Charles Leroy Lowman Papers: Finding Aid

Finding aid prepared by Aubrey Adams, April 5, 2011.
The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens
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Overview of the Collection

**Title:** Charles Leroy Lowman Papers

**Dates (inclusive):** 1925-1937

**Collection Number:** mssLowman papers

**Creator:** Lowman, Charles Leroy, 1879-

**Extent:** 298 items in 2 boxes

**Repository:** The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens. Manuscripts Department

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**Abstract:** This collection contains the papers of Los Angeles, California, orthopedic surgeon Dr. Charles LeRoy Lowman (1879-1977) related to his 1937 book on hydrotherapy: Techniques of Underwater Gymnastics.

**Language:** English.

**Access**
Open to qualified researchers by prior application through the Reader Services Department. For more information, contact Reader Services.

**Publication Rights**
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**Preferred Citation**

**Provenance**
On permanent deposit from the Los Angeles County Medical Association, 1992.

**Biographical Note**
Charles Leroy Lowman, M. D. (1879-1977), was a prominent orthopedic surgeon in Los Angeles, California. He founded the Los Angeles Orthopedic Hospital in 1911 to treat children and adults with postural and orthopedic disabilities. In July 1974, President Nixon presented Lowman with the Presidential Medal of Freedom in recognition of Lowman’s commitment to treat patients regardless of their ability to pay. In particular, Lowman is known for his techniques of hydrotherapy and for his work with children.

**Scope and Content**
This collection contains material related to Dr. Charles Leroy Lowman’s book *Techniques of Underwater Gymnastics,* published by American Publications in 1937. The collection is housed in two grey upright boxes and is organized alphabetically by folder title. Box 1 contains Lowman’s handwritten notes on the chapters of the book, material relating to the medical profession and other practitioners of hydrotherapy, correspondence regarding his techniques and the book’s publication, and many photographs of treatment facilities and of orthopedic techniques and exercises. Box 2 contains a draft and proof versions of his monograph, and includes editorial markings and revisions on the documents themselves.

**Arrangement**
Arranged in two boxes:

- Box 1 – Chapter Notes-Published Scholarship on Hydrotherapy
- Box 2 – Techniques of Underwater Gymnastics

**Indexing Terms**
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the **Huntington Library's Online Catalog.**

**Subjects**
Lowman, Charles Leroy, 1879-.
Exercise therapy.
Hydrotherapy -- United States -- History -- 20th century.
Orthopedists -- California.
Physicians -- United States -- Archives.

**Forms/Genres**
Articles -- California -- 20th century.
Letters (correspondence) -- United States -- 20th century.
Manuscripts for publication -- California -- 20th century.
Notes.
Photographs -- United States -- 20th century.

**Additional Contributors**
Los Angeles County Medical Association, former owner.

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**Box 1**  
**Chapter Notes-Published Scholarship on Hydrotherapy**

- **Folder 1**:  
  Chapter Notes [Before 1937]. 14 items.

- **Folder 2**:  
  Conference on Aquatics [Undated]. 1 item.

- **Folder 3**:  
  Correspondence (1936-1937). 58 items.

- **Folder 4**:  

- **Folder 5**:  
  Miscellaneous [Before 1937]. 55 items.

- **Folder 6**:  
  Photographs [Before 1937]. 125 items.

- **Folder 7**:  
  Published Scholarship on Hydrotherapy [1925-1935]. 24 items.

**Box 2**  
**Techniques of Underwater Gymnastics**

- **Folder 1**:  
  Techniques of Underwater Gymnastics: [monograph proof], Folder 1 [Before 1937]. 1 item.

- **Folder 2**:  
  Techniques of Underwater Gymnastics: [monograph proof], Folder 2 [Before 1937]. 1 item.

- **Folder 3**:  

- **Folder 4**:  
  Techniques of Underwater Gymnastics: [typewritten draft], Folder 1 [Before 1937]. 1 item.

- **Folder 5**:  
  Techniques of Underwater Gymnastics: [typewritten draft], Folder 2 [Before 1937]. 1 item.