

# Guide to the Connecticut Society for Mental Hygiene Records

MS 1904



compiled by Carol King

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## Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	3
Requesting Instructions .....	3
Administrative Information .....	3
Immediate Source of Acquisition .....	3
Conditions Governing Access .....	4
Conditions Governing Use .....	4
Preferred Citation .....	4
Biographical / Historical .....	4
Scope and Contents .....	4
Arrangement .....	4
Collection Contents .....	5
Selected Search Terms .....	6

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
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<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 1904

**CREATOR:** Connecticut Society for Mental Hygiene

**TITLE:** Connecticut Society for Mental Hygiene records

**DATES:** 1908-1958

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 1 linear foot (2 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The records consist of reports, meeting minutes, organizational files, and printed material documenting the founding and work of the Connecticut Society for Mental Hygiene.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1904>

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## 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.1904>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](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

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of the Mental Health Association of Connecticut, Inc., 2008.

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## Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

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## Preferred Citation

Connecticut Society for Mental Hygiene Records (MS 1904). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

The Connecticut Society for Mental Hygiene was founded in New Haven, Connecticut, in 1908 by Clifford Beers with a small group of followers and the assistance of Dr. Anson Phelps Stokes. Beers, a Yale graduate who had been a patient in public and private mental hospitals in Connecticut for three years, sought to correct the abuses he encountered. Beers published "A Mind That Found Itself," an autobiographical account of his illness and treatment. The organization was at the forefront of a mental health movement to revolutionize the treatment of the mentally ill. The Connecticut Society for Mental Hygiene is the predecessor organization of the Mental Health Association of Connecticut, Inc.

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## Scope and Contents

The records consist of reports, meeting minutes, organizational files, and printed material documenting the founding and work of the Connecticut Society for Mental Hygiene.

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## Arrangement

The collection is arranged alphabetically by form of material.

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## Collection Contents

b. 1, f. 1-2	Annual reports	1912-1932
b. 1, f. 3-7	Minutes of meetings File includes minutes of Executive Committee meetings.	1908-1937
b. 1, f. 8-9	Newsletters	1937-1957
b. 2, f. 10-12	Organizational files Organizational files provide historical perspective on the Society.	1908-1951
b. 2, f. 13-15	Pamphlets and publications	1908-1958
b. 2, f. 16	Scrapbook	1927-1932

## **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**

Mental health services -- Connecticut  
Mentally ill -- Care -- Connecticut

### **Names**

Beers, Clifford Whittingham, 1876-1943

### **Corporate Body**

Connecticut Society for Mental Hygiene