "An Experimental Study of the Origin of Blood and Vascular Endothelrum in the Telost Embryo," 1915

1/3 "The Mechanism of Heredity," n.d.

1/4 "The Presence of A Factorial Basis for Characters Lost in Evolution: The Atavistic Reappearance of Digits in Mammals," 1930

1/5 "Oestrus and Ovulation," 1936

1/6 "Sexual Cycle in the Human Female as Revealed by Vaginal Smears." By George Papanicolaou, 1933

1/7 "The Spirit of the Laboratory," 1937

**SERIES I: PUBLICATIONS-BOOKS, 1915-1933**  
**Arranged alphabetically by author**

Marine, David et al. De Lamar Lectures 1925-1926. (Johns Hopkins University) Baltimore: Williams & Wilkins, 1927. (includes Stockard speech on the "Constitutional Types in Relation to Disease.")

Stockard, Charles. An Experimental Analysis of the Origin of Blood and Vascular Endothelium. Philadelphia: Wistar Institute, 1915.

Stockard, Charles. Genetic and Endocrinic Basis for Differences in Form and Behavior. Philadelphia: Wistar Institute, 1941.

Stockard, Charles. The Physical Basis of Personality. New York: W. W. Norton & Co., 1931.

Wilson, Frank et al. The Distribution of the Currents of Action and of Injury Displayed by Heart Muscle and Other Excitable Tissue. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan, 1933.

**SERIES II: SPEECHES, no dates**

Arranged alphabetically by title

- 1/8 "Happiness and Freedom," unpublished address for I. I. & G. in Columbus, n.d.
- 1/9 "How Does Medicine Advance?" unpublished address to an unidentified medical school in Georgia, n.d.
- 1/10 "Individual as a Product of Heredity and Environment," unpublished Lecture, n.d.
- 1/11 "The Place of Technical Education in America: Applied Science," unpublished speech for V. P. I. Semi-Centennial Celebration, n.d.
- 1/12 "The Problem of Development in Adult Constitution," published address to Dedication of the Medical School Building at the University of Virginia, 1929.
- 1/13 "Welcoming Address," unpublished address for an unidentified medical school, n.d.

**SERIES III: CORRESPONDENCE, 1908-1937**

Arranged alphabetically by subject

- 1/14 Correspondence by various people to Dr. Stockard  
re. lecture requests, 1936-1937.
- 1/15 re. membership to various professional organizations,  
1908-1937
- 1/16 re, references, 1903
- 1/17 re: visits, 1927-1935.

**SERIES IV: BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION, 1927-1939**  
**Arranged alphabetically by Subject**

- 2/1 Articles about Dr. Stockard's work, 1927, 1936.
- 2/2-3 Memorials and biographies about Dr. Stockard, ca. 1939.

**SERIES V: MISCELLANEOUS, 1903-1938**  
**Arranged alphabetically by subject**

- 2/4 Catalog from W. W. Norton & Co listing his book The Physical Basis of Personality, 1931.
- 2/5 Invitations, 1907, 1935-1938.
- 2/6-7 Membership certificates, nominations and elections, 1903-1925.
- 2/8 Rockefeller Institute of Medical Research, Tribute, n.d.