Finding Aid for the W.W. Hodkinson papers LSC.1171

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UCLA Library Special Collections
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Finding Aid for the W.W. Hodkinson papers LSC.1171

Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: UCLA Library Special Collections
Title: W.W. Hodkinson papers
Creator: Hodkinson, W.W. (William Wadsworth)
Identifier/Call Number: LSC.1171
Physical Description: 13.5 Linear Feet (27 boxes)
Date (inclusive): 1881-1971
Abstract: W.W. (William Wallace) Hodkinson (1881-1971) opened one of the nation's first movie theaters in Ogden, Utah in 1907. He became a leading West Coast film distributor, and founded Paramount company in 1914 for distributing films of Adolph Zukor's Famous Players Company. He left the motion picture business in 1929 to form Hodkinson Aviation Corporation, and later formed the Central American Aviation Corporation and Compañía Nacional de Aviación in Guatemala. The collection consists of correspondence, financial records, diaries, reports, notes, photographs, tape recordings, clippings, and other printed material related to Hodkinson's involvement with the motion picture and aviation industries.

Language of Material: Materials are in English.

Conditions Governing Access
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Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], W.W. Hodkinson papers (Collection 1171). UCLA Library Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, University of California, Los Angeles.

Processing Information
Original rough box numbers are given in square brackets following each entry; the original labels which contained brief descriptions of contents have been retained in the Collections File.

UCLA Catalog Record ID
UCLA Catalog Record ID: 1720472

Biographical History
Hodkinson was born in 1881 in Pueblo, Colorado; worked as railroad telegrapher and correspondence school salesman; opened one of the nation's first movie theaters in Ogden, Utah in 1907; became a leading West Coast film distributor; went to New York in 1914 to negotiate film contracts, remaining to become one of the leading East Coast distributors; founded Paramount company in 1914 for distributing films of Adolph Zukor's Famous Players Company; company name changed in 1918 to Paramount Pictures; left motion picture business in 1929 to form Hodkinson Aviation Corporation, and later formed the Central American Aviation Corporation and Compañía Nacional de Aviación in Guatemala; he died in 1971.

Scope and Content
Collection consists of correspondence, financial records, diaries, reports, notes, photographs, tape recordings, clippings, and other printed material related to the involvement of William Wallace Hodkinson with the motion picture and aviation industries.

Arrangement
Arranged in the following series:
1. Original diaries (Boxes 1-4).
2. Aviation (Boxes 5-8).
3. Motion picture industry (Boxes 9-27).

Related Materials
### Subjects and Indexing Terms

- Aeronautics, Commercial -- Archives.
- Motion pictures -- Distribution -- Archives.
- Diaries.
- Paramount Pictures Corporation (1914-1927)

### Original Diaries 1920s-1960s

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Scope and Contents note 1920s-1960s</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>box 1</td>
<td>1928-early 1930s; 1950s-early 1960s.</td>
<td>General note [D]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>box 2</td>
<td>1933-1942, 1954, 1956.</td>
<td>General note [T]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>box 4</td>
<td>1950s-1960s.</td>
<td>Scope and Contents note</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>[Also], clippings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>General note [K]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Material re WWH's Involvement in Aviation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Scope and Contents note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>box 5</td>
<td>Correspondence re Hodkinson Aviation Corporation Limited. 1929-1940s</td>
<td>General note [X]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>box 6</td>
<td>Correspondence and papers. 1920s-1930s</td>
<td>Scope and Contents note</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Includes copy certificate of incorporation and Bylaws, 1929 for Hodkinson Aviation Corporation, and material re proposed aerial survey of Guatemala and other Latin American countries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>General note [V]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>box 7</td>
<td>Correspondence and papers re Central American Aviation Corporation Limited. 1933-1935</td>
<td>General note [F]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>box 7</td>
<td>Correspondence with William Vogel. 1939</td>
<td>General note [F]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Cassette tape recordings by WHH. 1966-1969
Scope and Contents note
For his autobiography[?].
General note
[F]

Correspondence and papers. 1931-1935
Scope and Contents note
Including traffic reports and clippings re Central American Aviation Corporation Limited, and Compañía Nacional de Aviación, Incorporated, in Guatemala.
General note
[P]

Material Mostly re Motion Picture Industry

Correspondence, A - R. circa 1928-1969
Scope and Contents note
Includes reference to the future of United Artists, new ideas regarding motion picture distribution, correspondence from Frank Garbutt (co-founder of Famous Players-Lasky, later Paramount), Hodkinson's view on Jews in the film industry, history of Paramount Studios, letters regarding Mary Pickford and her ownership of United Artists, includes some material re aviation.
General note
[R]

Correspondence, S - Z and some miscellaneous. circa 1924-1966
General note
[A]
Contents include: 1913 issue of Moving Picture World; 1917 issue of Mack Sennett Weekly; Hodkinson's thoughts on television (1950); discussion of 3-D films, use of glasses, 3-D television; mention of the first use of Cinescope; mention of Cinerama; use of televisions in movie theaters; map of Paramount Pictures studio; motion picture advertising.

Correspondence. circa 1914-1940
Scope and Contents note
Contents include: Includes material re film marketing plans; 1913 film budgets, D.W. Griffith contract for The Clansman; Progressive Motion Picture Company (Paramount) 1914 correspondence; film distribution to South America; holiday wishes telegram from Adolph Zukor; correspondence with Frank Garbutt; legal papers related to Progressive Motion Picture Co. and Famous Players Film Co.;
General note
[C]

Correspondence. mostly 1930s-1940s, some 1960s
Scope and Contents note
Includes monthly statements and correspondence re airline company, 1935.
General note
[U]
Material Mostly re Motion Picture Industry

box 13  
**Correspondence. circa 1925-1940s**  
Scope and Contents note  
Includes a few clippings.  
General note  
[W]

box 14  
**Clippings, notes and reminiscences. 1930s-1960s**  
Scope and Contents note  
Includes a few letters.  
General note  
[B]

box 15  
**Correspondence and papers. 1925-1930s**  
Scope and Contents note  
Includes some clippings and material re airline company.  
General note  
[AA]

box 16  
**Correspondence, papers, clippings and notes, mostly re television. 1945-1960s**  
General note  
[G]

box 17  
**Correspondence, papers, clippings and notes. 1920s, 1950s-1960s**  
Scope and Contents note  
Includes material re "Alaskan Adventures," correspondence and report re airline company, and reminiscences of WWH, 1960s.  
General note  
[Q]

box 18  
**Clippings and notes. mostly 1947-1952**  
General note  
[E]

box 19  
**Correspondence, clippings and notes. 1920s-circa 1951**  
Scope and Contents note  
Includes brochures.  
General note  
[BB]

box 20  
**Clippings and notes. 1920s-1960s**  
Scope and Contents note  
Includes a very few items of correspondence.  
General note  
[Y]

box 21  
**Clippings and notes. 1920s-1950s**  
Scope and Contents note  
Includes some correspondence and papers re WWH's real estate.  
General note  
[Z]
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 22   | **Correspondence and legal papers re action involving real estate. 1942**  
      | General note  
      | [M] |
| 22   | **Correspondence, clippings and notes. circa 1920s-1950s**  
      | General note  
      | [M] |
| 23   | **Correspondence, clippings and ephemera. mostly circa 1914-1916**  
      | General note  
      | [H "Pre-motion pic to Progressive and Paramount [1916]"] |
| 24   | **Government and other reports, and copy case papers. 1920s-1940s**  
      | General note  
      | [J "Block booking law case, printed materials"] |
| 25   | **Correspondence and papers re WWH Corporation. 1924-circa 1940**  
      | Scope and Contents note  
      | Includes annual report, 1924 and brochures.  
      | General note  
      | [T] |
| 26   | **Correspondence, clippings and papers. 1930s-1940s**  
      | Scope and Contents note  
      | Includes material for WWH's distribution plan and exhibits for meetings.  
      | General note  
      | [N] |
| 27   | **Writings by WWH. 1920s-1940s**  
      | General note  
      | [D] |
| 27   | **Issues of The Saturday Evening Post. 1938, 1949**  
      | General note  
      | [D] |