

Record Series 2/5/1; 2/5/2; 2/5/7

James, Edmund Janes, Papers, 1876-1924

12.8 cubic feet

Named after a famous clergyman, Edmund J. James (1855-1925) was born in Jacksonville, Illinois. His father, Colin Dew James, was a minister (and a farmer) who followed a circuit for the Illinois Methodist Conference and his family moved more than twenty times between 1834 and 1864. The family of thirteen children finally settled in 1863 in Bloomington, Illinois, the site of Illinois Normal University, which trained teachers, but which also maintained model grammar and high schools. A restlessness of wandering spirit also characterized James in his pursuit of higher education. After attending Northwestern University for a year, he transferred to Harvard, where again he remained only one year, apparently disappointed at finding the faculty less stimulating than those he had found at Normal's model high school. Traveling to the University of Halle in Germany, James earned his doctorate in 1877 in political economy after only two years. When he had completed his studies, he first served as principal in Northwestern High School (1878-79) and in the Normal Model School (1879-82).

James came to the attention of educators and politicians during the term of his leadership at the Wharton School of Economics in the University of Pennsylvania (1883-95). Like many other political economists of his time, James was a representative of the new or progressive economic view that claimed that the greatest good came not from individual initiative but from the larger social community, whether local, state or national. James became well known for his support of municipal control of utilities and of transportation. He directed extension work at the University of Chicago (1896-1901) and was president of Northwestern University (1902-04). His name was on lists for the United States presidency and senate. He was able to find support for many of his ideas and to put them into practice after he became president of the University of Illinois (1904-20), which transformed Illinois into a modern university.

Many of the earlier materials in the papers relate to Germany, a travel journal, class lecture notes and songbooks (1878, 1886) from his school years; some of the materials may have originated with his wife, Anna Margaret Lange, a German whom he met while at Halle. A manuscript James wrote on University reform in Germany also forms part of the Papers. A Civil War songbook (1883), family accounts book for 1886-1907 and notebooks of his brothers and sisters make up some of the early material (1893-94, 1903). A great proportion of James' personal correspondence was with his family members (1904-20). Notes and sermons by Rev. Elias J. Sarkis, who studied at Andover Theological Seminary are also contained in the papers. In James' diaries (1894-95, 1901-02, 1904-24) can be found notes on his correspondence and interviews with Theodore Roosevelt (1905, 1916).

Writings

"The Relation of the Modern Municipality to the Gas Supply," Publications of the American Economic Association, I (May & July 1886), pp. 1-76.

Related Sources

Swanson, Richard Allen, "Edmund J. James, 1855-1925: A 'Conservative Progressive' in American

Higher Education" (Unpublished Ph.D. dissertation) (University of Illinois, 1966, pp. 328-333).

Who Was Who, Vol. 1: 1897-1942 (Chicago, 1943), p. 627.

2/5/1

President

Edmund J. James

Personal Correspondence, 1987-1919

Box 1:

Unter-Harz, German mountain views, n.d.

Family accounts book, 1882-87

Woodland Echos songbook, 1878

Das Geistliche Volkslied, religious songbook notes in German, 1886

Proposed Charter, Philadelphia literary journal, n.d.

Class lecture notes in Droysen's Die Gesichle der Revoluntionzeit, 1876-77

War Songs, Civil War songbook, 1883

Sketch books and designs, n.d.

Sermon notes on prayer, Benjamin, Absolom, John, Joseph

ordination, faith, suffering, love, thanksgiving, law and other subjects, mostly by Rev. Elias J. Sarkis (2 folders), n.d.

Transcript of letter from Albert Stetson to Charles F. Adams, Jr., Jan. 14, 1884 on German Education

Municipal regulations of Philadelphia, 1885

Labor Union Scrapbook, 1886-87

Box 2:

Household account book, showing date, item purchased and amount, usually food, 1896-1907

Notes on religious readings, in German, n.d.

Helen James notebook - Latin, Bible scripture, 1903

Herman James notebook - history, Ecole Alsacienne; and drawing book, 1893-94

MSS - University Reform in Germany, n.d.

Notes on Congress and Legislation, comparative government lecture notes, University of Pennsylvania, ca. 1884-87

Scrapbook, including clippings on Wharton School, railroad rates, job offer at Harvard (1890), taxation, speeches, AAAS, municipal charters, 1886-88, 1890-94

List and Order Book, 1888, including lists of books ordered (1888); notes on German universities; financial accounts with friends and relatives (1882-84); journal of German travels (August 1888); notes on Wharton lectures (1889); list of papers published by E.J. James (1887-89); list of books on constitutional law, federal government, and civil service

Notes of Elias J. Sarkis, senior theological student at Andover Theological Seminary on homiletics and pastoral theology

Box 3:

Address Book, 1900-01

Notes on municipal administration, ca. 1901

Notes on legislation and court decisions affecting Chicago, ca. 1899

Chicago street railroads reports, 1898

Scrapbook, 1896-99, containing clippings concerning presidency of University of Cincinnati (1898), programs for social affairs and civic occasions (1896-97), Norman reunion (1897), Mansfield, Ohio Methodism, University of Chicago Teachers College (1898), presidency of University of California (1898), index on back cover.

Commercial Education, 1897

Commission to represent the United States at the Brussels Commercial Instruction Congress, 1898

"Growth of the City of Chicago" report, ca. 1899

Box 4:

Correspondence, 1889, 1891-93, 1896-97, 1901-04, including:

<u>Date</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>Subject</u>
3/16/91	William Pepper	Extension work and Wharton School
3/30/91	" "	" "
10/14/91	" "	Salary
12/16/91	William B. Harper	Chicago offer
1/19/92	" "	" "
1/21/92 to	" "	" " and faculty
1/25/01	" "	
7/22/96	John W. Hoyt	National University Committee of One Hundred
9/7/01	J. F. Snyder	Belleville and McKendree history
1/02	William R. Harper	courses
4/24/02 to	" "	salary due
5/13/02	" "	" "
8/4/02	James B. Angell	Greetings - inauguration
8/28/02	Charles W. Eliot	Regret - inauguration
9/22/02	Cyrus Northrop	inauguration
11/25/02	Frank W. Gunsaulus	
1/16/02	W. H. Hickman	universities
1/21/03	William Deering	declines to give 1 1/2 million
4/2/03	" "	Methodist support of Northwestern
12/4/03	N. W. Harris	support of Northwestern
2/29/04	William R. Harper	friendship
8/12/04	Stephen A. Forbes	Presidency at Illinois
8/16/04	James A. Patten	leaving Northwestern
8/23/04	N. W. Harris	" "

Undated miscellany
Receipts, 1901-1910

Box 5:

Personal - Miscellaneous, 1911-13
American Civic Association, 1907-13 (Personal)
Clubs - University of Chicago, 1910-14
 University and others (arranged by town), 1910-13
 University and others (arranged by city), 1910-13
Charles DeGarmo (personal), 1911-12

Box 6:

Personal Correspondence, A-E, August 1904-June 1906
University of Illinois Presidency
Personal Correspondence, F-J, August 1904-June 1906
Ray E. Fuller, 1904-05
Personal, K-N, August 1904-05
A. F. Nightengale - Cook County Superintendent of Schools, 1901-06
Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1904

Box 7:

Personal, A-I, September 1906-January 1907
James J. Breasted, 1906
Lisi Cipriani, September-December 1906
Victor Alderson (State Mining School)
Archaeological Institute of America, 1906-07
September 1906-January 1907, J-K
Marcus Hitch (Gregory Lawson), November-December 1906
Johannes Conrad, September-December 1906
Joseph F. Johnson
Charles W. Needham - Personal
John Martin, June 26, 1906
Ben James
Anthony James
Geroge James
Herman James
John James
Y.M.C.A. Building Fund, 1906-07

Box 8:

Personal, O-W, August 1904-June 1906
 , K-Z, January-August 1907
William Ashbrook
Lisi Capriani
James H. Ballard
Else Conrad - Personal, January-August 1907
Charles W. Eliot, Feb. 7, 1907
Anthony James, February-September 1907
Ben James, February-August 1907
Herman James, February-August 1907
George James, June-August 1907
D. S. Lindsay, February-August 1907
Samuel Lindsay
G. H. Longard et.al, newspaper misquote, Feb./March, 1907
Albion B. Small - Presidential Tenure, March 1907
Charles Veronica Brickbat
C. W. A. Veditz
William G. Webster
Richard Waterman

Box 9:

James Personal, A-J, September 1907-January 1908
 , K-Z
Clark Braden
James Bryce, Dec. 9, 1907
Lisi Cipriani
Hamlin Garland
Anthony James
George James
Herman James
Joseph Johnson
Edwin Sparks
Wallace N. Stearns
Simon Patten
Frank Tisdell - University of Wyoming
Taylor & Son - Philadelphia attorneys for James
Charlemagne Tower - Ambassador to Germany
C. W. A. Veditz - George Washington University
Richard Waterman - Boston

Box 10:

James Personal, A-J, January-August 1908
German Book List, 1908
James Personal, K-Z, January-August 1908
Amos Ballin (Sonora Mines)
Rev. Joseph Beech
Lisi Cipriani
Albert Draper
Eastern Trip 1908 (March)
European Junket, 1908
Photo Album of European Trip, 1908
Frank Hamilton - American University
David Hill - U.S. Ambassador to Germany
Anthony J. James
George F. James
John James
M. E. Church - General Conference in Baltimore, May 1908
Lt. Col. W. W. Robinson
Wallace N. Stearns
E. J. James Travel Expenses, 2/1/06 - 6/15/08
C. W. A. Veditz
Miscellaneous, 1908
Prof. George T. Kemp, 1908
University Business

Box 11:

James Personal, A-I, September 1908-January 1909
 , K-Z
Cheesman A. Herrick
Anthony James
George James
Herman James
Eleanor Karsten (A. Booth Co.)
Theodore Roosevelt
Elihu Root
Sonora Central Mines
Copper Mt. Mining and Milling, 1908-11

Box 12:

Personal, A-J, February-November, 1909
 , K-Z, January-November, 1909
Eastern Trip, Sept. 30, 1909
Boston Trip, October 1909
New York Trip, August 1909
Johannes Conrad
John Harman
N. W. Harris
Hingham, Mass. Memorial
Insurance
Anthony James
Herman James
Joseph Johnson
Taylor & Son - Philadelphia attorneys
Raymond Weeks

Box 13:

Personal, A-J, November 1909-April 1910
 , K-Z
Alamos Mining
Ralph Bickle
Edith B. Brown
Charles L. Burke
Lisi Capriani
Charles DeGarmo
Ben James
George James
Helen James
David Kinley
Albert Mason
Pan American Congress
Simon N. Patten - Society for the Study of National Economy (1885)
Leo Rowe
Sonora Mines
William Taft
Francis Thorpe

Box 14:

Personal, A-J, April-August 1910
 , K-Z

Edith Brown

Mary Casad

Johannes Conrad

Charles Deneen

George F. James

Herman G. James

John James

Joseph Johnson

Marie Krukenberge

Col. Ephraim Martin genealogy

Ella Noel

Sonora Mines

Box 15:

Miscellaneous Family, 1910-13

Colin D. James - biography, 1910

Helen James, 1910-12

Louise James, 1911-13

George James, 1910-13

Mrs. E. J. James, January 1911-September 1911

Frances James, 1910-12

Ben James, 1911-13

Anthony James, 1911-13

Herman James - job hunt, 1912

Herman James, 1912-13

Genevieve Kuhe (James), 1912

Herman James, 1910-11

Box 16:

James Personal, A, 1912-13

 , B

 , C-D

 , E-F

J. H. Breasted, 1911-12

Ralph T. Bickle, 1911-12

Edith Brown, 1911-12

Lisi Cipriani, 1911-13

J. Conrad, 1911-13

Signora Clorinda Conte, 1910
John W. Cook - Northern Illinois Normal School, 1911
Thomas Cook & Son (travel), 1911
Thomas H. Cook, 1912-13
Copper Mt. Mining and Milling, 1913
Cozart, James A., 1911-13
Mrs. Harold Ickes (marriage), 1911
James Personal, G-H, 1911-13

Box 17:

Kankakee and Urbana Traction Co., 1912
Marie Krukenberg, 1911-13
James Personal, L-M, 1911-13
Col. E. Martin, 1911-13
Personal, N-O, 1911-13
 , P-R
 , S

Box 18:

Taylor & Son, Philadelphia
Misc. Personal, 1910-11
J. D. Templeton, 1911-14
Mrs. Frances Ten Eick, 1911-13
B. H. Tillotson - Olathe, Kansas (genealogist), 1911-12
R. M. Tingley, 1911
Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church, 1911-13
U.S. Geological Survey, 1911
Personal - Union League Club, 1910-13
Blanche Van Kuran, 1910
Virginia Commonwealth, 1911
Clinton Woodruff, 1911-12
Wade Rawson, 1911
Talcott Williams, 1911-12
Graham Taylor, 1905-12
Miscellaneous Personal, 1911-13
George A. Brown, 1911
A. Booth Co., 1910-11
William A. Dycke, 1911
Henry M. Echlen, 1911
John W. Barrett, 1910

George Henderson, 1910-11

Box 19:

Mrs. Helen Hartley, 1916
 John James, 12/29/13, 8/28/16
 Louis James, November 1914, October 1915
 Ben James, 10/2/13 - 8/30/16
 George James, 10/24/13 - 8/16/16
 Helen James Wedding, 1915
 Helen J. Frazer, 6/29/14 - 8/23/16
 Emma James, 6/14/14 - 8/29/16
 North Shore Health Resort, 1914
 George E. Frazer, 5/21/15 - 7/15/16
 Ida James, 1914-16

Box 20:

Anthony James, January 1914-September 1916
 Herman James - Personal, 10/14/13 - 8/6/16
 Margaret James - Illness and Death, 1914
 Letters of Sympathy, Nov. 13-16, 1914

Box 21:

Hingham, Mass., 1916-17
 Illinois State Normal University, 1916-18 - personal
 Illinois Womans College, 1917
 Personal, 1915-16, J-P
 George Mattis, 1913
 Miscellaneous, 1913-14
 Royal Arconium
 Personal, 1914-16

Box 22:

Personal Miscellaneous, A-C, 1914-16
 , C-G
 Wharton Barker, 1914-16
 Edith Brown, 5/1/13 - 7/13/16
 Amelia Bryant, 1/14/14 - 6/26/16
 Charles L. Burke, 9/11/13 - 3/25/16

Mary Casad, 8/20/14 - 6/6/16
 Cn. Clark & Co. - Personal, 1916
 Lisi Cipriani, 1914-15
 Congratulations, Feb. 1914
 Johannes Conrad, 12/29/13, 9/5/15

Box 23:

William D. Lewis - Politics, 1915-16
 Governorship, 1916
 Hotel Del Prado, 1914
 Personal, H-I, 1914-16
 , J-M
 Martha Herdman, 1914
 Clara and Cheesman Herrick, 1914
 Mrs. Ella Noel, 10/23/13 - 7/8/16
 Krukenberg, 1/26/14 - 2/15/16
 Julie Kuhne, 7/7/14 - 8/27/15
 Lange Family, 1914-16
 Roger Little, 12/3/13 - 8/1/16
 M. E. Church, 1914-15
 Miscellaneous, N-P

Box 24:

Union League Club, 1913-16
 Wine of Cardvi, 1914-16
 Republican Party, 1916
 Northwestern University Annuity, 1915-16
 Mrs. Mary C. Swishler
 H. H. Rellam, 1914-16
 Receipts, 1914-16
 Taylor & Son, 1913-15
 Rodi Schmidt, 1915-16
 University Club, 1915-16
 Lorado Taft, 1916
 Personal Taxes, 1914-16
 Miscellaneous, R-U, 1914-16
 , W

Box 25:

Mrs. Margaret James, 1916-18
 John James, 9/8/16 - 8/3/18
 James Family Miscellaneous, 1916-18
 Helen and George Frazer, 1916-18
 Herman James, 1916-17, I
 , 1917, II

Box 26:

Rev. Colin James, 1917-18
 Anthony James, 1916-18
 Benjamin James, 1916-19
 Clara James, 1916-18
 Mrs. Emma James, 1917-18
 Ralph Bickell, 1916-18
 Edith B. Brown, 1916-18
 George James, 1916-18

Box 27:

Author's Club, 1916-18
 G. T. Cozart, 1916-17
 Amy K. Bryant, 1917
 Champaign Club, 1917-18
 Mary E. Casad, 1916-18
 Christmas, 1916
 Chicago Club, 1917-18
 Lisi Cipriani, 1917-18
 Cosmos Club, 1916-17
 Del Prado Hotel, 1916-17
 H. A. Du Pont, 1916-17
 Duling Family, 1916-17
 First National Bank, 1916-18
 Joseph Frison, 1916-18
 Genealogy, 1916-17
 Nellie Goldthwaite, 1916-18
 Personal, A-H, 1916-18
 , I

Box 28:

Correspondence, L, 1916-18

Personal, L-M, 1917-18
 , N-P
 , R-S
 , T-U, 1916-18
 , V-Z

Box 29:

Correspondence, A, 1918-19
 , B
 Mary Casad, 1918-19
 Correspondence, C, 1918-19
 University of Chicago Press, 1911-13
 Clubs, University and Others, I, 1918-19
 Lisi Cipriani, 1918
 Correspondence, D, 1919-20
 Del Prado Hotel, 1918-19
 Marie Diedriechs, 1918
 Correspondence, E-F, 1918-19
 , G
 Goldthwaite, N. E., 1918-19
 Correspondence, 1918-19
 Harvard Clubs, 1918-19
 Correspondence, I-J, 1918-19 (including Ill. Wesleyan University, Bloomington)
 Miscellaneous Personal, 1916-18
 Emma James, 1918-19
 George James, 1918-19
 Anthony James, 1918-19
 Edith Bickell Brown, 1918-19
 John James, 1918-19
 Margaret James Memorial, 1918-19
 George & Helen Frazer, 1918-19
 Cheesman Herrick, 1918-19
 Herman James, 1918-19

Box 30:

James Personal, K-R, 1918-19
 , S-Z
 M. E. Church, 1918-19
 Union League Club, 1918-19
 James Registration, 1918-19

U.S. Fidelity & Guarantee Co., 1918-19

University Club, Chicago, 1918-19

University Club, Champaign, 1918-19

War Work, September-December, 1918

Photocopy of Edmund James' Will, Nov. 12, 1920 - Received from Ohio University Archives,
October 16, 1973