

T. J. J. See Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



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

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm79039420>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms012132>

Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2012

Collection Summary

Title: T. J. J. See Papers

Span Dates: 1887-1960

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1897-1930)

ID No.: MSS39420

Creator: See, T. J. J. (Thomas Jefferson Jackson), b. 1866

Extent: 30,600 items

Extent: 131 containers plus 2 oversize

Extent: 53 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm79039420>

Summary: Astronomer and mathematician. Correspondence, a diary, financial papers, writings, printed matter, photographs, and miscellaneous material dealing with See's work in science and mathematics.

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

Adams, D. R. (Donald R.)--Correspondence.
Ayers, Howard, 1861-1933--Correspondence.
Clark, Champ, 1850-1921--Correspondence.
Clarke, Henry Love--Correspondence.
Dayton, Arthur Spencer, 1887-1948--Correspondence.
Doolittle, Eric, 1870-1920--Correspondence.
Einstein, Albert, 1879-1955.
Granger, A. O. (Arthur Otis), 1846-1914--Correspondence.
Hancock, Arthur B., 1875-1957--Correspondence.
Harrison, Carrie (Botanist)--Correspondence.
Hays, I. Minis (Isaac Minis), 1847-1925--Correspondence.
Nichols, Thomas Parker, 1830- --Correspondence.
Page, Walter Hines, 1855-1918--Correspondence.
Pickering, Edward C. (Edward Charles), 1846-1919--Correspondence.
Redman, L. V. (Lawrence Vincent), 1880-1946--Correspondence.
See, T. J. J. (Thomas Jefferson Jackson), 1866-
Updegraff, Milton, 1861-1938--Correspondence.
Von Geldern, Otto, 1852-1932--Correspondence.
Webb, Walter Loring, 1863-1941.

Organizations

United States Naval Observatory (Mare Island, Calif.)

Subjects

Astronomical observatories--California--Mare Island.
Astronomy.
Cosmogony.
Geodesy.
Mathematics.
Relativity (Physics)
Waves.

Occupations

Astronomers.
Mathematicians.

Provenance

The papers of T. J. J. See, astronomer and mathematician, were given to the Library of Congress by his niece, Ada B. See, and Ernest See, son of Ada B. See and adopted son of T. J. J. See, in 1963. Additions were received in 1965-1967.

Processing History

The papers of T. J. J. See were processed in 1963 and expanded in 1967. The finding aid was revised in 2012

Copyright Status

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

Access and Restrictions

The papers of T. J. J. See 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, T. J. J. See Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1866, Feb. 19	Born near Montgomery, Mo.
1889	A.B. University of Missouri, Springfield, Mo.
1892	Ph.D., University of Berlin, Berlin, Germany
1893-1896	Instructor, Department of Astronomy, University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.
1896-1898	Astronomer, Lowell Observatory, Flagstaff, Ariz.
1899	Appointed professor of mathematics, U. S. Navy
1903	Assigned as astronomer to Naval Observatory, Mare Island, Calif.
1930	Retired as professor of mathematics, U. S. Navy
1962, July 4	Died, Oak Knoll Naval Hospital, Oakland, Calif.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Thomas Jefferson Jackson See (1866-1962) consist of a diary, correspondence, writings, financial papers, photographs, scrapbooks, and printed matter covering the period 1887-1960, with the bulk of the material dated between 1897 and 1930. Most of See's early records were destroyed in a fire in Flagstaff, Arizona, in 1897. See began his career as professor of mathematics in the Navy Department in 1899 and was retired in 1930. The greater part of his career was spent as astronomer at the United States Naval Observatory, Mare Island, California, after 1903. The See Papers are organized

into seven series: [Diary](#); [Family Correspondence](#); [General Correspondence](#); [Speech, Article, and Book File](#); [Miscellany](#); [Scrapbooks](#), and [Addition](#).

The [Diary](#) in the collection dates from 1899 and relates largely to See's employment as a professor of mathematics for the navy. The Family Correspondence spans the years 1898-1940, and an extensive file of [General Correspondence](#), 1887-1960, concerns See's work in practical and mathematical astronomy. The [Speech, Article, and Book File](#) pertains to astronomy, mathematics, wave theory, relativity theory and Albert Einstein, geodesy, and cosmogony. An [Addition](#) series consists mostly of writings by See.

Correspondents in the papers include D. R. Adams, Howard Ayers, Champ Clark, Henry Love Clark, Arthur Spencer Dayton, Eric Doolittle, Otto von Geldern, A. O. Granger, Arthur B. Hancock, Carrie Harrison, I. Minis Hayes, Thomas Parker Nichols, Walter Hines Page, Edward C. Pickering, L. V. Redman, Walter Loring Webb, and Milton Updegraff.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in seven series:

- [Diary, 1889](#)
- [Family Correspondence, 1898-1940](#)
- [General Correspondence, 1887-1960](#)
- [Speech, Article, and Book File](#)
- [Miscellany](#)
- [Scrapbooks \(Oversize\), circa 1892-1902](#)
- [Addition, 1909-1940](#)

Description of Series

Container	Series
BOX 1	<u>Diary, 1889</u> Diary kept while See was professor of mathematics in the navy.
BOX 1-6	<u>Family Correspondence, 1898-1940</u> Letters sent and received. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 7-39	<u>General Correspondence, 1887-1960</u> Letters sent and received. Arranged chronologically by year and alphabetically therein.
BOX 40-112	<u>Speech, Article, and Book File</u> Handwritten, typewritten, near-print, and printed copies of speeches, articles, and books. Arranged by type of material.
BOX 113-127	<u>Miscellany</u> Bills, receipts, newspaper clippings, printed matter, photographs, and miscellaneous papers. Arranged by type of material.
BOX OV 128-OV 129	<u>Scrapbooks (Oversize), circa 1892-1902</u> Articles, photographs, newspaper clippings, and memorabilia. Arranged chronologically in two overlapping volumes.
BOX 130-133	<u>Addition, 1909-1940</u> Mainly writings by See, particularly relating to his book <i>Wave-Theory</i> , and some correspondence and miscellany. Organized by type of material and title of work or chapter therein.

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BOX 2	1908-1909
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BOX 6	Undated
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General Correspondence, 1887-1960

Container	Contents
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Scrapbooks (Oversize), circa 1892-1902

Container	Contents
BOX OV 128-OV 129	circa 1896-1902
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BOX 130	“Elements and Corresponding Tables for the Resulting Terrestrial Spheroid”
BOX 130	“Postscript of the Exhaustive Memoir on the Change in the Color of Sirius,” 1940
BOX 130	“Researches in the Electrodynamic Wave-Theory of the Aether”
BOX 130	“Retrospectives Relative to the Resonance Cleste, Especially, and its Miraculous Discovery,” 1945
BOX 130	“Whittaker’s Special Solution of Universal Validity”
BOX 130	Books
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BOX 130	Vol. I, 1933, Nov.-1934, Jan.
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BOX 131	Chapter III, The Wave-Theory of the Dynamo, and the Related Problems of Induction in a Magnetic Field, with More General Analysis of the Wave Conditions Underlying Attraction and Repulsion
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Addition, 1909-1940

Container	Contents
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Addition, 1909-1940

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Contents

BOX 133

Theory of Isotropic or Equal Gravity Surfaces for Two or More Centres of Attraction