

Guide to the Richard Lawrence Day Papers

MS 1822



compiled by Meghan Glass

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Manuscripts and Archives
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CALL NUMBER: MS 1822

CREATOR: Day, Richard Lawrence, 1905-1989

TITLE: Richard Lawrence Day papers

DATES: 1941-2005

BULK DATES: 1978-1989

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 0.75 linear feet

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The papers consist of articles, correspondence, photographs, publications, and other research materials documenting Dr. Day's studies of the Heimlich maneuver and the ensuing reactions of the medical profession and general public. The papers also contain brief biographical information and a few materials related to other research topics such as oxygen-induced vasoconstriction.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1822>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1822>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html. The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

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

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Sarah D. Perreten, 2003; Dr. Arthur Dubois, 2005.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

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Preferred Citation

Richard Lawrence Day Papers (MS 1822). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

Biographical / Historical

Richard Lawrence Day was born in New York, New York, on March 28, 1905. He attended Harvard University, where he received a B.S. degree in 1927 and an M.D. degree in 1931. From 1933 to 1953, Day was associate professor at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University. Day then served as professor and chairman of the department of pediatrics at the Downstate Medical Center, Brooklyn (1953-1960) and at the University of Pittsburgh (1960-1965). From 1965 to 1968, Day was national medical director of Planned Parenthood. Day then taught at Mount Sinai School of Medicine from 1968 until his retirement in 1971. During the 1980s, Day studied the effects of the Heimlich maneuver to treat choking. After demonstrating the superiority of this technique to back blows, Day successfully petitioned the American Red Cross and American Heart Association to change their recommendations. Day also researched topics in neonatology and is noted for his study of body temperature control in premature babies and jaundice in newborns. Day died on June 15, 1989.

Scope and Contents

The papers consist of articles, correspondence, photographs, publications, and other research materials documenting Dr. Day's studies of the Heimlich maneuver and the ensuing reactions of the medical profession and general public. The papers also contain brief biographical information and a few materials related to other research topics such as oxygen-induced vasoconstriction.

Collection Contents

Inventory, 1941-2003

The Richard Lawrence Day papers are arranged under three headings: Biographical information, Heimlich maneuver, and Other research. The majority of the collection documents Day's study of the Heimlich maneuver in the 1980s, though there are also a few materials related to Day's overall career and other research interests.

Biographical information includes career sketches and a retrospective account of Day's involvement in choking research, written by his close colleague, Dr. Arthur B. Dubois.

Heimlich maneuver consists of a variety of records related to Day's research of the Heimlich maneuver including: correspondence with the American Red Cross, William H. Montgomery (chairman, American Heart Association), Henry J. Heimlich and others; Day's studies of choking in infants; medical and general reactions to the Heimlich maneuver; criticism of the Heimlich maneuver by Drs. Joseph S. Redding and Peter Safar; and general research materials. The heading also includes several of Day's writings, including the article, "Choking: The Heimlich abdominal thrust vs. back blows: An approach to measurement of inertial and aerodynamic forces" (1982), two speeches, and letters to the editor reacting to criticism.

Other research contains scattered reprints of Day's earlier publications and some research materials related to studies on topics such as oxygen-induced vasoconstriction.

b. 1, f. 1	Biographical information	1979-1989, 2003, 2005
	Heimlich maneuver	
b. 1, f. 2	General correspondence	1979-1983
b. 1, f. 3	American Red Cross	1985-1986
b. 1, f. 4	Heimlich, Henry J. [includes writings]	1975-1985, undated
b. 1, f. 5	Injury to infants	1982-1983
b. 1, f. 6	Montgomery, William H.	1983-1986
b. 1, f. 7	Post-mortem examination of infants	1988-1989
b. 1, f. 8	Press	1974-1985, 2000, undated
b. 1, f. 9	Redding, Joseph S. [criticism of Heimlich maneuver]	1979-1986, undated
b. 1, f. 10 - 12	Research materials	1976-1989, undated
b. 1, f. 13	Safar, Peter [criticism of Heimlich maneuver]	1985, undated
	Writings	
b. 2, f. 14	American Heart Association speech	1985, undated

Heimlich maneuver > Writings (continued)

b. 2, f. 15	"Choking: The Heimlich abdominal thrust vs. back blows: An approach to measurement of inertial and aerodynamic forces" [article; includes photographs]	1981-1982
b. 2, f. 16	Howland Award speech	1973-1986, undated
b. 2, f. 17	Letters to the editor	1982-1983, undated
b. 2, f. 18	Other research	1941-1954, 1975, 1984-1987, undated

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

Asphyxia
First aid in illness and injury
Heimlich maneuver

Names

Day, Richard Lawrence, 1905-1989
Heimlich, Henry J., 1920-2016