T. J. J. See Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress

Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff

Manuscript Division, Library of Congress

Washington, D.C.

2011

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Finding aid URL: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms012132

Collection Summary

Title: T. J. J. See Papers
Span Dates: 1887-1960
Bulk Dates: (bulk 1897-1930)
ID No.: MSS39420
Creator: See, T. J. J. (Thomas Jefferson Jackson), b. 1866
Extent: 30,600 items ; 131 containers plus 2 oversize ; 53 linear feet
Language: Collection material in English
Repository: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
Abstract: Astronomer and mathematician. Correspondence, a diary, financial papers, writings, printed matter, photographs, and miscellaneous material dealing with See's work in science and mathematics.

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
Adams, D. R. (Donald R.)--Correspondence.
Ayers, Howard, 1861-1933--Correspondence.
Clark, Champ, 1850-1921--Correspondence.
Clarke, Henry Love--Correspondence.
Dayton, Arthur Spencer, 1887-1948--Correspondence.
Doolittle, Eric, 1870-1920--Correspondence.
Einstein, Albert, 1879-1955.
Granger, A. O. (Arthur Otis), 1846-1914--Correspondence.
Hancock, Arthur B., 1875-1957--Correspondence.
Harrison, Carrie , botanist--Correspondence.
Hays, I. Minis (Isaac Minis), 1847-1925--Correspondence.
Nichols, Thomas Parker, b. 1830--Correspondence.
Page, Walter Hines, 1855-1918--Correspondence.
Pickering, Edward C. (Edward Charles), 1846-1919--Correspondence.
Redman, L. V. (Lawrence Vincent), 1880-1946--Correspondence.
See, T. J. J. (Thomas Jefferson Jackson), b. 1866.
Updegraff, Milton, 1861-1938--Correspondence.
Von Geldern, Otto, 1852-1932--Correspondence.
Webb, Walter Loring, 1863-1941.

Organizations
United States Naval Observatory (Mare Island, Calif.)

Subjects
Astronomical observatories--California--Mare Island.
Astronomy.
Cosmogony.
Geodesy.
Mathematics.
Relativity (Physics)
Waves.

Occupations
Astronomers.
Mathematicians.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of T. J. J. See, astronomer and mathematician, were given to the Library of Congress by his niece, Ada B. See, and Ernest See, son of Ada B. See and adopted son of T. J. J. See, in 1963. Additions were received in 1965-1967.

Processing History

The papers of T. J. J. See were processed in 1963 and expanded in 1967. The finding aid was revised in 2012

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of T. J. J. See is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of T. J. J. See 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, T. J. J. See Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	*Event*
1866, Feb. 19	Born near Montgomery, Mo.
1889	A.B. University of Missouri, Springfield, Mo.
1892	Ph.D., University of Berlin, Berlin, Germany
1893-1896	Instructor, Department of Astronomy, University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.
1896-1898	Astronomer, Lowell Observatory, Flagstaff, Ariz.
1899	Appointed professor of mathematics, U. S. Navy
1903	Assigned as astronomer to Naval Observatory, Mare Island, Calif.
1930	Retired as professor of mathematics, U. S. Navy
1962, July 4	Died, Oak Knoll Naval Hospital, Oakland, Calif.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Thomas Jefferson Jackson See (1866-1962) consist of a diary, correspondence, writings, financial papers, photographs, scrapbooks, and printed matter covering the period 1887-1960, with the bulk of the material dated between 1897 and 1930. Most of See's early records were destroyed in a fire in Flagstaff, Arizona, in 1897. See began his career as professor of mathematics in the Navy Department in 1899 and was retired in 1930. The greater part of his career was spent as astronomer at the United States Naval Observatory, Mare Island, California, after 1903. The See Papers are organized

into seven series: Diary; Family Correspondence; General Correspondence; Speech, Article, and Book File; Miscellany; Scrapbooks, and Addition.

The Diary in the collection dates from 1899 and relates largely to See's employment as a professor of mathematics for the navy. The Family Correspondence spans the years 1898-1940, and an extensive file of General Correspondence, 1887-1960, concerns See's work in practical and mathematical astronomy. The Speech, Article, and Book File pertains to astronomy, mathematics, wave theory, relativity theory and Albert Einstein, geodesy, and cosmogony. An Addition series consists mostly of writings by See.

Correspondents in the papers include D. R. Adams, Howard Ayers, Champ Clark, Henry Love Clark, Arthur Spencer Dayton, Eric Doolittle, Otto von Geldern, A. O. Granger, Arthur B. Hancock, Carrie Harrison, I. Minis Hayes, Thomas Parker Nichols, Walter Hines Page, Edward C. Pickering, L. V. Redman, Walter Loring Webb, and Milton Updegraff.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in seven series:

- Diary, 1889
- Family Correspondence, 1898-1940
- General Correspondence, 1887-1960
- Speech, Article, and Book File
- Miscellany
- Scrapbooks (Oversize), circa 1892-1902
- Addition, 1909-1940

Description of Series

Container	*Series*
BOX 1	**Diary, 1889** Diary kept while See was professor of mathematics in the navy.
BOX 1-6	**Family Correspondence, 1898-1940** Letters sent and received. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 7-39	**General Correspondence, 1887-1960** Letters sent and received. Arranged chronologically by year and alphabetically therein.
BOX 40-112	**Speech, Article, and Book File** Handwritten, typewritten, near-print, and printed copies of speeches, articles, and books. Arranged by type of material.
BOX 113-127	**Miscellany** Bills, receipts, newspaper clippings, printed matter, photographs, and miscellaneous papers. Arranged by type of material.
BOX OV 128-OV 129	**Scrapbooks (Oversize), circa 1892-1902** Articles, photographs, newspaper clippings, and memorabilia. Arranged chronologically in two overlapping volumes.
BOX 130-133	**Addition, 1909-1940** Mainly writings by See, particularly relating to his book *Wave-Theory*, and some correspondence and miscellany. Organized by type of material and title of work or chapter therein.

Container List

Container	*Contents*
BOX 1	**Diary, 1889** Diary kept while See was professor of mathematics in the navy.
BOX 1	1899
BOX 1-6	**Family Correspondence, 1898-1940** Letters sent and received. Arranged chronologically.
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BOX 2	1908-1909
BOX 3	1909-1913
BOX 4	1914-1918
BOX 5	1919-1940
BOX 6	Undated
BOX 7-39	**General Correspondence, 1887-1960** Letters sent and received. Arranged chronologically by year and alphabetically therein.
BOX 7	1887, V-1897, L
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Container	*Contents*
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BOX 53-54	Popular Cosmogony
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BOX 89-112	Miscellaneous writings
BOX 113-127	**Miscellany** Bills, receipts, newspaper clippings, printed matter, photographs, and miscellaneous papers. Arranged by type of material.
BOX 113-115	Bills and receipts
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BOX 121-122	Photographs and prints
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BOX OV 128-OV 129	**Scrapbooks (Oversize), circa 1892-1902** Articles, photographs, newspaper clippings, and memorabilia. Arranged chronologically in two overlapping volumes.

Container	*Contents*
BOX OV 128-OV 129	circa 1896-1902
BOX 130-133	**Addition, 1909-1940**
	Mainly writings by See, particularly relating to his book *Wave-Theory*, and some correspondence and miscellany.
	Organized by type of material and title of work or chapter therein.
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BOX 130	"Elements and Corresponding Tables for the Resulting Terrestrial Spheroid"
BOX 130	"Postscript of the Exhaustive Memoir on the Change in the Color of Sirius," 1940
BOX 130	"Researches in the Electrodynamic Wave-Theory of the Aether"
BOX 130	"Retrospectives Relative to the Resonance Cleste, Especially, and its Miraculous Discovery," 1945
BOX 130	"Whittaker's Special Solution of Universal Validity"
BOX 130	Books
BOX 130	*Light*
BOX 130	Vol. I, 1933, Nov.-1934, Jan.
BOX 130	Vol. II, 1934, Jan.-Feb.
BOX 131	*Theory of the Aether*, Vol. II
BOX 131	Chapter I, Demonstrated Dynamical Theory of the Aether Stresses in All Directions about a Pair of Binary Stars, Based on the Composition of Wave-Rotations
BOX 131	Chapter II, For Magnetic Attraction with Opposite Poles, the General Theory of the Contraction of the Aether Is Everywhere Verified
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Container	*Contents*
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