

**The Osler Library of the History of Medicine
McGill University, Montreal Canada**

Osler Library Archive Collections

P204

McGILL & MEDICINE IN MONTREAL BETWEEN THE WARS

FINDING AID AND INVENTORY LIST

This is a guide to one of the collections held by the [Osler Library of the History of Medicine](#),
McGill University.

Visit the [Osler Library Archive Collections](#) homepage for more information.

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P204: McGill & Medicine in Montreal Between the Wars

DATES: 1984-1990

EXTENT: 2 cm textual records. – 6 VHS videos. – 1 DVD. – 6 mp4s on disc.

ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY:

McGill & Medicine in Montreal Between the Wars was a video interview project that began in 1984 by members of the Department of Humanities and Social Studies in Medicine: Dr. Donald Bates, Dr. Edward H. Bensley and Dr. George Weisz. The project received funding and support from the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Dr. Richard L. Cruess, and was largely made possible thanks to the technical, directorial, and production assistance of Chris Schon from the McGill Instructional Communications Centre.

The project was originally inspired by an evening hosted by the Osler Society in 1984 regarding medical practice in Montreal during the period between the two world wars. The objective of the project was to produce a series of informal and informative video interviews with the most senior faculty members still living, in order to capture the oral history of life at McGill and in medicine during this time period. The project produced five programs of interviews of approximately 45 minutes in length, complete with pictorial inserts added in post-production. The interviewees included: Dr. Jessie Boyd Scriver (1894-2000), Dr. Harold Nathan Segall (1897-1990), Dr. Edward H. Bensley (1906-1995), Dr. Heinz Lehmann (1911-1999), and Dr. Alan Ross. The video project aimed to provide insight into how these doctors saw and experienced changes in the practice of medicine, as well as major social changes, and McGill University's role between the wars. The project's written guidelines state that "the presentations in this series of videotaped interviews are not exhaustive oral histories, but rather, informal thumbnail sketches of medical practitioners' professional and private lives".

Interviewer: Donald Bates

Interviewees: Dr. Jessie Boyd Scriver, Dr. Harold Nathan Segall, Dr. Edward H. Bensley, Dr. Heinz Lehmann, Dr. Alan Ross.

Producer, Director: Chris Schon

Technical Director: Carmelo Sgro

Editing Supervisors: Geoffrey Xavier, George Likasik

Cameras: Erwin Haberman, Mario DiPaolo.

SCOPE AND CONTENT:

The fonds consists of textual records including proposal letters, guidelines, budget documents, and the six original VHS tapes made in 1984-85. Preservation copies of DVDs and mp4s made in 2016 are also included.

CUSTODIAL HISTORY:

The contents of this fonds were given to the Osler Library from Dr. Don Bates and the Department of Humanities and Social Studies in Medicine, circa 1990. Preservation copies (DVDs, mp4s) were made from the original VHS videos in 2016 and added to the fonds. The mp4 files themselves have been stored in a folder (P204 mp4 videos) on the Osler Library's shared drive under Archives/Inventories.

SOURCE OF SUPPLIED TITLE PROPER: Title based on content of the fonds.

LANGUAGE: The documents are in English.

FINDING AIDS: Inventory list is available.

SERIES:

1. Letters & CVs
2. VHS videos
3. Preservation Copies (DVDs & mp4s)

GENERAL NOTE: n/a

RETRIEVAL NUMBER: P204

SUBJECTS:

McGill University Doctors
McGill University – History
Bensley, Edward Horton, 1906-1995
Scriver, Jessie Boyd, 1894-2000
Segall, Harold Nathan, 1897-1990
Ross, Alan
Lehmann, Heinz, 1911-1999
Bates, Donald, 1933-2001

Series 1: Letters & CVs

Folder 1: Letter Correspondence between Dean Richard L. Cruess and the project coordinators Dr. Don Bates, Dr. Edward H. Bensley, and Dr. George Weisz, 13 February 1984.

- Original proposal of the project, guidelines attached
- Dean Cruess' reply and funding approval, 17 February 1984

Folder 2: "Guidelines for Video Interviews"

- Copies and drafts, 1984

Folder 3: Correspondence between Don Bates and Chris Schon

- Summary of information for introduction (brief descriptions of interviewees), dated 29 March 1985.
- Editing updates and notice of 5 programs completed, dated 27 May 1985.

Folder 4: Edward Horton Bensley – Curriculum Vitae

- Notes attached

Folder 5: Heinz Lehmann – Curriculum Vitae

- Notes attached

Folder 6: Alan Ross – Curriculum Vitae

Folder 7: Harold Nathan Segall – Curriculum Vitae

- Notes attached

Folder 8: Letters

- Don Bates' letter detailing a statement of project expenses (under budget), 12 June 1985
- Don Bates' letter detailing funds to pay Brian Haley for "hardware and software" setup, 4 September 1986
 - Letter explains that leftover funds are to be allocated towards Dr. Bensley's manuscript project, and reallocated to the video project if started up again
- Don Bates' letter stating that the video interviews have been given to the Osler Library, August 1990

Folder 9: Jessie Boyd Scriver C.V. related notes

Series 2: VHS videos

Folder 10: VHS – Dr. Ross interview

Folder 11: VHS – Dr. Scriver interview

Folder 12: VHS – Dr. Bensley interview

Folder 13: VHS – Dr. Segall interview

Folder 14: VHS – Dr. Bensley interview notes

Folder 15: VHS – Dr. Bensley “My Moment of Triumph” interview

Folder 16: VHS – Dr. Lehmann interview

Series 3: Preservation Copies (DVDs and mp4s)

Folder 17: DVD, mp4 – Dr. Lehmann interview (duration 48:43)

Folder 18: mp4 on disc – Dr. Jessie Boyd Scriver interview (duration 51:18)

Folder 19: mp4 on disc – Dr. Edward H. Bensley interview (duration 47:26)

- mp4 “My Moment of Truth” is a separate take of a story he recounts in the full interview (duration 4:56).

Folder 20: mp4 on disc – Dr. Alan Ross interview (duration 43:16)

Folder 21: mp4 on disc – Harold Nathan Segall interview (duration 1:00:26)