Arthur Mann Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2023

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

Catalog Record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mm77031195

Additional search options available at: https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms009127

Prepared by Manuscript Division staff

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2009
Revised 2023 June

Collection Summary

Title: Arthur Mann Papers
Inclusive Dates: 1901-1969
Bulk Dates: 1945-1962
ID No.: MSS31195
Creator: Mann, Arthur (Arthur William), 1901-
Extent: 1,800 items
Extent: 13 containers plus 2 oversize
Extent: 6 linear feet
Language: Collection material in English
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
LC Catalog record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mm77031195
Summary: 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 LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People
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, 1898-1991--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, 1901-1963.
McGraw, John Joseph, 1873-1934.
Mich, Dan D. (Daniel Danforth), 1905-1965--Correspondence.
Musial, Stan, 1920-2013.
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.

Acquisition Information

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 by Wilhelmena B. Curry in 1978. The collection was expanded and revised by Patrick Kerwin in 1997, and additional revisions were made to the finding aid in 2009. The finding aid was updated in 2023 by Maria Farmer as part of a division-wide remediation project by the Inclusive Description Working Group.

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

Date	Event
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, *New York World*
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 *The Jackie Robinson Story*. New York: F. J. Low
1951	Published *Baseball Confidential; Secret History of the War Among Chandler, Durocher, MacPhail, and Rickey*. New York: D. McKay
1952	Published *Bob White: Bonus Player*. New York: D. McKay Published *Bob White: Farm Club Player*. New York: D. McKay
1953	Published *Bob White: Spring Terror*. New York: D. McKay Published *How To Play Winning Baseball*. New York: Grosset & Dunlap Published *Goal in Sight*. New York: D. McKay, by A. R. Thurman, pseud.
1957	Published *Branch Rickey: American in Action*. 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*, a biography of John J. McGraw written by his wife Blanche Sindall 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

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

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1-2	**General Correspondence, 1901-1962**
	Letters sent and received, memoranda, and miscellaneous attachments.
	Arranged chronologically within each file.
BOX 1	1901, May 8-1946, Dec. 27
BOX 1	1947, Jan. 29-1948, Mar. 10
BOX 1	1948, Apr. 10-1950, Nov. 20
BOX 1	1951, Jan. 5-1953, July 1
BOX 1	1954, Jan. 13-1955, Apr. 12
BOX 1	1955, Apr. 19-Dec. 27
BOX 1	1956, Jan. 10-July 31
BOX 1	1956, Aug. 7-Oct. 30
BOX 2	1956, Nov. 3-1957, May 30
BOX 2	1957, June 21-1958, Jan.
BOX 2	1958, Feb. 5-1959, Jan. 21
BOX 2	1959, Feb. 7-1960, Mar. 31
BOX 2	1960, Apr. 2-1962, Dec. 18
BOX 2	Undated
BOX 2-5	**Subject File, 1913-1962**
	Drafts of manuscripts and printed matter on various subjects.
	Arranged alphabetically by name of person or organization and topic.
BOX 2	All America Football Conference Report
BOX 2	Annual Athletic Carnival, New York Athletic Club
BOX 2	"Arthur Mann Becomes a Sportswriter"
BOX 2	Baseball
BOX 2	Brooklyn Dodgers
BOX 2	General
BOX 2	List of players
BOX 2	Official rules, 1914
BOX 2	Quiz
BOX 2	Writers' Association
BOX 2	Boxing, lists of fighters
BOX 2	Cash disbursed, payments to newspapermen, 1924
BOX 2	Concession contracts, 1955
BOX 2	Congressional reports and bills
BOX 2	H.R. 6127 and 6877, 1957
BOX 2	Joint Cooperative Study of Usages of the VHF Part of the Radio Spectrum, 1956
BOX 2	Report No. 291 (Civil Rights), 1957
BOX 3	Continental League meeting, 1959-1960
BOX 3	Continental League of Professional Baseball Clubs

Container	Contents
BOX 3	Crow, Howard M., "Reply to Questions Asked by Arthur Mann"
BOX 3	Decision by W.G. Bramhan in the matter of charges against Columbus baseball clubs and its players
BOX 3	Dinner in honor of Max Hirsch, Interviews, 1956, July 12
BOX 3	Ebbets, Charles H. and Minnie F.A., divorce, 1921
BOX 3	Frick, Ford C.
BOX 3	Interviews, Aparicio, Luis E., and Lopez, Al, 1962, Apr. 24
BOX 3	Kentucky Jockey Club, Lexington, Ky.
BOX 3	Kern, Jerome
BOX 3	Kiner, Ralph, memorandum
BOX 3	"Leo Durocher Day" celebration, 1928, June 23
BOX 4	Mayor's Committee on Baseball, proposal for report, 1945
BOX 4	Memoranda of conversations
BOX 4	Branch Rickey and Mr. Sukeforth, 1950, Jan. 16
BOX 4	On the General Subject of Baseball League, etc., undated
BOX 4	Branch Rickey and Arthur Mann at Fox Chapel, Sharpsburg, Pa., 1955, Dec. 27
BOX 4	National Baseball Hall of Fame, Cooperstown, N.Y., 1954-1955
BOX 4	Negro National League schedule
BOX 4	Olympic tryouts, Harvard Stadium, Cambridge, Mass., 1924
BOX 4	O'Malley, Walter and the Brooklyn Dodgers
BOX 4	*Our Sports: The Negro's Own Sports Magazine*, 1913
BOX 4	Patterson, Floyd
BOX 4	Pittsburgh Organization
BOX 4	Player report by Branch Rickey, Jr.
BOX 4	Rosters
BOX 4	1952, Mar. 1
BOX 4	1954, Jan. 15
BOX 4	Professional Sports Antitrust Act of 1960
BOX 4	Proposal for Economic Education Program, Sports Section
BOX 4	"Punch drunk" boxers
BOX 4	Reply of Third Major League to statement of organized baseball on S.3483, Professional Sports Antitrust Act of 1960
BOX 4	Reply to statement of organized baseball on Professional Sports Antitrust Act of 1960
BOX 4	"Representative Negro leaders"
BOX 5	Rickey, Branch
BOX 5	All Time Teams
BOX 5	Frick, Ford C. meeting 1959, Oct. 12
BOX 5	George Stovall comments
BOX 5	On developing young baseball players
BOX 5	On victims of snobbery
BOX 5	Robinson, Jackie
BOX 5	Comments
BOX 5	Family
BOX 5	Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Hall of Fame dinner, 1960, July 20
BOX 5	Statement Before the House Un-American Activities Committee
BOX 5	*St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, Branch Rickey
BOX 5	Sale of the Brooklyn Dodgers, 1948

Container	Contents
BOX 5	Sale of the Brooklyn-New York football games, 1948
BOX 5	Sportsmanship Brotherhood
BOX 5	Telephone conversations
BOX 5	Uniform player's contract, National League of Professional Baseball Clubs
BOX 5	World Series, 1952-1960
BOX 5-8	**Writings File** Drafts of manuscripts for books and articles by Mann and others. Arranged alphabetically by author.
BOX 5	By Arthur Mann
BOX 5	August A. Busch," a profile
BOX 5	"Ban Johnson," a profile
BOX 5	"Baseball's Captive Commissioner"
BOX 5	"Baseball Writers Show"
BOX 5	Behind the Boxing Bonanza"
BOX 5	*Branch Rickey: An American in Action*
BOX 5	"Brooklyn Dodgers"
BOX 5	"Brooklyn Football"
BOX 6	Charles Albert Comiskey," a profile
BOX 6	"Charles W. Schwefel," a profile
BOX 6	"Christy Mathewson," a profile
BOX 6	"Connie Mack," a profile
BOX 6	"Ebbets Story"
BOX 6	"Edward Grant Barrow," a profile
BOX 6	"Fellowship Project"
BOX 6	"How Many Boxers Are Punch Drunk?"
BOX 6	How To Buy A Ball Club for Peanuts"
BOX 6	"Jackie Robinson," a profile
BOX 6	"The Jackie Robinson Story," draft (fragment)
BOX 6	"The Jackie Robinson Story," screenplay
BOX 6	"John J. McGraw," a profile
BOX 6	"John Peter Wagner," a profile
BOX 6	"Jose Torres," a profile
BOX 6	"Kiss of the Hops"
BOX 6	"Luis Ernesto Aparicio," screenplay
BOX 6	"The Man Who Made the Gashouse Gang"
BOX 6	"Miracle Metal"
BOX 7	"The Negro and Baseball"
BOX 7	"Nine Lives of Leo Durocher"
BOX 7	"The Operators Who Bought the Athletics"
BOX 7	"A Priceless Franchise"
BOX 7	"Punch Drunk Fighters and Why"
BOX 7	"Quick Millions in Baseball"
BOX 7	"Stanley Musial," a profile
BOX 7	"Tears for the Half Dead"
BOX 7	"Tyrus Raymond Cobb," a profile

Container	Contents
BOX 7	"Walter Emmons Alston," a profile
BOX 7	"What's Behind the Brooklyn Dodgers Movement?"
BOX 7	"William J. Klem," a profile
BOX 7	By others
BOX 7	Alston, Walter Emmons, "How the Dodgers Fought Back From Second Place," as told by Arthur Mann
BOX 7	Boyle, Robert, "The Private World of the Negro Ballplayer"
BOX 7	Collins, Leroy, "How It Looks From the South"
BOX 7	Corum, Bill
BOX 7	"All or Nothing: The Story of Tex Rickard"
BOX 7	"Beau Sabreur"
BOX 7	"Branch Rickey," a profile
BOX 7	"Last Chance, Brooklyn"
BOX 7	*Current Biography*, Branch Rickey, 1945, Oct.
BOX 7	D'Amato, Cus, "The Boxing Monopoly Is Not Dead"
BOX 7	Eckler, John, "Baseball, Sport or Commerce?"
BOX 7	Fitzgerald, Edward, "Branch Rickey, Dodger Deacon"
BOX 7	Granger, Lester B., "Communist Influence Among Negroes, Fact or Illusion"
BOX 7	Griswold, J. B., "Rickey Starts in the Cellar Again"
BOX 7	Hirsch, Max, "A Horse for My Kingdom," an autobiography
BOX 7	Holland, Gerald, "Mr. Rickey and the Game"
BOX 7	Jones, Mel, comments on Branch Rickey, 1956
BOX 7	Kahn, Roger, "The Ten Years of Jackie Robinson"
BOX 8	McGraw, Blanche Sindall, draft of The Real McGraw (4 folders)
BOX 8	McGraw, John J., "Looking Back at Baseball"
BOX 8	Melton, Elston J., "Swing Low, Chariot"
BOX 8	Ogden, Harold, "That Pittsburgh Situation"
BOX 8	Rickey, Branch
BOX 8	"Baseball Autobiography"
BOX 8	"Branch Rickey: An Autobiography"
BOX 8	Foreword to *Sisler on Baseball*, 1954
BOX 8	"Minor League Affiliations"
BOX 8	"Origin of the Farm System"
BOX 8	"Survival of Baseball as a National Pastime"
BOX 8	"Third Major League"
BOX 8	Robinson, Jackie, "The Most Unforgettable Character I've Met"
BOX 8	Shaplen, Robert, "The Nine Lives of Leo Durocher"
BOX 8	Terry, Ralph, "Not by Speed Alone," with Arthur Mann
BOX 8	Trautman, George M., statement, 1960, May 20
BOX 8	Unidentified article, "The Fabulous Tavern"
BOX 9-13	**Miscellany, 1906-1969**
	Notebook, notes and fragments, clippings, printed matter, baseball scorebooks, and a scrapbook of newspaper clippings.
	Arranged alphabetically by type of material.

Container	Contents
BOX 9	Autographed program, 1936
BOX 9	Certificates, 1915-1955
	(5 folders)
BOX 9	Clippings, 1906-1969, undated *See also Oversize*
	(4 folders)
BOX 10	(4 folders)
BOX 11	*National Police Gazette*, 1950, Sept.
BOX 11	Notebook, undated
BOX 11	Notes and fragments, 1942-1957, undated
	(4 folders)
BOX 11	Official baseball scorebooks
BOX 11	1926-1929
	(2 folders)
BOX 12	1930, 1940, undated
	(4 folders)
BOX 12	Printed matter, 1927-1962, undated
	(3 folders)
BOX 13	(3 folders)
BOX 13	Scrapbook, 1922-1967, undated *See Oversize*
BOX 13	**Addition, undated**
	Carbon typescript novel by Mann about prize fighting, entitled "Boxer Rebellion."
BOX 13	Manuscript of novel, "Boxer Rebellion," undated
	(2 folders)
BOX OV 1-OV 2	**Oversize, 1906-1967**
	Oversized clippings and a scrapbook.
	Arranged according to the series and folder from which they were removed.
BOX OV 1	Miscellany
BOX OV 1	Clippings, 1906-1944 (Container 9)
BOX OV 2	Scrapbook, 1922-1967, undated (Container 13)