In producing a bibliography of published sources for Canadian medical history, Charles Roland has provided a much needed research tool. This publication is the first of its kind in Canada and should prove to be a useful starting point for individuals looking for basic and general readings in the field. The bibliography is divided into three main sections. The biographical section provides entries arranged alphabetically by name. The subject section lists entries by broad subject classification such as "birth control," "child health," "magic, occult and mystic," and "homeopathy." The subject classifications are derived from those issued by the National Library of Medicine in the United States in its own bibliographical publications. The final section of the bibliography is an alphabetical listing by author of sources on medical history.

As useful as this research tool should prove to be, it may be possible for subsequent editions to incorporate some refinements. The subject classification listing is a case in point. In this edition, there are 151 general subject categories with an additional 164 sub-classifications for disease and injury headings. Although the number of categories under which sources may be placed seems extensive, an index of equivalent subject headings could be included. For example, there is developing in Canada a substantial body of literature on asylums and the treatment of mental illness in the historical context. There is, however, no subject classification for asylums in this bibliography. An index which indicated where one could look for sources on this subject would be helpful. (In this case, many of the sources seem to have been placed under the subject heading "psychiatry.") A second edition might also include a broader survey of the sources available. For example, Roland did not apparently search the Urban History Review for possible articles to include in the bibliography on public health and sanitation. In general, however, the bibliography represents a solid achievement in compiling published works related to the study of medical history in Canada.


In 1979 McMaster University acquired the papers of British conductor and composer Herbert Menges (1902-1972). Menges was well known as the Musical Director and Conductor of the Brighton Music Society's Southern Philharmonic Orchestra, with which he was associated for over forty-five years. He also served as Music Director of the Old Vic Theatre from 1931 to 1950. The collection measures five feet in extent and primarily comprises correspondence both to and from the conductor as well as Menges's manuscript music, memorabilia, and ephemera. As this finding aid makes clear, virtually all of the collection dates from the period 1947 to 1957. The correspondence deals mainly with Menges's career. There seems to be little on his family life. All correspondence is arranged alphabetically by correspondent; incoming letters are arranged separately from Menges's carbon replies.

In the 1970s, University College, Dublin published a preliminary guide to its archival collections. This present publication is intended to provide definitive descriptive information on collections which were at least partially unprocessed at the time of publication of the earlier guide as well as recently acquired collections. At present University College groups its collections into five classes: University College and college-related collections (Class C); the papers of individuals and families and the records of institutions and organizations (Class P); literary and academic papers (Class LA); trade union collections (Class TU); and business records (Class B). The guide describes the holdings of the archives within each category, providing information on the content, extent, and outside dates of the material. Aside from the core collections relating directly to the administrative history of University College, the archives possesses a variety of records relating to the Irish Nationalist movement.


The Hadassah Archives in New York City is the repository for material relating to the programmes of the Women's Zionist Organization of America. The first two finding aids listed above provide detailed information on two of their collections. The Hadassah Medical Organization papers are actually housed in New York and the organization's Medical Centre in Jerusalem. The New York archives has acquired microfilm copies of the material in Jerusalem. The finding aid for the microfilm portion of the collection has been published separately from that for the New York originals. These finding aids together provide a series-by-series description of the administrative records which detail the difficult work of the organization in providing medical services in Palestine and, later, Israel.

Alice Seligsberg and Rose Jacobs dedicated their lives to the objectives of Hadassah in the United States and the Middle East. The published finding aid for their papers, like those for the Hadassah Medical Archives, contains a lengthy introduction which explains the scope and nature of the collection. Photographic as well as textual material is described in the series-by-series overview of the collection.

These three publications indicate that the records of the Hadassah Archives provide research material for those interested in Jewish history, medical history, and the history of social welfare.

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