

Yale School of Medicine lantern slide collection

Ms Coll 115



Katherine Isham

2025

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Medical Historical Library, Cushing/Whitney Medical Library
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CALL NUMBER: Ms Coll 115

TITLE: Yale School of Medicine lantern slide collection

DATES: circa 1880-1940

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 1.25 linear feet (4 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English (Latin script)

SUMMARY: The collection includes 168 lantern slides used for lectures or presentations by people associated with the Yale School of Medicine. Slides in the collection were owned and/or created by George Blumer, Howard Florey, George Rosen, Herbert Thoms, and unknown persons. Titles reflect information written on original storage boxes and/or slide content. Slide content includes photographs, text, copies of printed texts, graphs, and illustrations.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/med.ms.0115>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use on site, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/med.ms.0115>.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Transferred from the Yale School of Medicine to the Medical Historical Library, date unknown.

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Copyright status for collection materials is unknown. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owners. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.

Preferred Citation

Yale School of Medicine lantern slide collection. Historical Library, Harvey Cushing / John Hay Whitney Medical Library, Yale University.

Content Description

The collection includes 168 lantern slides used for lectures or presentations by people associated with the Yale School of Medicine. Slides in the collection were owned and or created by George Blumer, Howard Florey, George Rosen, Herbert Thoms, and unknown persons. Titles reflect information written on original storage boxes and/or slide content. Slide content includes photographs, text, copies of printed texts, graphs, and illustrations.

Collection Contents

b. 1, item 1-18

Dr. Thoms, Beaumont Club
Thoms, Herbert, 1885-1972

The Beaumont Medical Club was organized to promote the study of the history of medicine and to celebrate the contributions of physicians and medical scientists in promoting the welfare of mankind. The club was founded in 1920 by a group of Yale University School of Medicine physicians and faculty members including George Blumer, former dean, C.-E.A. Winslow, renowned microbiologist and public health practitioner, and M.C. Winternitz, well-known pathologist and dean of the medical school. Although the club's first meeting was held on December 14, 1920, the club adopted its official name three months later after some discussion. The founders were interested in naming the club for a distinguished physician, choosing William Beaumont, a Connecticut native and an early pioneer in physiology in this country, as an appropriate honoree.

source <https://hshm.yale.edu/events/beaumont-club>

Herbert King Thoms, M.D. was a Yale obstetrician, historian of medicine, and artist/engraver. Born in 1885 in Waterbury, Connecticut, his early education was acquired at the Vermont Academy and the Waterbury High School. He received his M.D. from Yale in 1910. Following internships at the Backus Hospital in Norwich and Memorial Hospital in New London, he served as an assistant resident at the Sloane Hospital for Women in New York City. Then, having decided to specialize in obstetrics, he spent a year at the Johns Hopkins Hospital. In 1915, he returned to New Haven where he began an active practice in obstetrics. He was appointed an associate clinical professor of obstetrics and gynecology at Yale, and in 1927 he became a member of the full-time faculty. He became chairman of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology in 1947, a position he held until his retirement in 1953. During his academic career, he made many important contributions in his field including studies in pelvimetry, the plan for infant "rooming-in" after delivery in conjunction with Dr. Edith Jackson and members of the Department of Pediatrics, the "natural child birth" program, and studies in the Yale infertility clinic which he established. As a teacher, he was influential in bringing to the attention of his students the importance of a humanistic approach to medicine. Throughout his career he was a prolific author of books and articles on the history of medicine, with a special interest in the early history of Connecticut medicine.

source <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/med.ms.0014>

Corporate Body:
Beaumont Medical Club

b. 1, item 19-25

Dr. Rosen medical satire and chemical lab St. Thomas Hospital Report, 1897
Rosen, George, 1910-1977

George Rosen was born June 23, 1910 in Brooklyn, New York. He attended City College of New York, then completed an M.D. from the University of Berlin in 1935. The rise of the Nazi party in Germany prompted Rosen's return to the United States, where he interned at Beth-El Hospital then started a private practice in ophthalmology and otolaryngology. In 1941, he began working in the New York City Department of Public Health as a clinic physician in the Bureau of Tuberculosis. He later became a district health officer and then Director of the Bureau of Health Education.

In 1941, Rosen also began graduate studies in sociology at Columbia University, and completed a Ph.D. in 1947. In the years 1938-1944, he edited the journal Ciba

Symposia with his wife, Beate Caspari-Rosen, and published his first monograph, *The History of Miners' Diseases: A Medical and Social Interpretation*, in 1944.

Rosen served in World War II as a medical intelligence officer in the Division of Preventative Medicine within the Surgeon General's office. Shortly after the war, he participated in the interrogation of Nazi generals in London as a translator.

Upon returning from Europe after the war, Rosen resumed his public health career and his studies at Columbia University, where he completed a master's degree in public health in 1950. Also in that year, Rosen was appointed director of the Division of Health Education and Preventative Services of the Health Insurance Plan of Greater New York, while he concurrently held the position of professor of public health education in the School of Public Health and Administrative Medicine at Columbia. In 1969, he devoted himself full-time to scholarly pursuits, joining the Department of History of Science and Medicine at Yale University, where he also taught courses in Yale College, the Graduate School, and the School of Medicine.

George Rosen was best known for the breadth and volume of his scholarly work which covered many topics and time periods. He published eleven books and over two hundred articles on topics relating to the history of medicine and public health. He also served as editor of the *American Journal of Public Health* (1957-1973) and *Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences* (1946-1952), which he also helped to incorporate.

source <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0862>

b. 1, item 26-31 George Blumer, rickettsioses
Blumer, George, 1872-1962

George Blumer was born in Darlington, England, on March 16, 1872. His family immigrated to the United States in 1886, settling in Sierra Madre, California. He received his medical degree from Cooper Medical College in 1891. After working for some time in San Francisco, Blumer went east to work at Johns Hopkins University Hospital. Between 1896 and 1903, he served as director of the Bender Laboratory in Albany, New York. To help his ailing father, Blumer returned to San Francisco and stayed there between 1903 and 1906. On April 17, 1906, he received an invitation to become professor of medicine at Yale School of Medicine. The next day was the great San Francisco earthquake. Nonetheless, Blumer left for New Haven a few weeks later. Between 1910 and 1920, he served as dean at the Yale School of Medicine. During his tenure as dean, Blumer helped to bring the school out of the financial crises of the nineteenth century, and to establish it as one of the top medical schools in the country. Blumer died on May 16, 1962, in California.

source <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1274>

Subjects:
Bacterial diseases

b. 1, item 32-37 Slides used at LAB meeting December 1933

b. 1, item 38-53b. Bacteria growth
2, item 54-58

b. 2, item Dermatology, syphilis
59-105b. 3, item
106-126 Subjects:
Dermatology
Syphilis

b. 3, item 127-134 Bone fracture

Subjects:
Fractures

b. 3, item 135-139 Primate research

Subjects:
Primates as laboratory animals

b. 3, item
140-157

Howard W. Florey
Florey, Howard, Baron Florey, 1898-1968

Howard Walter Florey was born on September 24, 1898, in Adelaide, Australia. He completed an MD at Adelaide University in 1921, attended Oxford as a Rhodes scholar, then attended Cambridge in 1924. The following year he was in the United States as a Rockefeller traveling fellow, then completed a Ph.D. at Cambridge. Between 1927 and 1962, Florey taught pathology at Cambridge, Sheffield, and Oxford. In 1962, he became provost of Queen's College, Oxford.

Florey is most known for his work with penicillin, including research on methods to synthesize large quantities of penicillin and leading the initial clinical trials of the drug. Penicillin was discovered by Sir Alexander Fleming in 1928. In 1939 Florey and Dr. Ernst Boris Chain began experiments with a purified form of penicillin and discovered its ability to combat bacterial infections in humans. Their discovery and clinical trials made penicillin available for use during the last two years of World War II. In 1944, Florey was knighted and in 1965, he was made life peer, taking the name Baron Florey of Adelaide. He was awarded a Nobel Prize for medicine in 1945. He died on February 21, 1968, in Oxford, England.

Subjects:
Bacteriology
Penicillin

b. 4, item
158-168

Unidentified slides

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Medical education
Medicine -- History

Genres / Formats

Lantern slides
Photographs

Acquired From

Yale University. School of Medicine