

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

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

**Finding Aid To  
THE GEORGE HEUER, MD (1882-1950) PAPERS**

**Dates of Papers:  
1891-1975**

**39 Linear Inches  
(8 Boxes)**

**Finding Aid Prepared By:  
The Archival Staff  
Undated**

### Biographical Sketch

George Julius Heuer (1882-1950) - Professor at Surgery at Cornell University Medical College and Surgeon-in-Chief at New York Hospital at its present location at 69th St. and York Avenue.

- Feb. 18, 1882 - Born in Madison, Wisconsin.
- 1903 - B.S. from University of Wisconsin.
- 1907 - M.D. from Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, Maryland.
- 1907-8 - House Officer, Johns Hopkins Hospital.
- 1908-11 - Assistant Resident Surgeon at Johns Hopkins- close associate of Harvey Cushing - Chief of Neurosurgery at Hopkins.
- 1911-14 - Resident Surgeon at Johns Hopkins under William Stewart Halsted (Surgeon-in-Chief at Johns Hopkins Hospital and Professor at Surgery).
- June, 1914 - Kuttners Clinic in Breslau, Germany for 6 wk. stay.
- 1914-22 - Associate Professor of Surgery Johns Hopkins Hospital.
- 1917-19 - Major in Army Medical Corps in France. Feb. 3, 1919  
- Heuer returns to U.S.A.
- 1922-32 - Surgeon-in-Chief., Cincinnati General Hospital and Professor of Surgery at University of Cincinnati.
- 1932-47 - Surgeon-in-Chief and Professor of Surgery at New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center.
- July 1, 1947 - Retires as Surgeon-in-Chief at New York Hospital and is named Professor of Surgery, Emeritus.
- Dec. 15, 1950 - Died - Fort Lauderdale, Florida

### Scope and Content Note

The George J. Heuer papers contain surgical notebooks produced while in the field in France at Base 18 in 1918 during World War One. There are 2 personal notebooks listing cases and 8 other field notebooks which have case histories, charts, photographs and detailed explanations. Chest papers are included detailing these surgical cases along with note cards which separate this material into the categories of Primary suture, Primary suture closure, Primary suture - Bones, Joints, Amputations and No closure - soft parts. Detailed diagrams showing where the war wounds penetrated, add to the overall explicitness of these notes. Summaries of war injuries at base 18 are listed specifically in the correspondence between Lt. Ira H. Lockwood and G.J. Heuer.

The copy of Dr. Heuer's hand-written manuscript "A Clinical Study of Penetrating War Wounds of the Chest" greatly adds to the completeness of the collection. Books and articles written by Dr. Heuer as well as surgical textbooks and articles by other doctors interested in war-related surgery, make up a good part of our legacy.

### Scope and Content Note (cont)

The George J. Heuer papers contain notes and correspondence concerning his professor and close friend, the Chief Surgeon from Johns Hopkins University, William Stewart Halsted (1852-1929). Dr. Heuer collected much of this material to write Dr. Halsted's biography. This collection includes both the hand-written as well as the typed version of the biography. Dr. Heuer also kept note cards pertaining to Dr. Halsted's bibliography (1883-1921), as well as a chronological record of articles and cases that Dr. Halsted studied. These papers contain the rough draft and original copy of Merton L. Griswold's biographical sketch on Dr. Heuer.

### Non Manuscript Material

A glass colored slide of W.S. Halsted's portrait is included in the papers, as are surgical instruments belonging to G.J. Heuer. In addition to photographs depicting vacation sights, photos of G.J. Heuer and one of W.S. Halsted round out this assemblage. This collection contains a large body of non-print material. The surgical instruments are housed with the collection and are listed in the Container List under Box 5. The photographs and lantern slide have been removed and are now stored in the Personal Collection portion of the Archives' Photographic Collection

### Subjects

Cushing, Harvey  
 Halsted, William S.  
 Surgery (contains Thoracic & History of)  
 Wartime Activity (World War One)

### Box 1:

- f. 1 Photostat clippings used by Merton L. Griswold for his biographical article on G.J. Heuer.
- f. 2 Typescript corrected copy with penciled corrections of Griswold's article on G.J. Heuer.
- f. 3 Typescript edited copy of Griswold's article on G.J. Heuer.
- f. 4 Typescript Xeroxed copy of Griswold's article "George J. Heuer, A Critical Analysis of the Role that He Played in Introducing the Residency System of Training".
- f. 5 Reprint and copy of finalized article by Griswold, 1975.
- \*f. 6 Captain G.J. Heuer's (MDRC) personal notebook (notes on noteworthy cases included) August 1, 1917-Feb. 27, 1918. (Restricted)
- \*f. 7 Captain G.J. Heuer's (MDRC) notebook March 3, 1918-Nov. 7, 1918, (Restricted)

Box 1 (cont)

- \*f. 8 G.J. Heuer's notebook #0 - March 16, 1918-March 27, 1918.  
(Restricted)
- \*f. 9 G.J. Heuer's notebook #1 - March 23, 1918-April 21, 1918.  
(Restricted)
- \*f. 10 G.J. Heuer's notebook #2 - April 22, 1918-June 16, 1918.  
(Restricted)
- \*f. 11 G.J. Heuer's notebook #3 - June 16, 1918-June 19, 1918.  
(Restricted)
- \*f. 12 G.J. Heuer's notebook #4 - June 26, 1918-July 29, 1918.  
(Restricted)

Box 2:

- \*f. 1 G.J. Heuer's notebook #5 - July 28, 1918-Sept, e, 1918. (Restricted)
- \*f. 2 G.J. Heuer's notebook #6 - Sept. 4, 1918-Nov. 2, 1918. (Restricted)
- \*f. 3 G.J. Heuer's notebook #7 - Nov. 2, 1918-Nov. 11, 1918 (Restricted)
- \*f. 4 See Box 4. (Restricted)
- \*f. 5. Reports of surgical procedures with diagrams of chest wounds included  
Base Hospital #18 - Sept. 29, 1918-October 15, 1918 (23pp.).  
(Restricted)
- \*f. 6 Removed to oversize 1. Chest paper - 115 cases at Base #18 – Sept  
13, 1918--Nov. 13, 1918 (8pp.). (Restricted)
- \*f. 7 (1) Chart of chest cases operated upon primarily (2pp.) at Base #18  
(2) Combined chest and abdominal (1p.) (Restricted)
- \*f. 8 Reports of Medical cases, Evacuation Hospital #1 – American  
Expeditionary Force.
  - 1) 9/1/1918-9/30/1918 - Consolidated monthly report of Evacuation  
Hospital #1 (3pp.).
  - 2) 10/7/1918 Report of X-ray dept. 9/12-9/18/1918 (3pp.).
  - 3) 10/26/1918 (Report of chest cases) (3pp.).
  - 4) 11/5/1918 (Report of chest cases) (2pp.).
- f. 9 Manuscript of "A Clinical Study of Penetrating War Wounds of  
the Chest" by G.J. Heuer (29pp.).
- f. 10 Correspondence dealing with the "drafting of resolutions" upon W.S.  
Halsted's death.
  - 1) 6/8/1923 - typewritten letter to Rudolph Matas M.D.
  - 2) 6/9/1923 - typewritten letter from G.J. Heuer M.D. to Rudolph  
Matas M.D.
  - 3) 6/22/1923 - typewritten letter from G.J. Heuer M.D. to Robert T.  
Miller, M.D.
  - 4) 6/25/1923 - typewritten letter from G.J. Heuer M.D. to Rudolph  
Matas, M.D.
  - 5) 6/29/1923 - typewritten letter from Rudolph Matas, M.D. to  
G.J. Heuer, M.D. (2pp.).

Box 2 (cont)

- f. 11 Correspondence concerning MacCallum's Biography of W.S Halsted.
- 1) 4/10/1928 - From MacCallum, M.D. to G.J. Heuer, M.D.
  - 2) 5/18/1928 - From G.J. Heuer, M.D. to MacCallum, M.D.
- f. 12 Correspondence concerning G.J. Heuer's writing of W.S. Halsted's biography.
- 1) 12/28/1929 - Letter from Minnie W. Blogg to G.J Heuer, M.D.
  - 2) 4/15/1931 - Letter from G.J. Tyler, Jr., M.D. to G.J. Heuer, M.D.
  - 3) 4/24/1913 - Letter from G.J. Heuer, M.D. to G.J. Tyler, M.D.
  - 4) 1/20/1941 - Letter from Lewis H. Weed to Edwards A. Park, M.D.
  - 5) 1/28/1944 - Letter from G.J. Heuer, M.D. to Lucien Brun, M.D.
  - 6) 1/31/1944 - Letter from G.J. Heuer, M.D. to Dr. Dandy.
  - 7) 4/10/1945 - Letter from Mr. Seale (editor of MacMillan Co.) to G.J. Heuer, M.D.
  - 8) 4/16/1945 - Letter from G.J. Heuer to Mr. Seale.
  - 9) 12/29 - Letter from Margaret Boise to G.J. Heuer, M.D.
- f. 13 Correspondence concerned with W.S. Halsted's usage of cocaine for G.J. Heuer's biography.
- 1) 12/9/1940 - Letter from G.J. Heuer, M.D. to Reid Hunt, M.D.
  - 2) 12/9/1940 - Letter from G.J. Heuer, M.D. to William G. MacCallum, M.D.
  - 3) 12/18/1940 - Letter from William G. MacCallum, M.D. to G.T. Heuer, M.D.
  - 4) 1/16/1941 - Letter from Dr. Diethelm to G.J. Heuer, M.D.
  - 5) 3/11/1941 - Letter from James Heyward Gibbs to G.J. Heuer, M.D.
  - 6) 3/21/1941 - Letter from G.J. Heuer, M.D. to James Heyward Gibbs M.D.
  - 7) 10/16/1945 Letter from G.J. Heuer, M.D. to Max Spencer Rhode and Rhode's response (3pp.)
  - 8) 10/22/1948 Letter from Roy D. McClure, M.D. to G.J. Heuer, M.D.
- f. 14 Notes and excerpts from letter with W.S. Halsted's usage of cocaine.
- 1) 8/23/1918 - Letter from W.S. Halsted, M.D. to Dr. Osler detailing his use of cocaine anesthesia (3pp.).
  - 2) Copy of excerpts from above letter.
  - 3) Typewritten copy of "Practical Comments on the Use and Abuse of Cocaine" by W.S. Halsted, M.D.(2pp.)
  - 4) Typewritten copy of "Cocaine Anesthesia by the Distension Method" by W.S. Halsted. (copied from the original and at times illegible manuscript). (6pp.)
  - 5) G.J. Heuer's handwritten notes "Notes on Dr. Halsted from Cushing March 1, 1931 given to me by Elliott Cutter Nov. 10, 1939".

Box 2 (cont)

- f. 15 Notes, Journals and Abstracts pertaining to W.S. Halsted's work for G.J. Heuer's biography.
- 1) Chronological order of Halsted's work 1887-1895/1896-1909 (long hand); 1910-1924 (typewritten) (10pp)
  - 2) 19739 items listed belonging to W.S. Halsted arranged alphabetically and numerically
  - 3) Suggestions for original work done by Halsted; included are notes on experiments with Peritoneal Inoculation; Pencil Data re: Goitre experiments and notes on miscellaneous subjects (2pp.)
  - 4) "Cocaine Anesthesia by the Distension Method" by Dr. Halsted (4pp.)
- \*f. 16 Notes compiled for G.J. Heuer's biography on W.S. Halsted, M.D. Case records and surgery performed by W.S. Halsted. (Restricted)
- 1) Case records with detailed descriptions - July 24, 1866 to August 16, 1878 (33pp.)
  - 2) Operations by W.S. Halsted, M.D. (listed) on 4th Surgical Division - October 1, 1876 to March 31, 1877.
  - 3) Records of old New York Hospital 1866-67 (3pp.)- 1868-69, March 1, 1877-March 1978.
  - 4) Cases - Medical services New York Hospital April 1878-Oct 1878 (3pp.), (2pp. including long-hand by G.J. Heuer).
  - 5) 1884 - W.S. Halsted as visiting surgeon - patients admitted (4pp.)
- \*f. 17 Hernia and breast-cancer treatment. (Restricted)
- 1) References to hernia from Keen's Surgery Vol. 1V p33, Lewis's Practice of Surgery Vol. V11 p15 and Nelson's Loose Leaf Surgery Vol. 1V p. 591 - 1p.
  - 2) "Concerning the Treatment of Inguinal Hernia" by E. Bassini (3pp.)
  - 3) "Typic Operation for Radical Cure of Oblique Inguinal Hernia" by Alexander Hugh Ferguson. (AMA Journal, 1899, Vol. 33, p.6, (3pp.)
  - 4) "Treatment for Cancer of the Breast" - references to W.S. Halsted's contributions (17pp.)
  - 5) 1/18/1929 - Letter from Dr. Strauss to Dr. Heuer concerning Halsted's treatment for breast cancer.
  - 6) 2/5/1929 - Letter from Heuer to Dr. Strauss in response to 1/18/1929 letter.
- f. 18 (located in box #4)  
Bibliography of Dr. William Stewart Halsted'1883-1921 - (118 cards).

Box 2 (cont)

- f. 19 Recollections and reflections on W.S. Halsted.
- 1) Miss Boise's recollection of Dr. Halsted (1st draft) (2pp.)
  - 2) Miss Boise's "My Recollections of Dr. Halsted" (2nd draft) (3pp.)
  - 3) "Halsted - William Stewart - 1852-1922" - (2pp.)
  - 4) Master Surgeons of America "William Stewart Halsted" by J.M.T Finney (2pp.)
  - 5) "William Stewart Halsted - 1852-1922" from Science. Vol. 55-56 1922, p. 461 - (3pp.)
  - 6) "Dr. Halsted" from Langenbecks Klinische Chirurgie 126:3, 1923 (lp.)
- f. 20 Original long-hand manuscript of G.J. Heuer's biography of W.S. Halsted. (124pp.)
- f. 21-23 G.J. Heuer's typed notes for his biography of W.S. Halsted (corrections included)
- f. 24 Add pp. from G. Heuer's biography

Box 3:

- f. 1 G.J. Heuer's typed manuscript "The Life of Halsted" - some pp duplicated - some missing (98pp.)
- f. 2 Typed notes by G.J. Heuer concerning his talk before Nu Sigma Nu on "Halsted's contributions to Surgery" (8pp.)
- f. 3 Typewritten notes for talk by G.J. Heuer in connection with his talk before Nu Sigma Nu meeting - 12/15/1941 and duplicates (35 pp. each)
- f. 4 Notes both handwritten (8pp.) and typewritten (12pp.) on Dr. Halsted for "Paper Given at New York Hospital Westchester Division 11/26/1946".
- f. 5 Typewritten manuscript "Comments on the Life of William S. Halsted" by George J. Heuer (56pp.)
- f. 6 "The Future Progress of Medicine" by Alexis Carrel (inscribed with "To Dr. Heuer with best regards A. Carrel") (7pp.)
- f. 7 Miscellaneous Halsted Material. Dinner for W.S. Halsted presentation of Gold Medal of National Dental Association for Discovery of Local Anesthesia (cocaine) in Dental Practice 4/1/1922.
- 1) Menu for dinner - 4/1/1922
  - 2) 4/13/1922 (2); 4/21/1922 - Letter from W.S. Halsted to Dr. Brun.
  - 3) 8/29/ N - Letter from W.S. Halsted's secretary to Dr. Brun.
  - 4) Poems and Prayers - W.S. Halsted's funeral.
  - 5) W.S. Halsted's "calling card"
  - 6) 1891 letter - re: 2 pamphlets.

Box 3 (cont)

- f. 8      Miscellaneous Heuer Material.
- 1)      Letter from Minnie W. Blogg to G.J. Heuer - 2/22/1930.
  - 2)      Dr. Reid Hunt's obituary - "Science" - 8/6/1948.
  - 3)      University of Cincinnati Record (1928-1929). Announcement of courses.
  - 4)      University of Cincinnati Record (1929-1930). Announcement of courses.
  - 5)      "167th Annual Report of the Society of the New York Hospital 1938".
  - 6)      Program of the Southern Surgical Association - Dec. 7,8,9 1948".
  - 7)      "Thirty-Fourth Annual Report for the Year 1947- Peter Bent Brigham Hospital -Boston".
  - 8)      "Cornell University Official Publication, Dec. 15, 1947. Report of the President".
  - 9)      Report of the 47th Meeting of the Society of Clinical Surgery, Cincinnati,04/1928
- f. 9      "The fundamental principles in the management of wounds including burns" by George Heuer.
- f.10      Excerpts from letters to George Heuer from servicemen who were on surgical resident staff at NYH.
- f.11      Miscellaneous papers (by Heuer?) including "Tumors of the Clavicle".

Box 4:

- A      Note cards- refers to 1918 notebooks
- 1a)     Primary suture- soft parts
  - 2a)     Primary suture-closure
  - 3b)     Primary suture- Bones, Joints, Amputations (55 bones, 35 joints 16 amputations
  - 4)      No closure- soft parts
- B      Note cards  
Bibliography of Dr. William Stewart Halsted - 1883-1921. (118 cards).

Box 5

## List of Surgical Equipment.

- 1)      Stethoscope - no tubing - only ear piece.
- 2)      Stethoscope sound piece (cone-shaped).
- 3)      Loring Ophthalmoscope.
- 4)      Syringe in silver case.
- 5)      Syringe in silver case surrounded by felt pocket.
- 6)      3 Surgical scissors - in various sizes.



Box 5 (cont)

- 7) Bottle containing silver nitrate fused merck Lunar Caustic) USPX sticks - 1 stick included.
- 8) 2 tweezer-like instruments & 2 scalpels with different sized blades.
- 9) Box includes:
  - a) 1 Yale quality hypodermic needle and cotton. (1)
  - b) 1 book of "Asko Pulp Canal Cleaners". (2)
  - c) 1 box of 11 hypodermic needles (Luer N Z length - gauze .
  - d) 1 syringe without needle.
  - e) 2 boxes with 1 Luer syringe tuberculin in each.
  - f) 1 box Yale quality hypodermic, needles. (4 included)
  - g) 1 box 5 hypodermic syringes. (5)

Box 6:

## Pamphlets on Military Medicine

- f. 1      The Medical Bulletin: A Review of War Medicine Surgery & Hygiene  
Nov.1917.
- f. 2      Ibid., Dec. 1917
- f. 3      Ibid., March, 1918
- f. 4      Ibid., April, 1918
- f. 5      War Medicine, v. 2, No. 1, Aug. 1918
- f. 6      Ibid., v. 2, No. 4, Nov. 1918
- f. 7      Ibid., v. 2, No. 7, Feb.-March, 1919
- f. 8      "Surgical Treatment of War Wounds"<sup>1</sup> - 3rd Army British Expeditionary  
Forces, Feb. 1917
- f. 9      "Observation on Gunshot Wounds on the Head", H.M.W Gray,  
Feb., 19, 1916
- f. 10     XVIIth Int'l.Congress of Medicine, General Volume, London 1913
- f. 11     The Military Surgeon, v. 44, No. 6., June, 1919.
- f. 12     "Hepatitis and Its Relation to Cholecystitis", Walton Martin, M.D.  
reprint from Annals of Surgery, April, 1927
- f. 13     Papers from the Hunterian Laboratory of Experimental Medicine"  
Johns Hopkins University 1909 - Cushing articles.
- f. 14     Annals of Surgery, v. 112, No. 5, Nov. 1940

Box 7

## Reprints

f.1	1906
f.2	1908
f.3	1911
f.4	1917
f.5	1920
f.6	1922
f.7	1923
f.8	1924
f.9	1925
f.10	1926
f.11	1927
f.12	1929
f.13	1930
f.14	1931
f.15	1932
f.16	1933
f.17	1934
f.18	1935
f.19	1936-1939
f.20	1940

Box 8

## Reprints

f.1	1941-1946
f.2	1948
f.3	Undated
Surgery of the Thorax	
Treatment of Peptic Ulcer	
Tumors and Cysts of the Thorax	