An inventory of the collection at the University of Illinois at Chicago

Collection Summary

Creator: Margaret M. Bates
Title: Library of the Health Sciences -- Librarian -- Margaret M. Bates -- Bookplate Collection, circa 1835-1950
Dates: circa 1835-1950
Abstract: Margaret M. Bates, born 1889, joined the Medical and Dental Library University of Illinois at the Medical Center as an assistant librarian in 1916 and retired in 1957. She was a prodigious collector and recognized the importance of gathering and organizing seemingly ephemeral material that has now become of historical interest. This collection features 156 designs from individual and organizational book collections, ranging in date from 1834 to about 1935.
Quantity: .25 Linear Feet
Identification: 047-01-11-01

Biographical Sketch

Margaret M. Bates, born 1889, joined the Medical and Dental Library University of Illinois at the Medical Center as an assistant librarian in 1916 and retired in 1957. During her tenure, she worked at all levels and in all departments of the growing health science library. She was a prodigious collector and recognized the importance of gathering and organizing seemingly ephemeral material that has now become of historical interest. Many early resources of the library’s early years depended on gifts and exchanges from Bates’s efforts. The history of medicine remained an abiding interest, and she encouraged faculty to contribute funds and material towards a historical collection. She retired in 1957. Bates died in Oak Park, Illinois on November 27, 1975.

Bates was a member of the Society of Medical History of Chicago and of the American Association for the History of Medicine. As a member of the Medical Library Association for many years, Margaret was most active on the Exchange Committee. During her tenure at the university, Bates collected bookplates from various medical libraries, universities, ad medical professionals. Additionally, her collection of medical stamps was exhibited on many occasions, and she collaborated with Dr. Francis Lederer in this activity.

Scope and Contents

This collection features 156 designs from individual and organizational book collections, ranging in date from 1834 to about 1935. Bookplates, also known as *ex libris*, are labels pasted to the
inside front cover of a book indicating ownership. The bookplates were collected by Margaret M. Bates, Assistant Librarian of the Medical and Dentistry Library from 1916 to 1957.

**Detailed Description/Box and Folder Listing**

**Series I. Ephemera**

Box 1

1. Correspondence, 1887-1950
2. Various Ephemera, circa 1880-1940
12. Bookplates, duplicates, circa 1835-1935