
Inventory of the John "Jack" Frasier Weiffenbach Collection, 1936-1956

Processed by Ruth Borger; machine-readable finding aid created by Xiuzhi Zhou

California State Railroad Museum Library

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Inventory of the John "Jack" Frasier Weiffenbach Collection, 1936-1956

Collection number: MS 50

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Sacramento, California

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Descriptive Summary

Title: John "Jack" Frasier Weiffenbach Collection,

Date (inclusive): 1936-1956

Collection number: MS 50

Creator: Weiffenbach, John "Jack" Frasier

Extent: 6 boxes

Repository: California State Railroad Museum Library

Sacramento, California 95814

Shelf location: Big Four Building or off-site storage. Please contact the Library in advance of your visit.

Language: English.

Provenance

Gift of Florence V. Weiffenbach, 1991

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Collection Description

The papers in this collection concern Mr. Weiffenbach's activities with Electro-Motive Division, Fairbanks, Morse, and Canadian Locomotive Company. The papers are primarily handwritten notes and a few drawings, with many internal memoranda, carbons of letters, and curve charts. Mr. Weiffenbach also kept a few formal reports and some folders of clippings.

The body of papers covers the development of the diesel-electric locomotive. Some folders are devoted to specific models (F3) or lines ("C" line), while others investigate a particular problem, such as braking. A few folders contain personal papers such as letters of congratulations to Mr. Weiffenbach sent by his peers upon his promotion to Vice President at Canadian Locomotive Company.

Historical Background

John "Jack" Frasier Weiffenbach (1910-1991) was born in Chicago on November 20, 1910. He graduated from the University of Michigan with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1934. From November 1934 to August 1946, he worked as a locomotive development engineer at the Electro-Motive Division, General Motors Corporation. From August 1946 to July 1949, he was Chief Engineer of the Railroad Division at Fairbanks, Morse & Company. He became Director of Engineering at the Beliot (Wisconsin) Works of Fairbanks, Morse in July 1949. In April 1951 he was promoted to Vice President, Manufacturing and Director of the Canadian Locomotive Company in Kingston (Ontario), holding that post until January 1953, when he transferred to Director of Engineering with Fairbanks, Morse & Company in Chicago.

He left Fairbanks, Morse in September 1956 to be Corporate Director of Research and Engineering for Borg-Warner Corporation. He left Borg-Warner in June 1961 to be Vice President of Engineering at the Trailmobile Division, Pullman Inc. From 1963 until his retirement in 1975, he worked in the Winchester-Western Division of Olin Corporation. Mr. Weiffenbach died at his home in Branford, Connecticut on April 22, 1991.

PERSONAL PAPERS

Box 1, Folder 1	Humorous drawings and essays about engineering and management
Folder 2	Outline and figures on diesel-electric locomotives for 1948 American Institute of Electric Engineers speech
Folder 3	Correspondence and reviews of 1948 American Institute of Electrical Engineers speech
Folder 4	Letters of congratulation on promotion, and some replies
Folder 5	Personal correspondence
Folder 6	Security clearance application
Folder 7	Clippings, competitors' locomotives
Folder 8	Clippings, "Dear Gang" column from Prime Mover Control
Folder 9	Diesel engine development
Folder 10	Clippings, diesel engine specifications
Folder 11	Clippings, 1946 issue of Erie Works News
Folder 12	Clippings, locomotive machinery
Folder 13	Clippings, machinery
Folder 14	Clippings, miscellaneous

ELECTRO-MOTIVE DIVISION

Box 1, Folder 15	"Union Pacific M 10001 streamline "City of Portland"" 1936
Folder 16	"The potential diesel locomotive market" 1944
Folder 17	"Locomotive design data and general information" 1945
Folder 18	"National Railways of Mexico" 1945
Folder 19	"Project file report" 1946
Folder 20	"Group cost system" 1946
Box 2, Folder 1	184 diesel engine
Folder 2	567 diesel engine
Folder 3	1500 HP road switcher
Folder 4	D4 electrical rotating generator
Folder 5	Charts for D4 electrical rotating generator
Folder 6	D7 motor
Folder 7	D8 electrical rotating generator
Folder 8	D12 electrical rotating generator
Folder 9	F3 locomotive
Folder 10	Acceleration curves
Folder 11	Braking curves
Folder 12	Characteristic curves
Folder 13	Curves for motors
Folder 14	Performance curves
Folder 15	Speed-tractive effort curves
Folder 16	Tonnage curves

Folder 17	Transmission curves
Folder 18	Miscellaneous curve charts
Folder 19	Data for curve charts
Box 3, Folder 1	Company history
Folder 2	New plant design
Folder 3	Personnel and management
Folder 4	Advantages of diesel locomotives
Folder 5	A.C. drive proposal
Folder 6	Braking
Folder 7	Cooling
Folder 8	Costs of making locomotives
Folder 9	Electrical rotating generator
Folder 10	Electrical rotating generator
Folder 11	Experimental releases of the Engineering Department
Folder 12	Traction motors and generators
Folder 13	General notes
Folder 14	General notes

FAIRBANKS, MORSE & COMPANY

Box 4, Folder 1	"Locomotive performance curves" 1847
Folder 2	"Performance of Union Pacific locomotive No. 1365, San Bernardino to Summit" 1948
Folder 3	"1948 development program, Locomotive Division"
Folder 4	"Locomotive performance curves" 1950
Folder 5	"Comments and recommendations on installation and application engineering with special reference to visit with T. D. Bowes, naval architect, Philadelphia and trial trip of the tug Resolute" 1950
Folder 6	"Report on investigation of S.R.M. screw type compressor" 1955
Folder 7	"Report of the Director of Engineering for the three months ending March 31, 1956"
Folder 8	C-line locomotives, new plant
Folder 9	C-line locomotives, publicity
Folder 10	C-line locomotives, production schedule
Folder 11	C-line locomotives, test runs
Folder 12	C-line locomotives, cost analysis
Folder 13	C-line locomotives, cost analysis
Folder 14	C-line locomotives, material cost estimate sheets
Box 5, Folder 1	C-line locomotives, general notes
Folder 2	Sub-contractor's file
Folder 3	Baldwin Locomotive Works
Folder 4	Erie Locomotive Works
Folder 5	Company history
Folder 6	Engineering schedule
Folder 7	Generator curves and motor curves
Folder 8	Horsepower
Folder 9	Locomotive bill of material lists
Folder 10	Locomotive Division reports
Folder 11	Locomotive switchboard harness project
Folder 12	Material shortages problem in production
Box 6, Folder 1	Patents
Folder 2	Personnel
Folder 3	Sales manual, comparison of specifications
Folder 4	Sales manual letters
Folder 5	Speed shunting
Folder 6	Woodward governor and loan control
Folder 7	General notes

CANADIAN LOCOMOTIVE COMPANY

Box 6, Folder 8	Articles about the company
Folder 9	Diesel Day in Kingston

Folder 10	Winterizing locomotives
Folder 11	General notes
Folder 12	General notes