

Jacques Loeb Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the
Library of Congress

Prepared by Grover Batts



Manuscript Division, Library of
Congress

Washington, D.C.

2011

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

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Congress Manuscript Division, 2011

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Collection Summary

Title: Jacques Loeb Papers

Span Dates: 1889-1924

ID No.: MSS30429

Creator: Loeb, Jacques, 1859-1924

Extent: 11,000 items; 60 containers plus 1 oversize; 24 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English and German

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

Abstract: Physiologist and educator. General, professional, and family correspondence, biographical data, speeches, awards, photographs, and other material, including Loeb's laboratory notebooks and drafts of his scientific writings relating to the development of the tropism theory.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

People

Arrhenius, Svante, 1859-1927--Correspondence.

Berenson, Bernard, 1865-1959--Correspondence.

Conant, James Bryant, 1893-1978--Correspondence.

De Kruif, Paul Henry, 1890-1971--Correspondence.

Ehrlich, Paul, 1854-1915--Correspondence.

Einstein, Albert, 1879-1955--Correspondence.

Freud, Sigmund, 1856-1939--Correspondence.

Huxley, Julian, 1887-1975--Correspondence.

Loeb family--Correspondence.

Loeb, Jacques, 1859-1924.

Loeb, Jacques, 1859-1924. Forced movements, tropisms, and animal conduct. 1918.

Loeb, Jacques, 1859-1924. Proteins and the theory of colloidal behavior. 1922.

Loeb, Jacques, 1859-1924. Regeneration from a physico-chemical viewpoint. 1924.

Pavlov, Ivan Petrovich, 1849-1936--Correspondence.

Shapley, Harlow, 1885-1972--Correspondence.

Subjects

Biochemistry.

Biology.

Bryology

Bryophytes.

Chemistry.

Colloids.

Frogs.

Gelatin.

Genetics.

Osmosis.

Proteins.

Tropisms.

Zoology.

Occupations

Educators.

Physiologists.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of Jacques Loeb, physiologist and educator, were given to the Library of Congress by Leonard B. Loeb, Robert F. Loeb, and Anne L. Osborne between 1960 and 1963.

Processing History

The papers of Jacques Loeb were arranged and described in 1961 and 1963. The finding aid was revised in 2011.

Copyright Status

Copyright in the unpublished writings of Jacques Loeb in these papers and in other collections of papers in the custody of the Library of Congress has been dedicated to the public.

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Jacques Loeb 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, Jacques Loeb Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1859, Apr. 7	Born, Mayen, Rhineland-Palatinate
1884	M.D., University of Strasburg, Strasburg, France
1886-1888	Assistant at physiological institute, University of Würzburg, Würzburg, Germany
1888-1892	Assistant in physiology, University of Strasburg, Strasburg, France
1890	Married Anne Leonard
1891	Immigrated to America
1891-1892	Professor, Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, Pa.
1892-1902	Assistant professor of physiology and experimental biology, becoming associate professor in 1895, and professor of physiology in 1899, University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.
1899	Using sea urchin larvae, began groundbreaking research on cell division and the transmission of hereditary traits
1902-1910	Professor of physiology, University of California, Berkeley, Calif.

1912	Published <i>The Mechanistic Conception of Life</i> . Chicago: University of Chicago Press
1910-1924	Member, Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, New York, N.Y.
1918	Founded <i>Journal of General Physiology</i>
1924, Feb. 11	Died, Hamilton, Bermuda

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Jacques Loeb (1859-1924) span the years 1889-1924, with the bulk consisting of letters he exchanged with prominent figures in the world of science and with leaders in politics, literature, economics, and philosophy in the late nineteenth-early twentieth century. Included in the collection is a substantial file of family correspondence as well as laboratory notebooks, speeches and writings, printed matter, various biographical data, and miscellaneous material. The papers are in English and German and are organized into seven series: [General Correspondence](#); [Family Correspondence](#); [Experimental Notebooks](#); [Book, Article, and Speech File](#); [Printed Matter](#); [Miscellany](#); and [Oversize](#).

Loeb's [Experimental Notebooks](#) reflect his research on bryophytes, gelatin, and frogs, which led to his development of the tropism theory. Among the writings in addition to drafts of scientific writings and speeches are manuscripts for his books, *Forced Movements, Tropisms and Animal Conduct* (1918), *Proteins and the Theory of Colloidal Behavior* (1922), and *Regeneration from a Physico-chemical Viewpoint* (1920).

Correspondents include Svante Arrhenius, Bernard Berenson, James Bryant Conant, Paul Henry De Kruif, Paul Ehrlich, Albert Einstein, Sigmund Freud, Julian Huxley, Ivan Petrovich Pavlov, and Harlow Shapley.

Arrangement of the Papers

The collection is arranged in six series:

- [General Correspondence](#)
- [Family Correspondence](#)
- [Experimental Notebooks](#)
- [Book, Article, and Speech File](#)
- [Printed Matter](#)
- [Miscellany](#)
- [Oversize](#)

Description of Series

<i>Container</i>	<i>Series</i>
BOX 1-16	<u>General Correspondence</u> Letters sent and received. Arranged alphabetically by name of person or organization.
BOX 17-21	<u>Family Correspondence</u> Letters sent and received from family members. Arranged by name of family member.
BOX 22-37	<u>Experimental Notebooks</u> Scientific notebooks. Arranged in an alphabetical set organized by topic or subject and in a chronological file.
BOX 38-54	<u>Book, Article, and Speech File</u> Book, article, and speech manuscripts by Loeb. Includes bound volumes of reprints of his articles. Arranged by type of writing.
BOX 55-58	<u>Printed Matter</u> Miscellaneous publications by others and newspaper clippings. Arranged by type of material.
BOX 59-60	<u>Miscellany</u> Autographs, lecture material, financial items, photographs, biographical information, invitations and programs, and other miscellany. Arranged according to type of material.
BOX OV 1	<u>Oversize</u> Certificates. Arranged and describing according to the series and container from which the items were removed.

Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1-16	General Correspondence Letters sent and received. Arranged alphabetically by name of person or organization.
BOX 1	Abderhalden, Emil American Friends of German Democracy American Society of Naturalists Andrews, Mary R. Arrhenius, Svante "Ab-Au" miscellaneous Babson, Roger W. Baege, M. H. Baekeland, L. H. Bancroft, Frank W. Barth, Johann A. Bataafsch Genootschap der Proefondervindelijke Wijsbergeerte, Rotterdam, Netherlands Bechhold, Dr. H. Berenson, Bernard Bernstein, Herman Bethe, Albrecht Beutner, Reinhard Blum, Leon Boas, Franz Boatwright, F. W. Bogue, Robert H. Bohn, Georges Bottazzi, Filippo
BOX 2	Bressalau, Harry Brown, Amos Bruere, Robert W. "Ba-By" miscellaneous Capps, Edward Carrel, Alexis Carus, Paul and Victor Cattell, James McKeen Caullery, Maurice Conant, James B. Conklin, E. G. Coulter, John M. Creel, George Croly, Herbert

General Correspondence

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BOX 3	Cross, Wilbur L.	
	Crozier, W. J.	
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	De Kruif, Paul	
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	De Vries, Hugo	
	Dewey, John	
	Dreiser, Theodore	
	Driesch, Hans	
	Drzewina, Anna	
	Du Bois, W. E. B.	
	“Da-Du” miscellaneous	
	BOX 4	East, E. M.
		Eastman, Max
Ehrlich, Paul		
Einstein, Albert		
Eliot, Charles W.		
Elsberg, Charles		
Emergency Peace Federation		
Ewald, W. F.		
“Ea-Ev” miscellaneous		
Falk, Erich		
Fischer, Gustav		
Fisher, Irving		
Flexner, Abraham		
Flexner, Simon		
Fock, Gustav		
BOX 5	Freud, Sigmund	
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	“Fa-Fr” miscellaneous	
	Garrey, W. E.	
	Gaule, Alice and Justus	
	Gaylord, Harvey R.	
	Gelerie, A. J.	
	Gies, W. J.	
	Godlewski, Emil	
	Goldschmidt, Richard	
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	“Ga-Gu” miscellaneous	
	BOX 6	Haber, F.
		Haeckel, Ernst
Hall, G. Stanley		
Hammond, John H.		
Hapgood, Norman		
Harper, William R.		
Harrison, Ross G.		

General Correspondence

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	Harvey, E. Newton
	Hecht, Selig
	Hemmeter, John
	Henderson, L. J.
	Hendrick, Ellwood
	Herbst, C.
	Herter, Christian A.
	Herzog, O.
	Herzstein, Morris
	Hirsch, Mrs. Charlotte
	Hober, R.
	Holitscher, A.
	Holmes, S. J.
	Holt, Hamilton
	Hutchins, Robert M.
	Huxley, Julian
BOX 7	“Ha-He” miscellaneous
	“Hi-Hy” miscellaneous
	“I” miscellaneous
	James, Henry (1843-1916)
	Jastrow, Joseph
	Jennings, H. S.
	Jewett, F. B.
	Just, E. E.
	“Ja-Ju” miscellaneous
	Kanda, Sakyo
	King, W. O. Redman
	Knaffl, E.
	Korosy, Kornel
	Koranyi, A.
	Korzybski, Alfred
BOX 8	Kupelwieser, Hans
	“Ka-Ku” miscellaneous
	Ladd-Franklin, Christine
	Lankester, Edwin R.
	Lasareff, P.
	Leuschner, A. O.
	Lillie, Frank R.
	Lillie, Ralph S.
	J. B. Lippincott Co.
	Lisbonne, R.
	Livingston, Burton E.
	Lloyd, Dorothy J.
	Lyon, E. P.
BOX 9	“La-Li” miscellaneous
	“Lo-Lu” miscellaneous

General Correspondence

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	McCabe, Joseph
	McGraw-Hill Book Co.
	Macallum, A. B.
	Macallum, John B.
	Macmillan Co.
	Magnes, J. L.
	Mall, F. P.
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	Maxwell, S. S.
	Meltzer, S. J.
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	"Mc-My" miscellaneous
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	Noyes, Arthur A.
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	Ostwald, Wolfgang
	"Od-Oz" miscellaneous
	Parker, G. H.
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	Pinchot, Amos
	Priestley, J. H.
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BOX 12	G. P. Putnam's Sons
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BOX 13	Robertson, T. B.
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	Rona, P.
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General Correspondence

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	Rothbarth, A.
	Roux, Wilhelm
	Rutherford, Ernest
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	Schaeffer, Asa A.
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	Shearer, Cresswell
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	Snyder, Carl
BOX 14	Solovine, Maurice
	Springer, Julius
	Steinkopff, Theodor
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	Taylor, A. E.
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	“Ud-Un” miscellaneous
	Veblen, Thorstein
	Viereck, George Sylvester
	Villard, Oswald Garrison
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	Waksman, Selman A.
	Walker, Edwin C.
	Walling, W. English
	Warbasse, James
	Warburg, Otto
	Ward, W. B.
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General Correspondence

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BOX 23	Frankel, Florence Huton Fundulus Fundulus eggs Fundulus (banus) Gastrocnemius Gelatin
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BOX 26	Nerve stimulation Oxidations Parthenogenetic frogs

Experimental Notebooks

Container

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	Book, article, and speech manuscripts by Loeb. Includes bound volumes of reprints of his articles.
	Arranged by type of writing.
BOX 38	Books
	<i>Forced Movements, Tropisms and Animal Conduct</i> (1918)
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BOX 42-43	<i>Regeneration from a Physico-chemical Viewpoint</i> (1920)
BOX 44	Articles
	"Aphorismen zur Vererbungslehre"
	"Befruchtung und Phagocytose"
	"Biology and War"
	"Chemical and Adsorption Theory of Colloids"
	"Colloid Chemistry and Medicine"
	"Crystalloidal and Colloidal Behavior of Proteins"
	"Das Leben"
	"Der Irreciproke Charakter des Antagonismus Zwischen"
	"The Interpretation of the Influence of Acid on the Osmotic Pressure of Protein Solutions"
	"The Mechanism of the Diffusion of Electrolytes through the Membranes of Living Cells"
	"Natural Death and the Duration of Life"
	"Negative Osmosis"
	"The Number of Chromosomes and the Biological Status of the Negro"
	"Potential Differences and Coagulation of Collodion Particles in Aqueous Suspensions"
	"The Price of Romanticism"
	"Pseudoscience and Ruthlessness"
	"The Theory of Tropisms"
	"Zur Dynamik der Vererbungsvorgange"

Book, Article, and Speech File

Container

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	Unpublished manuscripts
	Speeches
	“Can Socialism Obliterate Race Antagonism”
	“The Chemical Nature of Life”
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	Loeb's last manuscript (intended for Herter Lecture)
BOX 45-52	Printed articles by Loeb
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