

Louis Nizer, My Life in Court: Handwritten and Typewritten Draft
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2016

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

Catalog Record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm81034827>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms016009>

Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2016

Collection Summary

Title: My Life in Court: Handwritten and typewritten draft

Span Dates: 1961

ID No.: MSS34827

Creator: Nizer, Louis, 1902-1994

Extent: 1 item

Extent: 5 containers

Extent: 1.8 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm81034827>

Summary: Louis Nizer, lawyer and author. Pencil and typewritten draft copies of his *My Life in Court*.

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

Nizer, Louis, 1902-1994.

Subjects

Courts--United States.

Law--United States.

Trials--United States.

Titles

Louis Nizer papers

Occupations

Authors.

Lawyers.

Provenance

The draft of *My Life in Court* by Louis Nizer, lawyer and author, was given to the Library of Congress by Nizer via Lawrence S. Lesser in 1964.

Processing History

This collection was processed circa 1965. The finding aid was created in 2016.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Louis Nizer is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The writings of Louis Nizer 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, Louis Nizer, *My Life in Court*: handwritten and typewritten draft, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Louis Nizer, born February 6, 1902, in London, England, was a lawyer and author noted for advising important people in politics, business, and entertainment, and for defending unpopular causes and individuals. He successfully represented Quentin Reynolds in his libel suit against columnist Westbrook Pegler and broadcaster John Henry Faulk in a suit hailed as a critical legal victory against blacklisting. Nizer also wrote several books, including the best-selling *My Life In Court* (Garden City, N.Y., 1961), and in 1964, he authored the foreword to the Warren Commission report that investigated the assassination of John F. Kennedy.

Nizer graduated from Columbia University Law School and in 1924 established with Louis Phillips the legal partnership that became Phillips, Nizer, Benjamin, Krim & Ballon. Prominent clients included Johnny Carson, Charlie Chaplin, Salvador Dali, Mae West, Julius Erving, and Spyros P. Skouros. Nizer died in New York City, November 10, 1994.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Louis Nizer (1902-1994) consist of pencil and typewritten draft copies of Nizer's *My Life in Court*, a recounting of some of his most celebrated cases. Published in 1961, the book became a best seller.

Arrangement of the Papers

The papers are arranged by chapter.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	<i>My Life in Court</i> , 1961
BOX 1	Chapter 1 (8 folders)
BOX 1	Chapter 2 (6 folders)
BOX 1	Chapter 3 (1 folder)
BOX 2	(13 folders)
BOX 2	Chapter 4 (3 folders)
BOX 3	(14 folders)
BOX 3	Chapter 5 (1 folders)
BOX 4	(8 folders)
BOX 4	Chapter 6 (6 folders)
BOX 5	(5 folders)