

## **THE JACQUES M. QUEN PAPERS**

The Oskar Diethelm Library  
DeWitt Wallace Institute for the History of Psychiatry  
Weill Cornell Medical College  
525 East 68th Street  
New York, New York 10065

Arranged and described by:  
Janice Quinter  
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### **Provenance**

Jacques M. Quen donated his papers to the Archives of Psychiatry (now the Oskar Diethelm Library) at New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center in January 1985.

The collection is comprised of .8 cubic ft. housed in two .4 cubic ft. boxes.

### **Biography**

Dr. Jacques M. Quen was born October 23, 1928 in New York City. He completed his undergraduate studies at Bethany College in West Virginia, received his Masters of Science degree from Brown University and his M.D. from Yale University in 1954. He attended the William Alanson White Institute and received certification as a psychoanalyst in 1973. He has been associated with Cornell University Medical College since 1961, and since 1978 continues as Clinical Professor of Psychiatry. He has been a member of the Psychiatry Department's Section on the History of Psychiatry since 1962, and served as the Associate Director for a number of years. He maintains a private practice in New York City.

Quen's specialty is the history of psychiatry, including Anglo-American history and legal psychiatry. He has written and lectured widely on these special topics. Quen is a member of numerous professional societies including the International Society for the History of the Behavioral and Social Sciences (Cheiron), for which he served on the Structure Committee in the 1970's. Other memberships include the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law, the American Academy of Psychoanalysis, and the American Psychiatric Association.

## Scope and Content

The collection consists primarily of Quen's curriculum vitae, and correspondence with colleagues and others devoted to the history of the behavioral sciences. The dates of the collection are 1961-1989, with the bulk of the materials from the 1970's. The primary individuals with whom he corresponded outside of the society to which he belonged are Robert P. Brittain of Scotland, Terry M. Parssinen of Temple University in Philadelphia, and Barbara G. Rosenkrantz of Harvard University. In addition to correspondence with Dr. Quen, the material concerning these three individuals consists of manuscripts of papers and grant proposals and dates from 1967-1980. Mesmerism is the subject of Parssinen's papers.

Most of the collection pertains to Dr. Quen's association with Cheiron, the International Society for the History of the Behavioral and Social Sciences. Cheiron was formed in October 1968 at New York University, and consisted of persons from various scholarly disciplines interested in the history of their respective fields. Cheiron was formed to promote international, multidisciplinary cooperation in scholarly activity and research in the history of the behavioral and social sciences. The organization's aims are (a) to provide a broad perspective on the history of contemporary scientific activities capable of counterbalancing the narrowness of specialists' views (b) to broaden scientific perspectives through close cooperation with scholars in other countries, and (c) to strengthen and to increase the professionalization of scholarly research in the history of the behavioral and social sciences. Annual meetings are held in different locations in this country and in Canada. The journal of Cheiron is the *Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences*. The Structure Committee was formed in 1973 with the charge of reviewing the operations of the Cheiron Society and suggesting some minimal structure and basic operating practices. Dr. Quen was a member of this committee in the 1970's.

Records of Cheiron date from 1971-1981. The material relating to the Structure Committee consists of correspondence pertaining to several committees that the Structure Committee suggested should be formed. Other material pertaining to Cheiron is comprised of programs for annual meetings, handouts, minutes, membership lists, newsletters and correspondence. There are also manuscripts and related correspondence by George Kren, Robert I. Watson Jr., Steve Heims and David Stang. Additional records pertaining to the Cheiron Society may be found in the Cheiron Society Records in the Oskar Diethelm Library.

## Inventory

### Box # 1

Folder 1	Curriculum vitae	2/1989
2	Robert P. Brittain	1967-1968
3	Terry M. Parssinen	1974-1980
4	Terry M. Parssinen	1975
5	Barbara G. Rosenkrantz	1974
6	Barbara G. Rosenkrantz	1975-1977
7	Barbara G. Rosenkrantz. Draft for symposium, "The Method in Madness: Asylum Records as a Resource for the History of Medicine"	1976
8	Barbara G. Rosenkrantz. Papers with Maris A. Vinovskis: "Institutional Commitment and Custody in Ante-Bellum America: The Role of the Family, the Community, and the State in Providing Care for the Insane in Massachusetts" "The Invisible Lunatics: Old Age and Insanity in Mid-Nineteenth Massachusetts"	1977
9	Clifford B. Farr, Denis Leigh	1961-1967

### Box # 2

Folder 1	Cheiron. Structure Committee	1976-1981
2	Cheiron. Structure Committee	1978
3	Cheiron. Structure Committee	1974
4	Cheiron. Structure Committee	1973
5	Cheiron. Programs, minutes, membership list	1970
6	Cheiron. Programs, minutes, membership list	1971-1972

7	Cheiron. Program, handouts for annual meeting, related material	1973
8	Cheiron. Manuscripts by George Kren and Robert I. Watson, Sr.	1974
9	Cheiron. Manuscripts and correspondence of Steve Heims and David Stang	1974
10	Cheiron. Manuscript and correspondence of Steve Heims	1974
11	Cheiron. Program, newsletter, correspondence	1974-1975
12	Cheiron. Program, newsletter, correspondence	1976
13	Cheiron. Correspondence, newsletter	1977-1978