

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

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

**Finding Aid To
THE GRAHAM LUSK, PHD (1866-1932) PAPERS**

**Dates of Papers:
1891-1940**

**23 Linear Inches
(5 Boxes)**

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

Preface

These records were donated to the Archives in 1979 by descendents of Graham Lusk. Dr. Helena Gilder of the CUMC Department of Biochemistry is a relative of the Lusks and arranged the donation.

Biographical Note

Born on February 15, 1866, Graham Lusk was the son of Dr. William Thompson Lusk, Professor of Obstetrics at Long Island College of Medicine, and his wife, Mary Hartwell Chittenden Lusk. He was raised in New York City and attended Columbia University, graduating in 1887 from the School of Mines.

His original plans to study medicine being stymied by increasing deafness, Lusk continued his scientific education at the University of Munich where he received a Ph.D. in Chemistry in 1891. It was in Munich where Lusk discovered his vocation, studying under the great physiologist Carl Voit who became his mentor and good friend.

Lusk taught physiology at Yale University from 1891 to 1898 when he became a professor at New York University and Bellevue Hospital Medical College. Here he did his important work on the metabolism of diabetes and fever and published The Elements of the Science of Nutrition (1906) for many years the standard work on the subject.

He became Professor of Physiology at Cornell University Medical College in 1909 where, using a respirator calorimeter especially constructed for him, he did a series of studies (1912-1930) on animal calorimetry. In 1913 he was named Scientific Director of the Russell Sage Institute of Pathology and was instrumental in getting it transferred to Bellevue Hospital.

Dr. Lusk was one of the founders of the Society for Experimental Biology and of the Harvey Society. He rendered valuable service during World War I as U.S. representative to the Interallied Scientific Food Commission.

Graham Lusk retired in 1931 and died on July 18, 1932. His wife, May Woodbridge Tiffany, whom he married in 1899, was the daughter of Charles C. Tiffany.

Scope and Content

The Lusk Papers consist of correspondence, notes, drafts of articles, reprints, monographs and biographical material. There is material relating to the CUMC Dept. of Physiology, c. 1913, and the Russell Sage Institute of Pathology, including Dr. Lusk's post-1922 history of the Institute. There is also a manuscript of his History of Nutrition which was left unfinished at the time of Dr. Lusk's

death.

Perhaps the most interesting part of the collection is the correspondence from Dr. Lusk's colleagues in Germany including Carl and Erwin Voit, Max Rubner and Friedrich Muller. The letters cover the years 1903 -1931 and besides much scientific information, reveal a fascinating picture of scientists trying to cope with the financial and political instability of Weimar Germany. These letters have been translated from the German by Anita Schoonmaker, a volunteer in the Medical Archives.

Non-Manuscript Material

Two albums of congratulatory letters to Dr. Lusk on his 60th birthday (Box 5) have been left in the reference room because of the photos the two volumes contain. There are also a few medals, mostly commemorating various conferences Dr. Lusk attended.

Subjects

Germany
Nutrition
Obituaries
Physiology
Physiology, Dept. of, CUMC
Reprints
Rubner, Max
Russell Sage Institute of Pathology
Voit, Carl
Wartime Activity

Container List

Box 1

- f1.a Alumni Day Dinner, Address, May 5, 1932.
- f.1 American Aid for German Medical Science, 1923-1924.
- f.2 American Institute of Chemists Meeting, May 11, 1927:
Lusk's speech honoring Lafayette Mendel; program.
- f.3 Benedict, Francis G.: correspondence, 1910 - 1912.
- f.4 Bibliographies, 1928.
- f.5 Biographical articles and obituaries, 1932-1934; 1940. 4"A
- f.6 "A Brief Reply to the Criticisms of Dr. Soskin and Prof. MacLeod," n.d.
- f.7 Cornell University: correspondence re Physiology Dept.
budget; proposed reorganization of CUMC 2nd Division at
Bellevue, 1913; part of report on affiliation with N.Y.H., 1917-1918.

Box 1 (cont)

- f:8 Glucose: Chronological notes re Dr. Harvey Wiley's attitudes towards the Corn Products Refining Co.; letters from N. Dakota food commissioner, 1912-1913.
- f.9 Harvey Society, 25th Anniversary Program, 1930.
- f. 10 Honorary Degree, Glasgow University, 1923: clippings, correspondence.
- f.11 Honorary Degree, Yale University, 1908: letter notifying Lusk of his selection.
- f.12 Letters, miscellaneous, 1903-1932.
- f.13 Letters of sympathy to Mrs. Lusk, July, 1932.
- f.14 Letters re Lusk's article "50 Years of Progress in the Chemistry of Physiology and Nutrition," 1926.
- f.15 Letters to Editors, n.d.
- f.16 Lusk, William T.: Address at Women's Hospital, c. 1890s.
- f.17 Mailing List, 1931
- f.18 Muller, Friedrich: Correspondence, 1907; 1910-1921; 1923.
- f.19 National Research Council: Committee minutes, 1919-1920.
- f.19a Nutrition Course, List of Lecturers, 1917
- f.20 Pre-Clinical Assistants, Committee on: Letters and responses to Questionnaires, 1920.
- f.21 Resolution honoring Lusk by CUMC faculty, 1932.
- f.22 Rubner, Max: Correspondence, 1909-1931.
- f.23. Russell Sage Institute of Pathology: plan for Sage Professorship of Medicine (1907); history of R.S.I. of Pathology (post 1922)
- f.24 "Science and Medical Teaching": address given at the Harvard Medical School Graduation, 1918.
- f.25 Thesis: Notice of presentation of thesis and reprint of it, 1891.
- f.26 Voit, Carl: Correspondence: 1897-1908.
- f.27 Voit, Erwin: Correspondence, 1913-1931.

Box 2

- f.1 Reprints, 1903-1915
- f.2 Reprints, 1916-1931
- f.3 Reprints, bound, 1907-1911
- f.4 Articles and parts of articles, unpublished?
- f.5 "Die Spezifisch-Dynamische Wirkung Der Nahrungsstoffe," typescript c. 1931? In English.
- f.6 A History of Nutrition, typescript and manuscript, n.d.
- f.7 "A Tribute to the Life and Work of Max Rubner," 1932
- f.8 Book Review for Science, manuscript, 1932.

Box 3

Clio Medica: Nutrition - typescript c. 1932.

Biographical Memoir of Graham Lusk, by Eugene F. DuBois, 1940

Addresses Given at a Memorial Meeting for Graham Lusk, 1933.

Box 4

The Science of Nutrition: 2nd (1909), 3rd (1919) and 4th (1928) editions.

Analysis and Cost of Ready-to-Serve Foods by F.C. Gephart with an introduction
by Lusk (1915)

(3rd edition of The Science of Nutrition has been autographed by the members
of the Interallied Scientific Food Commission)

Box 5 (on top of black cabinet, reference room)

Letters of congratulations to Lusk on his 60th birthday along with photos of the
writers, February 15, 1926, 2 vols.

Box of medals.

Lusk's tribute to Carl Voit, 1932 (framed).

Honorary Degree, Glasgow University, 1923.

Honorary Degree, Yale University, 1908.

Doctoral Degree, University of Munich, 1891.