Collection Summary

Title: Royal Rodney Ingersoll and Royal E. Ingersoll Papers
Span Dates: 1866-1935
Bulk Dates: (bulk 1866-1925)
ID No.: MSS57463
Creator: Ingersoll, Royal E. (Royal Eason), 1883-1976
Creator: Ingersoll, Royal Rodney, 1847-1931
Extent: 250 items
Extent: 3 containers plus 1 oversize
Extent: 1.4 linear feet
Language: Collection material in English
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
LC Catalog record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mm81057463
Summary: United States naval officers. Correspondence, memoranda, memorabilia, newspapers, notebooks, pamphlets, publications, and speeches relating to the naval careers of Royal Rodney Ingersoll and Royal E. Ingersoll, father and son.

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
Ingersoll, Royal E. (Royal Eason), 1883-1976. Royal Rodney Ingersoll and Royal E. Ingersoll papers. 1884-1931.
Ingersoll, Royal Rodney, 1847-1931.

Organizations
Maryland (Cruiser)
United States. Navy.

Subjects
Ballistics.
Ordnance.

Titles
Royal E. Ingersoll papers
Royal Rodney Ingersoll papers

Occupations
Naval officers.

Provenance
The papers of Royal Rodney Ingersoll and Royal E. Ingersoll, U.S. naval officers, were deposited in the Library of Congress by the Naval Historical Foundation in 1977 and were converted to a gift in 1998.

Processing History
The papers of Royal Rodney Ingersoll and Royal E. Ingersoll were preliminarily arranged and described as the Royal Rodney Ingersoll Papers in 1977. The collection was reprocessed as the Royal Rodney Ingersoll and Royal E. Ingersoll Papers in 2010.
Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Royal Rodney Ingersoll and Royal E. Ingersoll is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Royal Rodney Ingersoll and Royal E. Ingersoll 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, Royal Rodney Ingersoll and Royal E. Ingersoll Papers, Naval Historical Foundation Collection, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Royal Rodney Ingersoll

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1847, Dec. 4</td>
<td>Born, Niles, Mich.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1868</td>
<td>Graduated, U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1873, Aug. 26</td>
<td>Married Cynthia Eason</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1887</td>
<td>Coauthored with J. F. Meigs <em>Text-book of Ordnance and Gunnery</em>. Baltimore: Press and Bindery of Issac Friedenwald</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1893</td>
<td>Authored <em>Exterior Ballistics</em>. Baltimore: Deutsch Litho'g &amp; Printing Co.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1893</td>
<td>Promoted to lieutenant-commander</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1903</td>
<td>Commanded the <em>Helena</em> (gunboat), Admiral Robley D. Evans’ flagship on a cruise up the Yangtze River, China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1905-1907</td>
<td>Commander, <em>Maryland</em> (cruiser)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1907</td>
<td>Appointed chief of staff to Admiral Robley D. Evans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1908, July 11</td>
<td>Promoted to rear admiral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1909, Dec. 4</td>
<td>Retired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1917-1919</td>
<td>President, Special Naval Ordnance Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1931, Apr. 21</td>
<td>Died, La Porte, Ind.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Royal E. Ingersoll

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1883, June 20</td>
<td>Born, Washington, D.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1905</td>
<td>Graduated, U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1910, June 29</td>
<td>Married Louise Van Harlingen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911-1913</td>
<td>Instructor, Seamanship and International Law, U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1916-1918</td>
<td>Assistant for communications and then communications officer, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Navy Department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1924-1926</td>
<td>Commander, <em>Nokomis</em> (patrol vessel)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1928</td>
<td>Assistant chief of staff to commander, United States Battle Fleet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1930-1933</td>
<td>Chief of staff, U.S. Fleet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1936-1938</td>
<td>Director, War Plans Division Operations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1938-1940  Commander, Cruiser Division Six, U.S. Fleet
1940-1941  Assistant chief, naval operations
1942  Promoted through grades to admiral
1942-1944  Commander-in-chief, U.S. Atlantic Fleet
1944-1945  Commander, Western Seas Frontier
1946, Aug.  Retired
1976, May 20  Died

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Royal Rodney Ingersoll (1847-1931) and Royal Eason Ingersoll (1883-1976), father and son, span the years 1866 to 1935 with the bulk from 1866 to 1925. The papers are in English and include clippings, correspondence, newspapers, notebooks, pamphlets, publications, speeches, and miscellany consisting of invitations, dance cards, and programs. The collection also includes oversize material.

The papers of Royal Rodney Ingersoll feature personal correspondence and official memoranda, instruction manuals and naval history publications, and speeches written by Ingersoll. A miscellany file includes invitations, programs, and dance cards, as well as his 1910 application and acceptance in the Grand Army of the Republic. The collection reflects Ingersoll's experience commanding the Maryland and his expertise in ballistics and ordnance. Oversize and pamphlet materials include programs and newspapers covering the Great White Fleet's reception in Australia and New Zealand.

The papers of Royal Rodney Ingersoll's son, Royal E. Ingersoll, consist primarily of notebooks from his years at the United States Naval Academy. These contain written examinations and exercises as well as two diaries kept during his Younger Year and First Class cruises. Royal E. Ingersoll's papers also include clippings from newspapers and magazines.

Oversize material in the collection consists of five newspapers from Australia and New Zealand and a 1907 certificate for a dinner in honor of Admiral Robley D. Evans.

Arrangement of the Papers

The collection is organized by name of creator and thereunder alphabetically by type of material.
## Container List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Ingersoll, Royal E.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Clippings, pre-1900-1925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(6 folders)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Notebooks, 1901-1904</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(3 folders)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 2</td>
<td>Pamphlets, 1935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 2-3</td>
<td>Ingersoll, Royal Rodney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 2</td>
<td>Correspondence, 1896-1909</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 3</td>
<td>Miscellany, 1866-1931, undated <em>See Oversize</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 3</td>
<td>Pamphlets, 1884-1918</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(6 folders)</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 3</td>
<td>Speeches, 1893, undated</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(2 folders)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX OV 1</td>
<td>Oversize</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX OV 1</td>
<td>Ingersoll, Royal Rodney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX OV 1</td>
<td>Newspapers and certificate, 1907-1908 (Container 3)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>