

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

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

**Finding Aid To
THE CRANSTON HOLMAN, MD (1907-1993) PAPERS)**

**Dates of Papers:
1917-1993**

**25 Linear Inches
(5 Boxes)**

**Finding Aid Prepared By:
Elizabeth Shepard
Assistant Archivist
November 2001**

NOTE OF PROVENANCE:

Dr. Constance Friess, his second wife, gave the papers to the Medical Center Archives of NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell on January 13, 1994.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Dr. Cranston Holman was born in Pasadena, California on January 5, 1907. His parents were Frank and Carolyn Holman. His brother, Emile Holman, M.D. was also a renowned physician in California. He married Marion Nicholas and had two children Eric and Martha.

Dr. Holman was a leading tennis player in the 1920s and was the eighth ranked player in the United States. However in 1925, he decided to give up tennis for medicine.

He received both an A.B. (1927) and M.D. (1931) at Stanford University. He was an assistant resident of surgery at Cincinnati General Hospital in 1931-1932. When Dr. George Heuer, his mentor at Cincinnati General Hospital, was hired as chairman/surgeon-in-chief at New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center in 1932, he brought Dr. Holman with him. He started as assistant resident in surgery at New York Hospital. He moved up the ranks at the hospital: resident surgeon (1935-1936), assistant attending surgeon (1937-1946), associate attending surgeon (1946-1953), and attending surgeon (1953-1975).

In 1935, he joined the faculty of Cornell University Medical College as an instructor in surgery. He moved up the ranks to research fellow (1937), associate in surgery (1937-1938), assistant professor of surgery (1938-1946), associate professor of clinical surgery (1946-1958), and professor of clinical surgery (1958-1975).

During World War II, he joined the U. S. Army Medical Corps and served in the Pacific as a chief surgeon, 29th Evacuation Hospital (1942-1945) and 80th General Hospital (1945-1946).

He served on the American Board of Surgery in 1939 and the Board of Thoracic Surgery in 1948. He was the president of New York Society of Thoracic Surgery in 1964-1965, president of New York Surgical Society, 1960-1961, and president of New York Medical Surgical Society in 1973. He was a member of several other organizations.

His specialty was thoracic surgery. He participated in one of the world's first heart-lung transplants on December 25, 1969. He and Dr. C. Walton Lillehei and 12 other doctors performed the operation. The patient only lived one week.

He was highly respected by his colleagues and patients. He died on December 10, 1993.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS NOTE:

The collection has been organized into seven series: Correspondence (1917-1993), Case Files (1932-1970), Research Notes (1932-1987), Reprints (1925-1977), Biography (1959-1986), Miscellaneous (1881-1984), and Photographs (1930-1990).

Series 1: Correspondence, 1917-1993

This series is arranged by the following categories: business, colleagues and staff, patients, professional societies, and personal.

The business correspondence includes letters regarding donations to him for his work at Cornell University Medical College and New York Hospital.

The correspondence from colleagues and staff, patients, family and friends all show the high regard others felt for him as a surgeon. The personal correspondence includes letters between Dr. Holman and his brother, Dr. Emile Holman. **The patient correspondence is restricted and protected under the federal regulation, HIPAA.**

Series 2: Case Files, 1932-1970 (Restricted)

These files, arranged alphabetically by subject, contain case files, Dr. Holman used in his research. The topics include block procedure, bronchitis, common duct stones/acute cholecystitis, lung biopsies, mediastinitis, mesothelioma, post operative activity, pulmonary abscess, and ulcers. **The files are restricted and protected under the federal regulation, HIPAA.**

Series 3: Research Notes, 1932-1987

The research notes series, arranged alphabetically by subject, contains notes or drafts for lectures, papers, and speeches. Some of the topics include accuracy in cytological reports, cardiopulmonary, carcinoma, extrapleural pneumonectomy, genetic codes, hypothermia during operations, malpractice insurance, pre-gastric analysis, and protocol review forms for animal experimentation.

Series 4: Reprints, 1925-1977

The reprint series is arranged in the following categories: reprints by Dr. Cranston Holman and reprints by family members.

The reprint series contain articles by Dr. Cranston Holman, 1936-1977, his brother, Dr. Emile Holman, 1925-1954, and his son Dr. Eric Holman, 1974.

Series 5: Biography, 1959-1986

The biography files, arranged alphabetically by surname, contain biographical information on Dr. William Halsted, Dr. Cranston Holman, Dr. Emile Holman (brother), and Martha Paull (daughter).

Series 6: Miscellaneous, 1881-1984

The miscellaneous series, arranged alphabetically by subject, contains information on the Century Association, 1968-1984, Cornell University Medical College, Hippocratic oath, Dr. George Holman's malaria treatment, 1881, New York Hospital, and his tennis achievements.

Series 7: Photographs, ca. 1930-1990

The photographs, arranged alphabetically by subject, include images of Dr Cranston (ca. 1930), Dr. Constance Friess, Benjamin S. Park Dinner, 1972, Cornell University Medical College staff, Greenberg Award and Society of Clinical Surgery, 1986-1990. **The photographs have been removed and rehoused with other personal photographic collections and are included in the photo catalog.**

BOX AND FOLDER LISTINGS

BOX 1: CORRESPONDENCE, 1917-1993

Folder	Description
	Business Correspondence
1	Bolmfalk, J. Fred Trust, 1982-1993
2	Comments on His Book: "Bronchopulmonary Diseases and Related Diseases", 1972-1974
2a	Dock, William, 1959-1973
3	Doctors Hospital, 1984
4	Elastic Stockings, 1975
5	Gilbert, Patricia Stuart (Fund), 1954-1979
6	Gilbert, Patricia Stuart (Fund), 1980-1989
7	Gilbert, Patricia Stuart (Fund), 1990-1993
8	Gilbert-Holman Travel Fellowships, 1993

9	Gilbert Fund-Holman Professorships, 1984-1991
10	Greenberg Awards, 1988 (includes a speech and notes)
11	Holman's Retirement, 1987
12	Honorary Alumni Award, 1978
13	Immunology Course, 1988
14	Lab Fees, New York Hospital, 1985
15	Medicare, 1984-1990
16	Miscellaneous, 1974, 1992
17	New York Hospital, (includes history on Dept. of Surgery), (1932) 1984-1991
18	North Shore Hospital, 1988
19	Shapiro, Dr. S. R. Gift, 1970
20	Splenectomy for Traumas, 1983
21	Thoracic Surgery, 1966

Colleagues and Staff Correspondence

22	Bellevue Hospital, Retirement Party, 1962
23	Colleagues and Staff, 1938-1959
24	Colleagues and Staff, 1960-1969

BOX 2: CORRESPONDENCE, 1917-1993

Folder Description

Colleagues and Staff Correspondence

1	Colleagues and Staff, 1970-1988
2	Thorbjarnarson, Bjorn, M.D., 1975

Patient Correspondence (Restricted)

3	F11 (Semi-Intense Care Unit), Adverse Comments from Patients, 1971
4	G. S. Letters, n.d.
5	Patient Correspondence, 1938-1949
6	Patient Correspondence, 1950-1959
7	Patient Correspondence, 1960-1969
8	Patient Correspondence, 1970-1988
9	Patient Correspondence, no dates

BOX 3: CORRESPONDENCE, 1917-1993

Folder	Description
	Professional Societies Correspondence
1	American Surgical Association, 1940-1991
2	New York Medical and Surgical Society, 1959-1984
3-4	Society of Clinical Surgery, 1982-1988 (includes a directory ca. 1982 and the 1954 constitution)
5	Stanford Medical Alumni Association, 1985
6	Various Societies, 1948-1983
	Personal Correspondence
7	Family: Holman, Emile, M. D. (brother), 1917-1973 (includes letters to and from his brother)
8	Family Correspondence: Misc includes Eric Holman), n.d.
9	Gatti, Attilo (re: gift of ivory), 1958

BOX 4: CORRESPONDENCE, 1917-1993

Folder	Description
	Personal Correspondence
1	Personal Correspondence, 1957-1986
2	Personal Correspondence, no dates
3	Rood, Reginald, M. D., 1974-1977
4	Stratford, Gerald, 1940-1986

BOX 4: CASE FILES, 1932-1970 (Restricted)

Folder	Description
	Research files that include information about cases.
5	Blalock Procedure, 1946-1956
6	Bronchitis, n.d.
7	Common Duct Stones/Acute Cholecystitis, 1932-1948
8	Interesting Cases, 1942-1955
9	Lung Biopsies, 1932-1969
10	Mediastinitis, 1961-1968
11	Misotheliona, 1932-1970
12	Post Operative Activity, n.d.

13 Pulmonary Abacus, 1932-1965
14 Ulcers, 1932-1941

BOX 4: RESEARCH NOTES, 1932-1987

Folder Description

Files that contain research notes, citations or drafts of speeches or papers.

15 Accuracy in cytological reports, n.d.
16 Barnes, William Dinner: Speech, 1987
17 Cardioplasm, lecture notes, 1932
18 Carcinoma, notes, n.d.
19 Extrapleural Pneumonolysis, n.d.
20 Genetic Codes, 1967
21 Heuer Memorial Lecture, 1966
22 Hypothermia during operation, 1986
23 Malpractice Insurance, 1970's
24 Medical Interns, (includes notes and articles), 1970-1974
25 1982 Roundtable Discussion, transcript
26 Pre-Gastric Analysis, for JAMA publication, n.d.
27 Protocol Review Form for Animal Experimentation, n.d.

BOX 5: RESEARCH NOTES, 1932-1987

Folder Description

Files that contain research notes, citations or drafts of speeches or papers.

1 Speech Notes, Unknown, n.d.
2 Teaching Graduate School, 1953-1958

BOX 5: REPRINTS, 1936-1977

Folder Description

Reprints by Dr. Cranston Holman

3 Reprints, 1936-1949
4 Reprints, 1950-1977

Reprints by family members

- 5 Holman, Emile, M. D., 1925-1954
6 Holman, Eric, M.D., 1974

BOX 5: BIOGRAPHY FILES, 1930-1977

Folder	Description
7	Halsted, William, M. D., 1930-1981
8	Holman, Cranston, M. D., 1940-1964
9	Memorial program for Emile Holman, M. D., 1977
10	Paull, Martha, 1978 (daughter)
11	Ray, Bronson, M. D. Anniversary

BOX 5: MISCELLANEOUS, 1881-1988

Folder	Description
12	Century Association, 1968-1984
13	Cornell University Medical College, Hippocratic Oath
14	Holman, George, M. D. Booklet: "The Better Way" Holman Pad Company. (about his malaria treatment), 1881.
15	Licenses, New York State Medical, 1988 and Membership Certificate Board of Thoracic Surgery
16	New York Hospital, interview with Ralph Eagle
17	Sommer Memorial Lectures, Programs, 1951
18	Tennis, 1979
19	Travel, n.d.

PHOTOGRAPHS

- Benjamin S. Park Dinner, February 4, 1972
Cornell University Medical College, Teaching Faculty, n.d.
Friess, Constance, M. D., second wife of Dr. Holman, copy print and negative.
Greenberg Award, Dr. Cranston Holman was the recipient. Maurice Greenberg is in some of the photographs, 1988.
Halsted, William, M.D., Operating at Bellevue Hospital, 1904. Copy prints and negatives
Holman, Cranston, M. D. with unknown man possibly his brother, Emile Holman, M.D., ca. 1930
Society of Clinical Surgery, group portraits, 1986-1990