

15/4/28

Liberal Arts and Sciences
Department of Botany
Robert Emerson Papers, 1923-61

Biographical Information on Robert Emerson:

Born NYC, November 4, 1903

Ralph Waldo Emerson a direct ancestor

Education: Ethical Culture School, NY; Harvard AB, 1925; PhD, Friedrich Wilhelm University, Berlin, 1927

National Research Fellow, 1927-29, Dept. of General Physiology, Harvard: 1929-30, Instructor (same); 1930-37 and 1941-46, Asst. Prof. of Biophysics, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena; 1938-40, Carnegie Institute, Washington, DC; Research Prof. of Botany at UI, 1946-59; Fulbright Fellow, Cambridge Univ., ENG, 1954

Stephen Hale Prize of the Society of American Plant Physiologists, 1948

Publications include approximately three dozen articles in journals such as Journal of General Physiology, Science, and the American Journal of Botany; and edited collections of studies.

Elected to National Academy of Sciences, 1953

one of the world's foremost experimental researchers in photosynthesis

Died in plane crash in East River, NY, February 3, 1959

Box 1: General Professional Correspondence Files, A-Z, 1946-59

A - General, 1946-1952, 1954-56, 1958-59

Adams, Jacqueline, 1950-52

Ainsworth, Stanley, UI Research Associate in Botany, 1957-58

Allen, Frank L., 1953

American Association of University Professors, 1952-56

Arnold, William, Oak Ridge National Laboratories 1949-50, 1952, 1955-56

B - General, 1946-51, 1953, 1955, 1957, 1959

Beadle, George W., California Institute of Technology, 1947-48, 1950, 1955-56

Biological Sciences, Division of, 1955

Biology Building (New), 1947-49, 1953, 1956

Biology Shop Committee, 1950, 1958

Blinks, Lawrence, 1954-56

Bonner, James, 1955, 1957

Bonner, Walter, 1957

Botany Department, 1946-52, 1955-56

Botany - Funds Correspondence, 1948-56, 1958-59

Brody, Steven Seymour, UI Dept. of Botany Graduate Student and Research Associate 1953-59

Brown, Allen, University of Minnesota, 1952-53, 1955

Building Plans and Alterations, 1948, 1951, 1953-54, 1957

C - General, 1946-53, 1955-58
Cayle, Theodore, UI Dept. of Botany Graduate Student, 1951, 1954-57
Conant, James B., President, Harvard University, 1936
 concerning Harvard's scholarship policies for "promising boys of limited means."
Culture Correspondence, 1946-51
D - General, 1949-51, 1953, 1955-56
Daniels, Farrington, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1954-56, 1958
Duysens, Louis Nico Marie, Biophysical Research Group, Utrecht, Holland and participant in UI
 Photosynthesis Project (1954), 1949, 1952-55
E - General, 1946-50, 1952, 1955-57
Electron Microscope, 1952
Emerson Memorial Fund, 1959-60 (contains several lengthy biographical essays on Emerson,
 including analysis of his research contributions. The most substantial account, and the
 one presented to the UI Senate, is by Eugene Rabinowitch.)
Equipment Guarantees and Instructions, 1955-56
F - General, 1946-47, 1949, 1955-57
Franck, James, University of Chicago, 1947, 1951-52, 1955-57
French, C. S., Carnegie Institution of Washington, 1946-48, 1950, 1952, 1954-55, 1958
Frenkel, Albert, University of Minnesota 1946-49, 1952
G - General, 1947-56
Gaffron, Hans, University of Chicago, 1946-47, 1949-52, 1954-56
Gatlinburg Symposium, 1952, 1955
Goddard, David R., University of Pennsylvania, 1948, 1954-56, 1958
Graduate College Correspondence, 1948-53, 1956-57
H - General, 1948-51, 1953, 1955-57, 1959
Hill, Robin, Cambridge University, Eng., 1950-53
Holt, A. Stanley, National Research Council, Canada, 1947-1950, 1953, 1955-58
I-K - General, 1947-51, 1955, 1959
International Botanical Congress, 1953-54
Jacobs, Earl, UI Dept. of Botany Graduate Student, 1949-55, 1957
L - General, 1946-51
Latimer, Paul, UI Dept. of Botany Graduate Student, 1950-58
Lavorel, Jean, 1956-57
Lewis, Charlton, 1948, 1952
Lundegardh, Henrik, Vakstfysiologiska Institutionem, Uppsala, Sweden, 1949
Lux, Marie Carolyn, 1957-58
M - General, 1947-58
Mass Culture of Algae, 1950-51
Mirrors, 1959
Miscellaneous Science Correspondence, 1951-53, 1955, 1958
N - General, 1949, 1951, 1955, 1959
National Academy of Science; National Research Council, 1952-54, 1957-58

National Science Foundation, 1951-52, 1955-58
 Nishimura, M. Shimpe, UI Dept. of Botany Research Assistant, and Research Associate, 1946,
 1948-50, 1952, 1954
 O-P - General, 1946-59
 Physical-Chemical-Biology Program, 1948-56
 Pringsheim, E. G., Botany School, Cambridge University, 1946-49, 1951
 Publications, Lists (Emerson), 1957-60
 Q-R - General, 1948-1951, 1953, 1955-58
 Reprint Permissions, 1951, 1953
 Reprint Requests, 1952, 1958
 Reviews, 1953, 1956-59
 S - General, 1946-59
 Sigma Xi, 1951-52
 Solar Energy Symposium, 1955
 Students, Prospective, 1957-58
 Summer Institutes, 1958-59
 Summer Institutes, Student Correspondence, 1958-59
 Swain, James and Rheta, 1950-54
 Swain - UV Microscope, 1951-52
 T - General, 1948-49, 1951, 1956, 1959
 Thimann, Kenneth, 1950, 1952-53, 1955-56
 Thornburg, Wayne, UI Dept. of Botany Graduate Student; University of Washington, 1952,
 1957
 U-W - General, 1948-53, 1955-56
 Whittingham, Charles P., Cambridge University, Eng., 1948-55
 Work, Dorothy L., 1948, 1951-52
 Wyoming, University of, Institute of Biology, 1955
 X-Z - General, 1952

Box 2: Contains 24 laboratory research notebooks and general notebooks. These have been listed in the order found in the box because the dates are too unsure in many of the books to allow arranging chronologically. The "last recorded date" in each case is that record neared the end of the book. This is not necessarily the latest date in the book.

Book 4, April 14, 1928
 Dept. of Gen. Physiology, Botanical Museum, Oxford Street,
 Cambridge, Mass.
 April 14, 1928 - May 28, 1928

Book 5, July, 1931
 California Inst. of Technology, Pasadena
 Sept. 6, 1931 - May 19-20, 1936

Dorothy L. Work - Record Book

Page 7: "Wed., Sept. 8, 1948 D. L. Work (Record of)"
through May 25, 1951

Titled on front cover: "Collected Notes on Culture Conditions"

547 Amherst Street, Palo Alto, Calif.
last date recorded Jan. 10, 1955 [but not comprehensive]

No title, date, or address

first recorded date: June 9, 1938
last recorded date: Dec. 22 [1938?] Palo Alto, Calif.

"Calibrations, Emerson & Lewis, 1938-1940"

first recorded date: Jan. 23 [1938?]
last recorded date: May 31 [1938?]

No title, date, or address

first recorded date: November 14, 1941
last recorded date: March 4, 1952

"Book II Experiments made in Kaiser Wilhelm Institute fur Biologie, Berlin-Dahlem

Oct. 1925-June 21, 1926"
first recorded date: October 3
last recorded date: June 21

"Book III June 23, 1926 Continued from Book II"

first recorded date: June 24
last recorded date: April 17 [1928]

Page 1: "Oct. 1st" [in a different hand: "Probably 1923"]

last recorded date Oct. 24 [1925] [very bad condition]

No title, no date, no address

Small, general notes, some scientific notations last recorded date Sept. 22 [1943]

Two sets of notes in one notebook. One goes from front to back; the other from back to front, upside down.

No title, date, or address

First set appears to be lecture notes

first recorded date: May 2 [1934] in Germany

last recorded date: Dec. 7, 1934

Second set all in German

first recorded date: May 10
last recorded date: July 8

Address book [labels in front & back indicate California Institute of Technology]

No title, no address, 1950-58

No title, no date, no address

Pages torn out at front of book

Consists mainly of references to other record books,
specifically, Books 10-23.

Address: California Institute, Pasadena

Divided into two sections. The first consists of a scientific research notes:

first recorded date: Jan. 16, 1935

last recorded date: April 2, 1935

Second section is a "record of literature references, beginning May 30, 1947"

last recorded date, 1951

[very bad condition]

No title, or address, 1938, 1940, 1958

contains several different hands and types of notes

Book 10, April 1937-

California Institute of Technology (Dept. of Biology)

Results of important experiments. Original data from which results were
calculated in Books 9.

first recorded date: April 26, 1937

last recorded date: 1957

Book 5A, Pacific Grove, June 1932 to Dec. 1, 1932

Book 6, Dec. 2, 1932 - April 19, 1934 [Pasadena, CA]

Book 7, 1925-35

first recorded date: March 30, 1934

last recorded date: Aug. 17, 1938 [pages 92-97 contain notes dated 1941 and 1942]

Pages 100 to 112 list Books 1-13, with dates and outline of contents.

Book 8, April 21, 1934 - Feb. 24, 1936 [Pasadena, CA]

Book 9, Feb. 24, 1936 - March 14, 1938 [Pasadena, CA]

Book 10, March 14, 1938 - Sept. 17, 1938

Book 11, Sept. 19, 1938 - Nov. 12, 1938

Book 12, Nov. 16, 1938 - Dec. 16, 1938

Book 13, Jan. 20, 1939 - March 3, 1939

Book 14, March 3, 1939 - March 25, 1939
 Book 15, March 29, 1939 - April 15, 1939
 Book 16, April 17, 1939 - May 12, 1939
 Book 17, May 12, 1939 - June 8, 1939
 Book 18, June 9, 1939 - July 6, 1939
 Book 19, July 6, 1939 - Aug. 22, 1939
 Book 20, Sept. 22, 1939 - Nov. 25, 1939
 Book 21, Jan. 24, 1940 - Mar. 5, 1940
 Book 22, Mar. 6, 1940 - April 23, 1940
 Book 23, April 25, 1940 - Sept. 12, 1940
 Book 24, Sept. 18, 1940 - October 22, 1940
 Book 25, Oct. 23, 1940 - Nov. 26, 1940
 Book 26, Nov. 26, 1940 - Jan. 6, 1941
 Book 27, Natural History Building, University of Illinois, February 1948 - June 4, 1949

Four groups of journal article reprints, 1920-56

- (1) Harold H. Strain, Louis A. Strait, Bernard L. Strehler B. Esther Struckmeyer, Neil W. Stuart, J. T. Sullivan, P. B. Sumner, Carroll Arthur Swanson, Beatrice Marcy Sweeney, P. J. Syrett, 1930-56
- (2) Hiroshi Tamiya, Pei-Sung Tang, Lewis Thayer, Kenneth V. Thimann, Josephine E. Tilden, C. K. Tseng, J. A. Turrill, John Stewart Turner, Shigeru Toda, 1923-41
- (3) Folke Skoog and James H. C. Smith, 1934-1953
- (4) William Spackman, D. C. Spanner, Irwin Spear, F. H. Spierings, H. A. Spoehr, O. L. Sponsler, C.J.P. Spruit, 1930-55

Box 3: Contains 16 laboratory research notebooks of Emerson and Charlton M. Lewis, Carnegie Institution of Washington, Stanford, CA. (Books 13-26); one notebook in use by Emerson at the University of Illinois (Book 27); and one notebook in a handwriting not Emerson's.

Box 3: (continued)

Notebook, March 28, 1957 - November 4 [1957]

Not Emerson's handwriting

Two groups of journal article reprints, 1930-55

- (1) R. H. Wallace, Coy W. Waller, Otto Warburg, 1920-55
- (2) E. R. Waygood, C. A. Weast, M. Webb, George C. Webster, P. C. Weeks, P. Weinberger, Robert L. Weintraub, John H. Welsh, F. W. Went, Standford Wessler, 1932-55

Box 4:

Correspondence of Scientific Instrument Makers, 1947-61 (This correspondence was donated to the Archives by Professor Govindjee on April 1, 2002. Some of it is addressed to Professor Eugene Rabinowitch.)

- American Optical Company, 1947-60
- Applied Physics Corporation, 1947
- A. S. Aloe Company, 1947
- Bausch & Lomb Optical Company, 1947-53
- Centrifuges, 1951-53
- Certificates, Guarantees, and Instructions, 1946
- Edmund Salvage Company (Edmund Scientific), 1959
- Farrand Optical Company, Inc., 1952-55
- Filters–Miscellaneous, 1947-60
- Gaertner Scientific Company, 1947-52
- Gas Cylinders–Pressure Tests, 1946, 1950
- General Electric Company, 1947-52
- Integrating Spheres, 1951-52
- North American Phillips Company–Lamps, 1946
- Optical–Miscellaneous, 1947-61
- Peoria Tool and Engineering Company, 1953-56
- Perkin-Elmer Corporation, 1947-53
- Scientific Equipment–Miscellaneous, 1948-53
- Zeiss, Carl, 1950