Selman A. Waksman Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress

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Manuscript Division, Library of Congress

Washington, D.C.

2004

Contact information: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact

Finding aid encoded by Glenn R. Gardner, 2009

Finding aid URL: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms009269

Collection Summary

Title: Selman A. Waksman Papers
Span Dates: 1915-1960
ID No.: MSS43729
Creator: Waksman, Selman A. (Selman Abraham), 1888-1973
Extent: 1,500 items; 6 containers; 2.2 linear feet
Language: Collection material in English
Repository: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
Abstract: Microbiologist. Correspondence, speeches, articles, and scripts of radio programs on which Waksman appeared. Correspondence relates to Waksman's early studies at Rutgers University, his graduate work at the University of California, and his return to Rutgers in 1918 as a lecturer in soil microbiology.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

People
Burkholder, Paul R. (Paul Rufus), 1903-1972--Correspondence.
Dubos, René J. (René Jules), 1901-1982--Correspondence.
Fleming, Alexander, 1881-1955--Correspondence.
Merck, George Wilhelm, 1894-1957--Correspondence.
Waksman, Selman A. (Selman Abraham), 1888-1973.

Organizations
Rutgers University.
University of California.

Subjects
Antibiotics.
Microbiology.
Soil microbiology.
Streptomycin.
Universities and colleges--California.
Universities and colleges--New Jersey.

Occupations
Microbiologists.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of Selman A. Waksman, microbiologist, were given to the Library of Congress by Waksman, 1960-1961.

Processing History

The papers of Selman A. Waksman were arranged with a preliminary listing in 1961. The collection was rehoused and described in 2003.

Copyright Status

Copyright in the unpublished writings of Selman A. Waksman in these papers and in other collections of papers in the custody of the Library of Congress has been dedicated to the public.

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Selman A. Waksman are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Selman A. Waksman Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Selman Abraham Waksman (1888-1973) span the years 1915-1960. The collection consists of correspondence, speeches, articles, and transcripts of radio programs on which Waksman appeared. The papers include letters from Waksman's student years at Rutgers University, his graduate work at the University of California, and his return in 1918 to Rutgers as a lecturer in soil microbiology. The correspondence with his colleagues sheds light on his discovery of the antibiotic streptomycin as well as his research into other microbes. The articles, radio broadcasts, and speeches in the collection relate almost entirely to the field of microbiology.

Correspondents include Paul R. Burkholder, René J. Dubos, Alexander Fleming, and George W. Merck.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material.

Container List

Container	*Contents*
BOX 1	Articles, 1942-1953, undated
BOX 1	Correspondence
BOX 1	A-F, 1915-1959
	(31 folders)
BOX 2	G-L, 1915-1960, undated
	(31 folders)
BOX 3	M-R, 1916-1960
	(25 folders)
BOX 4	S-Z, 1916-1959, undated
	(26 folders)
BOX 4	Unidentified, undated
BOX 5	Radio broadcasts, 1942-1955, undated
	(2 folders)
BOX 5	Speeches
BOX 5	Index
BOX 5	Vols. I-IV, 1918-1959
	(4 folders)
BOX 6	Vols. V-VI, 1953-1960
	(2 folders)