

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON HISTORICAL MANUSCRIPTS

Report on the papers of
SIR CHARLES (ARTHUR) LOVATT EVANS FRS
(1884-1968)

deposited in the Wellcome Institute for the
History of Medicine

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(CSAC 50/4/77)
by
THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON HISTORICAL MANUSCRIPTS
Quality House, Quality Court, Chancery Lane,
London WC2A 1HP

1977

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No. 77/11

CONTEMPORARY SCIENTIFIC ARCHIVES CENTRE

Supported by the Royal Society and the Council of Engineering Institutions

Report on the papers of

Sir Charles (Arthur) Lovatt Evans, F.R.S.

(1884 - 1968)

Compiled by: Jeannine Alton
Harriot Weiskittel

Description of the collection

The material was received from Mrs. Yvonne Lovatt Schou, younger daughter of Sir Charles Lovatt Evans.

The collection consists almost entirely of biographical and personal material, memorabilia, etc., covering the whole of Lovatt Evans' career. Many of the documents were worked over by Lovatt Evans during his retirement, and bear his later annotations, comments and reflexions.

Lovatt Evans was a pupil and collaborator of Ernest Starling with whom he worked at University College, London, 1911-1916, and during the First World War (see especially A.2, A.3). In 1919 Lovatt Evans joined the staff of the National Institute for Medical Research and collaborated with Sir Henry Dale with whom he remained in friendly correspondence throughout his life (see A.6, A.14, E.1).

Items B.1 and B.2 consist of photographs of Lovatt Evans and his collaborators, many of them identified and dated by Lovatt Evans. His book of press-cuttings (A.21) indexed and annotated, also contains material of interest relating to his colleagues and fields of study.

Titles and descriptions in inverted commas are those which appear on the manuscripts.

Summary of the career of Sir Charles Lovatt Evans

- b. 1884, Birmingham
- 1910 B.Sc., London (Ext.)
- 1911-16 Sharpey Scholar, University College, London
Married Laura Stevenson
- 1912 Study at Freiburg University
- 1916-18 Royal Army Medical Corps, Anti-gas Department
- 1918 Professor of Physiology and Pharmacology, Leeds University
- 1919-22 Work at National Institute for Medical Research, London
- 1923 Professor of Physiology, St. Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College
- 1925 Fellow of the Royal Society
- 1926-49 Jodrell Professor of Physiology, University College, London
- 1939-44 Seconded to Chemical Defence Experimental Establishment, Porton Down
- 1951 Knighted

For a full account of Lovatt Evans' career, appointments and honours, see the memoir by I. de Burgh Daly and R.A. Gregory, Biographical Memoirs of Fellows of the Royal Society, 16, 1970, 233-252.

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A. Biographical and Personal (A.1 - A.21)

The material is presented chronologically as far as possible.

- A.1. Miscellaneous certificates of education, school prizes, etc., awarded to Lovatt Evans. 1896-1910
- A.2. Award of the Sharpey Scholarship, University College, London. 1910
- Invitation from Ernest H. Starling to apply for Scholarship, Lovatt Evans' application, testimonial and letter of appointment.
- A.3. File inscribed 'Lectures on Gas Defence' 'Millbank corresp. 1916. Starling I/C'. 1916
- Correspondence on lectures and training on anti-gas measures exchanged by Lovatt Evans, Major (later Colonel) Starling and misc. military personnel.
- A.4. Misc. notes for lectures on anti-gas measures.
- Album of photographs 1916-17 (labelled and dated by Lovatt Evans) taken at Command Gas School, Aldershot, of gas helmets, sprayers, training of troops, etc.
- Menu of dinner, 29 April 1918, at Aldershot (Lovatt Evans was Guest of Honour).
- A.5. 'Posts at Leeds' 1917-22
- Lovatt Evans accepted the Chair of Physiology and Pharmacology at Leeds University but resigned in 1919 to take up a post at the National Institute for Medical Research, London.
- Invitation to apply for chair (1917), arrangements for demobilisation, Lovatt Evans' memoranda on the requirements for his department at Leeds (1918), his letters of resignation and explanation (1919) and subsequent correspondence (1922)
- A.6. National Institute for Medical Research, Mount Vernon, London. Lovatt Evans worked at the Institute in the Department of Pharmacology and Biochemistry 1919-22, when he was appointed to the Jodrell Chair of Physiology, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London. His work at the Institute was in the Department of Sir Henry Dale. 1918-1922
- The file includes correspondence with Sir Henry Dale re Lovatt Evans' appointment and their joint research projects; with colleagues at Leeds re Lovatt Evans' resignation of his Chair; with Ernest Starling, Sir Walter Fletcher and others re scientific and personal projects.

- A.7. University Chair of Physiology, St. Bartholomew's Hospital 1915, 1922
Medical College, London.
- First Application, 1915, with ms. note by Lovatt Evans
'Successful candidate was F.A. Bainbridge (Died Oct. 1921)'.
- Application 1922, with testimonials and correspondence from:
Sir Leonard Hill
William D. Halliburton
Ernest Starling
Sir William M. Bayliss
Sir Walter M. Fletcher
- A.8. St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London. Celebration of 800th 1923
anniversary of the foundation. Misc. documents,
invitations, souvenirs.
- A.9. 'Jodrell Chair.'
Lovatt Evans held the Jodrell Chair of Physiology, University
College, London 1926-49.
- Letter of appointment, misc. correspondence on tenure and
terms of office, secondment to Porton for service during
Second World War, retirement and farewell.
- A.10. Illuminated vellum-bound address in Latin, signed by many of 1949
Sir Charles's colleagues in U.K. and abroad, presented
to him on retirement from the Jodrell Chair, London
University.
- A.11. Service at Porton Experimental Station, Wiltshire, during 1939-1945
Second World War. Misc. correspondence re
secondment and service.
- A.12. Correspondence and arrangements re visit of H.M. The Queen 1958-1959
to Royal Veterinary College, London University.
Lovatt Evans was Governor of Royal Veterinary College
from 1933, and Chairman of Council 1949-63.
- A.13. Correspondence re William Dick Memorial Lecture 1963-1965
(Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, Edinburgh).
- Lovatt Evans was asked to deliver the first William Dick
Memorial Lecture; he declined because of his wife's ill-
health, but after her death in Dec. 1964 took up the
invitation in order to pay tribute to Dick's work in
veterinary studies. The lecture, on 'Physiological
Mechanisms that underlie sweating in the horse', was
delivered in May 1965 and published in Brit. Vet. J.,
122, 1966.

- A.14. Personal letters of congratulation on 80th birthday, 1964, from:
W. Aldridge
Sir Henry Dale (with reference to their early collaborative work)
I. de Burgh Daly (with recollections of Starling and others)
Sir Charles Dodds
R.A. Gregory
Sir Rudolph Peters
- A.15. Miscellaneous letters and messages of congratulation on 80th birthday (not indexed). 1964
- A.16. Miscellaneous biographical information and recollections assembled by Ivan de Burgh Daly for his Royal Society Memoir of Lovatt Evans; includes reminiscences by Lovatt Evans' collaborator Dr. Grace Eggleton, and arrangements for portrait bust by Michael Gillespie (now in Department of Physiology, U.C.L.).
- A.17. Miscellaneous honours, appointments and awards. 1918-1965
- A.18. Miscellaneous biographical material, mainly invitations to memorial dinners on Lovatt Evans' retirement, and those of colleagues on retirement, birthdays, etc.; includes many signed menus, and sketches by Lovatt Evans of participants and guests, and also misc. menus for dinners of the Savage Club.
- A.19. Miscellaneous biographical material, tributes, obituaries, souvenirs (mainly printed material).
- A.20. University of London; laying of Foundation Stone of new buildings on the Bloomsbury Site. Misc. documents, invitations, souvenirs. 1933
- A.21. Press-cuttings book (bound with many loose cuttings). This book is indexed and annotated by Lovatt Evans. The contents contain information about his own career and family and also of many colleagues and their interests.
- B. Photographs (B.1 - B.3)
- B.1, B.2. Miscellaneous photographs of Lovatt Evans and colleagues, departments in which he worked and conferences which he attended. They include photographs of Ernest Starling, Sir William Bayliss, C.H. Best, Sir Alexander Fleming, Sir Jack Drummond, etc., and many are identified and dated on verso by Lovatt Evans.
- B.3. Photographs of Lovatt Evans and party, taken in Sweden July-August 1928 on holiday after the Physiological Congress, Stockholm.

C. Committees and Consultancies (C.1 - C.3)

C.1. Colne Valley Water Company 1952-1953

Lovatt Evans advised the Company in a question of water pollution; correspondence; Lovatt Evans' opinion and advice to the Company.

C.2. Jockey Club and National Hunt Committee, proposed Research Panel on detection of drugs in racehorses. 1963

(Lovatt Evans was asked to serve as Chairman of the Research Panel, but became ill and the Panel did not meet.) Misc. correspondence.

C.3. Research Defence Society

Misc. Committee papers, including evidence submitted by Lovatt Evans on need for animal experiments, for Society's Memorandum to The Home Secretary's Committee on the Working of the Cruelty to Animals Act of 1876. Correspondence.

D. Lectures, Publications and Addresses (D.1 - D.10)

D.1-D.5. Starling's Principles of Human Physiology

This work first appeared in 1912. When Starling was asked by the publishers (Churchill) to prepare a new edition, in 1918, he wrote to Lovatt Evans (then Professor at Leeds: see A.5) to ask him 'to undertake the major part of the revision for me ...' except for the section on Dietetics which Starling would himself rewrite (see D.1 below). Lovatt Evans continued the task of revising subsequent editions of the book up to 1956 (12th ed.).

D.1. Letter from Ernest H. Starling asking Lovatt Evans to undertake revision for 2nd ed. 1918

D.2. Misc. correspondence with publishers and collaborators re subsequent translations, overseas sales, royalty and sales statements, etc. 1927-1962

Many letters convey Lovatt Evans' reluctance to continue the heavy work involved in rewriting and revising the book, and also the high esteem in which the work was held in medical circles and the value placed on Lovatt Evans' work by the publishers. There are also 2 letters (1941) from Mrs. Muriel Patterson (Starling's daughter).

- D.3. Misc. reviews of 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th and 11th ed. of Principles of Human Physiology.
- D.4. Tables of sales, royalties, etc. 1942-1962
- D.5. Material collected for additions or corrections for 13th ed. of Principles
- D.6-D.9 Miscellaneous addresses and lectures
- D.6. University of Birmingham Medical Society Annual Dinner. 1930 1930
- D.7. 'Physiology in 1937', typescript 5pp. for Enc. Brit. Year Book. 1938
- D.8. Reminiscences of Bayliss and Starling
(First Bayliss-Starling Memorial Lecture) delivered at University College, London, 1963, published 1964.

Printed copy of lecture; correspondence with I. de Burgh Daly, Henry Barcroft 1962.
- D.9. Notes for speech of farewell to Beryl Askew at Porton. 1958
- D.10 Misc. book reviews and obituary of G.V. Anrep by Lovatt Evans.
- E. Correspondence (E.1 - E.7): presented alphabetically
- E.1. Sir Henry Dale (on his 90th birthday, recollecting his early work with Lovatt Evans). 1965
- E.2. Sir Wilfred Fish. 1966, 1967
- E.3. Sir Victor Horsley. 1914
- E.4. F.Y. Hsu. 1961
- E.5. William Henry Newton, with obituaries by Lovatt Evans and letter of thanks from widow Stella Newton. 1950
- E.6. Mrs. Starling (after death of Ernest Starling). 1927
- E.7. Sir Frank Young. 1964

F. Index to principal correspondents

Aldridge, William	A.14
Andrade, Edward Neville da Costa	A.11
Barcroft, Henry	D.8
Bayliss, Sir William Maddock	A.7
Carlier, Edmond William Wace	A.5
Dale, Sir Henry Hallett	A.6, A.14, E.1
Daly, Ivan de Burgh	A.14, D.8
Fish, Sir Wilfred	E.2
Fletcher, Sir Walter Morley	A.6, A.7
Gregory, Roderic Alfred	A.14
Halliburton, William Dobinson	A.7
Hill, Archibald Vivian	A.9, A.11
Hill, Sir Leonard Erskine	A.7
Horsley, Sir Victor Alexander Haden	E.3
Newton, William Henry	E.5
Peters, Sir Rudolph (Albert)	A.14
Pye, Sir David (Randall)	A.9
Raper, Henry Stanley	A.5, A.6
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Thomson, Sir (Arthur) Landsborough	A.6
Winton, Frank Robert	A.9
Young, Sir Frank (George)	E.7