Joseph Pulitzer 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://lccn.loc.gov/mm78037044

Additional search options available at: https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms012015

Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2012
Revised 2022 August
Collection Summary
Title: Joseph Pulitzer Papers
Inclusive Dates: 1880-1924
ID No.: MSS37044
Creator: Pulitzer, Joseph, 1847-1911
Extent: 5,500 items
Extent: 12 containers
Extent: 4.8 linear feet
Language: Collection material in English
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
LC Catalog record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mm78037044
Summary: Journalist and United States representative from New York. Correspondence, memoranda, writings by and about Pulitzer, critiques of editorials, biographical material, and miscellaneous personal papers.

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
Bryan, William Jennings, 1860-1925.
Cobb, Frank Irving, 1869-1923--Correspondence.
Cortelyou, George B. (George Bruce), 1862-1940.
Norris, John, 1856-1914--Correspondence.
Pulitzer, Joseph, 1847-1911.
Roosevelt, Theodore, 1858-1919.
Seitz, Don C. (Don Carlos), 1862-1935--Correspondence.
Taft, Charles Phelps, 1843-1929.

Subjects
Canals, Interoceanic.
Journalism.

Places
Panama Canal (Panama)
United States--Politics and government--1865-1933.

Occupations
Journalists.
Representatives, U.S. Congress--New York (State)

Acquisition Information
The papers of Joseph Pulitzer, journalist and United States representative from New York, were given to the Library of Congress by his sons, Herbert Pulitzer, Joseph Pulitzer (1885-1955), and Ralph Pulitzer, in 1935.

Processing History
The papers of Joseph Pulitzer were arranged and described in 1966. The finding aid was revised in 2011.
Related Material

Related material in the Manuscript Division includes the papers of Pulitzer's son, Joseph Pulitzer (1885-1955).

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Joseph Pulitzer is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Joseph Pulitzer 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, Joseph Pulitzer Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1847, Apr. 10</td>
<td>Born József Politzer, Makó, Hungary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1864</td>
<td>Emigrated with family to New York; enlisted in the Union Army</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1872</td>
<td>Purchased the St. Louis Post</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1878</td>
<td>Merged the newly founded St. Louis Dispatch with the St Louis Post into the St Louis Post-Dispatch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1883</td>
<td>Purchased the New York World</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1887</td>
<td>Founded the Evening World (New York)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911, Oct. 29</td>
<td>Died, Charleston, S.C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Joseph Pulitzer (1847-1911) span the years 1880-1924 and cover the later years of his life. Letters and telegrams from Pulitzer to his staff, Dan Carlos Seitz, John Norris, and Frank Irving Cobb, make up the largest part of the collection. The letters and memoranda are arranged in chronological order from 1880 to 1911, and there are a few letters and a copy of his will after 1911. At the end of the collection is a miscellany file including newspaper clippings and reports, apparently the opinions of Pulitzer on topics ranging from Venezuela to the “rest cure.”

There are several commentaries on political matters by Pulitzer in the correspondence, but more often in memoranda or critiques of editorials. Theodore Roosevelt (1858-1919), William H. Taft, and William Jennings Bryan are most mentioned, as are Nelson W. Aldrich, George B. Cortelyou, and Charles Phelps Taft. Most of the newspaper clippings in the miscellany concern the death of Pulitzer. Included also is a file on the New York World concerning Roosevelt’s authorization to purchase Panama Canal rights and the subsequent dispute between Pulitzer and Roosevelt in the press.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged by type of material.
## Container List

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<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Letters and telegrams</td>
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<td>1897, Aug.-1899, Dec.</td>
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<td>1900, Jan.-1903, Dec.</td>
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<td>BOX 4</td>
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<td>BOX 6</td>
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<td>BOX 10</td>
<td>1911</td>
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<td>BOX 11</td>
<td>1912, Jan.-1924, Jan.</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 12</td>
<td>Miscellany</td>
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<td>BOX 12</td>
<td>Newspaper clippings</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 12</td>
<td>Obituaries</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 12</td>
<td>Magazine articles</td>
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