The first medical library in Detroit was established in 1876 by the Detroit Medical and Library Association, a group of local physicians that merged with the Wayne County Medical Society in 1898. The library was housed in the Detroit Public Library building until 1909 when the Society provided separate facilities and a full-time librarian. In 1923, the Wayne County Medical Society donated the 19,500 collection to the public library and it was housed in the Detroit College of Medicine building where it served both the medical profession and interested laymen. In 1928, the library received an endowment in the names of Dr. Theodore A. McGraw and Dr. Theodore A. McGraw, Jr. for the purchase of books and periodicals on endocrinology. The senior Dr. McGraw, a surgeon who performed one of the earliest thyroidectomies in the United States, was Professor of Surgery and chairman of the Faculty of the College of Medicine during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. By the time Wayne University assumed full financial responsibility for the library in July, 1949, the total number of volumes in the medical collection had increased to over 53,000 including 670 serials.

THE COLLECTION

Papers reflecting the history of the Medical Library from 1900 through July, 1949 occupy one and one-half linear feet of space in the
University Libraries Record Group of the Wayne State University Archives.
The bulk of the material covers the period that began with the donation of
the Medical Society library to the Detroit Public Library in 1923 and ended
with the full incorporation of the medical library into the Wayne University
Libraries group in 1949. Of particular interest to students of the history
of medicine are the brief histories of Detroit's medical clubs and
associations compiled by Dr. Walter Cree for the Library Committee of the
Wayne County Medical Society in 1939.
DESCRIPTION OF RECORD SERIES

SERIES ONE Boxes one and two, 44 folders

Papers related to the administration of the Medical Library

  General Correspondence, 1923-1949, monthly circulation statistics, 1924-1949; reports of additions to the library, 1924-1949; minutes and regulations related to the internal functions of the library, 1932-1949.

SERIES TWO Box three, 38 folders

Papers reflecting the relationship between the Medical Library and Wayne County Medical Society

  Correspondance, 1900-1949; Library Committee Minutes, 1927-1941; Walter Cree's histories of Detroit's medical groups.
FOLDER INVENTORY

BOX ONE
1. General Correspondance, 1923
2. General Correspondance, 1924
3. General Correspondance, 1925
4. General Correspondance, 1926
5. General Correspondance, 1927
6. General Correspondance, 1928-1929
7. General Correspondance, 1930
8. General Correspondance, 1931-1933
9. General Correspondance, 1934-1935
10. General Correspondance, 1936
11. General Correspondance, 1937
12. General Correspondance, 1938-1939
13. General Correspondance, 1940
14. General Correspondance, 1941
15. General Correspondance, 1942
16. General Correspondance, 1943
17. General Correspondance, 1944
18. General Correspondance, 1945-1949
24. Monthly Circulation Statistics, 1940-1942

BOX TWO
5. Report of Additions, 1927-1928
9. Report of Additions, 1939-1942
12. Medical Books and Periodicals, 1901
13. Medical Periodicals donated by Physicians, 1901-1907
15. Wayne University Library Correspondance, 1934-1941
16. Wayne University Library Correspondance, 1942-1949
17. Library Rules and Regulations, 1932-1933
19. Minutes of Meetings of Branch Librarians, 1939-1943
20. Minutes of Meetings of Department Heads, 1945-1949
21. Miscellaneous Papers, 1941-1946

BOX THREE

1. Wayne County Medical Society Correspondence, 1900-1902
2. Wayne County Medical Society Correspondence, 1910
3. Wayne County Medical Society Correspondence, 1911
4. Wayne County Medical Society Correspondence, 1916-1920
5. Wayne County Medical Society Correspondence, 1922-1930
6. Wayne County Medical Society Correspondence, 1931-1933
7. Wayne County Medical Society Correspondence, 1934-1936
8. Wayne County Medical Society Correspondence, 1937-1938
9. Wayne County Medical Society Correspondence, 1939
10. Wayne County Medical Society Correspondence, 1940-1941
11. Wayne County Medical Society Correspondence, 1942
12. Wayne County Medical Society Library Committee Minutes, 1927-1930
13. Wayne County Medical Society Library Committee Minutes, 1931-1941
14. Wayne County Medical Society: "Detroit's Medical Library" pamphlet
15. The Academy of Surgery
16. Detroit Dermatological Society
17. Detroit Gynecological Society
18. Detroit Medical and Library Association
19. Detroit Medical Club
20. Detroit Medical History Club
21. Detroit Medical Society
22. Detroit Ophthalmological and Otological Club
23. Detroit Oto-laryngological Association
24. Detroit Roentgen Ray and Radium Society
25. Detroit Society of Neurology and Psychiatry
26. Grosse Pointe Medical Club
27. Homeopathic Medical Association of Detroit
28. Maimonides Medical Society
29. The Medical-Dental Arts Club of Detroit
30. Michigan Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
31. Michigan Surgical and Pathological Society
32. Nu Sigma Nu
33. Physician's Business Association
34. The Syndeham Society
35. Union Medical Society of Wayne, Washtenaw and Oakland Counties
36. Wayne County Medical Society
37. Wayne County Medical Society Seniors Club
38. Wayne County Medical Society Women's Auxiliary