

Mary Louise Carpenter Gloeckner Papers

Accession #167

Collection Size 13.5 ln. ft.

Inclusive Dates [1933 - 1979]

Symbols

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <u>(1941-1974)</u> | Materials between 1941 and 1974, inclusive |
| <u>[1941-1974]</u> | Scattered materials between 1941 and 1974, inclusive |
| <u>[1941-(1954-1974)]</u> | Scattered materials between 1941 and 1974, inclusive, with the bulk of materials between 1954 and 1974 |
| n.d. | undated materials |

Biography

Born in Philadelphia, 26 August 1904, Mary Louise Carpenter (Gloeckner) was one of three children of Kate Bickings Carpenter and William Riegel Carpenter, M.D. Dr. Gloeckner's aunt, Mary Bickings Thornton, M.D., was Professor of Anatomy between 1905 and 1956 at the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania (WMC) and exerted a strong influence on her niece.

Louise attended Girls High School and Temple University, in Philadelphia. She received her M.D. from the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania on 6 June 1928. Shortly thereafter, she married Frederick H. Gloeckner; they had three children over the next several years. Dr. Gloeckner completed her Internship at Lancaster General Hospital in 1929, and then began to practice general medicine in nearby Conshohocken, Pennsylvania.

Louise Gloeckner was active in a variety of local, state, and national medical organizations, including the Conshohocken Civilian Defense Council--Medical Division, Secretary, 1941-1957; the Montgomery County Medical Society, President, 1944; the Pennsylvania Medical Society, Vice-President, 1951-1952; and the American Medical Association (AMA), of which she was the first woman Vice-President, 1969-1970.

Dr. Gloeckner was also a member of the Alumnae Association of the Woman's Medical College; the American Academy of General Practice; the Board of Directors of the Philadelphia Division of the American Cancer Society (elected an Honorary Life Member); the American Medical Women's Association; the Board of Review of Blue Cross of Philadelphia; the College of Physicians of Philadelphia; the Conshohocken Board of Health; the Health Resources Advisory Committee of the United States Office of Civil Defense Mobilization (OCDM); the Board of Directors of Montgomery County Home Maker-Home Health Aide Service, Inc.; and the Board of the Visiting Nurse Association of Conshohocken. She was also active in the Plymouth Friends Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, and was a member of the Valley Forge Historical Society.

Dr. Gloeckner received numerous honors and awards, including: Commonwealth Citation, Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, 1956; Woman of the Year, Conshohocken Business and Professional Women's Club, 1969; Distinguished Daughter of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, 1971; and Outstanding Citizen's Award of the Conshohocken Chamber of Commerce, 1973.

Dr. Gloeckner retired from practice and most of her organizational activities in 1975. She died 4 November 1978.

Scope and Contents

The Mary Louise Carpenter Gloeckner Papers, [1933-1979], are divided into five series: (1) General Correspondence; (2) Special Subjects, reflecting Dr. Gloeckner's activities with a number of organizations; (3) Speeches and Papers; (4), Medical Instruments; and (5), Miscellaneous Materials. The Medical Instruments and Miscellaneous Materials comprise 8.5 ft. of the papers.

The General Correspondence series, [1933-1979], contains Dr. Gloeckner's curricula vitae, [1962-1975], and memorials and letters of condolence to her husband, 1978-1979, upon Dr. Gloeckner's death; the correspondence, [1933-1973], includes a letter, 1933, from Chevalier Jackson, M.D., several notes from Catharine Macfarlane, some letters concerning patient care, and personal letters and notes of congratulations on a variety of occasions; scattered medical reports, [1956-1961], for Gloeckner's family.

The Special Subjects series, [1941-1978], contains scattered minutes, reports, correspondence, notes, meeting announcements, and related material for several organizations in which Dr. Gloeckner was active. The materials are arranged alphabetically by organization, and chronologically therein, and include: The American Cancer Society, the Philadelphia Division, [1958-1978]; the bulk of this series is from the American Medical Society, [1951-1975], and contains a few diary entries reflecting Vice-Presidential activities, (1970), membership in the House of Delegates, [1954-1968], and in the Council on Constitution and By-Laws, [1963-1975]; the American Medical Women's Association, (1971-1972); the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, (1969-1973); Conshohocken Civilian Defense Council--Medical Division, minutebook and scattered correspondence, [1941-1957]; Health Resources Advisory Committee, OCDM; Montgomery County Medical Society, including miscellaneous materials from her presidency, 1944, and also from the Board of Trustees and the Women's Auxiliary, [1942-(1964-1972)]; a large group of materials from the Pennsylvania Medical Society, containing minutes, correspondence, and notes of the Educational Fund Committee, (1950-1958), the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws, [1960-1971], and the Judicial Council, (1970-1971), directories, [1944-1971], and official reports of the House of Delegates, [1963-1973]; correspondence, [1948-(1969-1972)], with the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, and with the WMC Alumnae Association about general activities, and particularly concerning its name change, (1969-1970), and the selection of a new Dean, (1970-1971). Miscellaneous materials relating to various memberships, honors and awards complete this series.

The Speeches and Papers, [1944-1973] and n.d., were delivered to such groups as the AMA, the Plymouth Meeting Friends School, and the Soroptimist Club of Norristown, and cover a range of topics, including cancer, civil defense, ecology, health careers, preventive medicine, travel in England, and women in middle age.

The Medical Instruments of Louise Gloeckner include a microscope set, ca. 1880; surgical instrument kit, ca. 1910; professionally dissected temporal bones (inner ear apparatus); mercury sphyngnomanometer; anaeroid sphyngnomanometer; stethoscope; thermometer basin, ca. 1950; and audio heartrate monitor, ca. 1970.

The Miscellaneous Materials consist of: diplomas; photographs of Gloeckner and her family; clippings, [1944-1974], containing articles describing honors, awards, and interviews with Gloeckner; reprints, from a variety of journals and magazines with articles of interest to, and information about Gloeckner; and monographs, from her library, containing several books on the history of medicine and women in medicine.

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