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Inventory of the Harrison Randolph Papers, 1885-1942

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Descriptive Summary

Title:	Harrison Randolph papers
Date(s)	1885-1942
Creator:	Randolph, Harrison, 1871-1954
Abstract:	Collection contains biographical information, personal diaries, correspondence, writings, teaching notes and other miscellaneous items of Harrison Randolph, President and Chair of Mathematics at the College of Charleston from 1897 to 1942. Papers include diaries from 1910 to 1941 except from mid 1928 to early 1931. Persons mentioned are M. Rutledge Rivers, George Daniel Grice, Thomas della Torre, James Harold Easterby, Horatio Hughes, Olin Burnham Chamberlain, and Williard Silcox Sr. Also included are Randolph's writings on education and mathematics, teaching notes and grade books, annotated publications on geometry, and documents relating to his service on the Fort Sumter Memorial Committee to create the memorial in White Point Gardens to the defenders of Fort Sumter.
Extent:	1.75 linear feet (3 document boxes, 1 slim document box)
Repository:	Special Collections, College of Charleston Libraries 66 George Street Charleston, SC 29424 Phone: (843) 953-8016 Fax: (843) 953-6319 URL: http://archives.library.cofc.edu
Call Number:	Mss 0076
Language of Material:	Materials in English

Biographical Note

Harrison Randolph was born in New Orleans, Louisiana, and spent his boyhood in Charlottesville, Virginia. Randolph was a graduate of the University of Virginia, where he was an instructor from 1890 to 1895. Randolph was President and Chair of Mathematics at the College of Charleston from 1897 to 1942. During the more than four decades while Randolph was President, the College grew from having 100 male students in 1897 to 370 male and female students in 1942. Randolph led efforts to add a bachelor of science degree, to create a physical education department, and to introduce summer sessions and evening classes. In 1911 he married Louise Wagener, daughter of George Andreas Wagener.

Collection Overview

Collection contains biographical information, personal diaries, correspondence, writings, teaching notes and other miscellaneous items. Ten volumes of diaries are complete from the period from 1910-1941 except from mid 1928 to early 1931. Randolph began the diaries primarily as a list of the work he did each day, and during the first year, he limited himself to only one page per month and one line per day. By the second year he was using two pages per month and two lines per day. By the third year, his professional journal had turned into a comprehensive diary. Randolph's handwriting is minute, but generally legible, and his style is telegraphic, such as the entire entry for June 27th, 1911, "Married. Didn't go to office." Randolph noted everyone he spoke with each day, every place he went, the work he did, what he heard, and the lectures, films, concerts, and social occasions he attended. In the early diaries there are few comments, but in later years he more frequently indicated his opinions about people and events. Occasionally, he records how events affected him and his wife personally such as the anti-German sentiment during World War I. His wife, Louise Wagener, was the daughter of one of Charleston's most prominent citizens of German origin, George Andreas Wagener. The diaries also provide a record of all the Randolphs' saw while visiting Europe and elsewhere on trips lasting from three to six months including Italy and Germany in 1913, Italy in 1920, France and Italy in 1924, the Netherlands, Germany, Italy and France in 1934, and Italy, Egypt, Palestine, Greece and Germany in 1936. They generally spent their summers in Highlands, North Carolina. The diaries also reflect his wide reading in English and German. He read books and articles on history, literature, travel, mathematics, and other topics. His interest in literature was primarily in writers such as Thomas Hardy, but kept up with what was being written and in 1916 read D. H. Lawrence's *Sons and Lovers*. He often read Goethe and Bismark in German. There are also frequent references to practicing the piano and to music he liked to play and listen to. In addition, he kept a meticulous record of how much sleep he got and of relatively minor health problems (until a stroke incapacitated him in 1942). Among the persons mentioned most frequently in the diaries are M. Rutledge Rivers (President of the Trustees of the College of Charleston) and many members of the faculty and staff including George Daniel Grice (Randolph's successor as Professor of Mathematics and as President), Thomas della Torre, James Harold Easterby, Horatio Hughes, Olin Burnham Chamberlain, and Williard Silcox (Sr.). Randolph occasionally mentions correspondents such as Mrs. Woodrow Wilson, but does not usually indicate the subjects of letters. During 1919 and 1920, he notes often about the sabbatical he took to work on foreign affairs in the State Department. Randolph's personal correspondence is largely with relatives in Virginia and elsewhere. His papers also include his writings on education and mathematics, teaching notes and grade books for his classes in mathematics, some annotated publications on geometry, and documents relating to his service on the Fort Sumter Memorial Committee to create the memorial in White Point Gardens to the defenders of Fort Sumter.

Collection Arrangement

Materials are described at the folder level.

Restrictions

Access Restrictions

This collection is open for research.

Copyright Notice

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Related Material

Related materials in Special Collections include the Randolph family papers (Mss 0043).

Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person, family, or organization, by topical subject, by place, and by types of material.

Names

- Randolph, Harrison, 1871-1954
- College of Charleston--Presidents
- College of Charleston--Faculty
- Chamberlain, Olin Burnham
- Della Torre, Thomas
- Easterby, J. H. (James Harold), 1898-1960
- Grice, George Daniel
- Hughes, Horatio
- Randolph, Louise Wagener
- Rivers, M. Rutledge (Moultrie Rutledge), 1868-1940
- Silcox, Willard
- Fort Sumter Memorial Commission (Charleston, S.C.)
- United States. Department of State

Subjects

- College teachers--South Carolina--Charleston
- Education--Philosophy
- Mathematics--Study and teaching

Places

- Charleston (S.C.)--Social life and customs
- Europe--Description and travel
- Egypt--Description and travel
- Highlands (N.C.)
- Palestine--Description and travel

Types of Material

- Diaries
- Notes
- Attendance lists
- Correspondence
- Writings (documents)
- Drafts (documents)
- Minutes (administrative records)

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Harrison Randolph papers, College of Charleston Libraries, Charleston, SC, USA.

Processing Information

Originally processed by Special Collections staff, date unknown.

Reprocessed by Joshua Minor, August 2016.

Encoded by Joshua Minor, September 2016.

Reviewed and uploaded by Joshua Minor, September 2016.

Inventory

Box 1 Folder 1	Biographical information, 1906, 1915, undated
	Diaries, 1910-1941
Box 1 Folder 2	"No. 1," 1910 March 5-1914 May 4
Box 1 Folder 3	"No. 2," 1914 May 5-1917 May 23
Box 1 Folder 4	"No. 3," 1917 May 24-1922 February 16
Box 1 Folder 5	"No. 4," 1922 February 16-1924 May 23
Box 1 Folder 6	"No. 5," 1924 May 24-1926 September 11
Box 1 Folder 7	"No. 6," 1926 September 12-1928 August 8
Box 1 Folder 8	"No. 8," 1931 February 17-1934 April 23
Box 2 Folder 1	"No. 9," 1934 April 24-1938 January 12
Box 2 Folder 2	"No. 10," 1938 January 13-1941 February 8
Box 2 Folder 3	"No. 11," 1941 February 9-1941 September 23
Box 2 Folder 4	Personal correspondence, 1895-1942
Box 2 Folder 5	Writings, 1900, undated
	Includes drafts and printed versions of <i>Private College and Public School, The Old Education and the New</i> and "Modern Mathematics-Its Relation to the Physical Sciences."
Box 3 Folder 1	Miscellaneous, 1915, 1934, 1937, undated
	Includes Sumter Memorial Fund trustee minutes and petition re the Fort Sumter memorial monument and an annotated letter re family genealogy.
	Teaching materials, 1885-1930
Box 3 Folder 2	Notes, 1898-1905, 1916, 1918, undated
Box 3 Folder 3	Notes, undated
Box 3 Folder 4	Notebooks, 1918, undated
Box 3 Folder 5	Roll books, 1898-1930
Box 4 Folder 1	Annotated math texts, 1885, undated
	Annotated "Exercises in Plane Geometry" and "Notes on Geometrical Conic Sections" by Charles S. Venable and "Differential and Integral Calculus" by Professor L. S. Hulburt.
Box 4 Folder 2	Books of quotations, 1888-1907