



Commonwealth Fund records, Division of Health Studies, SG 1, Series 11

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Summary Information

Repository:	Rockefeller Archive Center
Creator:	Commonwealth Fund
Title:	Commonwealth Fund records, Division of Health Studies, SG 1, Series 11
ID:	FA283
Date [inclusive]:	1931-1944
Physical Description:	0.38 Cubic Feet 1 box
Language of the Material:	English .

Preferred Citation note

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Biographical/Historical note

The Commonwealth Fund was established in 1918 with an endowment of \$10 million from Mrs. Stephen V. Harkness for "benevolent, religious, educational and like purposes." The early grants supported a variety of programs while generally promoting welfare, especially child welfare. Several grants were made in the field of medical research, but the Board of Directors decided in 1920 that this field was already sufficiently supported by other philanthropic organizations.

Despite this decision, by the mid-1920s the chief interest of the Fund had become public health, including mental hygiene, community health, rural hospitals, medical research, and medical education. Other grant areas included war relief, educational and legal research, child welfare, and international medical fellowships.

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Scope and Contents note

The Commonwealth Fund established the Division of Health Studies as a separate division on April 1, 1931. The purposes of the organization were 1) to make periodic studies of the health conditions in the various communities in which the Commonwealth Fund worked, 2) assist in the development of division programs through the planning of administrative records and the appraisal of results, 3) conduct special studies in the field of health as from time to time seemed important in the development of the work of the Fund or would be of broad application.

The initial concerns of the Division were to establish the service functions of the Public Health and Rural Hospital Divisions and to aid the Mental Hygiene and Child Guidance Programs in their regular activities. The annual reports of the Division closely reflect the concurrent programs of the Commonwealth Fund. The Division's years always ended on November 1.

Dr. W. F. Walker was the first director of the Division. After Walker's death in September 1941, Dr. F. L. Moore became the new director in July 1942. Moore resigned his post on April 1, 1944. The Division of Health Studies was absorbed by the Division of Public Health on January 1, 1945.

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File Plan note

Former Classification: IX; IV 4B 4;

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Controlled Access Headings

- War relief
- United States
- Public welfare
- Public health
- New York (State)
- New York (N.Y.)
- Child mental health
- Child psychology
- Child welfare
- Education, Rural
- Hygiene
- Law
- Legal issues
- Legal research
- Medical education
- Medical research
- Mental health
- Medicine -- Scholarships, fellowships, etc.
- Medicine, Rural

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Instances
Annual Report, 1931	box 1 folder 1
Annual Report, 1932	

	box 1	folder 2
Annual Report, 1933	box 1	folder 3
Annual Report, 1934	box 1	folder 4
Annual Report, 1935	box 1	folder 5
Annual Report, 1936	box 1	folder 6
Annual Report, 1937	box 1	folder 7
Annual Report, 1938	box 1	folder 8
Budget, July 1, 1931-June 30, 1935	box 1	folder 9
Budget, September 15, 1937-December 31, 1944	box 1	folder 10
Correspondence and Memoranda, January 28, 1926-December 14, 1928	box 1	folder 11
Correspondence and Memoranda, January 11, 1929-December 31, 1930	box 1	folder 12
Correspondence and Memoranda, January 31, 1939-April 11, 1939	box 1	folder 13
Correspondence and Memoranda, February 1, 1940-June 14, 1943	box 1	folder 14
Correspondence and Surveys of Clinics (B-H), 1927-1928	box 1	folder 15
Correspondence and Surveys of Clinics (Los Angeles), May 1936	box 1	folder 16
Correspondence and Surveys of Clinics (M-S), 1936-1937	box 1	folder 17
Correspondence and Surveys of Clinics (T), 1936-1937	box 1	folder 18
Mental Hygiene Program Outline and Report, 1927	box 1	folder 19
Mental Hygiene Program Outline and Report, 1928	box 1	folder 20
Mental Hygiene Program Outline and Report, 1936	box 1	folder 21