Finding Aid for the John W. Fisher papers, 1900-1959

Processed by Yasmin Damshenas in the Center for Primary Research and Training (CFPRT), with assistance from Megan Hahn Fraser, September 2011; machine-readable finding aid created by Caroline Cubé.

UCLA Library Special Collections
Room A1713, Charles E. Young Research Library
Box 951575
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1575
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URL: http://www.library.ucla.edu/libraries/special/scweb/
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Descriptive Summary
Title: John W. Fisher papers
Date (inclusive): 1900-1959
Collection number: 261
Extent: 2 boxes (1 linear ft.)
Abstract: The collection consists of the personal papers of John W. Fisher, owner of The Fisher Lumber Company, Santa Monica, California. The collection includes letters and postcards, photographs, financial records, clippings, certificates and membership cards, a few event programs and an American flag.
Language: Finding aid is written in English.
Repository: University of California, Los Angeles. Library Special Collections.
Los Angeles, California 90095-1575
Physical location: Stored off-site at SRLF. Advance notice is required for access to the collection. Please contact UCLA Library Special Collections for paging information.

Restrictions on Access
Open for research. STORED OFF-SITE AT SRLF. Advance notice is required for access to the collection. Please contact UCLA Library Special Collections for paging information.

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Provenance/Source of Acquisition

Processing Note
Processed by Yasmin Damshenas in the Center for Primary Research and Training (CFPRT), with assistance from Megan Hahn Fraser, September 2011.

Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], John W. Fisher papers (Collection 261). UCLA Library Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, UCLA.

UCLA Catalog Record ID
UCLA Catalog Record ID: 4233022

Biography
John W. Fisher (1873-1959) was an Iowa native and long-time resident of Santa Monica. He became a successful lumberman and owner of the Fisher Lumber Company in 1924. Fisher's philanthropic work extended to such organizations as the First Methodist Church in Santa Monica, the Santa Monica Young Men's Christian Association, the Santa Monica chapter of the Red Cross, Santa Monica City College and Boys' Town, Nebraska. Fisher was closely involved with the development of the city of Santa Monica, both as a member of the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce and as Treasurer for the Board of Freeboarders which helped draft a new city charter in 1946. He also served on the Santa Monica City Planning Commission in 1954 until he was forced to retire due to health reasons later that year. He passed away on August 9, 1959.

Scope and Content
The collection consists of the personal papers of John W. Fisher, long-time resident of Santa Monica, California, and owner of The Fisher Lumber Company. Fisher was an active philanthropist and also involved in the development of the city of Santa Monica during the 1940s and 50s. Documents in this collection include letters and postcards, photographs, financial records, clippings, certificates and membership cards, a few event programs and an American flag.

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library’s online public access catalog.

Subjects
Fisher, John W., 1873-1959--Archives.
Businessmen--California--Santa Monica.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 1</th>
<th>Business files - Lumber and Century Federal 1941-1959</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td>Letters from JWF to employees, letters from suppliers, financial details such as wages, lists and trial balances. Includes photographs of lumber businesses, some of which document a fire at Fisher Lumber. Covers JWF’s time with Fisher-Schwartz Lumber, Fisher Lumber and Century Federal Saving and Loan Association.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 2</th>
<th>Board of Freeholders 1946</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td>Documents from JWF’s tenure as Treasurer for the Board of Freeholders that drafted a new charter for the city of Santa Monica. Includes drafts of charter, letters and some financial records.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 3</th>
<th>Santa Monica City Planning Commission 1954</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td>Letters and certificate of merit from JWF’s tenure as a member of the City Planning Commission.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 4</th>
<th>Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce 1943-1959</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td>Documents related to JWF’s membership with the Chamber of Commerce. Includes a financial report, letters and list of committee members.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 5</th>
<th>Letters and postcards 1943-1958</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td>Includes correspondence mentioning of the death of JWF’s daughter, Marjorie Fox, as well a postcard/mailer from Richard Nixon’s 1952 vice presidential campaign.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 6</th>
<th>Charitable donations ca. 1948-1959</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td>Letters either requesting support (often later annotated with details regarding contribution amount and check number), or thanking JWF for his contribution. Organizations represented in this file include the Santa Monica Chapter of the American Red Cross; Santa Monica City College; Father Flanagan’s Boys’ Town, Nebraska; and Santa Monica Hospital.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 7</th>
<th>First Methodist Church 1950-1959</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td>Documents reflecting JWF’s support of the First Methodist Church of Santa Monica, include letters, budgets, annual reports, and a program for a memorial event.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 8</th>
<th>Santa Monica Young Men’s Christian Association 1952-1959</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
<td>Documents highlighting JWF’s involvement with the Santa Monica YMCA, include letters, summary of annual planning conference, advisory board agendas and minutes, budgets, and list of committees.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder 9</th>
<th>Clippings ca. 1926-1954</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Box 2, Folder 1  Rotary Club 1953-1959
Scope and Content Note
Documents related to JFW's membership with the Rotary Club. Includes assembly program, lists of officers and committee members, letters and group photographs.

Box 2, Folder 2  Certificates 1934-1959
Scope and Content Note
Certificates awarded to JWF for membership, achievement, service and contributions.

Box 2, Folder 3  Cards 1914-1959
Scope and Content Note
Cards collected by JWF, including membership cards for a variety of organizations such as the International Concatenated Order of Hoo-Hoo, Elk's Lodge, Al Malaikah Temple, Free and Accepted Masons, Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club, and Boys' Town.

Box 2, Folder 4  Home Loan and Insurance 1929 and 1942
Scope and Content Note
Certificates, letters and clipping.

Box 2, Folder 5  Automobile 1953-1957
Scope and Content Note
Driving exam score sheet and temporary licenses for JWF.

Box 2, Folder 6  Programs 1950-1958
Scope and Content Note
Programs that JWF saved from various events, including his granddaughter's graduation.

Box 2, Folder 7  Photographs ca. 1911-1952
Scope and Content Note
Include family snapshots, portraits, group photographs.

Box 2, Folder 8  California Building-Loan League 1930
Scope and Content Note
Group photograph taken at Hotel del Coronado in San Diego.

Box 2, Folder 9  American flag ca. 1900s
Box 2, Folder 10  Obituary 1959 August 9
Scope and Content Note
Includes JWF's obituary from The California Lumber Merchant, funeral program and guest book.