Guide to the Forest Grunigen Files on the California Osteopathic Association

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Descriptive Summary
Title: Forest Grunigen files on the California Osteopathic Association
Date: 1901-1990,
Date (bulk): bulk 1941-1963
Collection Number: AS-083
Creator: Grunigen, Forest, 1905-1999
Extent: 3.7 linear feet (5 boxes)
Languages: The collection is in English.
Repository: University of California, Irvine. Library. Special Collections and Archives.
Irvine, California 92623-9557
Abstract: This collection comprises files on the California Osteopathic Association (COA) that were accumulated by Forest Grunigen, a California osteopath who was an active member of the organization and served as its president in the 1940s. Materials include correspondence, meeting minutes, photographs, news clippings and reports. The bulk of the material covers the COA/California Medical Association (CMA) merger, in which Grunigen was a key figure. Also in the collection are the files of Dain Tasker, who served as the Historian of COA in the 1950s. His files include an unpublished manuscript of his history of the osteopathic profession in California.

Access
The collection is open for research.

Publication Rights
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Preferred Citation

For the benefit of current and future researchers, please cite any additional information about sources consulted in this collection, including permanent URLs, item or folder descriptions, and box/folder locations.

Acquisition Information
Gift of Forest and Dolores Grunigen, 1995.

Processing History

Historical Background
Forest Grunigen served as president of the California Osteopathic Association (COA) in 1943 and played a leading role in establishing the medical school at UC Irvine. COA was established in 1900 as an affiliate of the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) and, along with the College of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons (COPS), was a figurehead of the osteopathic tradition in California.

Osteopathy, from the Greek osteon (bone) and pathos (to suffer), was coined by Dr. Andrew Taylor Still who, in the late 1800s, sought a more holistic approach to curing disease than the traditional medicine that he and his fellow medical doctors were practicing. He believed that disease interrupted the flow of blood and nervous impulses but, through manipulation of the bones, one can restore that flow and, thus, restore health to the patient.

This non-traditional approach to curing illness was suspect to many in the medical community. Osteopathy struggled to gain credibility. In 1922 California passed State Measure 22, the Osteopathic Initiative Act. It established a board that had jurisdiction over examination and licensure of Doctors of Osteopathy (D.O.) and legally recognized it as a distinct medical profession.

In the mid-1940s, the COA, led by Forest Grunigen and the COA’s Fact Finding Committee, began talks to merge with the California Medical Association (CMA), led by Wayne Pollack and CMA’s Committee on Other Professions. The terms of the merger included granting D.O.s M.D. degrees, elimination of the osteopathic licensing boards, and conversion of the College of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons into a medical school.

In 1960, the AOA revoked COA’s charter when it defied AOA’s request to cease merger talks. This action left California without a licensing board. A splinter group of osteopaths who opposed exchanging their D.O.s for M.D.s, formed in 1960, naming themselves the Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons of California (OPSC). In 1961, an agreement between the CMA and COA was reached. The OPSC filed suit alleging that the merger was a conspiracy to destroy the osteopathic profession.
in California. Two more suits followed, later in 1961 and in 1962, but in all cases, the court found in favor of the defendants.

In the midst of all these events, Dain Tasker, historian of the COA, was working on his history of the profession in California. Tasker had long been involved in osteopathic professional activities in California, having been the president of the first board of osteopathic examiners in 1901. This gave him a unique perspective into the topic. The manuscript was never published but there are extant copies, one of which is included in this collection, another of which is included in AS-027 (California College of Medicine records).

COPS, now renamed the California College of Medicine (CCM), became part of the University of California system in 1963. Forest Grunigen, who was so instrumental in the COA/CMA merger, and Warren Bostick, the new dean of CCM, recognized that CCM would be better served if it were associated with one of the UC campuses. On April 5, 1967, CCM officially became a part of the University of California, Irvine.

**Biography/Organization History**

1900 California Osteopathic Association established
1940 Negotiations between California Osteopathic Association (COA) and California Medical Association (CMA) begin
1943 Forest Grunigen elected president of the COA
1943 Grunigen appoints Fact Finding Committee to lead merger talks with CMA
1952 Cline Committee report completed
1960 Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons of California (OPSC) is formed in opposition to the merger
1961 COA/CMA merger is successful
1963 California College of Medicine joins the UC system
1968 CCM relocated to UC Irvine campus
1999 Forest Grunigen dies

**Collection Scope and Content Summary**

This collection comprises Forest Grunigen’s files on the California Osteopathic Association of which he was an active member and served as president in the 1940s. Materials include correspondence, meeting minutes, photographs, news clippings and reports. The bulk of the material covers the COA/CMA merger of which Grunigen was a key figure. Also in the collection are the files of Dain Tasker who served as the Historian of COA in the 1950s. His files include his unpublished manuscript of the history of the osteopathic profession in California.

**Collection Arrangement**

This collection is arranged in five series.

Series 1. California Osteopathic Association/California Medical Association merger, 1941-1962. 1.0 linear feet
Series 2. California Osteopathic Association, Board of Trustees meeting materials, 1951-1962. 0.3 linear feet
Series 3. Dain Tasker writings, correspondence and other materials, 1950s. 0.4 linear feet
Series 4. Photographic material, 1901-1989. 1.6 linear feet
Series 5. Scrapbooks, 1912-1961. 0.4 linear feet

**Related Collections**

The following related collections can be found in UC Irvine Special Collections and Archives:

AS-018, Warren L. Bostick papers
AS-027, California College of Medicine records

**Indexing Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library’s online public access catalog.

**Subjects**

Grunigen, Forest, 1905-1999 -- Archives.
Tasker, Dain L., 1872-1964 -- Archives.
American Osteopathic Association -- Archives.
California College of Medicine -- Archives.
California Medical Association -- Archives.
California Osteopathic Association -- Archives.
Forty-First Medical Society -- Archives.
College of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons -- Archives.
Los Angeles City and County Osteopathic Medical Association -- Archives.
Los Angeles County General Hospital -- Archives.
Pacific College of Osteopathy -- Archives.
University of California, Irvine -- Archives.
Osteopathic physicians -- California -- Photographs.
Osteopathic medicine -- California -- Archives.
Osteopathic medicine -- Education -- Archives.
Osteopathic medicine -- Study and teaching -- California -- Archives.

**Occupations**
Osteopathic physicians.
Medical teaching personnel.

**Contributors**
Tasker, Dain L., 1872-1964.
American Osteopathic Association.
California Medical Association.
California Medical Association. Committee on Other Professions.
California Osteopathic Association.
College of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons.
Forty-First Medical Society.

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Series 1. **California Osteopathic Association/California Medical Association merger 1941-1990**

**Physical Description:** 1.0 linear feet

**Series Scope and Content Summary**
This series contains correspondence, reports, minutes and other material that reflects the work of the COA, CMA and their respective components related to the merger.

**Arrangement**
Arranged in 3 subseries:
Fact Finding Committee files
Evaluating Commission files
Topical files

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**Fact Finding Committee records 1941-1962**

**Scope and Content Note**
This subseries documents the work of the Fact Finding Committee which was formed by Forest Grunigen in 1943 to lead COA in merger talks with CMA. The correspondence of especially prolific committee members have been filed under their respective names.

**Arrangement**
The files are arranged by type of material. Correspondence is further arranged alphabetically by the writer of the outgoing correspondence, with the exception of three folders in which Grunigen's original thematic arrangement has been preserved.

- **Box : Folder 1 : 1**
- **Box : Folder 1 : 2**
- **Box : Folder 1 : 3**
- **Box : Folder 1 : 4**
- **Box : Folder 1 : 5-15**
- **Box : Folder 1 : 5-8**

**Agendas 1952-1961**
**Agreements, contracts and resolutions 1952-1961**
**Articles and news releases 1952-1958**
**Brochures and pamphlets 1941-1956**
**Correspondence**
**General 1940-1962**
Series 1. California Osteopathic Association/California Medical Association merger 1941-1990
Fact Finding Committee records 1941-1962

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Files on the California Osteopathic Association

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**Box : Folder 1 :**
**9-12**
Individuals

- **Box : Folder 1 : 9**
  - Caylor, George D. 1948-1960

- **Box : Folder 1 : 10**
  - Grunigen, Forest 1952-1962

- **Box : Folder 1 : 11**
  - Hufstedler, Seth 1950-1961

- **Box : Folder 1 : 12**
  - Pollock, Wayne 1952-1959

**Thematic 1941-1962**

- **Box : Folder 1 : 13-15**
  - "Declaration of Geneva" 1948

- **Box : Folder 1 : 16**
  - "Declaration of Geneva" Invitations 1947

- **Box : Folder 1 : 17**
  - Legal documents 1948-1961

- **Box : Folder 1 :**
  - Meeting minutes 1949-1962

- **Box : Folder 1 : 19-20**
  - Memoranda 1943-1962

- **Box : Folder 1 : 21**
  - Newsletters and newspapers 1952-1961

- **Box : Folder 1 : 22**
  - Notes 1943-1960

- **Box : Folder 1 : 23**
  - Questionnaires 1951-1952

- **Box : Folder 1 : 24**
  - Reports 1947-1961

- **Box : Folder 1 : 25-27**
  - "Report of the A.O.A. Conference Committee to the House of Delegates" 1954

**Evaluating Commission files 1948-1958**

Scope and Content Note
This subseries reflects the work of the Evaluating Commission, appointed by the House of Delegates of the AOA in 1949 to study the awarding of the M.D. degree to osteopathic physicians. Files include correspondence, minutes and other material.

Arrangement
The subseries is arranged alphabetically.

- **Box : Folder 1 : 28**
  - Articles circa 1948-1949

- **Box : Folder 1 : 29**
  - Bulletins 1955

- **Box : Folder 1 : 30**
  - Correspondence 1948-1949

- **Box : Folder 1 :**
  - Minutes 1948-1949

- **Box : Folder 1 : 31-32**
  - Reports 1949-1958

- **Box : Folder 1 : 33-34**
  - Resolutions 1948

**Topical files 1962-1990**

Scope and Content Note
This subseries contains documents relating to the transfer of administration of the Forty-First Medical Society to the California College of Medicine Support Foundation, Inc. The Society was first formed in 1962 as a component within the CMA. It was made up of former D.O.s. Included are budgets, reports and correspondence of the Society related to Proposition 22 of 1962 which amended the Osteopathic Initiative Act of 1922 by removing the power of the Board of Osteopathic Examiners to issue licenses to new applicants. Also included is a draft copy of a case study about the differences between osteopathy and more traditional medicine prepared by Arnold I. Kisch and Arthur J. Viseltear of UCLA's School of Public Health, under contract with the U.S. Public Health Service. It was published in 1967 by the Division of Medical Care Administration.

Arrangement
This subseries is arranged alphabetically.

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Files on the California Osteopathic Association
"Analysis and report of opinion study among Doctors of Osteopathy in California concerning M.D. degree and name of college for California Osteopathic Association" undated

Box : Folder 1 : 36

Forty-First Medical Society files 1988-1990

Box : Folder 1 :

37-40

Box : Folder 1 : 37

Agreements 1989-1990

Box : Folder 1 : 38

Budgets 1988-1990

Box : Folder 1 : 39

Correspondence 1990 April 3 - June 7

Box : Folder 1 : 40

Proposition no. 22 undated

Box : Folder 1 : 41

Kisch, Arnold I. and Arthur J. Viseltear, "Doctors of Medicine and Doctors of Osteopathy in California: Two Separately Legitimized Medical Professions Face the Problem of Providing Medical Care," draft 1966

Series 2. California Osteopathic Association - Board of Trustees meeting material 1951-1962

Physical Description: 0.3 linear feet

Series Scope and Content Summary

This series includes minutes, agendas, budgets and other material of the California Osteopathic Association's Board of Trustees that is not directly related to the merger.

Arrangement

This series has been retained in its original chronological order.

Box : Folder 2 :

Meeting material 1950-1962

1-9

Series 3. Dain Tasker writings, correspondence and other materials 1950s

Physical Description: 0.4 linear feet

Series Scope and Content Summary

This series contains the unpublished manuscript of COA Historian, Dain Tasker's history of the osteopathic profession in California. In comparison with the copy in AS-027 (California College of Medicine records), several chapters are missing. Also included are various correspondence, articles and other material from Tasker's files.

Arrangement

The first item in the series is Tasker's manuscript which is further arranged by chapter number. Tasker's Historian files are arranged in chronological order.

Box : Folder 2 :

Tasker, Dain L. "History of osteopathy in California [late 19th century to 1950s], manuscript circa 1954

Chapters 1-10

Box : Folder 2 :

10-19

Chapters 15, 20, 21, 23

Box : Folder 2 :

10-11

Chapters 26-31

Box : Folder 2 :

11-12

Chapters 33-62

Box : Folder 2 :

12-13

Chapters 64-77

Box : Folder 2 :

13-17

(Identified chapter) "History of Osteopathy"

Box : Folder 2 :

17-18

Historian's files 1950-1959

Box : Folder 2 :

19-20
Series 4. **Photographic material and realia 1901-1989**

**Physical Description:** 1.6 linear feet

**Series Scope and Content Summary**

The photographs in this series include images of key figures in California osteopathy such as former presidents of the COA Dorothy Marsh and Forest Grunigen. The bulk of the photographs are unlabeled but seem to be from the 1940s. The slides are from a series titled "Cigarette smoking and your health," published by the California Interagency Council in 1965. There is no indication as to how these might have been used by Grunigen, but perhaps in a lecture. The guest book includes the signatures of Grunigen and Dorothy Marsh among others but there is no indication as to what occasion it represents. The date of the plaque that contains the osteopathic oath is unknown but the oath itself was first used in 1938.

**Arrangement**

This series is arranged alphabetically.

- Box : Folder 2 : 21
  COA charter awarded to Los Angeles City Osteopathic Society 1939 March 5
- Box : Folder 3
  Guest book 1945 December 8
- Box : Folder 2 : 22
  Photographs 1901-1980s
- Box : Folder 4
  Framed photograph of first board of osteopathic examiners 1901
- Box : Folder 3
  Plaque of the Osteopathic Oath undated
- Box : Folder 2 : 23
  Slides 1965

Series 5. **Scrapbooks 1912-1961**

**Physical Description:** 0.4 linear feet

**Series Scope and Content Summary**

The scrapbook of programs and badges has been taken apart and put into folders arranged by year. A preservation copy has been made of the intact scrapbook. The scrapbook of news clippings is a photocopy; the original clippings have been discarded.

**Arrangement**

Material is arranged alphabetically. The convention programs and badges are further arranged chronologically. The news clippings are kept in their original order.

- Box : Folder 2 : 25-33
  Original items, removed from scrapbook 1912-1942
- Box : Folder FB 34 : 14
  Preservation copy of intact scrapbook 1912-1942
- Box : Folder 2 : 34
  Convention programs and badges scrapbook
- Box : Folder 2 : 35
  Loose material
  - Correspondence and invitations 1960-1961
  - Newsletters and newspapers 1960-1961
- Box : Folder FB 34 : 15
  Scrapbook of news clippings, photocopy 1960-1961