

Manuscript
Collection

FEASBY (WILLIAM R.) PAPERS

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Research materials and drafts for an unpublished biography of C.H. Best, containing much direct comment and dictation by Best; research materials and typescript of an unpublished history of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto; drafts and notes for various articles and speeches; some biographical and autobiographical material. 1911-1970.

Extent: 1³ boxes. 5 linear feet.

Given to the Rare Book Library by the Canadian Diabetes Association in 1983 and 1985. Papers had been given to the Association by Mrs. Margaret Feasby, widow of William R. Feasby.

K. Martyn

J. Ramlochan

Oct. 1986

Aug. 1988

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BIOGRAPHY

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- 1912 Born in Listowel, Ont.
- 1934 B.A. University of Toronto
- 1937 M.D. University of Toronto Medical School
- 1937-39 Internship at Toronto Western Hospital
- 1939 Joined No. 15 Canadian General Hospital
- 1940 Went overseas and served as medical specialist in gastroenterology at No. 15.
- 1941 Invalided home from England to receive treatment for disease of the cornea
- 1942-44 Joined the Army medical research team in Ottawa, specializing in respiratory disease.
- 1944-46 Editor of the Journal of the Canadian Medical Services
- 1944-52 Medical Assistant to the Superintendent at Toronto Western Hospital
- 1945 Member of Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, Specialist in Internal Medicine
- Began practising as specialist in internal medicine, Medical Arts Building. Appointed special lecturer in Dept. of Physiology, University of Toronto. Appointed Army Medical Historian
- 1946 Editor of Modern Medicine of Canada
- 1946-56 Compiling history of Canadian Medical Services, 1939-1945
- 1948 Lecturer on hospital administration, School of Hygiene
- 1949 Editor of Ontario Medical Review
- 1952 Medical Director of Canadian Diabetic Association
- 1953 Vol. 1 of Official History of the Canadian Medical Services, 1939-1945 published.
- 1956 Published volume 2 of Official History
- 1960-66 Compiling material for projected biography of C.H. Best
- 1970 Died

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CONTAINER LIST

Charles H. Best Biography. 1921-1978.

Research materials for Biography. 1921-1978

- Box 1 Correspondence, notes on interviews, offprints, clippings, 1953-1973. Includes correspondence re completing biography after WRF's death.
- Box 2 Correspondence and notes dictated by Charles H. Best, photographs. 1978.
- Diaries of Margaret Best (typescripts). 1925-1947.
- Boxes 3-4 Chronological files of research material arranged by WRF and to cover CHB's life, 1899-1959. Files are dated by the events they describe, not by date the file or item was written.
- Contain lengthy transcripts of notes dictated by CHB for WRF; drafts of portions of the biography by WRF; typed extracts from other relevant biographies and other materials; copies of letters; some printed material. Additional significant items listed below.
- Box 3 1899-1952
- Folder 2 "Dictation in the office of Dr. Elliot P. Joslin, Boston, November 22, 1957." Typescript. 7 leaves.
- Folder 3 Transcript of CHB's standing in the Faculty of Arts, University of Toronto.
- "Dr. Best's evaluation of Prof. J.J.R. Macleod."
Dictation. Typescript. 5 leaves.
- Typed copies of correspondence between F.G. Banting, CHB., and J.J.R. Macleod, 1921-22.
- Photostat of application by George Zuelzer to United States Patent Office for patent on new method of pancreatic preparation suitable for the treatment of diabetes, 1912.
- Folder 4 Draft script: The Islets of Langerhans by Harry Collier. 1955. Typescript. 36 leaves.
- Folder 5 Typed copy of letter from CHB to Sir Henry Dale. Feb. 22, 1954. 7 p.

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Charles H. Best Biography (cont'd.)

Chronological files of research materials ...
1899-1952

- Box 3
- Folder 6 Typed extracts from CHB's diary for summer of 1921. 7 leaves.
- Folder 7 Correspondence between C.I. Reed and CHB. 1955-1956.
 "Who first isolated insulin?" by C.I. Reed. 1956. Ts. 24 p.
- Folder 8 "The Discovery of Insulin". Oslerian Oration by C.H. Best.
 July 12, 1957. Typescript. 18 leaves.
- "Dale on Best". Typed transcript of interview of Sir Henry
 Dale by WRF, June 1955. 8 leaves.
- Folder 9 Typed copies of correspondence between J.J Macleod and
 Sir William Bayliss. 1922.
- Carbon copy of letter from CHB to H. Ettinger, Mar. 10,
 1952, re his article "Medical Research in Canada".
- Folder 11 Copies of correspondence between Dr. G.W. Ross and various
 persons re government annuity awarded to F.G. Banting. 1923.
- Folder 20 Transcript of interview with Dr. Ormand Solandt by WRF.
 Typescript. 7 leaves.
- Folder 21 "Charles Herbert Best and choline." 1953. Typescript.
 54 leaves.
- Box 4
- 1953-1959
- Folder 1 "The Hopes and Plans of Banting and Best for the Department
 named in their Honour." Typescript. 11 leaves.
- Folders 2-3 The Charles H. Best Institute, University of Toronto.
 Opening Ceremonies. 1954. 56 p. 2 copies.
- Folder 4 Memorandum concerning the proposed nomination of Charles Herbert
 Best ... for a Nobel Prize. 1954. Typescript. 5 leaves.
- Folder 5 "Contributions of the Biological Sciences to Public Health
 in the years ahead." Speech by CHB, University of Pitts-
 burg, 1957. Typescript. 18 leaves.
- Folder 6 "Preparation of Heparin and its use in the first clinical
 cases." Article by CHB. Published in Circulation 19
 (Jan. 1959). Typescript. 28 leaves.

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Charles H. Best Biography (cont'd)

Box 5 Scripts for screen and radio plays about the discovery of insulin. 1954-1958.

"The Discovery of Insulin", film script by WRF. 1955.
Prepared for Crawley Films. Correspondence between WRF and Crawley Films, 1954-1956.

"The Islets of Langerhans," radio script by Harry Collier. 1955. Prepared for B.B.C. 2 versions.

"The Seekers", film script by Leslie McFarlane. 1954-1958.
Prepared for National Film Board. Drafts, correspondence, lengthy comments by CHB on the script.

Drafts of Biography. 1960-66.

Box 6 First draft. 1960.

Box 7 First draft annotated by Charles Best, 1960.
Drafts 2 & 3. 1960-61.

Box 8 Drafts 4, 5 & 6. 1961-1965.
Final version. 1966.

Box 9 History of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto. 1911-1969.

Research materials. 1911-1969.

Original correspondence, 1911-1915, re Faculty of Medicine Council matters (awarding of degrees, wording on medal, presentation of bust, retirement gift, etc.) Includes 1 A.L.S. from James F. Boyle, Edmonton, to A. Primrose, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto, dated 1911, presenting the bust of Sir Joseph Workman to the Faculty. (2 leaves).

Correspondence re writing the history. 1964-1969.
Research notes, extracts copied from his historical documents.
Offprints and other printed materials.
Drafts and annotated typescript of completed history (unpublished).

Box 10 Other writings, ca. 1933-1970.

3 plays (ca. 1933-1934); short story (undated)

Official History of the Canadian Medical Services. 1945-1958.
Correspondence, reviews, press releases, etc.

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Box 10

Other writings (cont'd)

Typescript of account of the history of the discovery of insulin. 1961.

Miscellaneous speeches and articles, including reviews for the Medical Post (ca. 1965)

Outlines and associated materials for history of medicine lectures for Faculty of Medicine, 1966-69.

History of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. Typescript. 1970.

Box 11

Biographical and autobiographical material.

General correspondence; curricula vitae; list of publications; notes on medical problems; autobiographical accounts; clippings, condolences sent to his wife on his death in 1970; 5 recordings; 2 photos.

Boxes 12-13

Additional material for History of the Faculty of Medicine, 1843-1966

Box 12

Correspondence, Research material, drafts

Box 13

Typescripts of manuscript