Guide to the Papers of

John A. Kenney

Prepared by Dana Chandler and Cheryl Ferguson, 2009

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**Tuskegee University**

**Archives**

**Tuskegee, AL 36088**

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**Collection Summary**

**Creator:** Kenney, John A. (1874-1950)

**Title:** Papers of John A. Kenny

**Dates:** 1874-1950

**Quantity:** 6.0 cubic feet

**Identification:**

**Abstract:** John A. Kenney served as school physician at Tuskegee University, was the first director of the John A. Andrew Memorial Hospital at Tuskegee University, founded the John A. Andrew Clinic and help to start the John A. Andrew Clinical Society in 1918. Kenney also was the founder and editor of the *Journal of the National Medical Association*.

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**Administrative Information**

**Preferred Citation**

Papers of John A. Kenney (1874-1950)

**Acquisition Information**

No information available

**Processing Information**

The papers were received for processing in various containers, with the documents in folders prepared by his granddaughter, Linda Kenney Miller. From their arrangement in the containers, the folders were not arranged any particular order. Many of the folders were not labeled, or were mislabeled in reference to their actual contents.

The processors decided to separate the folders into series according to subject matter that would be arranged alphabetically within each series.

In processing the collection, original folders were replaced with acid-free folders. Folders were labeled, either following the original labeling, or in the case of missing or incorrect labels were assigned folder titles. All metal fasteners were removed.

**Index Terms**

The papers are indexed under the following headings in the Tuskegee University Library’s online catalog. Researchers seeking materials about related subjects, persons, organizations or places should search the catalog using these headings.

**Subjects:**

John A. Andrew Memorial Hospital

United States Veterans Administration Hospital, Tuskegee, Alabama

 John A. Andrew Clinical Society

 Booker T. Washington Memorial Hospital

 New Salem Baptist Church

**Persons:**

John A. Kenney, M.D.

**Biography**

John A. Kenney was born June 11, 1874 to John and Caroline Kenney in Albemarle County, Virginia. Born the son of ex-slaves, Kenney graduated first in his class from Hampton University in Virginia (1893-1897). He received his medical degree from the Leonard Medical School of Shaw University in Raleigh, North Carolina (1895-1901). He interned at Freedman’s Hospital, Washington, D.C. Kenney came to Tuskegee in 1902 where he was placed in charge of the Institute’s small hospital and he served as personal physician to both Booker T. Washington and George Washington Carver. From 1902 to 1922 he served as the Director and Surgeon-in-Chief of the John A. Andrew Memorial Hospital and School of Nurses, Tuskegee University, Alabama.

Among his many accomplishments, Kenney was founder of the John A. Andrew Clinic (begun in 1912) for post-graduate training of African American physicians and surgeons. He was also founder (1908) and editor of the Journal of the National Medical Association. Kenney was also co-founder of the John A. Andrew Clinical Society in April of 1918. Kenney left Tuskegee in 1924 and moved to Newark, New Jersey where he established the Kenney Memorial Hospital, which later became known as the Booker T. Washington Community Hospital (1935). The hospital closed in 1953 and later became the New Salem Baptist Church.

Kenney died on January 29, 1950 at Glen Ridge, New Jersey.

**Scope and Contents**

The papers of John A. Kenney consist of documents spanning 1874-2005, and include research articles and data, personal and business correspondence, and manuscript articles prepared for publication by Dr. Kenney during his tenure at the Tuskegee Institute.

Articles and data included material concerning treatment and procedures for treatment of Polio, Syphilis and Tuberculosis. Personal and business correspondence includes his biographical information, legal documents, and recommendations. Also, includes information about the John A. Andrew Clinic, John A. Andrew Clinical Society and the Booker T. Washington Community Hospital.

**Arrangement**

The papers are arranged into one series.

**Restrictions**

**Restrictions on Access**

There are no restrictions on access to these papers.

**Restrictions on Use**

Researchers are responsible for addressing copyright issues on materials not in the public domain.

**Inventory**

**Box Folder**

1 1 Auto-Biographical Sketch of Life of John A. Kenney

1 2 John A. Kenney, Last Will, Birth Certificate, Death Certificate

1 3 Miscellaneous Certificates

1 4 John A. Kenney, “Oscar is Gone”

1 5 First Day of the Commemorative Stamp honoring George Washington Carver

1 6 Address before Hampton Alumni, June 20, 1942 by Dr. John A. Kenney

1 7 Sale of Property in Newark, NJ to Frieda Kenney, August 14, 1924

1 8 Information about J. A Andrew Hospital, 1921-1924

1 9 Negro Dance Evening

1 10 The Tuskegee Institute Infantile Paralysis Center Tuskegee Institute, Alabama

1 11 Doctorate of Laws Degrees Conferred upon Dr. Kenney by Shaw university, NC

1 12 Five Shares of the Bay Shore Hotel Company, March, 1913

1 13 Note from Dr. Daniel H. Williams, Oct 27, 1917

1 14 Letter to Dr. John A. Kenney from Mrs. Booker T. Washington (Margaret)

1 15 Letter to Dr. John A. Kenney from Dr. D. H. C. Scott

1 16 To John Kenney from Mrs. Booker T. Washington (Margaret), January 223, 1918

1 17 Letter from Margaret Murray Washington to Dr. Kenney, September 13, 1919

1 18 To Honorable Frank Knox from John A. Kenney, MD

1 19 Miscellaneous Correspondence

1 20 To John A. Kenney from Dr. Charles R. Drew

1 21 To Dr. John A. Kenney from Frank Knox

1 22 To Honorable William W. Brandon from Warren G. Harding

1 23 Nurse Pin 1922

**Box Folder**

2 1 Advertisement [Who’s Who in Colored America (Concerning Dr. John A. Kenney]

2 2 [Article [Lethargia Medicalis]

2 3 Article [The Draft of Specialism] John A. Kenney

2 4 Article [The Negro Hospital Renaissance] John A. Kenney

2 5 Booker T. Washington and Community Health

2 6 Boys Clubs

2 7 Dr. John A. Kenney [Donates Hospital as Xmas Gift} The Chicago Detender, January 5, 1935

2 8 Dr. John A. Kenney Feted [Takes Tuskegee Post] The Afro-American, November 4, 1939

2 9 Dr. John A. Kenney, Secretary-Treasurer, John A. Andrew Clinical Society

2 10 Early Diagnosis Tuberculosis by John A. Kenney, MD Reprint [April-June 1928 Issue of the Journal of National Medical Association

2 11 [Expanding Opportunities for Negro Doctors and Nurses] by John A. Kenney, October 1930 Published in the Southern Workman

2 12 [Greeting to the John A. Andrew Clinical Society] Reprinted from the July- September, 1925 Issue of the Journal of National Medical Association

2 13 [Historical Newark Black Hospital will be Celebrated on May 14, 12005

2 14 Hospital Conflict in New Jersey

2 15 John A. Kenney, MD Editorial [Dr. Daniel Williams Takes Priority in Successful Operation for Stab Wound of Human Heart] Journal of the National Medical Association, vol. 87, No. 6

2 16 John A. Kenney Protests to American Medical Association

2 17 John A. Kenney [The Late Booker T. Washington] Journal of the National Medical Association

2 18 Kenney Memorial Hospital, Robert M. White, MD

2 19 Many Attend Tuskegee Club

2 20 [Negro Physicians Charge Discrimination] Richmond Times, August 29, 1918

2 21 Newspaper Article [Closing the Medical Radical Divide] Star-Ledger, June 1, 2005

2 22 Newspaper Clipping [Community Hospital helped Sustain Area that Became the Central Ward]

2 23 Newspaper Clippings [Dr. J.A Kenney Provides fro MEHARRY and Howard]

2 24 Newspaper Clippings [Farewell for New Tuskegee Clinic Chief]

2 25 Newspaper Clippings [FDR Speaks at Tuskegee-30 Year Promise to Booker Washington Kept]

2 26 Kenney Takes out Lifer Insurance Policy with Howard and Meharry Medical Schools as Beneficiaries

2 27 Newspaper clipping [Major Moton Charged with Kicking Dr. Kenney Out] August 9, 1924

2 28 Newspaper Clippings Miscellaneous

2 29 Newspaper Clippings [Southern Negro Scientist Contributes one of the Lost Arts to Civilization]

2 30 [Opposed to Negro at Head of Hospital]

2 31 [Opposition to Segregation of Blood from White and negro Donors in Blood Banks] Medicine and War, 119:10 Journal of A.M.A July 4, 1942

2 32 Photos of President Franklin D. Roosevelt visit to Tuskegee & VA March 30, 1939

2 33 Remarks by John Kenney, House conference October 13, 1941

2 34 [Report of Hookworm Commission] V.A. Kenney

2 35 [Signposts of Progress] NMA, New York, August 1948 Carl Roberts

2 36 [Some Personal Observations on Operative Technic] John A. Kenney

2 37 To Robert Daniel from Dr. John Kenney [Re: Memorial for Oscar Kenney]

 To John Kenney from Dr. Robert Daniel

2 38 Ways and Means Committee of the Northern NJ Hospital Association

**Box Folder**

3 1 [A Tribute of Respect] to Dr. John A. Kenney, August 15, 1924 Medical Director, John A Andrew Hospital, Tuskegee, Alabama

3 2 [Annual Bulletin] John A. Andrew Clinic, 1940

3 3 Booker T. Washington at Tuskegee Institute [Personal Growth Leaflet no. 86

3 4 [Dedication Exercises US Veterans Hospital], June 25, 1927

3 5 [Despise Not the Day of Small Beginning] John A. Kenney

3 6 [Dr. Green’s Address-One] Read before the National Hospital Association August 1928, Baltimore, Maryland

3 7 [Eugenics and the School Teacher] John A. Kenney, MD, 7:4

3 8 [Eugenics and the School Teacher] John Kenney

3 9 John A. Andrew Clinical Society, April 12,-18, 1942, Tuskegee Institute

3 10 John A. Andrew clinical Society, April 1947

3 11 John Andrew Clinical Society] April 20, 1966

3 12 John A. Kenney [Minutes of the National Medical Assoc. Baltimore, MD 1907

3 13 John A. Kenney, MD [Service of a Negro Hospital] Tuskegee Institute, Apr. 1921

3 14 John A. Kenney [the Dept. of Modern Medicine to Sir William Osler, Barty]

3 15 [Journal National Medical Association 1:2, April-Jun, 1909

3 16 [Journal National Medical Association] 2:1 January-March 1910

3 17 [Journal national Medical Association] 4:3, July-September, 1912

3 18 Kenney Memorial Hospital

3 19 Linda Kenney-Miller about the Cover [Journal of the National Medical Association, January 2009 p.3

3 20 Minutes of the National Medical Association August 21-23, 1906, Philadelphia, PA

3 21 [Oscar is Gone]

3 22 Program of Tuskegee Institute Choir, May 26, 1946, Newark, New Jersey

## Box Folder

4 1 [Service of a Negro Hospital] John A. Kenney

4 2 [Service of a Negro Hospital] The John A. Andrew Memorial Hospital, April 1921

4 3 [Singing Hearts] William L. Dawson

4 4 [So Long Boys take care of Yourselves] Pamphlet about Syphilis & Gonorrhea

4 5 Surgical Diary Dr. John A. Kenney, February 21, 1916-June 13, 1919

4 6 Testimonial Dinner in Honor of John A. Kenney, October 27, 1939

4 7 The community Hospital – A Brief History

4 8 [The Faithful Narrative of an Investigation of the Tuskegee Veterans Hospital] Melvin V. Chisum

4 9 [The John A. Andrew Clinical Society] April, 1920

4 10 The National Medical Association [Opposes Extremes in Modern Dress and Dancing]

4 11 The Philosophies of Booker T. Washington

4 12 To the Voters of Albemarle

4 13 Twenty-Ninth Annual Meeting of the John A. Andrew Clinical Society, March 30-April 4, 1947

4 14 V. A. Hospital, Tuskegee, Alabama History Selected Articles

Box

5 Various surgical tools used by Dr. Kenney