

Arthur Mann Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress

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Revised by Patrick Kerwin



Manuscript Division, Library of
Congress

Washington, D.C.

2009

Contact information: <http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/mss/address.html>

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Collection Summary

Title: Arthur Mann Papers

Span Dates: 1901-1969

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1945-1962)

ID No.: MSS31195

Creator: Mann, Arthur (Arthur William), 1901-

Extent: 1,800 items; 13 containers plus 2 oversize; 6 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

Repository: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Abstract: Sportswriter, baseball executive, and author. Correspondence, drafts of books and articles, notes, memoranda, newspaper clippings, and printed matter relating primarily to Mann's biography of Branch Rickey and to Rickey's contributions to professional baseball.

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.

Personal Names

Arthur, William B.--Correspondence.
Benswanger, William Edward, 1892---Correspondence.
Bernhard, Andrew--Correspondence.
Broom, Leonard--Correspondence.
Carey, Archibald J. (Archibald James), 1908-1981--Correspondence.
Celler, Emanuel, 1888-1981--Correspondence.
Chandler, Happy, 1898---Correspondence.
Cobb, Ty, 1886-1961.
Corum, Bill, 1894-1958--Correspondence.
Fitzgerald, Ed, 1919---Correspondence.
Frick, Ford C.--Correspondence.
Goldman, Eric Frederick, 1915-1989--Correspondence.
Hagerty, James C. (James Campbell), 1909-1981--Correspondence.
Keck, Harry, 1897-1965--Correspondence.
Mack, Connie, 1862-1956.
Mann, Arthur (Arthur William), 1901-
McGraw, John Joseph, 1873-1934.
Mich, Dan D. (Daniel Danforth), 1905-1965--Correspondence.
Musial, Stan, 1920-
Pegler, Westbrook, 1894-1969--Correspondence.
Rickey, Branch, 1881-1965--Correspondence.
Robinson, Jackie, 1919-1972.
Sockman, Ralph W. (Ralph Washington), 1889-1970--Correspondence.
Stengel, Casey--Correspondence.

Subjects

African American baseball players.
Baseball.
Boxing.
Discrimination in sports.
Football.
Horse racing.
Minor league baseball.
Olympics.

Occupations
Authors.
Baseball executives.
Sportswriters.

Administrative Information

Provenance:

The papers of Arthur Mann, sportswriter, baseball executive, and author, were given to the Library of Congress by his widow, Marion Mann, in 1969. A small addition was sent to the Library by Mary B. Bowling, Curator of Manuscripts, New York Public Library, in 1990.

Processing History:

The papers of Arthur Mann were arranged and described in 1978. The collection was expanded and revised in 1997, and additional revisions were made to the finding aid in 2009.

Transfers:

Items have been transferred from the Manuscript Division to other custodial divisions of the Library. Photographs and drawings have been transferred to the Prints and Photographs Division. Maps have been transferred to the Geography and Map Division. Music scores have been transferred to the Music Division. All transfers are identified in these divisions as part of the Arthur Mann Papers.

Related Material:

Related collections in the Manuscript Division include the papers of [Jackie Robinson](#) and [Branch Rickey](#).

Copyright Status:

Copyright in the unpublished writings of Arthur Mann in these papers and in other collections in the custody of the Library of Congress is reserved. Consult a reference librarian in the Manuscript Division for further information.

Access and Restrictions:

The papers of Arthur Mann 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, Arthur Mann Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1901, Sept. 11	Born, Stamford, Conn.
1918	Student, Art Students League, New York, N.Y.
1921	Awarded Gold Medal, 1st prize, Columbia University National Art Competition

1921-1922	Reporter, <i>New York World</i>
1923	Married Marion Rita Meyer
1932-1945	Freelance writer and radio script writer and broadcaster, New York, N.Y.
1945	Assisted in the racial integration of organized baseball Cofounder of the New York Taconic Valley Youth Center, Berlin, N.Y.
1946	Assistant to Branch Rickey, president and general manager of the Brooklyn Dodgers
1947	Instrumental in the signing of Jackie Robinson with the Brooklyn Dodgers
1950	Published <i>The Jackie Robinson Story</i> . New York: F. J. Low
1951	Published <i>Baseball Confidential; Secret History of the War Among Chandler, Durocher, MacPhail, and Rickey</i> . New York: D. McKay
1952	Published <i>Bob White: Bonus Player</i> . New York: D. McKay Published <i>Bob White: Farm Club Player</i> . New York: D. McKay
1953	Published <i>Bob White: Spring Terror</i> . New York: D. McKay Published <i>How To Play Winning Baseball</i> . New York: Grosset & Dunlap Published <i>Goal in Sight</i> . New York: D. McKay, by A. R. Thurman, pseud.
1957	Published <i>Branch Rickey: American in Action</i> . Boston; Houghton Mifflin
1959	Assistant to Branch Rickey, President of the Continental League Codirector of the Third Pan-American Games, Chicago, Ill.
1963, Jan. 3	Died, New York, N.Y.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Arthur William Mann (1901-1963), sportswriter, baseball executive, and author, span the years 1901-1969, with the bulk of the material concentrated in the years 1945 to 1962. The collection is composed of correspondence, drafts of books and articles, memoranda, notes, numerous newspaper clippings, printed matter, and miscellaneous items relating primarily to major league baseball, particularly to Branch Rickey and his contributions to the game. Also included are items relating to Rickey's innovations, such as organization of farm teams or minor league baseball clubs. Other items relate to boxing, football, the Olympic Games, and horse racing. The collection is arranged in six series: [General Correspondence](#), [Subject File](#), [Writings File](#), [Miscellany](#), [Addition](#), and [Oversize](#).

The numerous documents in the papers which focus on Branch Rickey are the result of Mann's decision to write a biography of Rickey. Many baseball and sports figures contributed information for this biography. In 1946, Mann became Branch Rickey's assistant with the Brooklyn Dodgers. Together they launched the major league career of Jackie Robinson in 1947 and later furthered the careers of other black players. Mann's stand on matters such as expansion of major league baseball after World War II and the elimination of racial barriers brought him close to Rickey's pioneering views. There is also much material on Jackie Robinson, but very little on Mann himself.

Mann became one of the most respected sportswriters in America as a reporter for the *New York World*, the *New York Herald Tribune*, the *New York Daily Mirror*, and the *New York Evening World*. His work as an influential and prolific writer about sports is fully documented in the drafts of books and articles included in his papers.

The papers reflect other events that enabled Mann to become an effective, if controversial, baseball executive. These include his efforts in 1945 to integrate organized baseball and his "behind-the-scenes" action with Rickey to bring Jackie Robinson into the major leagues and to promote the careers of Donald Newcombe, Roy Campanella, Junior Gilliam (James William Gilliam), and Maury Wills.

Other items in the Mann Papers include a draft of *The Real McGraw* by Mrs. John J. McGraw and edited by Arthur Mann, a screenplay entitled "The Jackie Robinson Story," Jackie Robinson's statement before the House Un-American Activities Committee, numerous profiles or biographical sketches of prominent sports figures, and items concerning the Continental League of Professional Baseball Clubs as well as other material on baseball. Items relating to boxing include a file concerning Floyd Patterson and medical findings concerning "punch drunk" boxers.

Correspondents include William B. Arthur, William Edward Benswanger, Andrew Bernhard, Leonard Broom, Archibald J. Carey, Emanuel Celler, Happy Chandler, Bill Corum, Ed Fitzgerald, Ford C. Frick, Eric Frederick Goldman, James C. Hagerty, Harry Keck, Dan D. Mich, Westbrook Pegler, Branch Rickey, Ralph W. Sockman, and Casey Stengel.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in six series:

- [General Correspondence, 1901-1962](#)
- [Subject File, 1913-1962](#)
- [Writings File](#)
- [Miscellany, 1906-1969](#)
- [Addition, undated](#)
- [Oversize, 1906-1967](#)

Description of Series

<i>Container</i>	<i>Series</i>
BOX 1-2	<u>General Correspondence, 1901-1962</u> Letters sent and received, memoranda, and miscellaneous attachments. Arranged chronologically within each file.
BOX 2-5	<u>Subject File, 1913-1962</u> Drafts of manuscripts and printed matter on various subjects. Arranged alphabetically by name of person or organization and topic.
BOX 5-8	<u>Writings File</u> Drafts of manuscripts for books and articles by Mann and others. Arranged alphabetically by author.
BOX 9-13	<u>Miscellany, 1906-1969</u> Notebook, notes and fragments, clippings, printed matter, baseball scorebooks, and a scrapbook of newspaper clippings. Arranged alphabetically by type of material.
BOX 13	<u>Addition, undated</u> Carbon typescript novel by Mann about prize fighting, entitled "Boxer Rebellion."
BOX OV 1-OV 2	<u>Oversize, 1906-1967</u> Oversized clippings and a scrapbook. Arranged according to the series and folder from which they were removed.

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BOX 2	1957, June 21-1958, Jan.
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Writings File

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