

C Curtis, Winterton Conway (1875-1966), Papers, 1892-1962  
2528 2.5 linear feet

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#### INTRODUCTION

The papers of Winterton Conway Curtis contain correspondence, reprints, autobiographical notes, photographs and miscellaneous material of a University of Missouri professor of zoology and dean of the College of Arts and Science. Also included is professional correspondence, 1904-1911, of George Lefevre, professor of zoology at the University of Missouri.

#### DONOR INFORMATION

The papers were donated to the University of Missouri by Roger M. DeRoos on 28 June 1967, 2 August 1967, and 16 August 1967 (Accession No. WUNP3725). Additions were made on 25 March 1981 by Curtis C. Winterton (Accession No. WUNP4331), and on 1 April 1981 by Charles W. and Elizabeth Schwartz (Accession No. WUNP4333).

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Born in Richmond, Maine, 4 November 1875, Curtis was the only child of William Conway and Fanny Mary Norton Curtis. The family moved to The Dalles, Oregon, in 1888. Curtis attended two years of college at Pacific University and then returned East where he received his A.B. degree from Williams College and his Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University. He was married in 1902 to Marian Hitchcock Peak. Curtis came to the University of Missouri as an instructor of zoology in 1901 and remained until his retirement in 1946. He served from 1940 to 1946 as dean of the College of Arts and Science. He was president of the American Society of Zoologists in 1932 and authored and co-authored books and articles.

#### SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

These papers present useful information for studies of the ecology of the northern Missouri-Mississippi River area, for zoological research programs at the University of Missouri and for students of the Scopes Trial in Dayton, Tennessee.

With George Lefevre, Curtis was involved in research sponsored by the U.S. Bureau of Fisheries which made an attempt between 1904 and 1919 to devise a method of growing commercially the fresh-water mussels needed by pearl button manufacturers along area rivers. Disturbances of breeding areas and injury by harvesting tongs of the adult mollusks which escaped capture by these small manufacturers were causing them to become extinct. Ultimately the project failed, as did the pearl button industry. The papers chronicle the development of the project, its relationship with Washington and with the National Association of Pearl Button Manufacturers and the employment of students from the department of zoology in the research.

Curtis' unique position for observation at the Scopes Trial makes his reminiscence contained in folders 141a-t particularly valuable. He was called as an expert witness for

the defense, but never took the stand. He did, however, form a lasting acquaintance with Clarence Darrow as is evidenced in the correspondence section of the collection. This friendship coupled with his background as a zoologist and son of a Congregationalist minister presents an interesting start-ing point for his much-revised narrative on the period he called "D-Days in Dayton."

#### FOLDER LIST

- f. 1-58 Correspondence, 1902-1962
  - f. 1-16 1902-1919. Professional correspondence with the National Association of Pearl Button Manufacturers and the U.S. Bureau of Fisheries concerning the freshwater mussel investigation conducted by Curtis and George Lefevre.
  - f. 17-21 1920-1933. Materials concerning evolution controversy.
  - f. 42 Contains summary of the genetics program at the University of Missouri under the direction of Lewis John Stadler.
- f. 59-81 George Lefevre, 1904-1923. Correspondence of George Lefevre, professor of zoology at the University of Missouri.
  - f. 59-80 1904-1911. Professional correspondence concerning the fresh water mussel experiments.
  - f. 81 1923. Obituaries and resolutions at the time of Lefevre's death.
- f. 82-103b Reprints, 1900-1955. Articles and notes published by W.C. Curtis.
  - f. 82 "Committee on Effects of Radiation Upon Organisms of the National Research Council," Science, v. 73, no. 1902, June 12, 1931, pp. 643-645.
  - f. 83 "Current Aspects of the Doctrine of Organic Evolution," School and Society, v. XVII, no. 433, April 14, 1923, pp. 393-405.
  - f. 84 "The Effect of Irradiation on Organisms," The Ohio State University Bulletin, v. XXXV, no. 3, September 15, 1930.
  - f. 85 "The Effect of X-Rays Upon Regeneration," The Collecting Net, August 16, 1930.
  - f. 86 "Effects of X-Rays and Radium Upon Regeneration," Biological Effects of Radiation, 1936, pp. 411-457.
  - f. 87 "The Formation of Proglottids in Crossobothrium Laciniatum (Linton)," Biological Bulletin, v. XI, no. 4, September 1906, pp. 202-229.
  - f. 88 "Good Old Summer Times at the M.B.L. and Rhymes of the Woods Hole Shores," The Falmouth (Massachusetts) Enterprise, August 12, 19, 26 and September 2, 9, 1955.
  - f. 89 "Grants in Support of Research on the Effects of Radiation Upon Organisms," Science, v. LXIX, no. 1775, January 4, 1929, pp. 9-10.
  - f. 90 "The Histologic Basis of Regeneration and Reassociation in Lower Invertebrates," The American Naturalist, v. LXXIV, November-December 1940, pp. 487-500.

- f. 91 "History of the Department of Zoology, University of Missouri," Bios, v. XX, no. 3, October 1949.
- f. 92 George Lefevre, "The Introductory Course in Zoology," Science, N.S., v. L, no. 1297, November 7, 1919, pp. 429-431.
- f. 93 "Is there any Distinction Between Sexual Reproduction and Asexual Reproduction?" Science, N.S., v. XII, no. 312, December 21, 1900, pp. 940-946.
- f. 94 "The Jonas Viles, Jr., Memorial Scholarship," Science, v. LXI, no. 1590, June 19, 1925, p. 632.
- f. 95 "The Location of the Permanent Pharynx in the Planarian Embryo," Zoologischen Anzeiger, Bd. XXIX, no. 6, July 4, 1905, pp. 169-175.
- f. 96 "Old Problems and a New Technique," Science, v. LXVII, no. 1728, February 10, 1928, pp. 141-149.
- f. 97 "Presentation of the Doctrine of Evolution in the Social Sciences," Publications of the American Sociological Society, v. XVII, 1922, pp. 40-50.
- f. 98 W.C. Curtis and George Lefevre, "Reproduction and Parasitism in the Unionidae," The Journal of Experimental Zoology, v. IX, no. 1, September 1910, pp. 79-116.
- f. 99 "Review of Bigelow's 'Sex Education, a series of Lectures Concerning Knowledge of Sex in its Relation to Human Life'," School and Society, v. V, no. 107, January 13, 1917, pp. 50-53.
- f. 100 "The Spirit of the Humanities and the Spirit of Science," Washington University Studies, v. XII, Humanistic Series, no. 2, April 1925, pp. 153-169.
- f. 101 W.C. Curtis and Lula M. Schulze, "Studies Upon Regeneration. I. The Contrasting Powers of Regeneration in Planaria and Procotyla," Journal of Morphology, v. 55, no. 3, pp. 477-512.
- f. 102 "Them Was the Days," Missouri Alumnus, April 1952.
- f. 103 "Three Letters Bearing Upon the Controversy Over Evolution," Science, v. LXI, no. 1591, June 26, 1925, pp. 647-648.
- f. 103a Lovejoy, Arthur O, "The Argument for Organic Evolution Before 'The Origin of Species,'" The Popular Science Monthly, November 1909, pp. 499-549.
- f. 103b Bateson, William, "Evolutionary Faith and Modern Doubts," Science, v. LV, no. 1412, January 20, 1922.
- f. 104-141t Autobiographical Notes. Drafts of chapters for W.C. Curtis' unpublished autobiography.
- f. 104-107 "State of Maine"
- f. 108-110 "A Youngster on the Kennebec"
- f. 111-114 "Education"
- f. 115-116 "My Excellent Father;" "Oregon Trails"

- f. 117-119 "Missouri, Mother of the West"
- f. 120-122 "A Damn-Yankee Professor in Little Dixie"
- f. 122 Includes "The Shields and Courts Stable," by A.R. Troxell.
- f. 123-128 "Those Good Old Summer Times"
- f. 128a "Cape Cod Horizons and Other Verse," printed edition.
- f. 129-130 "Zoologist"
- f. 131-133 "Avocations"
- f. 134-140 "Fundamentalism vs. Evolution." This includes Curtis' discussion of the Scopes Trial in Dayton, Tennessee, in the summer of 1925.
- f. 141 Includes fragmentary reminiscences of Clarence Darrow by Curtis.
- F. 141a-141t Revisions of various manuscripts about the Scopes case, arranged by revision date.
- f. 142-144 Marine Biological Laboratory. Miscellaneous material concerning the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole, Massachusetts, including photographs and a pamphlet containing a short history of the programs conducted there. Curtis was a trustee of the Laboratory.
- f. 145-164 Johns Hopkins University. Lecture, seminar, reading, and Journal Club notes, taken by Curtis when a student at Johns Hopkins University, 1892-1898.
- f. 165 Kartabo Jungle Laboratory. Information, instructions, and applications concerning the summer program at the Kartabo Jungle Laboratory of Tropical Biology at Georgetown, British Guiana, South America.
- f. 166 Curtis and Guthrie. Proposed revisions of the fourth edition of the laboratory directions accompanying the textbook by W.C. Curtis and Mary J. Guthrie.
- f. 167-182 Photographs. Photographs of W. C. Curtis, his family and friends; and photographs and drawings of the Woods Hole, Massachusetts and Richmond, Maine areas.
  - f. 175-182 Photographs of the Scopes Trial and the play based upon it, *Inherit the Wind*.
- f. 183-194 Evolution. Materials concerning the theory of evolution collected and/or prepared by Curtis.
  - f. 183 Poems of Evolution: "The Significance of Evolution," by Vernon Kellogg; "Evolution in a Nutshell," by C.C. Zain in *The Brotherhood of Light Annual* for 1924.
  - f. 184-190 Curtis' notes on theory of evolution.
  - f. 191-194 Clippings concerning evolution.
- f. 195 Miscellaneous. Miscellaneous material, including a copy of a tribute to Arthur Garfield Hays; a summary of U.S. Fish Commission activities; and miscellaneous undated letters.
- f. 196-212 Research Data and Reports, 1906-1912. Miscellaneous research materials related to pearl or freshwater mussel investigations on the Mississippi River and its tributaries. Also includes materials on pearl button manufacturers in the U.S. and studies conducted at Woods



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