Guide to the Dr. F. R. Millard Ledger MS 91

Finding aid prepared by Sandra Kirkwood
Collection processed as part of grant project supported by the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) with generous funding from The Andrew Mellon Foundation.
San Diego History Center Document Collection
1649 El Prado, Suite 3
San Diego, CA, 92101
619-232-6203
January 9, 2013
Title: Dr. F. R. Millard Ledger
Identifier/Call Number: MS 91
Contributing Institution: San Diego History Center Document Collection
Language of Material: English
Physical Description: 0.25 Linear feet (1 box)
Date (inclusive): 1880-1906
Abstract: The collection consists of one ledger cataloging poisonous substances dispensed by Dr. F. R. Millard.
creator: Millard, F. R., Dr.
Conditions Governing Access
This collection is open for research.
Conditions Governing Use
The San Diego History Center (SDHC) holds the copyright to any unpublished materials. SDHC Library regulations do apply.
Processing Information
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Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements
Ledger cover and spine are detached.
Arrangement
Ledger entries in chronological order.
Scope and Content
The collection consists of one ledger cataloging poisonous substances dispensed by Dr. Millard. Pasted on the inside front cover are sections of printed material, "An Act To Regulate The Sale Of Certain Poisonous Substances" (California State Legislature, April 16, 1880) and "Poisons and their Antidotes." The former states legislative requirement for a ledger of this nature. The ledger's records are divided into columns that show the date, name of purchaser, purchaser's residence, identity verification, the substance sold, the quantity of substance, the reason for purchase, and by whom it was dispensed. Clients were mostly from the San Diego area, but a few were travelers from other areas, such as San Francisco or Mexico. Substances regularly sold include morphine, chloroform, carbolic acid, arsenic, laudanum, opium, cocaine, and nitric acid, for such purposes as headaches, disinfectants, horse medicine, bird stuffing, engraving, toothaches, rheumatism, sleeplessness, and vermin extermination. Not all substances sold were for medical issues. Quantities were usually either in ounces or grams. The poisonous substances were most commonly dispensed by Dr. F. R. Millard or H. Walker. Other distributors listed intermittently include John Palmer, C. J. Everhart, and James Crosthwaite.
Preferred Citation
Dr. F. R. Millard Ledger, MS 91, San Diego History Center Document Collection, San Diego, CA.
Biographical / Historical Notes
Dr. F. R. Millard was a native of Ohio and moved to San Diego in 1874. He was one of the early physicians in the area and also operated a drug store. He raised a family in San Diego, but only minimal information is available. Dr. F. R. Millard died on March 28, 1917 at the age of 84.
Subjects and Indexing Terms
Crosthwaite, James
Everhart, C. J.
Millard, F. R., Dr.
Palmer, John
Walker, H.
Drug stores
Drugs
Medicine -- Formulae, receipts, prescriptions
Pharmacy
Physician
Box 1

"Record of Poisons and Poisonous Substances Sold By F. R. Millard, M.D.," 1880-1906

Entries of interest:
1 oz. of nitric acid to test gold (page 29)
1 oz. chloroform for toothache (page 37)
2 oz. arsenic for rat poison (page 47)
10 grams strychnine for bird stuffing (page 95)
20 grams cocaine for self (page 175)