

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

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

**Finding Aid To  
THE JOSEPH HINSEY, PHD (1901-1981) PAPERS**

**Dates of Papers:  
1914-1980**

**65 Linear Inches  
(13 Boxes)**

**Finding Aid Prepared By:  
Stephen Novak  
Assistant Archivist  
Undated**

## Provenance

This collection was received by the Medical Archives from Mrs. Hinsey and Dr. Hinsey's son, Joseph on March 24, 1982. A Memorandum of Accession can be found with this Register.

## Biographical Note

Dr. Joseph Clarence Hinsey was born in Ottumwa, Iowa on April 29, 1901, the son of Joseph E. and Sarah Majors Hinsey and the grandson of a pioneer Iowa physician and surgeon.

After two years at Iowa Wesleyan College, Dr. Hinsey transferred to Northwestern University where a teacher, Dr. William Albert Locy, persuaded him to change his career plans from medicine to biology. Dr. Hinsey received his B.S. with highest honors in 1922 and his M.S. in 1923. He then continued his graduate studies in neuroanatomy at Washington University where he studied under S. Walter Ranson and two future Nobel Laureates, Herbert Gasser and Joseph Erlanger.

After receiving his Ph.D. in 1927, Dr. Hinsey taught at Washington, Northwestern and Stanford Universities before succeeding Herbert Gasser in 1936 as Professor of Physiology and Chairman of the Department at Cornell University Medical College. His rise thereafter at CUMC was swift. He moved from Physiology to become Professor of Anatomy and Chairman of that Department in 1939 and two years later succeeded William Ladd as Dean of CUMC.

During his tenure as Dean (1941-1953), Dr. Hinsey coped with the stresses of the Second World War on the College as well as guiding it to increased prestige as one of the leading medical schools in the U.S. He encouraged Dr. George N. Papanicolaou in the research that would lead to the "Pap Test." He supported the Crash Injury Research Project under the guidance of Hugh DeHaven. He was instrumental in getting the Olin Foundation to support the construction of CUMC's first permanent student dormitory, Olin Hall.

From 1953 to 1966, Dr. Hinsey was Director of the New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center. As director he was responsible for coordinating the policies of the Hospital, Medical School and School of Nursing "so as to promote harmonious and effective cooperation in teaching, research and the care of patients."

Dr. Hinsey was an active spokesman for American medical education and health care. He was a founder of the Association of American Medical Colleges and served as its President (1950) and Executive Council Chairman (1947-1953). He was also among the founding members of the National Fund for Medical Education; a Commissioner on the President's Commission on the Health Needs of the Nation (1952); and the long-time Chairman of the China Medical Board

## Biographical Note (cont)

(1956-1971).

After retiring from the Medical Center, Dr. Hinsey remained an active figure in biomedical education. He wrote profusely, gave numerous addresses and was always present at NYH-CMC functions.

He married Sarah (Sally) Callen in 1926 and was the father of two children. He died March 25, 1981.

## Scope and Content

The Hinsey Papers reflect many of the activities of Joseph Hinsey as educator, administrator and tireless advocate of America's medical schools. The bulk of the collection is from 1951 to 1980, from the time Dr. Hinsey was Dean of CUMC, through his years as Director of the Medical Center, into his active retirement. Although supposedly the personal papers of Dr. Hinsey, the collection contains much created in his official capacity as dean and director.

The largest parts of the collection are Hinsey's speeches and correspondence. The addresses cover the years 1951-1969, were generally delivered at medical school commencements, hospital dedications and professional association meetings, and reveal a good deal of the assumptions, aspirations and rhetoric of the U.S. medical education community in the 1950s and '60s. The correspondence dating from 1951 to 1980 (with a gap, 1970-1974) contains both in-coming and out-going letters. In the early years it is heavily official in character; after 1975 Dr. Hinsey's letters are generally personal and are filled with reminiscences of his career.

There is much here on Dr. Hinsey's involvement with the National Fund for Medical Education, 1948-1969 (8:8-11; 9:1-2) and with the China Medical Board, including minutes, correspondence and annual reports (Box 6). Dr. Hinsey's activities as a fundraiser can be seen in these files as well as in his correspondence with Charles Horn of the Olin Foundation.

His "Recollections About the Neurological Sciences with Emphasis on Neuroendocrinology" recounts his days as graduate student and researcher in the 1920s and '30s working with Ranson, Gasser and Erlanger (13:5).

There is also information on Dr. George N. Papanicolaou and the Cytology Department (9:9; 12:1); the construction of Olin Hall; and the Crash Injury Research Project. A 1956 letter from G. Canby Robinson recounts Robinson's plans for the Medical Center in the 1930s and compliments Hinsey on the job he is doing.

These papers should be used in conjunction with other collections, particularly the records of the Office of the Dean and of the Office of the President, NYH-CMC. There are no restrictions on the collection.

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### Box 1 - Addresses, 1953-1957

- f.1 Congress on Medical Education of AMA, Chicago, Feb. 9, 1953
- f.2 University of Pittsburgh, Mellon Gift Celebration, Jan. 18, 1954
- f.3 Dietetic Interns, NYH, Graduation, July, 1954
- f.4 Brown University Chapel, Oct. 27; 1954
- f.5 University of California, March 18, 1955
- f.6 University of North Carolina School of Medicine, 75th Anniversary, April, 1955
- f.7 Baylor University, Houston, Texas, May 1955
- f.8 University of Alabama, May 15, 1955
- f.9 Albany Medical College of Union University, June 3, 1955

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- f.10 National School Boards Association, Sept. 30, 1955
- f.11 Marquette University, Jan. 1956
- f.12 Congress on Medical Education, Chicago, Feb. 13, 1956
- f.13 Indiana University School of Medicine, May 9, 1956
- f.14 University of Wisconsin, Conference for Praeceptors, June 14-15, 1956
- f.15 John Walker Moore Lecture, University of Louisville, Ky., Sept. 17, 1956
- f.16 Cornell University, Oct. 9, 1956
- f.17 University of Mississippi, Oct. 23, 1956
- f.18 Management Conference of Industrial Hygiene Foundation, Pittsburgh, Nov. 15, 1956
- f.19 New York Academy of Medicine, Jan. 1957
- f.20 Emory University (AOA Lecture) March, 1957
- f.21 Evarts Ambrose Graham Memorial Services, March 31, 1957
- f.22 Howard University, April 25, 1957
- f.23 George Washington University School of Medicine (Nu Sigma Nu Lecture), April 27, 1957
- f.24 Presbyterian-St. Luke's Hospital, Chicago, Sept. 10, 1957
- f.25 National Industrial Conference Board, Oct. 30, 1957
- f.26 University of Iowa, Nov. 21, 1957

Box 2 - Addresses; 1958-Feb. 1963

- f.1 Iowa Wesleyan College, Feb. 16, 1958
- f.2 Boston (Medical Education Week), April 22, 1958
- f.3 Ann Arbor, Jan. 1959
- f.4 Kansas Medical Center (AOA Lecture) April 22, 1959
- f.5 Passano Award Dinner Honoring Stanhope Bayne-Jones, June 10, 1959
- f.6 Boston University School of Medicine, June, 1959
- f.7 Greenwich Health Association, June 9, 1959
- f.8 United Fund of Northern Westchester, Sept. 9, 1959
- f.9 Evanston Hospital Association, Nov. 24, 1959
- f.10 University of Minnesota (AOA Lecture), May 4, 1960
- f.11 Statler Hotel, NYC, May 14, 1960
- f.12 Lawrence, Mass., Sept. 2, 1960
- f.13 University of Wisconsin (Stuart Graves Memorial Lecture) April 22, 1961
- f.14 West Virginia University Medical Center, April 25, 1961
- f.15 Dedication of Paul S. McKibben Hall and Seeley W. Mudd Lab of Medical Sciences, University of Southern California, Los Angeles May 24, 1961
- f.16 Downstate Medical Center, Commencement, June 13, 1961
- f.17 Dedicatory Address, South Texas Medical Center, San Antonio, Aug. 19, 1961
- f.18 Presentation of Abraham Flexner Award to William D. Rappleye, Montreal, Nov. 13, 1961

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- f.19 Wayne County Medical Society, Detroit, Nov. 20, 1961
- f.20 N. Y. Academy of Medicine, Radio Lecture Series, Dec. 9, 1961
- f.21 University of Pennsylvania, Jan. 11, 1962
- f.22 "Dr. George Nicholas Papanicolaou," AMA, June 28, 1962
- f.23 Forum for International Scholars, Warrenton, Va., June 19, 1962
- f.24 Chicago Medical School, Golden Anniversary, Nov. 29, 1962
- f.25 AMA Congress on Medical Education, Chicago, Feb. 4, 1963
- f.26 Knox College Career Conference, Feb. 18-19, 1963

### Box 3 - Addresses: April, 1963 -1967

- f.1 Lederle Medical Faculty Awards, 10th Anniversary Dinner, Atlantic City, April 18, 1963
- f.2 National Fund for Medical Education, April 25, 1963
- f.3 United Hospitals of Newark, April 27, 1963
- f.4 Graduate School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania,, May 16, 1963
- f.5 American Medical Writers' Association, Chicago, Oct. 12, 1963
- f.6 University of North Carolina Alumni, March 20, 1964
- f.7 University of Michigan Class Day, June 5, 1964
- f.8 American Gynecological Society, New York City, May 20, 1965
- f.9 New Jersey College of Medicine, Commencement, June 5, 1965
- f.10 Joseph Erlanger Memorial, St. Louis, Jan. 14, 1966
- f.11 White Sulphur Springs Conference on Teaching in the Neurological Sciences, Nov. 16, 1966
- f.12 Louisiana State University, Nu Sigma Nu Orator Visit, March 13, 1967
- f.13 University of Mississippi Medical Center Commencement, May 28, 1967
- f.14 Dedication of Herbert S. Gasser Hall, Rockefeller University, Oct. 18, 1967
- f.15 Sixth Annual Conference on Research in Medical Education, American Assoc. of Medical Colleges, NYC, Oct. 27-30, 1967
- f.16 American Academy of Otolaryngology, Chicago, Oct. 29, 1967

### Box 4 - Addresses: 1968-1969

- f.1 Congress on Medical Education, Feb. 10, 1968
- f.2 Baptist Memorial Hospital, Memphis: Dedication of Union East Unit, Feb. 19, 1968
- f.3 Ottumwa High School, June, 1968
- f.4 Boston University Convocation, May 10, 1969
- f.5 Miscellaneous Addresses, 1951-1969
- f.6 Addresses: Clippings for Future Talks
- f.7 Academic Radiology, Report of the Committee on the Study of (Hinsey, Chairman), National Academy of Sciences, 1969
- f.8 Accounts, July, 1966 - April, 1969

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- f.9 Addresses and Names, 1968-1969
- f.10 Agreements and Affiliations, 1927-1968

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- f.1 Agreements and Affiliations, Memorial Hospital - By-Laws, Corres., etc., 1914-1968
- f.2 Agreements and Affiliations, Manhattan Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital, corresp., memos of meetings, re Affiliation 1956-1960, 1967
- f.3 American Hospital Supply Corp., etc. June-Nov. 1968
- f.4 American Hospital Supply Corp., corresp., memos, minutes, etc. Dec. 1968 -May 1969
- f.5 Annual Report of the Director, NYH-CMC, April 14, 1966
- f.6 Association of American Medical Colleges Building Program – corresp plans, Feb. 1954 -Feb. 1957
- f.7 Awards
- f.8 Baird, Dr. David W. E. - story byJCH March 15, 1968, Obit. 1974
- f.9 Bing Fund –correspondence re: establishment of Fund (also called Hinsey Loan Fund II), corresp. w/ Dr. Peter Bing, June 1956 - Dec. 1963
- f.10 Buildings and Plans (Schemes 1 and 2) Extension of CUMC Facilities, 1958

#### Box 6

- f.1 China Medical Board: Annual Reports 1955/56, 1965/66-1967/68, 1970J71
- f.2 China Medical Board: Corresp., reports of doctors who visited Far East, April 1967 -June 1969
- f.3 China Medical Board: Corresp., reports, Dec. 1966 -Aug 1967
- f.4 China Medical Board: Dockets for special meetings May and November 1968
- f.5 China Medical Board: History of CMB & Peking Union Medical College, August 1967 -May 1969
- f.6 China Medical Board: Minutes 1967
- f.7 China Medical Board: Minutes 1968

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- f.1 Clark (of Horsley Clark) - Biography and letter re: 7/1963
- f.2 Clippings re: center and its people
- f.3 Clippings re: JCH
- f.4 Coordinating Council for Higher Education, California Report - corresp. (no report) March 1962 -April 1963

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- f.5 Cornell University, President - Agenda for Meeting, Feb. 16, 1966
- f.6 Corresp. re: Internal Affairs of Center 1949 -June 1969
- f.7 Curriculum Vitae
- f.8 Dodson Dinners - corresp. re: 1961 -1967
- f.9 Fraternity Systems, CU and Student Unrest - corresp. and clippings  
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- f.10 Fund for Medical Progress - report and newsletter, Nov. 1965-May 1966
- f.11 Genealogical Data and corresp. 1916 -1968
- f.12 Hinsey Loan Fund - corresp. re: Establishment of and Interest,  
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- f.13 Hinsey Portrait - memos, Jan 1956 -Jan. 1957
- f.14 Hinsey Publication Fund for Printing of "Herbert S. Gasser" 1964
- f.15 Hinsey Sketches, clippings, corresp., w/Bishop re: CU History,  
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- f.16 Horn, Charles (Olin Foundation) - corresp., 1966 -April 1969

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- f.1 Horn, Charles (Olin Foundation) - corresp. re: Matters of  
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- f.2 Housing Arrangements, Aug. 1968 -Feb. 1969
- f.3 Human Ecology Fund - Biennial Report, 1961 -1963
- f.4 Jefferson Medical College and Medical Center - corresp. re: Appt.  
of New President to JMC and Affiliation with Penn State, Jan-Sept.  
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- f.5 Letter to Editor and clippings re: Use of tunnels during transplants,  
Feb. 1969
- f.6 Markle Scholarships - corresp. re Ph.D. vs M.D. candidates, letters  
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- f.7 Minnesota President's Commission - corresp., reports on medical  
education needs in Minnesota April 1968 -Dec. 1968
- f.8 National Advisory Committee on Long Range Planning for the  
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notes, report, Jan 1954 -May 1958
- f.9 National Fund for Medical Education - publication by Fund and  
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- f.10 National Fund for Medical Education (research program) - papers,  
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- f.11 National Fund for Medical Education - clippings, corresp. and  
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- f.1 Nat'l Fund for Medical Education, clippings re: Medical Education and corresp. re: Formation of funds, Oct. 1948 -May 1953
- f.2 Nat'l Fund for Medical Education - reports and planning documents, 1952
- f.3 Nat'l Society for Medical Research - formatory minutes, constitution, 1961
- f.4 Navy Department - corresp. re: appt. as an Honorary Civilian Consultant, Dec. 1956 -Oct. 1957
- f.5 NIH Site visit to Women's Medical College of Penn for approval of training grant for residency program in neurology - Feb-April 1963
- f.6 Obituaries 1939 -1962
- f.7 Olin Foundation - corresp. with John Olin, C. Horn, re: projects, etc. July 1954 -Feb 1963
- f.8 Olin Hall - corresp. progress reports on construction and funding, May 1953 -Dec. 1954
- f.9 Papanicolaou, George - corresp. with and about Nobel Prize Information 1943 -1980
- f.10 Pilgrim, The - corresp. and letters in support of JCH's membership. Rules, proceedings, Dec. 1957 - 59, 1967 - Jan 1969
- f.11 Ray, Brown - speech he gave at dedication of new Neurosurgical Unit at Wesley Memorial Hospital, Jan. 1966
- f.12 Rogosin, Israel - corresp. re: endowment of Biochemistry, Medical Chair June -Nov. 1965
- f.13 Rubin, Albert - corresp. and papers re collagen and work with Japanese Leather Co. 1964 -March 1967
- f.14 Sloan Foundation, corresp. re: nursing school, misc. June 1965-July 1966
- f.15 St. Louis Commission - corresp., clippings, re: Troubles, contract negotiations of Barnes Hospital and Washington University Feb. 1964-Feb. 1965

## Box 10

- f.1 Wescoe, W. Clarke: Correspondence re presidency of China Medical Board; "Pharmacology and Potpourri;" 1963, 1968-1969
- f.2 Wood and Tower, Inc.: Correspondence re projects and Hinsey becoming a consultant for them, Dec. 1964 -Sept. 1968
- f.3 Wood and Tower, Inc.: Correspondence re projects, 1968-June 1969
- f.4 Wood and Tower, Inc.: Status Reports of Projects, Sept. 1968 -June 1969
- f.5 Correspondence, 1951-1957
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- f.1 Correspondence, 1964-1969
- f. 1A Corr., 1971-81 (rec'd 12/87 from Dean's Office)
- f.2 Correspondence, June 1972; June, 1973-Sept. 1974
- f.3 Correspondence re publication of Hinsey's recollections of history of neurological sciences, and draft, Dec. 1973-Sept. 1974
- f.4 Correspondence, 1975
- f.5 Correspondence, January -July 1976
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- f.1 Correspondence, January -June, 1978
- f.2 Correspondence, July -December 1978
- f.3 Correspondence, January -May 1979
- f.4 Correspondence, August, 1979 -September 1980
- f.5 Bibliographies, 1926 -1963
- f.6 Reprints: Miscellaneous Hinsey publications, 1932 -1962
- f.7 Reprints and Publications: "Samuel L. Clark" (biographical sketch) and correspondence, April 1963

### Box 13

- f.1 Reprints and Publications: "Herbert S. Gasser Memorial" 1964 with correspondence
- f.2 Reprints and Publications: "Trends in Research between the 1st and 2d World Wars" November 1964
- f.3 Reprints and Publications: "The Medical School and the Federal Government," June 1967, corresp. re: article
- f.4 Reprints and Publications: "Role of Private Foundations in the Development of Modern Medicine" from book by W. Weaver December 1967
- f.5 Reprints and Publications: "Recollections about the Neurological Sciences with Emphasis on Neuroendocrinology"

Diaries for 1939, 1949-1953, 1955-56, 1958, 1961, 1963-1968  
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