Olin West Papers
86
Finding aid prepared by EBL Special Collections Staff

This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit
December 09, 2013

EBL Manuscripts Collection
2004-10-29
# Table of Contents

Summary Information .................................................................................................................................. 3

Historical or Biographical Note ............................................................................................................. 4

Collection Scope and Content Summary ............................................................................................... 4

Administrative Information ......................................................................................................................... 5

Subject Headings ........................................................................................................................................ 5

Collection Inventory .................................................................................................................................... 6

Series 01: Reports and Typescripts ........................................................................................................... 6
## Summary Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Repository</th>
<th>EBL Manuscripts Collection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Creator</td>
<td>West, Olin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Olin West Papers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date [inclusive]</td>
<td>1898 - 1922</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent</td>
<td>0.5 Cubic feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abstract</td>
<td>Personal papers of Vanderbilt alumnus and epidemiologist Olin West, a primary figure in the development of the Tennessee State Department of Public Health. The collection contains manuscripts on public health and one photograph.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Preferred Citation

Olin West Papers. Eskind Biomedical Library Special Collections, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN.
Historical or Biographical Note

Dr. Olin West was a public health expert on smallpox and a primary figure in early development of the Tennessee State Department of Health. Born at Gadsden, Alabama on July 12, 1874, his preliminary education was received at Howard College in Alabama. He received his M.D. from Vanderbilt University Medical Department in 1898. In 1910, after twelve years of practice in Nashville and fifteen years as a member of the faculty of Vanderbilt University, first as instructor and later as assistant professor and associate professor in chemistry, Dr. West became director for the Rockefeller Sanitary Commission and International Health Board in Tennessee where he led the effort against hookworm infection. He served as Secretary and Chief Executive for the Tennessee Board of Health from 1918-1922. Then Dr. West served as Secretary of the A.M.A. from 1922-1946, and later was elected to the office of President-elect of the A.M.A. in 1946. Poor health prevented his nomination and election to the office of President. He died in Nashville, June 20, 1952.

Collection Description

Personal papers of Vanderbilt alumnus and epidemiologist Olin West, a primary figure in the development of the Tennessee State Department of Public Health. The collection contains manuscripts on public health and one photograph. Majority of material is from 1915-1922.
Administrative Information

Publication Information
EBL Manuscripts Collection 2004-10-29

Notes about Access to this Collection
All collections are subject to applicable VUMC privacy and confidentiality policies. Collection specific restrictions: No Restrictions.

Reproduction Rights
Copyright is retained by Eskind Biomedical Library Special Collections.

Subject Headings

Personal Name(s)
West, Olin

Subject(s)
Epidemiology/Public Health
History of Medicine
Public Health--history--Tennessee
Tennessee History
Tennessee. Dept. of Health and Environment--history
Vanderbilt Alumni
Vanderbilt History
VUMC History
# Collection Inventory

## Series 01: Reports and Typescripts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Typewritten report (signed by O.West, State Epidemiologist) to Dr. R.Q.Lillard, Secretary and Executive Officer, State Board of Health October 24, 1915 re: health conditions in Sparta, Tennessee

Handwritten list of "Committees" c.1916 contains membership of committees on sewers, extension of water mains, housing conditions surface sanitation, food and milk supply, fly extermination, legislation, "City Beautiful", social and industrial hygiene, publicity, and sanitation of hotel, boarding houses, and restaurants

Report "To the Central Health Committee" on health conditions in Nashville, causes of death, and means of preventing and curing disease and recommendations on the formation of committees (see file 02) Signed by Dr. Witherspoon, Dr. Hibbett and Dr. West February 24, 1916

Typescript of "Proceedings of the National Medical Convention held in New York, May 1846 and in Philadelphia in May 1847" from Transactions of the American Medical Association, vol.1 (1848). Typed on reverse of copies of a letter from the American Medical Association to the U.S. Congress (1920).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mimeograph of typscript entitled &quot;The American Medical Association&quot;</th>
<th>-</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>c.1922</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>