Creator: Wickson, Edward J. (Edward James), 1848-1923
Title: Edward J. Wickson Papers
Date: 1874-1923
Date (bulk): (1900-1920 bulk)
Extent: 2 linear feet
Abstract: The Edward J. Wickson Papers pertain to agriculture in California, which Wickson studied and taught during his 34 years as a professor and later Dean of the College of Agriculture at the University of California. The papers include many works by and about experimental horticulturalist Luther Burbank such as articles, correspondence, and duplicates of Burbank's scrapbooks.
Physical location: Researchers should contact Special Collections to request collections, as many are stored offsite.
Repository: University of California, Davis. General Library. Department of Special Collections.
Collection number: D-037
Language of Material: Collection materials in English.

Biography
Born on August 3, 1848 in Rochester, New York, Edward James Wickson devoted much of his life to agricultural research. In 1872, he graduated from Hamilton College in Clinton, New York. Wickson was elected secretary of the New York Dairymen's Association in 1871. He organized the first dairy association in California in 1876. Wickson started at the University of California in 1879 as a lecturer in Practical Agriculture, was promoted to Assistant Professor of Agriculture in 1891, and in 1897 became a Professor of Agricultural Practice and Superintendent of Agricultural Extension courses. From 1906-1912, he served as the Dean of the College of Agriculture and Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station. From 1905-1906 he reviewed nearly seventy sites on which to locate the University Farm.

Wickson admired experimental horticulturalist Luther Burbank (1849-1926) and wrote about him in *Luther Burbank: Man, Methods and Achievements*, published in 1902. Wickson's other writings include *The California Fruits and How to Grow Them* (1889), *The California Vegetables in Garden and Field* (1898), and *Rural California* (1923). He began working with *The Pacific Rural Press* in 1875, was named a special contributor in 1894 and was the editor from 1899 until 1923. He died on July 16, 1923.

Sources:

Scope and Content
The Edward J. Wickson Papers spans the years of 1874-1923. The bulk of the material dates between 1900 and 1920. The majority of the documents in this collection are about Luther Burbank with some pertaining to the University of California, College of Agriculture. The papers are arranged into two series: 1. Material Related to Luther Burbank and 2. Material Related to Other Topics.

The first series, Material Related to Luther Burbank, contains Wickson's Burbank-related correspondence, works by and about Burbank, and Burbank's Scrapbooks. There are seventy pieces of correspondence between Burbank and Wickson. Letters from publisher Oscar Binner include editing notes for a manuscript that Burbank and Wickson wrote together. The second series, Material Related to Other Topics, contains correspondence to and from Wickson and Wickson's writing and speeches, related to his own research and to the College of Agriculture.

Arrangement of the Collection
Arranged into two series: 1. Material Related to Luther Burbank and 2. Material Related to Other Topics.

Related collections
The Bancroft Library at the University of California, Berkeley holds 1.5 linear feet of Edward J. Wickson Papers.
The Library of Congress holds the Luther Burbank Papers.

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog. Wickson, Edward J. (Edward James), 1848-1923--Archives.
Burbank, Luther, 1849-1926
University of California (1868-1952). College of Agriculture
Agriculture-California
Horticulture--History

Access
Collection is open for research.

Acquisition Information
This collection was acquired by the library in 1972 with additional materials added in 2002.

Processing Information
Special Collections intern, Anne Rapaport, and Manuscript and Photograph Curator, Melissa Tyler, arranged this collection and created its finding aid. Collections Manager Sara Gunasekara encoded the online finding aid.

Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Edward J. Wickson Papers, D-037, Department of Special Collections, General Library, University of California, Davis.

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Series 1. Material Related to Luther Burbank 1874-1920
Physical Description: 92 folders
Scope and Content Note
Wickson created or collected this material related to Luther Burbank. Arranged in six subseries: Wickson's Correspondence Related to Burbank, Wickson's Works about Burbank, Others' Works about Burbank, Burbank's Works, Extracts from Burbank's Scrapbooks, and Ephemera Related to Burbank.

Subseries 1.1 Wickson's Correspondence Related to Burbank 1900-1920
Physical Description: 36 folders
Scope and Content Note
Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent. Includes Wickson's outgoing, incoming, and collected correspondence with or about Burbank. Wickson is the recipient rather than the author of most of these letters.

Box 1:1 Andrews, H. 1905
Box 1:2 The Atlantic Monthly, the editors 1905
Physical Description: Wickson's manuscript enclosed.

Box 1:3 Bailey, L.H. 1903
Box 1:4 Bell, Claude J. 1907
Box 1:5 Binner, Oscar E. 1902-1912
Physical Description: 75 letters with enclosures.

Box 1:6 Boddie, V.B. 1909
Box 1:7 Brackett, G.B. 1901
Box 1:8 Brauton, Ernest 1906-1909
Box 1:9 Burbank, Luther 1900-1920
Physical Description: 70 letters with enclosures.

Box 1:10 Card, Fred 1902
| Box 1:11 | Chambers, Charles 1909 |
| Box 1:12 | Christy, S.P. 1913 |
| Box 1:13 | Coates, Leonard 1910 |
| Box 1:14 | Collingwood, H.W. 1909 |
| Box 1:15 | DeLoach, R.J.H. 1908 |
| Box 1:16 | Horsburgh, J. 1901-1905 |

Physical Description: Reviews of Wickson's *Sunset Magazine* articles enclosed.

| Box 1:17 | John, Robert 1912 |
| Box 1:18 | Johnson, Joseph 1901-1902 |
| Box 1:19 | Jordan, David Starr 1911 |
| Box 1:20 | Kruckeberg, H.W. 1907 |
| Box 1:21 | Lanier, Charles D. 1905 |
| Box 1:22 | Leib, S.F. 1901-1902 |
| Box 1:23 | Lilienthal, Hugo 1909-1910 |
| Box 1:24 | Lyon, Thomas undated |
| Box 1:25 | McDonald, M. 1902 |
| Box 1:26 | Miller, Wilhelm 1904 |
| Box 1:27 | Morrow, W.W. 1905 |
| Box 1:28 | Page, Walter 1905 |
| Box 1:29 | Rinner, John 1914 |
| Box 1:30 | Saunders, William 1902 |
| Box 1:31 | Smith, C.B. 1902 |
| Box 1:32 | *Sunset Magazine*, the editors 1905-1911 |
| Box 1:33 | Taylor, Arthur 1902 |
| Box 1:34 | Wheeler, Benjamin Ide 1902-1903 |
| Box 1:35 | Woodbury, C. 1909 |
| Box 1:36 | Unidentified 1908 |

**Subseries 1.2 Wickson's Works about Burbank 1899-1913**

- Physical Description: 11 folders
- Scope and Content Note
  - Arranged alphabetically by title. Includes manuscripts, notes, and clippings of articles written by Wickson about Burbank.

| Box 1:37 | *Life and Work of Luther Burbank*, manuscripts 1902 |
| Box 1:38 | *Luther Burbank and His New Environment*, manuscripts undated |
| Box 1:39-42, Box 2:1 | *Luther Burbank: Man, Methods and Achievements*, manuscripts circa 1902 |

Scope and Content Note

- Includes photographic negative of Burbank.

| Box 2:2 | "Luther Burbank Story," clipping 1913 February 8 |
| Box 2:3 | "Mr. Burbank's Work," clipping 1905 October 21 |
| Box 2:4 | *The Plant Breeding of Luther Burbank*, "Preface," manuscripts undated |
| Box 2:5 | [Remarks at Fruit Growers' Convention], notes 1899 |

**Subseries 1.3 Others' Works about Burbank 1905-1913**

- Physical Description: 5 folders
- Scope and Content Note
  - Arranged alphabetically by author. Wickson collected these articles written by other authors about Burbank.

| Box 2:6 | Beaty, John, "The Boyhood of Luther Burbank," clipping 1913 July |
| Box 2:7 | DeVries, Hugo, *California Fruit: A Visit to Luther Burbank*, typed copy undated |
| Box 3:1 | Gregory, Thomas J., "Luther Burbank: Traveler in Plantland," in *History of Sonoma County, California*, typed copy 1911 |
| Box 2:8 | Reynolds, C.P., “Burbank As He Is,” clipping 1905 June 1 |
| Box 2:9 | Unidentified author, “Burbank Again,” clipping 1907 February |
| Box 2:10 | Unidentified author, "A Worthy Tribute to Luther Burbank," clipping undated |

### Subseries 1.4 Burbank's Works 1906-1912

**Physical Description:** 25 folders

**Scope and Content Note**

Arranged alphabetically by title. Includes articles, letters to the editor, and remarks by Burbank in the form of clippings, a typed copy, and a periodical. Also included are Wickson's copies of drafts of chapters of Burbank's twelve-volume work, *Luther Burbank: His Methods and Discoveries and their Practical Application* (1914-1915).

| Box 2:11 | "How to Produce New Flowers and Fruits," clipping undated |
| Box 2:12 | "Large Profit in Growing Walnuts," in *For California* 1906 April |
| Box 2:13 | Letters to the editor of *The Rural New Yorker*, clippings undated |
| Box 3:2 | *Luther Burbank: His Methods and Discoveries and their Practical Application*, "Bulbs" undated |
| Box 3:3 | *Luther Burbank: His Methods and Discoveries and their Practical Application*, "Cactus" undated |
| Box 3:4 | *Luther Burbank: His Methods and Discoveries and their Practical Application*, "Climbing Vines" undated |
| Box 3:5 | *Luther Burbank: His Methods and Discoveries and their Practical Application*, "Climbing Vines (large)" undated |
| Box 3:6 | *Luther Burbank: His Methods and Discoveries and their Practical Application*, "Desert Succulents (other than Palms)" undated |
| Box 3:7 | *Luther Burbank: His Methods and Discoveries and their Practical Application*, "Everlasting Plants" undated |
| Box 3:8 | *Luther Burbank: His Methods and Discoveries and their Practical Application*, "Ferns" undated |
| Box 3:9 | *Luther Burbank: His Methods and Discoveries and their Practical Application*, "Forage Plants" undated |
| Box 3:10 | *Luther Burbank: His Methods and Discoveries and their Practical Application*, "Forage Plants (clover)" undated |
| Box 3:11 | *Luther Burbank: His Methods and Discoveries and their Practical Application*, "Forage Plants (giant ornamental grasses)" undated |
| Box 3:12 | *Luther Burbank: His Methods and Discoveries and their Practical Application*, "Forage Plants (rushes, ornamental, etc)" undated |
| Box 3:13 | *Luther Burbank: His Methods and Discoveries and their Practical Application*, "Gourds" undated |
| Box 3:14 | *Luther Burbank: His Methods and Discoveries and their Practical Application*, "Medieval, Etc. Fruit Trees and Vines" undated |
| Box 3:15 | *Luther Burbank: His Methods and Discoveries and their Practical Application*, "Mistletoe, Parasitic Plants" undated |
| Box 3:16 | *Luther Burbank: His Methods and Discoveries and their Practical Application*, "Orchids" undated |
| Box 3:17 | *Luther Burbank: His Methods and Discoveries and their Practical Application*, "Palms" undated |
| Box 3:18 | *Luther Burbank: His Methods and Discoveries and their Practical Application*, "Potato" undated |
| Box 3:19 | *Luther Burbank: His Methods and Discoveries and their Practical Application*, "Textile Plants" undated |
| Box 3:20 | *Luther Burbank: His Methods and Discoveries and their Practical Application*, "Vegetable and Garden Plants" 1911-1912 |
| Box 3:21 | *Luther Burbank: His Methods and Discoveries and their Practical Application*, "Water and Bog Plants" undated |
Series 1. Material Related to Luther Burbank 1874-1920
Subseries 1.4Burbank's Works 1906-1912

Box 3:22  Luther Burbank: His Methods and Discoveries and their Practical Application, "Miscellaneous Plants" undated
Box 3:23  "Remarks at Fruit Growers Convention" 1911

Subseries 1.5 Extracts from Burbank's Scrapbooks 1874-1911
Physical Description: 14 folders
Scope and Content Note
Arranged in chronological order. Contains Wickson's duplicates of extracts from Burbank's scrapbooks. Includes typed copies of articles, clippings, letters, notes, and speeches by Burbank and other authors.

Box 3:24  Scrapbook 1, extracts 1874-1895
Box 4:1  Scrapbook 2, extracts 1896-1901
Box 4:2  Scrapbook 3, extracts 1901-1904
Box 4:3  Scrapbooks (unidentified numbers), extracts 1901-1905; undated
Scope and Content Note
Fragments from several scrapbooks.

Box 4:4  Scrapbook 4, extracts 1902-1905
Box 4:5  Scrapbook 5, extracts 1905
Box 4:6  Scrapbook 6, extracts 1905-1906
Box 4:7  Scrapbook 7, extracts 1906-1907
Box 4:8  Scrapbook 8, extracts 1907-1908
Box 4:9  Scrapbook 9, extracts 1908
Box 4:10  Scrapbook 10, extracts 1909
Box 4:11  Scrapbook 11, extracts 1909-1910
Box 4:12  Scrapbook 12, extracts 1910-1911
Physical Description: page 1

Box 4:13  Scrapbook 13, extracts 1910-1911

Subseries 1.6 Ephemera Related to Burbank 1911-1914
Physical Description: 1 folder
Scope and Content Note
Includes promotional material for Burbank's books and horticultural productions.

Box 4:14  Clippings and flyers 1911-1914

Series 2 Material Related to Other Topics 1895-1923
Physical Description: 51 folders
Scope and Content Note
Arranged in three subseries: Wickson's Correspondence Related to Other Topics, Wickson's Works about Other Topics, and Others' Works about Other Topics. Materials are not related to Luther Burbank.

Subseries 2.1 Wickson's Correspondence Related to Other Topics 1896-1923
Physical Description: 6 folders
Scope and Content Note
Arranged alphabetically by sender. Contains Wickson's correspondence, not related to Burbank.

Box 5:1  Clarke, Professor 1896
Box 5:2  Empson, J.H. 1908-1914
Box 5:3  Grady, K. (Chancellor) 1922-1923
Subseries 2.1 Wickson's Correspondence Related to Other Topics 1896-1923

Physical Description: 44 folders
Scope and Content Note
Arranged alphabetically by title. Contains Wickson's articles, speeches and manuscripts, not related to Burbank.

Box 5:4
Hews, Bert 1920

Box 5:5
Roeding, George 1911

Box 5:6
Wilson, G.H. 1915

Subseries 2.2 Wickson's Works about Other Topics 1895-1923

"Memoranda on Agricultural Education" circa 1900
"Agricultural Education and Development" 1912
"Artistic Arrangement at Flower Shows" undated
"The California Citrus Industry" 1911
"The California Fruit Industry" 1904 1913
"California Garden Calendar" 1905
"California's Leadership in Alfalfa" 1913
"California Nurserymen of the Fourth Decade" 1919
"California Nurserymen of the Fifth and Sixth Decades" 1920
"Citrus Fruit in Northern California" 1917
"Dairy Industry" undated
"The Development of California Fruit Industries" 1917
"The Development of California Fruit Industries" 1920
"Do We Need New Varieties of Commercial Fruit?" 1915
"Editorial" 1923
"The Eleventh National Irrigation Congress" undated
"Farmers Institute" 1904
"A Few Facts About Beneficial Insects" undated
"Regarding Forecasting the Future of California" circa 1900
"Forestry Education in California" 1902
"Fruit Gardens of the Pacific Coast" 1903
"Hot Air Furnaces for House Heating in California" 1895
"How the Agricultural Colleges Best Serve the Farmers in Solving Rural Problems" 1909
"In Praise of Trees" circa 1923
"Irrigation" circa 1900
"Ladies and Gentlemen" undated
"Multiplication of Beauty and Wealth" 1911 1923
"Must the Apple Go to the Mountain?" undated
"Opinion Upon the Choice of the Davisville Site" circa 1907
"Orange Growing" circa 1904-1905
"Progress of Pomology in America" circa 1903-1904
"The Present Conditions of California's Fruit Industries" circa 1903
"The Prune in California" 1916
"Ralph Palmer Merritt" circa 1920
"Reading and Correspondence Courses, University Extension Agriculture" undated
"Remarks of E.J. Wickson on the Unveiling of the Bust of E.W. Hilgard" 1912
"Suggestions on Policies in the Improvement of University Grounds" circa 1907
"Voting on Amendment 11" undated
"What California has Done for Fruit Growing" circa 1910
"What Fruit Growing is Doing for California" 1903
"Why California for Farming?" circa 1921
"Why California Leads the World in Fruits" 1915
Fragment undated
Notes 1904 undated
Subseries 2.3 Others' Works about Other Topics 1904

Physical Description: 1 folder

Box 5:51  

Wing, Joseph, "A Chat About Agricultural Colleges" 1904