

Wilmington Historical Society
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Finding Aid for the Dr. William M. Pearce Collection, 1924-1955

Collection Overview

Title: Dr. William M. Pearce Collection
Dates: 1924-1955
ID: DWP
Primary Creator: Pearce, William Madden, 1888-1962
Extent: 1.28 linear feet
Arrangement: Arranged at the collection level, chronologically.
Forms of Material: Documents
Language of Materials: English

Abstract

The Dr. William M. Pearce Collection documents the professional life of a practicing physician in Wilmington, California between 1924 and 1955. The collection primarily consists of appointment books detailing Pearce's daily professional activities, and a small amount of material related to personal finances.

Biographical History

William Madden Pearce was born on November 1, 1888, in Lake Charles, Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana, to parents William A. and Mary A. Pearce (née Pinder). He studied medicine at Memphis Medical College, which later became part of the University of Tennessee Medical School. Following graduation, Pearce moved to Manhattan, Gallatin County, Montana to begin his medical practice. He married Alma Victoria Mc Daniels on June 13, 1909, at Bozeman, Montana. In 1911, the couple had a daughter, Victoria Elizabeth.

The family moved to Wilmington, California in 1923. Dr. Pearce established a medical practice specializing in the care of women and children at 127 W. Anaheim Street in Wilmington. In addition to his private practice, Dr. Pearce was on staff at a number of Los Angeles Harbor area hospitals, including Seaside Hospital, Community Hospital, and St. Mary's Hospital. During World War II, Dr. Pearce served as an examining physician for Wilmington's local selective service draft program. In his spare time, he was known to be an avid skeet shooter and gun enthusiast and enjoyed raising racing pigeons. Pearce retired from medicine in 1955 and passed

away on November 27, 1962. Dr. William Pearce is buried at Inglewood Memorial Park in Inglewood, California.

Scope and Contents

The Dr. William M. Pearce Collection documents the professional life of a practicing physician in Wilmington, California between 1924 and 1955. The collection primarily consists of ledgers and appointment books detailing Pearce's daily activities. In general, ledgers record names of patients, medical services rendered, charges, and monies received on account. Some ledgers may include treatment notes detailing whether treatment occurred at the medical office, hospital, or the patient's residence. Also documented are costs associated with the medical practice, including office rent, medical and office supplies, utilities, and insurance payments. The collection includes a small amount of material related to personal finances, including: property tax receipts, bank deposit and withdrawal records, stock trading records, oil and gas lease documents, and legal correspondence. The collection is arranged chronologically.

Subjects/Access Terms

Creator

Personal Name:

Pearce, William Madden, 1888-1962

Subject Headings

Topical Terms:

Financial records

Ledgers

Physicians (General practice)

Physicians--California

Geographical Locations:

Los Angeles County (Calif.)

Wilmington (Los Angeles, Calif.)

Documentary forms:

Documents

Administrative Information

Processing Information: Holli Teltoe, 2021

Processing of this collection is made possible by generous donations from Marathon Petroleum Corporation, Wilmington Neighborhood Council, Fast Lane Transportation, I.L.W.U. Credit Union, and Russell and Laura Mohberg.

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Conditions Governing Access: The collection is open for research use.

Preferred Citation: Dr. William M. Pearce Collection. Wilmington Historical Society.

Acquisition: The source and date of acquisition is unknown.

Collection Contents

Box 1:

Folder 1: Identification Cards, 1924

Folder 2: Financial Records, 1925-1928, 1943

Folder 3: Daily Reminder, Contact Information and Financial Records, 1925-1928, 1943

Folder 4: Physician's Diary, Accounts Payable and Receivable, 1927

Folder 5: Accounts Payable and Receivable Ledger, 1927-1928

Folder 6: Date Book, Accounts Payable and Receivable, 1928

Folder 7: Daily Log, Accounts Payable and Receivable, 1929

Folder 8: Appointment Book, Accounts Receivable, 1930

Box 2

Folder 1: Physician's Visiting List, Accounts Receivable, 1930

Folder 2: White v. Pearce, 1930

Folder 3: Daily Reminder, Accounts Receivable, 1931

Folder 4: The Physician's Perfect Calls List and Record, Stock Trading Record, 1931-1933

Folder 5: Accounts Receivable, 1932

Folder 6: Yearbook, Accounts Receivable, 1933

Folder 7: Journal, Accounts Receivable, 1934-1935

Folder 8: Accounts Receivable, 1935

Box 3

Folder 1: Professional Appointment Book, Accounts Payable and Receivable, 1937

Folder 2: Professional Appointment Book, Accounts Payable and Receivable, 1938

Folder 3: Professional Appointment Book, Accounts Payable and Receivable, 1939

Folder 4: Professional Appointment Book, Accounts Payable and Receivable, 1940

Folder 5: Oil and Gas Lease, 1941

Folder 6: Physician's Daily Visiting List and Record, Accounts Payable and Receivable, 1941

Folder 7: Professional Appointment Book, Accounts Payable and Receivable, 1941

Map Case 1

Flat file 1: Map of New Mexico Showing Oil Development and Drilling Locations, Oil Map of Texas, Louisiana, and Arkansas, Individual Income Tax Return, Correspondence and Advertisement from Joe Baker, Inc., 1923-1924

[end of box list]