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Carl W. Ackerman papers on Hokan Bjornstrom Steffanson 4078388

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Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Butler Library, 6th Floor
Columbia University, Mail Code 1127
535 W. 114th St.
New York, NY 10027

Business Number: (212) 854-5153

Fax Number: (212) 854-1365

rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu

URL: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/rbml/index.html>

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Summary Information

Repository:	Rare Book and Manuscript Library
Creator:	Ackerman, Carl W (Carl William), 1890-1970
Title:	Carl W. Ackerman papers on Hokan Bjornstrom Steffanson
ID:	4078388
ID:	MS#0007
Date [inclusive]:	1910-1962
Physical Description:	3.75 linear feet 9 boxes
Language of the Material:	English .

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Carl William Ackerman papers on Bjornstrom Steffanson; Box and Folder; Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Library.

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Biographical sketch

Carl William Ackerman (1890-1970), Columbia University B. Litt. 1913, was Dean of the Columbia University School of Journalism from 1931 to 1956. He spent from 1960 to 1962 researching and writing a biography (unpublished) of Hokan Bjornstrom Steffanson, 1883-1962, the Swedish-American industrialist and financier.

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Biographical sketch

Ackerman was a champion of freedom of the press. His professional career was forged in both major World Wars. While working as a correspondent in World War I with the United Press, Ackerman came to attention when he published *Germany, The Next Republic?*, a book that discussed the possibility of a successful democracy in post-Kaiser Germany. When the book was printed in 1917, at the height of World War I, this sentiment was considered quite radical. The London Times Literary Supplement commented: "For the serious student of affairs the importance of the book lies in the large mass of information which it contains as to the struggle which was going on all the time in Germany between the two great parties, the Pan-Germans and the party of comparative moderation which centered round the Foreign Office."

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Biographical sketch

Mexico's Dilemma was considered "topical" "limited in scope and subject" and of "little relevance." *Trailing the Bolsheviki* was similarly received. As a biography, Dawes, the Doer was panned as "poorly handled" whereas *Biography of George Eastman* was called by the New York Tribune "objective in the sense that it holds strictly to the drama of events in justification of its hero. This makes it eminently readable, even exciting at times, purely as an epic of success achieved, a sort of 'Pilgrim's Progress' of business."

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Biographical sketch

Mr. Ackerman was an outspoken advocate of a journalism foundation in the United States "dedicated to the study of the daily newspaper and government." He explained "We need scientific studies of the press by the press, and for the press, which will contribute to the progress of journalism as the great educational foundations have advanced medicine."

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Biographical sketch

Ackerman married Mabel VanderHoof in 1914, and was the father of Robert VanderHoof Ackerman.

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Biographical sketch

Writings by Ackerman: Germany, the Next Republic?, Hodder & Stoughton, 1917.; Mexico's Dilemma, Doran 1918, Gordon Press, 1976; Trailing the Bolsheviki, Scribner, 1919; Dawes, the Doer (biography), Houghton, 1930; Biography of George Eastman, Houghton, 1930. Ackerman authored numerous articles, pamphlets, and reports on journalism and related affairs.

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Scope and Content

Research notes, transcripts of interviews with Steffanson, correspondence, clippings, and other biographical materials deals with all aspects of Steffanson's life including his early career in America after 1909, the Swedish and Canadian paper, wood pulp, and cellulose industries, cultural and social life and New York real estate in the 1920's, his escape from the "Titanic" in 1912, and genealogical notes on the family of his wife, Mary Pinchot Eno.

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Arrangement

This collection is arranged in 4 series.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Revision Description

File created. XML document instance created by Catherine C. Ricciardi EAD was imported spring 2019 as part of the ArchivesSpace Phase II migration. 2009-06-26 2011-12-13 2019-05-20

Restrictions on Access

The following boxes are located off-site: 2-9. You will need to request this material from the Rare Book and Manuscript Library at least three business days in advance to use the collection in the Rare Book and Manuscript Library reading room.

Restrictions on Access

This collection has no restrictions.

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

Papers: Source of acquisition--Ackerman, Douglas V. (estate of). Method of acquisition--Gift; Date of acquisition--1980.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of the Estate of Douglas V. Ackerman, 1980.

Processing Information

Papers Processed HR 1980. Processed by Henry Rowen October 1980 and November 1980.

Processing Information

Collection is processed to folder level.

Accruals

Materials may have been added to the collection since this finding aid was prepared.
Contact rbml@columbia.edu for more information.

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Related Materials

Related Archival Materials

For edited transcript of interview see Steffanson, Hokan Bjornstrom, Oral history interview, 1965.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Papermaking -- Canada
- Papermaking -- Sweden
- Wood-pulp industry
- Oral histories (literary works)
- Ackerman, Carl W (Carl William), 1890-1970
- Dawes, Charles Gates, 1865-1951
- Dodge, M. Hartley (Marcellus Hartley), 1881-1963
- House, Edward Mandell, 1858-1938
- Kahn, Otto H., 1867-1934
- Keir, Malcolm
- Latimer, S. L (Samuel Lowry), 1891-1975
- Pershing, John J (John Joseph), 1860-1948
- Scully, Frank, 1892-1964
- Sherwood, Robert E (Robert Emmet), 1896-1955

- Björnström-Steffansson, Mauritz Håkon, 1883-1962
- Steffanson, Mary, 1879-1953
- Watts, Harvey Maitland, 1864-1939
- Willert, Arthur, Sir, 1882-1973
- Wiseman, William, Sir, 1885-

Collection Inventory

Series I: Cataloged Correspondence

Title/Description	Instances
Dawes, Charles Gates To Carl William Ackerman Chicago, 28, March 1951 Scope and Contents (1 page, typed letter signed)	box 1
Dodge, Marcellus Hartley To Carl William Ackerman New York, 10, September 1947 Scope and Contents (1 page, typed letter signed)	box 1
House, Edward Mandell To Carl William Ackerman New York, 17, September 1927 Scope and Contents (1 page, typed letter signed)	box 1
Hillyer, Robert Silliman To Carl William Ackerman Cambridge, Mass., 10, May 1934 Scope and Contents (1 page, typed letter signed)	box 1
Kahn, Otto Herman To Carl William Ackerman New York, 31, August 1925 Scope and Contents (1 page, typed letter signed)	box 1
Keir, Malcolm To Carl William Ackerman Hanover, N.H., 12, February 1929	box 1

Scope and Contents

(1 page, typed letter signed)

Latimer, Samuel Lowery, Jr. To Carl William Ackerman box 1
Columbia, S.C., 20, December 1950

Scope and Contents

(2 page, typed letter signed)

Pershing, John Joseph To Carl William Ackerman box 1
Washington D.C., 25, January 1952

Scope and Contents

(1 page, typed letter signed)

Scully, Frank To Carl William Ackerman on board the S.S. box 1
Rex, 15, August 1933

Scope and Contents

(1 page, autograph letter signed)

Sherwood, Robert Emmet To Carl William Ackerman [n.p.], box 1
3, May 1949

Scope and Contents

(1 page, autograph letter signed)

Watts, Harvey Maitland To Carl William Ackerman box 1
Philadelphia, 1, July 1919

Scope and Contents

(1 page, autograph letter signed)

Willert, Sir Arthur To Carl William Ackerman [London], 15, box 1
December 1953

Scope and Contents

(4 page, autograph letter signed)

Wiseman, Sir William George Eden To Carl William box 1
Ackerman New York, 10, December 1953

Scope and Contents

(1 page, autograph letter signed)

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Title/Description	Instances
Letters to Carl William Ackerman from various people, 1942-1959	box 1
Scope and Contents	
(8 letters)	

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Series III: Books

Title/Description	Instances
Inscribed books from his library	box 1
Inscribed books from his library	box 2

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Series IV: Research Notes and Interviews

Title/Description	Instances
Research notes on H.B. Steffanson	box 3
Research notes on H.B. Steffanson	box 4
Research notes on H.B. Steffanson	box 5
Research notes on H.B. Steffanson & transcripts of notes and interviews	box 5
Research notes on H.B. Steffanson & transcripts of notes and interviews	box 6
Research notes on H.B. Steffanson & transcripts of notes and interviews	box 7
Research notes on H.B. Steffanson & transcripts of notes and interviews	box 8
Research notes on H.B. Steffanson & transcripts of notes and interviews	box 9

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