

Jacques Loeb Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2011

Contact information: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm73030429>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms011136>

Prepared by Manuscript Division staff

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2011
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Collection Summary

Title: Jacques Loeb Papers

Inclusive Dates: 1889-1924

ID No.: MSS30429

Creator: Loeb, Jacques, 1859-1924

Extent: 11,000 items

Extent: 60 containers plus 1 oversize

Extent: 24 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English and German

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm73030429>

Summary: Physiologist and educator. General, professional, and family correspondence, biographical data, speeches, awards, photographs, and other material, including Loeb's laboratory notebooks and drafts of his scientific writings relating to the development of the tropism theory.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Arrhenius, Svante, 1859-1927--Correspondence.

Berenson, Bernard, 1865-1959--Correspondence.

Conant, James Bryant, 1893-1978--Correspondence.

De Kruif, Paul, 1890-1971--Correspondence.

Ehrlich, Paul, 1854-1915--Correspondence.

Einstein, Albert, 1879-1955--Correspondence.

Freud, Sigmund, 1856-1939--Correspondence.

Huxley, Julian, 1887-1975--Correspondence.

Loeb family--Correspondence.

Loeb, Jacques, 1859-1924.

Loeb, Jacques, 1859-1924. Forced movements, tropisms, and animal conduct. 1918.

Loeb, Jacques, 1859-1924. Proteins and the theory of colloidal behavior. 1922.

Loeb, Jacques, 1859-1924. Regeneration from a physico-chemical viewpoint. 1924.

Pavlov, Ivan Petrovich, 1849-1936--Correspondence.

Shapley, Harlow, 1885-1972--Correspondence.

Subjects

Biochemistry.

Biology.

Bryology

Bryophytes.

Chemistry.

Colloids.

Frogs.

Gelatin.

Genetics.

Osmosis.

Proteins.

Tropisms.

Zoology.

Occupations

Educators.

Physiologists.

Acquisition Information

The papers of Jacques Loeb, physiologist and educator, were given to the Library of Congress by Leonard B. Loeb, Robert F. Loeb, and Anne L. Osborne between 1960 and 1963.

Processing History

The papers of Jacques Loeb were arranged and described in 1961 and 1963 by Grover Batts. The finding aid was revised in 2011.

Copyright Status

Copyright in the unpublished writings of Jacques Loeb 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 Jacques Loeb 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, Jacques Loeb Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1859, Apr. 7	Born, Mayen, Rhineland-Palatinate
1884	M.D., University of Strasburg, Strasburg, France
1886-1888	Assistant at physiological institute, University of Würzburg, Würzburg, Germany
1888-1892	Assistant in physiology, University of Strasburg, Strasburg, France
1890	Married Anne Leonard
1891	Immigrated to America
1891-1892	Professor, Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, Pa.
1892-1902	Assistant professor of physiology and experimental biology, becoming associate professor in 1895, and professor of physiology in 1899, University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.
1899	Using sea urchin larvae, began groundbreaking research on cell division and the transmission of hereditary traits
1902-1910	Professor of physiology, University of California, Berkeley, Calif.
1912	Published <i>The Mechanistic Conception of Life</i> . Chicago: University of Chicago Press
1910-1924	Member, Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, New York, N.Y.
1918	Founded <i>Journal of General Physiology</i>
1924, Feb. 11	Died, Hamilton, Bermuda

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Jacques Loeb (1859-1924) span the years 1889-1924, with the bulk consisting of letters he exchanged with prominent figures in the world of science and with leaders in politics, literature, economics, and philosophy in the late nineteenth-early twentieth century. Included in the collection is a substantial file of family correspondence as well as laboratory notebooks, speeches and writings, printed matter, various biographical data, and miscellaneous material. The papers are in English and German and are organized into seven series: [General Correspondence](#) ; [Family Correspondence](#) ; [Experimental Notebooks](#) ; [Book, Article, and Speech File](#) ; [Printed Matter](#) ; [Miscellany](#) ; and [Oversize](#) .

Loeb's [Experimental Notebooks](#) reflect his research on bryophytes, gelatin, and frogs, which led to his development of the tropism theory. Among the writings in addition to drafts of scientific writings and speeches are manuscripts for his books, *Forced Movements*, *Tropisms and Animal Conduct* (1918), *Proteins and the Theory of Colloidal Behavior* (1922), and *Regeneration from a Physico-chemical Viewpoint* (1920).

Correspondents include Svante Arrhenius, Bernard Berenson, James Bryant Conant, Paul Henry De Kruif, Paul Ehrlich, Albert Einstein, Sigmund Freud, Julian Huxley, Ivan Petrovich Pavlov, and Harlow Shapley.

Arrangement of the Papers

The collection is arranged in six series:

- [General Correspondence](#)
- [Family Correspondence](#)
- [Experimental Notebooks](#)
- [Book, Article, and Speech File](#)
- [Printed Matter](#)
- [Miscellany](#)
- [Oversize](#)

Description of Series

Container	Series
BOX 1-16	<u>General Correspondence</u> Letters sent and received. Arranged alphabetically by name of person or organization.
BOX 17-21	<u>Family Correspondence</u> Letters sent and received from family members. Arranged by name of family member.
BOX 22-37	<u>Experimental Notebooks</u> Scientific notebooks. Arranged in an alphabetical set organized by topic or subject and in a chronological file.
BOX 38-54	<u>Book, Article, and Speech File</u> Book, article, and speech manuscripts by Loeb. Includes bound volumes of reprints of his articles. Arranged by type of writing.
BOX 55-58	<u>Printed Matter</u> Miscellaneous publications by others and newspaper clippings. Arranged by type of material.
BOX 59-60	<u>Miscellany</u> Autographs, lecture material, financial items, photographs, biographical information, invitations and programs, and other miscellany. Arranged according to type of material.
BOX OV 1	<u>Oversize</u> Certificates. Arranged and describing according to the series and container from which the items were removed.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1-16	General Correspondence Letters sent and received. Arranged alphabetically by name of person or organization.
BOX 1	Abderhalden, Emil American Friends of German Democracy American Society of Naturalists Andrews, Mary R. Arrhenius, Svante "Ab-Au" miscellaneous Babson, Roger W. Baege, M. H. Baekeland, L. H. Bancroft, Frank W. Barth, Johann A. Bataafsch Genootschap der Proefondervindelijke Wijsbergeerte, Rotterdam, Netherlands Bechhold, Dr. H. Berenson, Bernard Bernstein, Herman Bethe, Albrecht Beutner, Reinhard Blum, Leon Boas, Franz Boatwright, F. W. Bogue, Robert H. Bohn, Georges Bottazzi, Filippo Bressalau, Harry Brown, Amos Bruere, Robert W. "Ba-By" miscellaneous Capps, Edward Carrel, Alexis Carus, Paul and Victor Cattell, James McKeen Caullery, Maurice Conant, James B. Conklin, E. G. Coulter, John M. Creel, George Croly, Herbert Cross, Wilbur L.
BOX 2	

General Correspondence

Container	Contents
BOX 3	Crozier, W. J.
	“Ca-Cz” miscellaneous
	De Kruif, Paul
	Delage, Yves
	De Vries, Hugo
	Dewey, John
	Dreiser, Theodore
	Driesch, Hans
	Drzewina, Anna
	Du Bois, W. E. B.
BOX 4	“Da-Du” miscellaneous
	East, E. M.
	Eastman, Max
	Ehrlich, Paul
	Einstein, Albert
	Eliot, Charles W.
	Elsberg, Charles
	Emergency Peace Federation
	Erdmann, Rhonda
	Ewald, W. F.
	“Ea-Ev” miscellaneous
	Falk, Erich
	Fischer, Gustav
	Fisher, Irving
	Flexner, Abraham
	Flexner, Simon
	Fock, Gustav
	Freud, Sigmund
	Funk, Casimir
BOX 5	“Fa-Fr” miscellaneous
	Garrey, W. E.
	Gaule, Alice and Justus
	Gaylord, Harvey R.
	Gelerie, A. J.
	Gies, W. J.
	Godlewski, Emil
	Goldschmidt, Richard
	Gottel, Richard
	“Ga-Gu” miscellaneous
BOX 6	Haber, F.
	Haeckel, Ernst
	Hall, G. Stanley
	Hammond, John H.
	Hapgood, Norman
	Harper, William R.
	Harrison, Ross G.

General Correspondence

Container	Contents
	Harvey, E. Newton
	Hecht, Selig
	Hemmeter, John
	Henderson, L. J.
	Hendrick, Ellwood
	Herbst, C.
	Herter, Christian A.
	Herzog, O.
	Herzstein, Morris
	Hirsch, Mrs. Charlotte
	Hober, R.
	Holitscher, A.
	Holmes, S. J.
	Holt, Hamilton
	Hutchins, Robert M.
	Huxley, Julian
BOX 7	“Ha-He” miscellaneous
	“Hi-Hy” miscellaneous
	“I” miscellaneous
	James, Henry (1843-1916)
	Jastrow, Joseph
	Jennings, H. S.
	Jewett, F. B.
	Just, E. E.
	“Ja-Ju” miscellaneous
	Kanda, Sakyo
	King, W. O. Redman
	Knaffl, E.
	Korosy, Kornel
	Koranyi, A.
BOX 8	Korzybski, Alfred
	Kupelwieser, Hans
	“Ka-Ku” miscellaneous
	Ladd-Franklin, Christine
	Lankester, Edwin R.
	Lasareff, P.
	Leuschner, A. O.
	Lillie, Frank R.
	Lillie, Ralph S.
	J. B. Lippincott Co.
	Lisbonne, R.
	Livingston, Burton E.
	Lloyd, Dorothy J.
	Lyon, E. P.
BOX 9	“La-Li” miscellaneous
	“Lo-Lu” miscellaneous

General Correspondence

Container	Contents
	McCabe, Joseph
	McGraw-Hill Book Co.
	Macallum, A. B.
	Macallum, John B.
	Macmillan Co.
	Magnes, J. L.
	Mall, F. P.
	Mann, Gustav
	Maxwell, S. S.
	Meltzer, S. J.
	Mestrezat, W.
	Meyerhof, Otto
	Michaelis, L.
	Millikan, R. A.
	Moore, A. R.
	Morgan, T. H.
BOX 10	Morgulis, S.
	Morse, Max
	Morse, Withrow
	Mouton, H.
	Muensterberg, Hugo
	Muhsam, Hans
	"Mc-My" miscellaneous
	Neuberg, Carl
	Northrop, John Howard
	Noyes, Arthur A.
	"Na-Nu" miscellaneous
BOX 11	Osterhout, W. J. V.
	Ostwald, Wilhelm
	Ostwald, Wolfgang
	"Od-Oz" miscellaneous
	Parker, G. H.
	Pauli, Wolfgang
	Pavlov, Ivan P.
	Pearl, Raymond
	Pickering, J.
	Pinchot, Amos
	Priestley, J. H.
	Przilbram, Hans
BOX 12	G. P. Putnam's Sons
	"Pa-Py" miscellaneous
	Rieffel, Aristide
BOX 13	Robertson, T. B.
	Rockefeller, John D. (1874-1960)
	Rona, P.
	Roosevelt, Theodore

General Correspondence

Container	Contents
	Rothbarth, A. Roux, Wilhelm Rutherford, Ernest “Ra-Ru” miscellaneous Sarton, George Schaeffer, Asa A. Senn, George Shapley, Harlow Shearer, Cresswell Sherrington, C. B. S. Sinclair, Upton Smith, Edric B. Snyder, Carl Solovine, Maurice
BOX 14	Springer, Julius Steinkopff, Theodor Steiglitz, Julius Stratton, S. W. Straus, Nathan (1889-1961) “Sa-Sz” miscellaneous Taylor, A. E. Torrey, Harry B. Traube, J.
BOX 15	“Ta-Tu” miscellaneous University of Chicago Press “Ud-Un” miscellaneous Veblen, Thorstein Viereck, George Sylvester Villard, Oswald Garrison “Va-Vi” miscellaneous Waksman, Selman A. Walker, Edwin C. Walling, W. English Warbasse, James Warburg, Otto Ward, W. B. Wasteneys, Hardolph Waszko, Jan Watson, John B. Werber, E. I. Wheeler, Benjamin Whitney, W. R. Wilson, E. B.
BOX 16	Wilson, John Arthur Wood, L. Hollingsworth “Wa-Wu” miscellaneous

General Correspondence

Container	Contents
	Yerkes, Robert M. “Y” miscellaneous “Za-Zu” miscellaneous Unidentified Correspondence concerning death of Loeb
BOX 17-21	Family Correspondence Letters sent and received from family members. Arranged by name of family member.
BOX 17-18	Loeb, Anne Leonard (wife) Letters received
BOX 19	Letters received and sent Loeb, Anne (daughter)
BOX 20	Leonard, Leonard B. (son) Letters sent
BOX 21	Letters received Loeb, Robert F. (son) Loeb, Leo (brother)
BOX 22-37	Experimental Notebooks Scientific notebooks. Arranged in an alphabetical set organized by topic or subject and in a chronological file.
BOX 22	Alphabetical file Bryophyllum General Correlation Polarity Inhibitory effect of stem Flies Frankel, Florence Huton
BOX 23	Fundulus Fundulus eggs Fundulus (banus) Gastrocnemius Gelatin
BOX 24	Gelatin
BOX 25	Gelatin Gelatin (dyes) Gonionemus Heliothropism (balanus) Muscle
BOX 26	Nerve stimulation Oxidations Parthenogenetic frogs Swelling of pig bladder

Experimental Notebooks

Container	Contents
	Regeneration
BOX 27	Salt action
	Salt action (Woods Hole, Mass.)
	Soil
BOX 28	Chronological file
	1889-1908
BOX 29	1908-1910
BOX 30	1911
BOX 31	1912-1913
BOX 32	1913-1914
BOX 33	1914-1916
BOX 34	1919-1922
BOX 35-36	Undated
BOX 37	Miscellaneous notes
BOX 38-54	Book, Article, and Speech File
	Book, article, and speech manuscripts by Loeb. Includes bound volumes of reprints of his articles.
	Arranged by type of writing.
BOX 38	Books
	<i>Forced Movements, Tropisms and Animal Conduct</i> (1918)
BOX 39-41	<i>Proteins and the Theory of Colloidal Behavior</i> (1922)
BOX 42-43	<i>Regeneration from a Physico-chemical Viewpoint</i> (1920)
BOX 44	Articles
	"Aphorismen zur Vererbungslehre"
	"Befruchtung und Phagocytose"
	"Biology and War"
	"Chemical and Adsorption Theory of Colloids"
	"Colloid Chemistry and Medicine"
	"Crystalloidal and Colloidal Behavior of Proteins"
	"Das Leben"
	"Der Irreciproke Charakter des Antagonismus Zwischen"
	"The Interpretation of the Influence of Acid on the Osmotic Pressure of Protein Solutions"
	"The Mechanism of the Diffusion of Electrolytes through the Membranes of Living Cells"
	"Natural Death and the Duration of Life"
	"Negative Osmosis"
	"The Number of Chromosomes and the Biological Status of the Negro"
	"Potential Differences and Coagulation of Collodion Particles in Aqueous Suspensions"
	"The Price of Romanticism"
	"Pseudoscience and Ruthlessness"
	"The Theory of Tropisms"
	"Zur Dynamik der Vererbungsvorgange"
	Unpublished manuscripts
	Speeches
	"Can Socialism Obliterate Race Antagonism"
	"The Chemical Nature of Life"

Book, Article, and Speech File

Container	Contents
	Pasteur Lecture
	Loeb's last manuscript (intended for Herter Lecture)
BOX 45-52	Printed articles by Loeb
	Bound vols. of collected reprints
BOX 53	Miscellaneous items written or edited by Loeb
BOX 54	Fragments
BOX 55-58	Printed Matter
	Miscellaneous publications by others and newspaper clippings.
	Arranged by type of material.
BOX 55-56	Bound publications
BOX 57	Newspaper clippings
BOX 58	Newspaper clippings
BOX 59-60	Miscellany
	Autographs, lecture material, financial items, photographs, biographical information, invitations and programs, and other miscellany.
	Arranged according to type of material.
BOX 59	Autographs of Loeb
	Bills and receipts
	Biographical material
	Invitations and programs
	Lecture material
BOX 60	Lecture material
	General <i><u>See also Oversize</u></i>
	Photographs
BOX OV 1	Oversize
	Certificates.
	Arranged and describing according to the series and container from which the items were removed.
BOX OV 1	Miscellany
	Certificates (Container 60)