

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON HISTORICAL MANUSCRIPTS

Report on the papers of
SIR WILFRID LE GROS CLARK, F.R.S.
(1895-1971)
deposited in The Bodleian Library, Oxford

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THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON HISTORICAL MANUSCRIPTS

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THE ROYAL SOCIETY

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON HISTORICAL MANUSCRIPTS

Committee on Scientific and Technological Records

CONTEMPORARY SCIENTIFIC ARCHIVES CENTRE

Papers of

SIR WILFRID LE GROS CLARK, F.R.S.

(1895 - 1971)

Listed by Jeannine Alton
Harriot Weiskittel

Deposited in the Bodleian Library, Oxford

1974

Description of the collection

The papers, which cover the years 1890 - 1974, were received from Lady Violet Le Gros Clark.

Very little manuscript material remains from Sir Wilfrid's long career in anatomy. All attempts to locate additional material in either departments or private hands have been unsuccessful.

The family papers (Items 10 - 15) deal with Sir Wilfrid's grandfather, Dr. Frederick Le Gros Clark, and with his brother, Cyril Le Gros Clark, Chief Secretary of Sarawak, who was killed in 1945.

Summary of career

1895	Born in Hemel Hempstead
1912	Entered St. Thomas's Hospital Medical School
1919	Elected Fellow, Royal College of Surgeons
1920 - 23	Principal Medical Officer, Sarawak, Borneo
1923	Married Freida Giddey (d.1963)
1924 - 27	Reader in Anatomy, University of London
1927 - 29	Professor of Anatomy, St. Bartholomew's Hospital
1929 - 34	Professor of Anatomy, St. Thomas's Hospital
1934 - 62	Professor of Anatomy, Oxford Fellow of Hertford College
1935	Election to Royal Society
1950	President, International Anatomical Congress
1952	President, Anatomical Society
1954	Master of the Salter's Company
1955	Knighthood
1958	Opening of new Anatomy Department Building, Oxford
1961	President, British Association for Advancement of Science
1961	Royal Medal of Royal Society
1964	Married Violet Browne

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I. Biographical

1. Memoir, Lord Zuckerman, Biographical Memoirs of Fellows of the Royal Society, Vol. 19, 1973, pp. 217-233.
2. Obituary notices: Nature, Vol. 232, August 6, 1971; British Medical Journal, 10 July 1971; The Times, June 29th and July 8th, 1971; The Lancet, July 17, 1971 (incomplete); from 3 unidentified newspapers.
3. Letters of sympathy to Lady Clark 1971
4. Miscellaneous articles re Sir Wilfrid's career: dedication of Volume 97 of the Journal of Anatomy to Sir Wilfrid; 'The Advancement of Science' no. 67, September 1960 re his election as President of British Association for Advancement of Science; 5 page typescript of unidentified biographical article; caricature; Nature, Vol 183, June 6, 1959 pp. 1572-1573 describing opening of new Department of Anatomy Building in Oxford.
5. Lists of honours, appointments and membership in various institutions: typescript and manuscript.
6. Certificates and honours: D.Sc. University of London 1928; Royal Society of Science, Upsala, 1952; Coronation Medal 1953; Hon.D.Sc. Oxford 1962; Lashley Prize of American Philosophical Society 1971 (includes correspondence and Ms. draft of Sir Wilfrid's reply)
7. 2 letters to Sir Wilfrid on his departure from Sarawak (dated May 28, 1923 and June 12, 1923); card from non-academic members of Department of Anatomy staff on occasion of his retirement, September 1962.
8. Photographs of Sir Wilfrid and family.
9. Photographs taken on Sir Wilfrid's journeys to Indonesia

II. Family papers

10. Xerox copy of autobiography of Sir Wilfrid's grandfather, Dr. Frederick Le Gros Clark (1811-1892), containing pencil sketches, correspondence etc.
11. Xerox copy of pp. 88-118 of Biographical Memoir of Dr. Marshall Hall describing Dr. F. Le Gros Clark's support of Hall's theories of nervous reflex arc (sent by Dr. William Knisely of University of Texas to Lady Clark)
12. 2 letters to Sir Wilfrid from brother, Cyril, dated July 22, 1925 1925, 1940 and February 6, 1940
13. Correspondence re imprisonment of Cyril Le Gros Clark, investigation into his death, letters of condolence, plans for memorial; programme of remembrance service held November, 1961 and photograph.

14. Articles and newspapers re Cyril Le Gros Clark's life and death, the occupation of Sarawak by the Japanese and the cession of Sarawak (includes article by Sir Wilfrid 'Sarawak Test Case' The New Statesman and Nation, January 5, 1946 and resulting published correspondence) 1942 - 51
15. Photographs of memorial and grave in Sarawak, of memorial service.

III. Diaries and journals (all are manuscript)

16. 1937 - 1938 (9 volumes)
1940 - 1945
17. 1946 - 1954 (9 volumes)
18. 1954 - 1962 (8 volumes)
19. 1963 - 1966 (4 volumes)
20. 1967 - 1971 (5 volumes)
21. Journal of trip to South Africa (see also Item 25, Sir Wilfrid's letters home) 1946 - 47
22. Journal of trip to Australia, New Zealand and Indonesia (see also Item 26, Sir Wilfrid's letters to secretary) 1952
23. Small notebook of epigraphs collected by Sir Wilfrid n.d.

IV. Correspondence

24. Correspondence between Sir Wilfrid and his wife Freida: 2 letters dated 1922 and 3 letters dated 1963 1922, 1963
25. 7 manuscript letters from Sir Wilfrid to his family during his trip to South Africa (see also his journal of trip, Item 21) 1946 - 47
26. Typed copies of letters to Eleanor Woodhouse (secretary) written from Australia, New Zealand and Sarawak (see also his journal of trip, Item 22) 1952
27. Miscellaneous correspondence (scientific and personal) 1960 - 71
28. Correspondence re article 'Man (origin and races)' to be written for Encyclopaedia of the Twentieth Century (see Item 36 for Ms. draft of paper) 1970 - 71
29. Correspondence re Darwinian Symposium of Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei, Rome (see also Item 37 for Ms. draft of speech which was never delivered) 1971
30. Correspondence in response to Lady Clark's enquiries regarding whereabouts of additional manuscript papers and correspondence (including material sent by Professor Tobias: typescript of citation when Sir Wilfrid received Hon.D.Sc. at Witwatersrand) 1973 - 74

31. Xerox copies of correspondence between Lord Zuckerman and Anthony Storr re Storr's review of Beyond the Ivory Tower 1970 - 71

V. Publications

32. Ms. draft of 'Human Races' n.d.
33. 'A hundred years of the Ashmolean Club' (privately printed): related correspondence and notes 1969
34. 'The Evolution of Man' Elsevier's animal encyclopaedia: typescript with Ms. corrections 1970
35. 'Bishop McDougall of Borneo' Hertford College Magazine, no.57, p. 717: typescript with Ms. corrections, offprint 1970
36. 'Man (Origin and Races)' article prepared for Encyclopaedia of the Twentieth Century: Ms. draft (see also Item 28 for related correspondence) 1971
37. ' "Descent of Man" validated in the Fossil Record' speech prepared for Darwinian Symposium, Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei: Ms draft (see also Item 29) 1971
38. Ms notes on others' work, including 'Calamities and Quarrels of Authors' by Isaac Disraeli; 'observations made by a curious and learned person, sailing for England to the Caribe-Islands'; notes on lymphocytes; miscellaneous Ms. notes and lists n.d.
39. Article appearing in Nature (vol. 228, November 21, 1970) on British Association for Advancement of Science, Sir Wilfrid's Ms. reply to Editor dated 26.xi.70 (probably not sent). File includes material (programme, photographs, newspaper cuttings etc) re 123rd meeting of the British Association, August-Sept. 1961 with Sir Wilfrid as President 1961, 1970
40. Miscellaneous offprints 1947 - 55
41. Miscellaneous offprints 1956 - 70

VI. Index to principal correspondents (numbers refer to Items)

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