

Directors' Reference Files, 1858-1965, n.d.

Finding Aid

Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum

**Webster Institute for the History of Astronomy
Chicago, Illinois
2007**

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Descriptive Summary of the Collection

Title: Directors' Reference Files

Creator: The Office of the Director, Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum, Chicago

Dates: 1858-1965, n.d.; Bulk: 1890-1940

Extent: 7.75 linear feet (16 boxes, including 1 oversized box)

Language(s): Materials are predominately in English with some documents in German and Italian.

Repository: Webster Institute for the History of Astronomy, Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum, Chicago

Abstract: The Directors' Reference Files consist of astronomical and other scientific publications collected by the Office of the Director at the Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum primarily during the terms of first director Philip Fox (1929-1937) and acting director Maude Bennot (1937-1945). The collection is comprised of original and reprint copies of astronomical research journals, general scientific articles, university theses, and observatory reports.

Administrative Information

Cite As: Directors' Reference Files, Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum, Chicago.

Provenance: The Office of the Director, Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum

Processed by: Russ Johnson, 2007.

Access: Obtained by completing a Research Request Form. Contact the Webster Institute for the History of Astronomy at (312) 322-0594 or astrohistory@adlerplanetarium.org.

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Historical Background

The Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum was conceived and founded by Max Adler, a senior officer and stockholder in Sears, Roebuck and Company. While traveling throughout Europe, Adler was greatly impressed by the sophisticated planetarium theaters he discovered in Germany, and in 1928, he donated the funds to construct the Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum in Chicago. With construction underway on the first modern planetarium in the Western Hemisphere, Adler hired Dr. Philip Fox to be the institution's first director on May 28, 1929. One year later, the Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum opened to the public on May 12, 1930.

During his first year as director, while the Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum was still being constructed, Dr. Fox focused on preparations for opening the first planetarium in the United States. He visited planetariums in England, France, and Germany to observe their operations, acquired astronomical instruments such as astrolabes and sundials, and collected astronomical and other scientific publications for reference purposes. After the planetarium opened in 1930, Dr. Fox continued to supplement the museum's instrument collection and his reference files of astronomical publications until he left the Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum on May 1, 1937.

Following Dr. Fox's departure, Maude Bennot was promoted from Assistant Director to Acting Director of the Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum in 1937. During her eight year tenure, Bennot also continued adding to the files of astronomical and other scientific publications started by Dr. Fox. In 1944, Bennot was replaced by F. Wagner Schlesinger, the third director of the Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum. Schlesinger inherited the reference files begun by Dr. Fox and also continued to supplement them until his twelve-tenure as director ended in 1957.

After Schlesinger's departure, the directors of the Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum were as follows: Albert Shatzel (1957-1959), Robert Johnson (acting director for six months preceding 1960-1966), Mortimer Kaplow (1966-1967), Joseph Chamberlain (1968-1991), and Paul Knappenberger (1991-present). Although each successive director inherited the office's collection of astronomical and other scientific publications, the reference files begun by Dr. Fox in order to inform the museum's founding gradually became less important to the daily operations of the Adler. The last addition to the Director's Reference Files was made in 1965.

Scope and Content of the Collection

The Directors' Reference Files consist of astronomical and other scientific publications collected by the Office of the Director at the Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum. The bulk of the materials are from the years preceding the Adler Planetarium's 1930 opening and from the terms of both first director Philip Fox (1929-1937) and acting director Maude Bennot (1937-1945). The collection is comprised of original and reprint copies of astronomical research journals, general scientific articles, university theses, and observatory reports.

The Directors' Reference Files consist of 7.75 linear feet and fill 16 boxes. The collection spans the years 1858-1965, with the bulk of the materials ranging between the years 1890-1940. Each series is first organized alphabetically and then chronologically from the earliest documents to the most recent. Undated materials are designated "n.d." The materials are organized in the following groupings:

- Series 1 American Astronomical Society, 1895-1944
- Series 2 Royal Astronomical Society, 1880-1940
- Series 3 Smithsonian Institution, 1889-1963, n.d.
- Series 4 University Publications, 1858-1964, n.d.
- Series 5 Organizations' Publications, 1860-1965, n.d.
- Series 6 Unaffiliated Publications, 1876-1949, n.d.

Container List

Series 1: American Astronomical Society, 1895-1944

This series contains publications from the American Astronomical Society including the scholarly periodicals *Astronomical Journal* and *Astrophysical Journal* which publish research discoveries and theories in astronomy and astrophysics. Also included are reports from American Astronomical Society meetings. Of special interest are the meeting publications from 1914, 1939, 1940, and 1943 which include photographs of Philip Fox, the first director of the Adler Planetarium (1929-1937). The materials are first organized alphabetically and then chronologically.

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1	1	Astronomical Journal, 1902, 1914, 1932
	2	Astrophysical Journal, 1895-1915
	3	Astrophysical Journal, 1916-1927
	4	Astrophysical Journal, 1928-1939
	5	Meeting Publications, 1914-1919
	6	Meeting Publications, 1921-1934
	7	Meeting Publications, 1934-1935
2	8	Meeting Publications, 1935-1937
	9	Meeting Publications, 1938-1939
	10	Meeting Publications, 1939-1940

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11	Meeting Publications, 1940
12	Meeting Publications, 1941-1942
13	Meeting Publications, 1942-1944

Series 2: Royal Astronomical Society, 1880-1940

This series contains original and reprint copies of publications from the United Kingdom's Royal Astronomical Society. The bulk of the series consists of reprint copies of papers from the *Monthly Notices*, a primary research journal in astronomy and astrophysics. The materials are first organized alphabetically and then chronologically.

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
3	14	Monthly Notice Reprints, 1880-1890
	15	Monthly Notice Reprints, 1891-1894
	16	Monthly Notice Reprints, 1894-1903
	17	Monthly Notice Reprints, 1904-1919
	18	Monthly Notice Reprints, 1920-1925
	19	Monthly Notice Reprints, 1926-1938
4	20	Occasional Notes, 1938-1940

Series 3: Smithsonian Institution, 1889-1963, n.d.

This series contains publications from the Smithsonian Institution including annual reports as well as astronomical and scientific research reports. The materials are first organized alphabetically and then chronologically.

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
4	21	Annual Reports, 1889-1901
	22	Annual Reports, 1902-1913
	23	Annual Reports, 1914-1929
	24	Annual Reports, 1930-1936
	25	Annual Reports, 1937-1946, n.d.
	26	Contributions to Knowledge, 1903
5	27	Miscellaneous Collections Publication, 1963
	28	The Solar Corona, 1889

Series 4: University Publications, 1858-1964, n.d.

This series contains original and reprint copies of astronomical and other scientific publications from universities worldwide. Types of publications include research reports from university observatories, astronomical journals, abstracts of theses, and university observatory annual reports. Of special interest are reports from the University of Pittsburgh's Allegheny Observatory written by astronomer Frank Schlesinger, the father of former Adler Planetarium Director F. Wagner Schlesinger (1945-1957). The materials are first organized alphabetically by university and then chronologically.

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<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>	
5	29	Carleton College: Goodsell Observatory Publications, 1915	
	30	Carleton College: Goodsell Observatory Publications, 1924, 1926	
	31	Carleton College: The Sidereal Messenger, 1885, 1891 Carleton College: Popular Astronomy, 1912-1943	
	32	Carleton College: Popular Astronomy, n.d.	
	33	Columbia College: Observatory Publications, 1895	
	34	Harvard College: Observatory Publications, 1905, 1911,	
	35	1919, 1931	
	36	Haverford College: Observatory Publications, 1892, n.d.	
	6	37	Indiana University: Goethe Link Observatory Publications, 1949-1956
		38	Indiana University: Goethe Link Observatory Publications, 1957-1958
		39	Indiana University: Goethe Link Observatory Publications, 1958-1959
40		Indiana University: Goethe Link Observatory Publications, 1959-1963	
41		Indiana University: Goethe Link Observatory Publications, 1963-1964, n.d.	
42		Indiana University: Kirkwood Observatory Publications, 1939-1947	
43		Indiana University: University Bulletin, 1912	
7	44	Kyoto Imperial University: Publications, 1928-1929	
	45	L'Universite de Tartu: L'Observatoire Astronomique Publications, 1922-1923	
	46	L'Universite de Tartu: L'Observatoire Astronomique Publications, 1924	
	47	L'Universite de Tartu: L'Observatoire Astronomique Publications, 1924-1928	
	48	Ohio Wesleyan University: Perkins Observatory Publications, 1930-1931	
	49	Ohio Wesleyan University: Perkins Observatory Publications, 1933-1936	
	50	Ponoma College: Brackett Observatory Bulletins, 1932	
	51	St. Xavier College: Geography Supplement, 1936	
	52	Swarthmore College: Sproul Observatory Publications, 1913-1920	
	53	Swarthmore College: Sproul Observatory Publications, 1922-1928	
8	54	Swarthmore College: Sproul Observatory Publications, 1935-1936, n.d.	
	55	Universitat Jena: Keplers Erkenntnis-und Methodenlehre, 1903	

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	56	University of Chicago: Abstracts of Theses, n.d.
	57	University of Chicago: Yerkes Observatory Publications, 1899-1904, n.d.
	58	University of Denver: Chamberlin Observatory Publications, 1889
	59	University of Michigan: Astronomical Notes, 1858-1859
	60	University of Michigan: Astronomical Notes, 1859-1860
Oversize	61	University of Michigan: McMath-Hulbert Observatory Publications, 1937
8	62	University of North Carolina: Morehead Planetarium Publications, 1949
	63	University of Oslo: Observatory Publications, 1931-1933
	64	University of Oslo: Observatory Publications, 1934
	65	University of Pittsburgh: Allegheny Observatory Publications, 1901-1910
Oversize	66	University of Pittsburgh: Allegheny Observatory Publications, 1913-1919
Oversize	67	University of Pittsburgh: Allegheny Observatory Publications, n.d.
9	68	University of Texas: McDonald Observatory Publications, n.d.
	69	University of Virginia: Alumni Bulletin, 1924
	70	University of Virginia: Leander McCormick Observatory Publications, 1930-1931
	71	University of Virginia: Leander McCormick Observatory Publications, 1932-1935
	72	Western Reserve College: Reserve Record, 1938
	73	Williams College: Meteorology Publications, 1936
	74	Yale University: Observatory Annual Reports, 1887-1893

Series 5: Organizations' Publications, 1860-1965, n.d.

This series contains original and reprint copies of publications from a wide range of organizations including societies and associations dedicated to astronomy, general arts and sciences, mathematics, ceramics, chemistry, and philosophy. Also included are publications from governmental agencies, museums, and observatories not primarily affiliated with universities. For example, publications from the Dearborn Observatory are included in this series due to its long-running affiliation with the Chicago Astronomical Society. Of special interest are Dearborn Observatory reports written by Philip Fox, the first director of the Adler Planetarium (1929-1937). The materials are first organized alphabetically and then chronologically.

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<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>	
9	75	Academy of Science and Art of Pittsburgh, 1894	
	76	Amateur Astronomers Association, 1929-1934	
10	77	Amateur Astronomers Association, 1935-1936	
	78	American Academy of Arts and Sciences, 1863,1885	
	79	American Amateur Astronomical Association, 1936	
	80	American Amateur Astronomical Association, 1937	
	81	American Amateur Astronomical Association, 1938	
	82	American Association for the Advancement of Sciences, 1886,1903,1906,1915,1920,1928	
	83	American Association for the Advancement of Sciences, 1943	
	84	American Ceramic Society, 1931,1933	
	85	American Chemical Society, 1920, 1922, 1941	
	86	American Institute of Physics, 1952	
	87	American Mathematical Society, 1900-1947	
	88	American Philosophical Society, 1911-1939	
	89	Associated Engineering Societies, 1940	
	90	Astronomical Institutes of the Netherlands, 1923	
	91	Astronomical Society of the Pacific, 1892-1948	
	92	Astronomiska Observatorium Upsala, 1927	
	11	93	British Astronomical Association, 1926
94		California Analysis Center, 1965	
95		Carnegie Institute of Washington, 1938	
96		Chicago Astronomical Society, 1905	
97		Chicago Astronomical Society/Dearborn Observatory, 1877-1887	
98		Cincinnati Observatory, 1876	
99		Connecticut Academy of Arts and Sciences, 1920	
100		Conseil International des Musees, 1956	
101		Czechoslovakia Astronomical Institution, 1947-1949	
102		Czechoslovakia Astronomical Society, 1946-1949	
103		Dearborn Observatory, 1884, 1890, 1916, 1962	
104		Field Museum of Natural History, 1927	
105		The Franklin Institute, 1924, 1927, 1935	
Oversize 11		106	Higasiyama Obervatory, n.d.
		107	Illinois State Academy of Sciences, 1930-1931
	108	Illinois State Academy of Sciences, 1931	
	109	Illinois State Academy of Sciences, 1932, 1940	
	110	Illuminating Engineering Society, 1920	
	111	International Astronomical Union, 1960	
	112	Koninklijke Akademie Van Wetenschappen Te Amsterdam, 1927, 1930	
	113	Lick Observatory, 1928	
	114	L'Observatoire Central a Poulkovo, 1933	
	115	Lunds Astronomiska Observatorium, 1904, 1925	

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12	116	Minnesota Academy of Sciences, 1910
	117	Museo Copernicano ed Astronomico, 1887
	118	National Academy of Sciences, 1920, 1923, 1933
	119	National Research Council, 1927
	120	New York Academy of Sciences, 1941
	121	Optical Society of America, 1921
	122	Osterreichischen Archaologischen Instiutues, 1903
	123	Philosophical Society of Washington, 1893
	124	Reale Accademia delle Scienze di Torino, 1916
	125	Roslyn House Observatory, 1935
	126	Royal Astronomical Society of Canada, 1905-1913
	127	Royal Astronomical Society of Canada, 1916-1933
	128	Royal Society, 1926, n.d.
	129	Royal Society of Canada, 1935
	130	Societa Astronomica Italiana, 1912, n.d.
13	131	Societe Astronomique de France, 1911, 1919-1920
	132	Societe Astronomique de France, 1920
	133	Society for Research on Meteorites, 1936-1939
	134	Society for Research on Meteorites, 1940-1943
	135	Society for Research on Meteorites, 1945-1950
Oversize	136	Transvaal/Union Observatory of South Africa, 1911-1918
13	137	U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1926
	138	U.S. Department of Commerce, 1921, 1922, 1928, 1945
	139	U.S. Interstate Commerce Commission, 1949
	140	U.S. Navy, 1860, 1868, 1876, 1949
	141	Utrecht Society of Arts and Sciences, 1891
14	142	Westwood Astrophysical Observatory, 1919
	143	World Calendar Association, 1933
	144	Zeiss Planetarium, 1926

Series 6: Unaffiliated Publications, 1876-1949, n.d.

This series contains original and reprint copies of publications not affiliated with a specific organization. Types of publications include research journals, scientific theses self-published by the author, and instruction manuals. The topics of the publications are primarily related to astronomy but also include mathematics, meteorology, photography, engineering, geology, and philosophy. The materials are first organized alphabetically and then chronologically.

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
14	145	Absolute-Relative Theory, 1939
	146	American Annual of Photography, 1898
	147	American Journal of Mathematics, 1911, 1929
	148	American Journal of Science, 1876, 1891, 1908-1916
	149	American Math Monthly, 1927
	150	American Meteorological Journal, 1893

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	151	American Statistical Journal, n.d.
	152	Annals of Math Statistics, 1937
	153	Annals of Mathematics, 1914
	154	The Antares System, n.d.
	155	Architectural Forum, 1931
	156	Astronomical Digest, 1932-1933
	157	Astronomische Nachrichten, 1887
	158	Astronomische Nachrichten, 1890-1896
	159	Astronomische Nachrichten, 1912-1915, 1928
	160	Astronomy and Astro-Physics, 1892-1894
	161	Atmospheres of the Earth and Planets, 1949
	162	Aurora Borealis, n.d.
	163	Canadian Journal, n.d.
14	164	Curve of Immortality, 1900
	165	Distribution of Heat in Moon, n.d.
	166	Engineering, 1931
	167	The Evolution of the Elements of Space, n.d.
	168	The Home-Made Telescope, 1935
	169	The Influence of the Ether on Weather, 1931
	170	Investigations on Light and Heat, 1885
15	171	Journal of Geology, 1924
	172	Journal of Terrestrial Magnetism and Atmospheric Electricity, 1928-1934
	173	Knowledge, 1894
	174	The Monthly Evening Sky Map, 1909-1912
	175	New Zealand Journal of Science and Technology, 1920
	176	North American Review, 1883
	177	OAH SPE, 1935
	178	Pacific Coast Journal of Homoeopathy, 1930
	179	Philosophical Magazine, 1908, 1922, 1924
	180	The Photo-Beacon, 1892
	181	Physical Review, 1893, 1897, 1907, 1923, 1932
	182	Popular Science Monthly, 1904, 1906
	183	School Science and Math, 1919
	184	Scientific Monthly, 1930, 1939
	185	Sky Map Construction for Everybody, 1927
	186	Some Thoughts on Space, n.d.
	187	A Study of the Pleiades Cluster, n.d.
	188	Treatises on the Atmospheres of the Sun and the Earth, 1919-1923
	189	Über Das System Der Fixsterne, 1909