

A Guide to the

Dr. H. Bliss Murphy fonds

COLL - 013

Arranged & Described by

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**Faculty of Medicine Founders' Archive
Health Sciences Library
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H. Bliss Murphy Collection

(COLL-013)

Title: Dr. H. Bliss Murphy fonds

Dates: n.d.

Extent: 159 glass slides (no negatives)

Biographical sketch:

Dr. H. Bliss Murphy was born in St. John's on 29 May, 1914, the son of Dr. G.N. and Enid M. (Berbeau) Murphy. He was educated at Bishop Feild College, Memorial University, and Dalhousie University, earning a M.D.C.M. in 1941. A year later, he graduated from Toronto University with a Diploma in Radiology. He served in the Royal Canadian Air Force from Fall of 1943 to June 1946 and upon discharge returned to St. John's as Disultant to the American Base at Fort Pepperel.

After returning to Newfoundland, Dr. H. Bliss Murphy attained and held a number of professional positions and appointments including: Member of the Board of the Canadian Cancer Society, Consultant to Newfoundland Cancer Foundation, President - St. John's Clinical Society, President of Staff - General Hospital, Chief of Staff - General Hospital, Medical Director for X-Ray Technology at the Trades and Technical College and a Clinical Lecturer at Memorial University's Medical School.

Over the years, Dr. H. Bliss Murphy was involved in many clubs and associations. These included the Rotary (St. John's Club), Bally Haly Golf and Country Club, Newfoundland Game Fish Protection Society, Rivervale Tennis Club, Masonic Club, and was President of the Feildian Gardens Association. On 16 April, 1942, he married Ruperta Angel and they had four children; Anne Elizabeth (Yardley), John Robert, Susan Margaret and Barbara Louise.

Custodial history:

The slides of Dr. H. Bliss Murphy were in the custody of Dr. Kenneth B. Roberts while Dr. Roberts held the position of Dr. John Clinch Professor of Medical History with the Faculty of Medicine, Memorial University of Newfoundland. After Dr. Roberts' retirement in 1988 the negatives were transferred to the custody of Dr. Penny Hansen, a student of Dr. Roberts. Dr. Hansen deposited the slides in the Faculty of Medicine Founders' Archive in February 2000.

Scope and content:

The Dr. H. Bliss Murphy fonds contains 159 glass slides, each of which falls into one of several categories or series. Fonds is composed of the following series:

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|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1. India (65 slides) | 4. Medical Diagrams (26 slides) |
| 2. London Hospital Medical Collection (12 slides) | 5. Microscopic Images (34 slides) |
| 3. Physicians (11 slides) | 6. Miscellaneous (12 slides) |

Source of title:

Title based on contents of the fonds.

Arrangement:

When the Dr. H. Bliss Murphy materials arrived at the Founders' Archive, there was some degree of order present. Slides had been kept in separate boxes but these boxes very dirty and were in poor condition. This formed the framework for further arrangement and description of the collection, with the slides being dusted, cleaned and transferred into an archival quality storage container.

Restrictions:

There are no restrictions on access to or use of the materials in this fonds. Users should be aware however that copyright regulations state that any copy of archival material is to be used solely for **research** or **private study**. Any use of copied materials for any other purpose may require the authorization of the copyright owner. It is the patron's responsibility to obtain such authorization. Patrons should also be aware that the copyright regulations require that records be kept of all copies made of materials deposited prior to September 1, 1999 and that these records may be viewed by the author of the material, the copyright owner or representatives of either.

Accruals:

No further accruals are expected.

Finding Aid:

Description of each series containing slides is available. (Series level)

Series

1. India (65 slides)

Series consists of 65 slides containing images of various scenes in India, including individuals, Indian families, landscapes, buildings, religious ceremonies, work, etc.

2. London Hospital Medical Collection (11 slides)

Series consists of 9 slides labelled “Anatomy Department: London Hospital Medical Collection” showing various microscopic images, anatomical diagrams, etc.

3. Physicians (11 slides)

Series consists of 11 slides featuring images of physicians. Images include Robert Koch, Antony Van Leeuwenhoek, Fleming, Schwann, Pasteur, Bordet, Lord Lister, etc.

4. Medical Diagrams (26 slides)

Series consists of diagrams of medical experiments, procedures, etc.

5. Microscopic Images (34 slides)

Series consists of slides featuring microscopic images. The majority of these slides are unidentified and bear no labelling.

6. Miscellaneous (12 slides)

Series consists of slides that do not fit into above categories including slides of biblical images, a human skull, mummified corpse, a poem, etc.