
Guide to the Mary Grace Heller Cope collection

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Cope (Mary Grace Heller) collection

MS0009

Center for Sacramento History
Sacramento, CA

Processed by:

Alexander C. Guilbert

Date Completed:

2013

Finding aid prepared by:

Alexander C. Guilbert

Date Completed:

2013

Encoded by:

Alexander C. Guilbert

Date Completed:

2015

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Guide to the Mary Grace Heller Cope Collection

Dates: 1896-1982 Bulk 1959-1982

Collection number: MS0009

Creator: Cope, Mary Grace Heller (daughter of Dorothy Lubin Heller) and the descendants of David Lubin

Collection Size: 0.5 linear feet(1 box)

Repository: Center for Sacramento History
Sacramento, California 95811-0229

Abstract: The Mary Grace Heller Cope Collection covers a time period from 1896 through 1982. The collection contains copies of David Lubin's correspondence and writings during his lifetime, and tributes that were published after his death. The collection also contains family correspondence to archival institutions regarding the donation and use of David Lubin's documents starting in 1959 and continuing until 1982. The collection is 0.5 cubic feet in size.

Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English

Physical location: SP: 28:I:4, 4:G:1 (Drawer I)

Access

Collection is open for research use.

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Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Mary Grace Heller Cope Collection, MS0009, Center for Sacramento History.

Acquisition Information

Received from Mary Grace Heller Cope on December 27, 2011 by the Center for Sacramento History (accession #2012/013).

Processing Information

Processed and finding aid prepared by Alexander C. Guilbert, 2013.

Biographical Sketch

David Lubin was born in Klodawa, Poland in 1849. His father died while he was still an infant. His mother, Rachel, eventually married Solomon Weinstock and the family moved to England. The family immigrated to the United States in 1855. David Lubin left school at the age of 12 and embarked on a series of odd jobs that took him back and forth across the United States.

David Lubin went to San Francisco, California in 1874 to help his recently widowed sister, Jeannette, and his step-brother, Harris Weinstock, run a dry goods store. Later that year he decided to open his own store, and unable to find a suitable location in San Francisco, decided to try his luck in Sacramento.

By 1875, Harris Weinstock joined David Lubin in Sacramento. The business prospered and evolved from a dry goods store into a department store and mail-order business. The business was incorporated in 1888 as Weinstock, Lubin & Company. Meanwhile, the store's success allowed David Lubin to focus on his interest in agriculture and the small farmer, specifically, farming collectives and the California Fruit Exchange.

David Lubin's first marriage to Louisa Lorraine Lyons produced six children. Due to the infidelity of his wife, the couple divorced in 1896. He then left the country with his children for a trip to Europe to avoid the publicity. After returning to the United States at the end of the year, Lubin and his family took up residence in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and sought input on President William McKinley's revision of tariffs. His suggestions were not adopted, but while in Philadelphia he met and later married Florence Platnauer in 1897. David Lubin, his new wife, and children then moved to San Francisco, California.

David Lubin wrote a book, *Let There Be Light*, about his ideas of a universal religion that was published in 1900.

Working with his son Simon, from his first marriage, David Lubin developed the idea for an international chamber of agriculture and unable to obtain support in the United States he pursued his goal in Europe. In 1904, Italian King Victor Emmanuel III gave political and monetary support to David Lubin's idea. In 1905 a world conference was held with representatives of 41 countries. The result of the conference was the inauguration of the International Institute of Agriculture (IIA) headquartered in Rome. Lubin was appointed the permanent United States delegate to the IIA. During World War I, Lubin continued his work with the IIA from Rome.

In 1916 Lubin met H.G. Wells and the two men corresponded until Lubin's death on January 1, 1919 a victim of the influenza epidemic.

The IIA was dissolved in 1946 and its functions and several of its assets were transferred to the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) of the United Nations. The David Lubin Memorial Library was dedicated in Rome in 1952.

David Lubin's second marriage produced three children, Dorothy Sophie, Grace, and Theodore. This collection was donated by Mary Grace Heller Cope, the daughter of Grace Lubin Finesinger.

Information for this biography was partially derived from *Weinstock's: Sacramento's Finest Department Store* by Annette Kassis.

Scope and Content

The Mary Grace Heller Cope Collection is arranged in two series: 1. David Lubin and 2. Family. Items span the years 1896 to 1992, with the bulk of items being the family correspondence to archival institutions dating from 1959 through 1982. The total of both series consists of one-half cubic foot containing documents. Correspondence documents are often photocopies or typewritten transcriptions of the originals.

The first series, David Lubin, is divided into eight subseries: Correspondence; H. G. Wells; Book, *Let There Be Light*; Writings; International Institute of Agriculture/Food and Agriculture Organization; Tributes; Biographical Information; and Correspondence between family members and archival organizations (FAO, American Jewish Archives, and the Western Jewish History Center of the Judah L. Magnes Memorial Museum).

The second series, Family, is divided into two subseries: American Jewish Archive Interviews and Newspaper Clippings.

Related Material

For additional information regarding David Lubin, researchers should consult the Magnes Collection of Jewish Art and Life at the Bancroft Library at the University of California, Berkeley.

Series 1. David Lubin 1896-1973

Box 1

Correspondence 1900-1918

Box 1, Folder 1	David Lubin to Dorothy, Gracie and Teddy 1917-1918
Box 1, Folder 2	Others 1900-1918

Box 1	H. G. Wells 1914-1928
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Box 1, Folder 3	Correspondence 1914-1918
Box 1, Folder 3	Excerpt from <i>The World of William Clissold</i> 1914-1918
Box 1, Folder 3	Newspaper article 1928

Box 1, Folder 4	Book, <i>Let There Be Light</i> 1900
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Box 1	Writings 1896-1918
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Box 1, Folder 5	Rural Co-operation a remedy for trust. Letter to Congressman William Sulzer
Box 1, Folder 5	Letter of the Permanent Delegate of the United States to the Minister of Finance of Russia on the form of crop reports
Box 1, Folder 5	Address delivered by David Lubin at the International Congress of Agriculture at Budapest 1896
Box 1, Folder 5	The university in the homes of the people 1901
Box 1, Folder 5	The mission of Israel and the Commonwealth of Nations 1911
Box 1, Folder 5	Frederick William Raiffeisen, Address delivered by David Lubin 1913
Box 1, Folder 5	Cost of Ocean Carriage 1914
Box 1, Folder 5	A Practical National Marketing Organization and Rural Credits System for the United States, a hearing before the State Department 1915
Box 1, Folder 5	Liberty Crop vs. the Ukraine 1915
Box 1, Folder 5	Democracies versus Autocracies 1917
Box 1, Folder 5	An International Confederation Permanent Peace Under a Constitution 1917
Box 1, Folder 5	Letter to Captain Harold Harris, Jewish Battalion, British Expeditionary Force from David Lubin 1918

Box 1	International Institute of Agriculture/Food and Agriculture Organization 1948-1973
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Box 1, Folder 6	Paper describing the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the International Institute of Agriculture
Box 1, Folder 6	Addresses delivered to commemorate the Fiftieth Anniversary of the International Institute of Agriculture
Box 1, Folder 6	Correspondence 1948
Box 1, Folder 6	Newspaper articles 1974
Box 1, Folder 6	<i>International Problems of Agriculture</i> 1935
Box 1, Folder 6	Postcard of the bust of David Lubin residing at the International Institute of Agriculture in Rome, Italy
Box 1, Folder 6	Brochures and newsletter 1966-1973

Box 1	Tributes 1918-1969
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Box 1, Folder 7	Condolences and newspaper articles 1918-1919
Box 1, Folder 7	Correspondence and copy of review of <i>David Lubin: A Study in Practical Idealism</i> 1923
Box 1, Folder 7	Newspaper clipping regarding the launch of the liberty ship S. S. David Lubin undated
Box 1, Folder 7	Correspondence expressing thanks to the Lubin family for gifts to the S. S. David Lubin 1944
Box 1, Folder 7	Newspaper clipping from The Sun 1949
Box 1, Folder 7	Newspaper clipping of the David Lubin Memorial of the 110th anniversary of his birth, from the Daily American 1959

Box 1, Folder 7 **David Lubin (1849-1919) An Appreciation 1969**
Box 1, Folder 7 **Pamphlet and photograph of the altar window of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Methodist in Richmond, California which contains a depiction of David Lubin**

Box 1 **Biographical Information**

Box 1, Folder 8 **Scrapbook containing a chronological listing of the articles, pamphlets, letters, etc. written by, to, or about David Lubin**
Box 1, Folder 9 **Photocopies of articles about David Lubin**

Box 1 **Correspondence between family members and archival organizations (FAO, American Jewish Archives, and the Western Jewish History Center of the Judah L. Magnes Memorial Museum) 1959-1982**

Box 1, Folder 10 **Correspondence 1959-1982**
Box 1, Folder 10 **Photographs of Grace Lubin Finesinger at the FAO 1974**
Series 2. Family

Box 1 **American Jewish Archives Interviews 1975**

Box 1, Folder 11 **Grace Lubin Finesinger 1975**
Box 1, Folder 11 **Dorothy Sophie Lubin Heller 1975**

Box 1 **Newspaper Clippings 1957-1973**

Box 1, Folder 12 **Newspaper clipping regarding Mrs. David Lubin's 90th birthday from the Press-Journal 1957**
Box 1, Folder 12 **Newspaper clipping regarding the death of Jess Ira Lubin undated**
Box 1, Folder 12 **Newspaper clipping regarding the Judith Magnes Museum obtaining David Lubin material from the Jewish Observer 1973**
Box 1, Folder 12 **Correspondence from Prentice-Hall, Inc. to Helene Bogaty 1973**
Box 1, Folder 12 **Newspaper clipping regarding experiments in democracy conducted by the University of Washington from the New York Herald Tribune 1952**
Box 1, Folder 12 **The Community Development Program of the Bureau of Community Development of the University of Washington document**