

# Guide to the Oliver T. Osborne Papers

MS 1012



compiled by Janet Elaine Gertz

July 1983

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
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**CALL NUMBER:** MS 1012

**CREATOR:** Osborne, Oliver T. (Oliver Thomas), 1862-1940

**TITLE:** Oliver Thomas Osborne papers

**DATES:** 1884-1939

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 0.75 linear feet

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Student notebooks, writings, lectures given at the Yale Medical School, photographs, and memorabilia relating to Osborne's professional career. The largest part of the papers consists of the lectures given at Yale between 1924 and 1925. Also included is a matriculation book from Leipzig University (1884-1885) and other notebooks, printed matter, and speeches on medical subjects. Several photographs show views of Berlin and other parts of Germany.

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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.1012>.

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 Dr. Oliver T. Osborne, 1939.

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## Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

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## Preferred Citation

Oliver Thomas Osborne Papers (MS 1012). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Oliver Thomas Osborne, M.D. 1884.

Born November 14, 1862, in New Haven, Conn.

Died November 11, 1940, in New Haven, Conn.

Father, Oliver Stuart Osborne, superintendent of a carriage firm in New Haven; first sergeant 1st Connecticut Heavy Artillery 1861-64; son of James Stuart and Elizabeth Brown (Guilford) Osborne of Fairfield, Conn. Mother, Ellen Lewis (Sturges) Osborne; daughter of Peter and Harriet Caroline (Van Vredenburg) Sturges of Fairfield.

Hillhouse High School; attended Yale School of Medicine 1881-84 (M.D. 1884) and University of Leipzig 1884-85; physician in New Haven 1885-1940; member faculty Yale School of Medicine 1888-1940 (assistant in medical clinic 1888-91; instructor in materia medica and therapeutics 1891-92, assistant professor 1892-95, and professor 1895-1911; clinical professor of medicine 1906-11; professor of therapeutics 1911-22, clinical professor 1922-24, and clinical professor emeritus 1924-40); chief of medical clinic New Haven Dispensary 1891-1911; consulting physician Children's Community Center of New Haven Orphan Asylum, and Griffin Hospital (Derby); author: *Introduction to Materia Medica and Prescription Writing* (1900), *The Treatment of Typhoid Fever* (1902), *Introduction to Materia Medica and Pharmacology* (1906), *Disturbances of the Heart* (1913), *The Prevention and Treatment of Infections* (1915), *Disturbances of the Kidney* (1917), *The Principles of Therapeutics* (1921), *Health; What Everyone Ought to Know* (1929), *Mouth Infection; Clinical Histories* (1934), *The Evaluation of Symptoms* (1935), and over a hundred articles in medical journals; editor, *Handbook of Therapy* (1910) and section on therapeutics *Journal of the American Medical Association* (1908-20); contributed to *A System of Physiologic Therapeutics* edited by Solomon S. Cohen; Vol. XI, 1906) and to various editions of *A Reference Handbook of the Medical Sciences* (edited by Albert H. Buck); on advisory board *Yale Medical Journal* 1896-1904; M.A. Yale 1899; president Association of Yale Alumni in Medicine 1896-97, New Haven County Medical Association 1899, American Therapeutic Society 1905, and New Haven Medical Association 1910; vice-president United States Pharmacopoeial Convention and member revision committee 1910-20; an incorporator Gaylord Farm Sanatorium 1902, a director and chairman medical board 1903-1940; a founder National Tuberculosis Association 1904; was instrumental in securing passage of State pure food and drug act (1907) and establishment of State commission on tuberculosis (1909); delegate to International Medical Congress (Budapest) 1909; fellow American College of Physicians (governor for Connecticut 1924-31); honorary fellow American Stomatological Association (vice-president 1925-30 and honorary vice-president 1930-40; winner Chompret Prize 1933); honorary member Association for the Study of Internal Secretions; member Connecticut State Medical Society, Connecticut Society for Mental Hygiene, American Medical

Association (member council on pharmacy and chemistry 1910-16, chairman section on therapeutics and materia medica), American Medical Editors and Authors Association, International Society of Stomatologists, National Academy of Sciences, New Haven Colony Historical Society, Connecticut Academy of Arts and Sciences, Masonic order, and Trinity Church (Episcopal), New Haven.

Married April 18, 1888, in New Haven, Mary Woodward, daughter of Ami and Harriet Olive (Nichols) Tyler. Children: Gertrude (died in infancy) and Marguerite Nichols.

Death due to chronic asthma. Buried in Evergreen Cemetery, New Haven. Survived by wife and one daughter.

Dr. Osborne bequeathed his books to the University.

(Taken from *Yale University Obituary Record*, 1940-43, pp. 231-232).

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## Scope and Contents

The Oliver Thomas Osborne Papers consist of lecture notes, writings, student papers, memorabilia, and other papers relating to the medical career of Oliver T. Osborne. Included are a matriculation book, notebooks, and other papers dating from Osborne's study at Leipzig University; reprints and photographs of cases of acromegaly; an assortment of addresses and lectures on medical subjects; memorabilia including certificates, programs, photographs, printed matter, and a masonic apron; and a biographical sketch of Osborne and a bibliography of his writings. The papers are arranged in chronological order.

These papers were donated to Yale University in 1939 by Oliver T. Osborne.

## Collection Contents

b. 1, f. 1	Matriculation book, Leipzig University	1884-1885
b. 1, f. 2	Leaflet of regulations for the medical clinic, Leipzig University	1885
b. 1, f. 3	Embryology notebooks	1885
b. 1, f. 4	Acromegaly: photographs, reprints	1892-1911, undated
b. 1, f. 5	Professional memorabilia	1900-1909
b. 1, f. 6	"Address of the Chairman of the Section on Materia Medica, Pharmacy, and Therapeutics: The Scourge of Nostrums and Irregular Practitioners" [typescript] English	[1904?]
Lectures given at the Yale Medical School		
b. 1, f. 7	Intestinal disturbances	[1924]
b. 1, f. 8	Stomach	[1924]
b. 1, f. 9	Kidney disturbances	[1924]
b. 1, f. 10	Diphtheria, septic sore throat, Vincent's angina, mumps, whooping cough	[1924]
b. 2, f. 11	Measles	[1924-1925]
b. 2, f. 12	Erysipelas	[1924-1925]
b. 2, f. 13	Chicken pox and small pox	[1924-1925]
b. 2, f. 14	Scarlet fever	[1924-1925]
b. 2, f. 15	"The Nostrum Crime" [two copies] English	undated
b. 2, f. 16	"Treatment by Mental Impression" English	undated
b. 2, f. 17	Photographs of scenes in Berlin and other parts of Germany	undated
b. 2, f. 18	Masonic apron, Hiram Lodge, New Haven	undated
b. 2, f. 19	Biography of Oliver T. Osborne and bibliography of his writings	[1939?]
b. 3	Certificates	1882-1924

## **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**

Americans -- Germany  
Educators  
Freemasons  
Medicine  
Physicians

### **Names**

Osborne, Oliver T. (Oliver Thomas), 1862-1940

### **Corporate Bodies**

Karl-Marx-Universität Leipzig  
Yale University. School of Medicine  
Yale University -- Faculty  
Yale University -- Students