



Guide to the Watson Smith Rankin Papers, 1911-1970

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David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

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Table of Contents

Summary	3
Background	4
Administrative Information	4
Names and Subjects	5
Collection Inventory	6
Watson S. Rankin Papers, 1911-1970	6

Summary

Collection Title:

Watson Smith Rankin papers, 1911-1970

Creator:

Rankin, Watson S. (Watson Smith), 1879-1970

Abstract:

Professor of pathology; Dean of Wake Forest Medical School; Secretary of the N.C. State Board of Health; Director of the Hospital and Orphan Section of the Duke Endowment. Correspondence, legal and financial papers, memorabilia, speeches, clippings, printed materials, photographs, and a diary, all relating to the life and career of Dr. Watson Smith Rankin. Correspondence is chiefly between Dr. Rankin and his son, Jesse, friends and other relatives, and professional colleagues; much of the material concerns administrative aspects of medicine related to the Duke Endowment and the State Board of Health. Many of the writings, lectures, and speeches discuss hospital reform, and some concern philosophical and religious issues. There are also financial papers and biographical information. Also includes a 1932 report by the Commission on the Costs of Medical Care, entitled "An outline program of medical care for the People of the United States."

Extent:

7.6 Linear Feet
10,729 Items

Language:

Material in English

Collection ID:

RL.01068

Permalink:

<https://idn.duke.edu/ark:/87924/m17h2c>

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Watson Smith Rankin Papers, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Background

Scope and Content

Correspondence, legal and financial papers, memorabilia, speeches, clippings, printed materials, photographs, and a diary, all relating to the life and career of Dr. Watson Smith Rankin. Correspondence is chiefly between Dr. Rankin and his son, Jesse, friends and other relatives, and professional colleagues; much of the material concerns administrative aspects of medicine related to the Duke Endowment and the State Board of Health. Many of the writings, lectures, and speeches discuss hospital reform, and some concern philosophical and religious issues. Financial papers record stock transactions, salaries, taxes, and philanthropic activities of Dr. Rankin. There are also several transcripts of interviews which provide biographical details. Other items include a diary entitled "Of official relations to the Methodist Home," photographs of the Duke Endowment trustees and of several N.C. governors, and Rankin's writings on Dr. John Atkinson Ferrell, who served in the Rockefeller Foundation's health division. Also includes a 1932 report by the Commission on the Costs of Medical Care, entitled "An outline program of medical care for the People of the United States."

Biographical/Historical

Watson Smith Rankin was a Professor of Pathology; Dean of Wake Forest Medical School; Secretary of the N.C. State Board of Health; and Director of the Hospital and Orphan Section of the Duke Endowment.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Use Restrictions

The copyright interests in this collection have not been transferred to Duke University. For more information, consult the copyright section of the Regulations and Procedures of the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library.

Acquisition Information

The Watson Smith Rankin Papers were received by the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library as a gift in 1971.

Processing Information

Processed by Rubenstein Library staff, January 1971.

Encoded by Carrie Mills, May 2011.

Accession(s) described in this finding aid: 1-22-71, 2-12-74, 1-2-82, 11-11-83, 10-1-86

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Names and Subjects

- North Carolina -- History
- Medical care -- United States -- History
- Medical care -- North Carolina -- History
- Hospitals -- Administration
- Philanthropists -- North Carolina
- Physicians -- North Carolina -- Correspondence
- Ferrell, John A. (John Atkinson), 1880-1965
- North Carolina. State Board of Health
- Rankin, Jesse
- Duke Endowment. Hospital and Orphan Section

Collection Inventory

Watson S. Rankin Papers, 1911-1970

Physical Description: 19 boxes

Correspondence, 1925-1928	Box 1
Correspondence, 1930-1932	Box 2
Correspondence, 1933-1936	Box 3
Correspondence, 1937-1939 Aug.	Box 4
Correspondence, 1939 Sept.-1942	Box 5
Correspondence, 1943-1946	Box 6
Correspondence, 1947-1951 Sept.	Box 7
Correspondence, 1951 Oct.-1956 Mar.	Box 8
Correspondence, 1956 Apr.-1960	Box 9
Correspondence, 1961-1964 May	Box 10
Correspondence, 1964 June-1970	Box 11
Writings, 1911-1949 (online item available)	Box 12
Digital Object: Writings, 1911-1949	
Writings, 1952-1967	Box 13
Speeches, 1927-1949	Box 13
Bergson-Gifford Lectures	Box 14
Hocking-Tillich Lectures	Box 15
Writings and speeches by others, 1911-1970	Box 16
Miscellaneous Writings, 1932-1970	Box 16
Financial papers	Box 17
Legal papers	Box 17

Newspaper clippings	Box 17
Genealogy	Box 17
Photographs	Box 18
Scrapbook	Box 18
Duke Endowment album, 1964	Box 19
Oversize materials	Oversize-folder 1-2

[Return to Table of Contents](#)