Carl Jonas Rhodin papers

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Carl Jonas Rhodin papers

Date (bulk): bulk 1909-1930

Collection Number: WRCA 087

Extent: 3 linear feet7 boxes

Repository: Rivera Library. Special Collections Department.
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Languages: English.

Access
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Preferred Citation
[identification of item], [date if possible]. Carl Jonas Rhodin papers (WRCA 087). Water Resources Collections and Archives. Special Collections & University Archives, University of California, Riverside.

Collection Scope and Contents
Reports and papers on hydraulic power systems, hydroelectric developments in California and the West, land reclamation and valuation.

Biography
Carl Jonas Rhodin was born on May 11, 1877 in Kongelf, Sweden, the son of Carl Joseph Theodor and Caroline Gustava Nathalia (Trahn) Rhodin. He attended schools in England and at Gothenburg, Sweden, where he entered the university. He completed his training in civil and electrical engineering at the Royal Technical University in Stockholm, from which he was graduated in 1900. After some experience in harbor construction work, he came to the United States in 1902, and during the next two years was employed as construction engineer on the Thebes Bridge across the Mississippi River. Thereafter he practiced almost continuously as a construction engineer, principally in California and other Pacific coast states.

Among the more important of Rhodin's works, which he either planned, constructed or supervised, were the extensions and additions to the De Sabla Hydraulic Power System for the California Gas and Electric Co. (1906), hydraulic improvements in Sacramento (1907-1908), and the design and construction of several of the largest buildings in San Francisco. After 1908 he devoted particular attention to investigations of hydroelectric developments, land reclamation, valuation and rate fixing, and projected railway extensions. Among the corporations retaining his services in such capacities were the Southern Pacific Railroad Co., Great Western Power Co., Pacific Gas and Electric Co., and others in Japan and China.

For many years Rhodin was chairman of the section on city planning of the Commonwealth Club of San Francisco. He was a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, Society of Swedish Engineers and Engineers Club of San Francisco. He was an ardent yachtsman and wrote a number of articles for magazines devoted to the sport. His most valuable contribution was in the development of standards of performance and methods for handicap racing, which he calculated scientifically. Owing to his expert knowledge of the subject, he was selected as one of the judges of the international races during the Panama-Pacific International Exposition. He was married April 22, 1908, to Grace Margaret Cook, daughter of Alexander Cook, of San Francisco, and had a son, Carl William Rhodin.

Carl J. Rhodin died May 2, 1932 in Oakland, California.


Collection Number
Collection number updated February 2019. Legacy collection number was MS 79/2. This change was part of a project in 2018/2019 to update the collection numbers for collections in the Water Resources Collections and Archives.

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

Subjects
Marin Municipal Water District (Calif.)
Marin Water and Power Company
Excelsior Water and Mining Company
General Electric Power Company of California
Great Western Power Company
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation
Chewacon Ranch Project (Or.)
Western Canada Power Company
Spring Valley Water Company (San Francisco, Calif.)
Southern California Edison Company
Northern California Power Company
Hydraulic machinery
Hydroelectric power plants -- California
Reclamation of land -- California
Water-power -- California
Wolverton Dam (Calif.)

AGENCIES and PROJECTS - CALIFORNIA

Box 1, folder 1:A,B  Brandy City Mining Company, San Francisco - folder containing correspondence, proclamations announcing the diversion of water, and blueprints, all pertaining to the Yuba and Sierra Power Project and the development of power for Brandy City and the Mining Company in Sierra County.

Physical Description: 10 items (in 2 folders)

Box 1, folder 2  Memoranda: proposed development plan of the Chucawalla Development Co. - report by Koebig and Koebig, Cons. Eng., Los Angeles, Cal., dated April 13, 1911 September 16, 1911

Physical Description: 20 pages
Scope and Contents
Typewritten.

Box 1, folder 3  Excelsior Water and Mining Company - folder containing correspondence with officers of the company and J.G. White Engineering Corporation and a newspaper clipping, all concerning the development of water and power in the Nevada and Yuba Counties by the company 1921-22

Physical Description: 20 items

Box 1, folder 4  General Electric Power Company of California - folder containing proposals, calculations and notes on the development of power along the Mokelumne River in Amador and Calaveras Counties, and a pamphlet about water and power development along the river 1911

Physical Description: 6 items

Box 1, folder 5  Great Western Power Company, San Francisco. Valuation Department. Trend of construction labor costs of the distribution system, San Francisco District, inclusive. San Francisco: The Company, period 1914-1924 1925

Physical Description: 50 l.: tables, diagrams
Scope and Contents
Typewritten.
Box 1, folder 6  Great Western Power Company - folder containing documents and correspondence pertaining to the California Railroad Commission's investigation into the price of fuel oil and its relation to the company's rates to its consumers 1925
   Physical Description: 19 items

Box 1, folder 7  Great Western Power Company - folder containing stock promotion brochure and organization chart 1924 1922
   Physical Description: 2 items

Box 1, folder 8  Great Western Power Company, Pacific Gas and Electric Company, et al - envelope containing documentation (i.e., map, cost appraisals, statements, testimony, memoranda, etc.) on consolidation of territories 1928-30
   Physical Description: 19 items. (in 2 folders)
   Scope and Contents
   On envelope: Water Rights - Consolidation Case.

Box 1, folder 9  Moulton, J. S. Historical study of the effect of the severance of the electric properties and business in the City of San Francisco on the earnings and expenses of the Great Western Power Company of California for any year 1920 to 1925 inclusive. San Francisco, April 1926
   Physical Description: 146 l
   Scope and Contents
   Typewritten.

Box 1, folder 10  Putting power behind your savings. San Francisco: Great Western Power Company, 192-?
   Physical Description: 22 pages
   Scope and Contents
   Brochure.

Box 1, folder 11  Commentaries on functional organization. San Francisco: Great Western Power Company, 1928
   Physical Description: 27 l
   Scope and Contents
   Typewritten.
   With correspondence laid in.

Box 1, folder 12  Hetch Hetchy Water Supply Project, Tuolumne County - folder containing March 19, 1920 issue of The Banner (Sonora) (Hetch Hetchy Water Supply edition), Transactions of the Commonwealth Club of California XVIII:7 Hetch Hetchy Power, program for inspection trip of Hetch Hetchy Aqueduct, and promotional leaf for the project 1923 1920-24
   Physical Description: 4 items
   Scope and Contents
   On folder: Severance.

Box 1, folder 13  Klamath River Plant completed by the California Oregon Power Company. In: Journal of electricity 55:10 p. 364-371. 1925
   Scope and Contents
   Removed from journal.
Box 1, folder 14  
**Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce. Industrial Department. Special report to O.C. Struthers, Pacific Coast manager, Raymond Concrete Pile Co., Washington Building, Los Angeles, California. Los Angeles: Chamber of Commerce, 1930**

Physical Description: 1 v. (unpaged)
Scope and Contents
Contains information about industrial progress, chartered growth, transportation and markets, fuel, power and water, labor, climate, etc. for Los Angeles City and County.

Box 1, folder 15  
**Seal Beach Station of the Los Angeles Gas and Electric Corporation. Los Angeles, 19--?**

Physical Description: 12 pages
Scope and Contents
Brochure.

Box 1, folder 16  
**J.G. Rollow and D.L. Galusha. Seal Beach plant operating: new steam station of Los Angeles Gas and Electric Corporation located fuel-fired plant in California - designed for oil and gas burning - initial installation consists of 35,000 - kw. unit. Reprint from Electrical world, May 30, 1925**

Physical Description: 8 pages
Scope and Contents
Reprint published by Dwight P. Robinson and Company, Inc., Engineers and Constructors.
Investment promotion for Dwight P. Robinson and Company laid in.

Box 2, folder 17  
**Testimony before the Railroad Commission of the State of California in the matter of the petition of the Marin Municipal Water District, for an ascertainment by the Railroad Commission... of the value of the property of the Marin Water and Power Company: reporter's transcript. San Francisco: The Commission, August 27-28, September 4, 1914**

Physical Description: 2 v. (in envelope)

Box 2, folder 18A  
**Marin Water and Power Company - folder containing: Valuation of physical properties and water rights... 1913 and 1914 (J.G. White Co.); Valuation of Marin Water and Power Company - historical review, Report of the Board of Directors of the Marin Municipal Water District, Report to the Board on choice of most advisable system of water supply, Marin Water and Power valuation; all concerned with Marin Water rights and valuation 1913-15**

Physical Description: 6 items. (in 6 folders)

Box 2, folder 18B  
**Marin Water and Power Company - folder containing various reports, testimony, graphs, diagrams, rainfall comparisons, notes, calculations, etc. pertaining to Marin Water rights and valuation.**

Physical Description: 31 items

Box 2, folder 19  
**Mt. Whitney Power and Electric Co. Tulare County, Check calculations concrete flumes June 1912**

Physical Description: 9 l
Scope and Contents
Handwritten on graph paper.
With: correspondence (4 items) laid in.
Box 2, folder 20  Napa and Lake Counties - envelope containing correspondence pertaining to the extension of electric lines in Lake County, a water supply project from Conn Valley, the improvement of Brown’s Valley and Redwood Canyon Roads (Napa), and the dam and reservoir at the State Hospital, Napa 1907-8
  Physical Description: 4 items
  Scope and Contents
  On envelope: Early Brief Reports.

Box 2, folder 21  Northern California Power Company - folder containing notes, diagrams, inspection and appraisal reports, correspondence, etc., concerning North Battle Creek Reservoir and Dam in Shasta County, and other constructions 1911
  Physical Description: 12 items

Box 2, folder 22  Northern Water and Power Company - envelope containing blueline maps and profiles of Starr Canal, Waggoner Canal, Middle Yuba Canal, Malakoff Reservoir site, pipelines at Canyon, Poorman, Spring and Humbug Creeks, and Columbia Hill Reservoir, all in Nevada County. San Francisco: J.G. White and Company, 1907-12
  Physical Description: 13 items
  Scope and Contents

Box 3, folder 23  Northern Water and Power Company, Nevada and Yuba Counties - folder containing correspondence concerning the offer for sale of the Bloomfield Water System to Byllesby Engineering Corporation, the sale of the Granitesville Water System, water rights matters, and an appraisal of the condition of Bowman Dam; California State Water Commission’s rules and regulations governing the appropriation of water; application and notices of application for the appropriation of waters by Excelsior Water and Power Company 1919-23
  Physical Description: 5 items

Box 3, folder 24  J.G. White and Company Report on Water and Power Company, California, November 1911
  Physical Description: 45 l. (2 copies)

Box 3, folder 25  Pacific Gas and Electric Company - folder containing reports, memoranda, correspondence, cost data, tables, map, etc. pertaining to the valuation of Yuba County properties owned by the Company 1911-12
  Physical Description: 59 items
  Scope and Contents

Box 3, folder 26  Outstanding features of “Pacific service”. San Francisco: Pacific Gas and Electric Company, 1924
  Physical Description: 40 pages
  Scope and Contents
  Brochure.

  Scope and Contents
  Removed from journal.
  Development of Pacific Gas and Electric Company.
| Box 3, folder 28 | **Water rights of the *Pacific Gas and Electric Company*, California: report of committee.**  
San Francisco: J.G. White Engineering Corporation 1913  
Physical Description: 37 l  
Scope and Contents  
Typewritten.  
With: "Water rights, Pacific Gas and Electric Company, by substitution method" (9 p.) and handwritten tables laid in. |
| Box 3, folder 29 | **Ramona Power and Irrigation Company** - folder containing a favorable report on the investigation of the company to determine whether the main purpose of the system was for irrigation or power, correspondence and topographical map of San Jacinto quadrangle, Riverside County 1910-11  
Physical Description: 4 items  
Scope and Contents  
| Box 3, folder 30 | **Regional Plan Association of San Francisco Bay Counties** - folder containing summaries of proceedings of the Association, Preliminary report on Regional Plan problems, and brochure: The San Francisco Bay Region of the future - what the Great Regional Plan means 1925-26  
Physical Description: 5 items |
| Box 3, folder 31 | **Rubicon Water and Power Company, El Dorado County** - correspondence with the Southern Pacific chief engineer, tables, notes, charts, blueprints pertaining to various canals, dams and reservoirs of the company 1910-11  
Physical Description: 13 items  
Scope and Contents  
On folder: Rubicon (Orig H.G. and C.J.R data) |
| Box 3, folder 32 | **Salt Creek Power Project Tehama County** - hydraulic development, estimate of cost. Revised 1910  
Physical Description: 4 l  
Scope and Contents  
Typewritten.  
With: 23 l. of calculations, in pencil. |
| Box 3, folder 33 | **San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation, Fresno County** - folder containing specifications, notes, charts, water-wheel test results, calculations, correspondence, diagrams, blueprint, etc. pertaining to Tule River (San Joaquin) Power House (Plant) and pipeline 1913-14  
Physical Description: 16 items. (in 2 folders) |
| Box 4, folder 34 | **Sierra and San Francisco Power Company** - envelope containing statements of construction accounts/reports for 1910-1918, cost estimate of Stanislaus Development, detailed inventories of holdings, general map of transmission lines for the company, auditors report for 1915, valuation of properties index, etc 1908-18  
Physical Description: 24 items. (in 10 folders)  
Scope and Contents  
Box 4, folder 35A  South Feather Land and Water Company, Butte County - folder containing construction schedule for Wyandotte-Bangor Irrigation Project, property lists, notes, map of "Lost Creek Dam", "Opinions and orders of the Railroad Commission of California" 192-?
Physical Description: 7 items

Box 4, folder 35B  South Feather Land and Water Company, Butte County - folder containing correspondence and other papers concerning the development of the company and the suit filed against it by Wyandotte Irrigation District; itemized expense accounts for work performed by Rhodin 1921-22
Physical Description: 2 items

Box 4, folder 36  H.A. Kluegel. A report concerning certain improvements to the water supply system of South Feather Land and Water Company, Butte and Yuba Counties, California. San Francisco, 1921
Physical Description: 16 l., 6 plates

Box 4, folder 37  Long Beach Station number two, Southern California Edison Co., Stone and Webster Incorporated, Engineers-Builders: design and construction - article from Power, article from Power Plant Engineering, operation - letter from G.C. Ward, Vice-president, Southern California Edison Co., February 17, 1925 March 15, 1925; May 2, 1925
Physical Description: 17 pages

Box 4, folder 38  The Story of Busy Buttons. Southern California Edison Company, 1925
Physical Description: 30 pages
Scope and Contents Brochure.

Box 4, folder 39 A  Spring Valley Water Company - folders containing drafts, reports, notes, statistics, maps, tables, diagrams, calculations on rainfall, run-off, water flow, valuation, etc. for the system (Alameda, San Mateo, Santa Clara, San Francisco Counties) ca1911/12
Physical Description: 20 items. (in 5 folders)
Scope and Contents
On all envelopes: Spring Valley valuation hydrographic investigation; on 2 envelopes: G G Anderson; on 1 envelope: Water rights report. (Folder 39A in Box 4)

Box 5, folder 39 B,C  Spring Valley Water Company - folders containing drafts, reports, notes, statistics, maps, tables, diagrams, calculations on rainfall, run-off, water flow, valuation, etc. for the system (Alameda, San Mateo, Santa Clara, San Francisco Counties) ca1911/12
Physical Description: 71 items. (in 10 folders)
Scope and Contents
On all envelopes: Spring Valley valuation hydrographic investigation; on 2 envelopes: G G Anderson; on 1 envelope: Water rights report. (Folder 39A in Box 4)

Box 5, folder 40  Tujunga Water and Power Company, Los Angeles County - folder containing correspondence concerning a report on the proposed construction of two dams on the Tujunga River 1911
Physical Description: 2 items

Box 5, folder 41  Warner's Ranch, San Diego County - folder containing correspondence, rainfall data, reports, notes, graphs, tables, map pertaining to Warren Dam and Reservoir, Pamo Reservoir and other parts of the development 1911
Physical Description: 35 items
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box, folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5, folder 42</td>
<td>J.G. White and Company, Inc. - folder containing correspondence with officers of the company concerning various matters and projects with which Rhodin was involved; envelope containing documents pertaining to policy (e.g., press interviews, recording and distribution of work hours, Federal tax information, moonlighting) and statements concerning pay reductions due to the business depression of 1914-1915. Physical Description: 29 items.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5, folder 43</td>
<td>Wolverton Dam, Tulare County - folder containing blueprints, diagrams, notes, calculations, etc. of the Dam and the Wolverton Creek Reservoir 1913. Physical Description: 14 items.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5, folder 44</td>
<td>Wyandotte Land Company - folder containing correspondence pertaining to the company's properties, contracts for the sale of certain properties, maps of the properties in question, financial statement of the company, topographic map of Butte County, Palermo quadrangle (USGS), map of proposed development of Wyandotte-Bangor Irrigation Project water resources, promotional brochure of Sunny Slope in Butte County (Bangor Development Company) ca 1915-22. Physical Description: 7 items.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6, folder 45</td>
<td>Yosemite Power Company, Stanislaus County - folder containing abstract of inventory; inventory and report of the Gas and Electric Division of the Railroad Commission; cost breakdown of dams, water conduits and penstocks for the company 1916. Physical Description: 3 items.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6, folder 49</td>
<td>Chewacan Ranch Project, Lake County - folder containing Chewacan River flow charts, surface level and run-off data, water discharge tables, rainfall evaporation and temperature records, comparisons of other rivers statistics, calculations, etc., all related to the project ca 1910-14. Physical Description: 24 items.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Box 6, folder 50  Chewacan Ranch Project, Lake County, Oregon - folder containing report on irrigation and drainage of Ranch, tables and diagrams of water requirements and area, memorandum of Rhodin’s work experience, his testimony regarding water rights, an expense account, a plan of the headworks cut-off for Center Canal, and a map of the Chewacan Land and Cattle Company 1913

Physical Description: 9 items

Box 6, folder 51  Clackamas River Power Project - folder containing blueprints, maps, cost estimates, calculations, all pertaining to the project 191-?

Physical Description: 16 items
Scope and Contents
On folder: Clackamas (Orig. H.G and C.J.R. Data)

Box 6, folder 52  Klamath Power Project - folder containing blueprints, charts, report on condition of flow - forebay system, diagrams, memorandum, all pertaining to the project 1910-11

Physical Description: 12 items
Scope and Contents
On folder: Klamath (Orig H.G and C.J.R. data)

Box 7, folder 53A  Western Canada Power Company, British Columbia - folder containing blueprints for Stave Falls hydroelectric development: "Stave Drainage Basin"; "Stress diagrams and profiles of dams"; "Precipitation records"; Run-off and storage curves; Property map, Stave Lake and vicinity; "Reinforcement in intake dam"; "Hydro electric development at Stave Falls" 1911-13

Physical Description: 8 items

Box 7, folder 53B  Western Canada Power Company, British Columbia - folder containing photographs of the Stave Falls hydro electric development, Stave Lake, and Stave River 1911

Physical Description: 17 items

Box 7, folder 53C  Western Canada Power Company - folder containing plans of Vancouver with power systems, and a map of British Columbia ca 1910

Physical Description: 3 items

Box 7, folder 53D  R.F. Hayward. Description of the hydro electric development of Western Canada Power Company, Limited, Stave Falls, B.C. Vancouver, B.C.: Western Canada Power Company, 191-?

Physical Description: 12 pages

BRIDGES, DAMS and TUNNELS

Box 7, folder 54  Elliot, G.A. Calaveras hydraulic-fill earth dam. San Francisco: American Society of Civil Engineers, 1916

Physical Description: 6 pages
Scope and Contents
Read before the San Francisco Association of Members of the Society, October 17, 1916.

Box 7, folder 55  Folder containing blueprints of 3 types of rock fill dams and diagrams of sector gate for outlet control in dams 1910

Physical Description: 4 items
Scope and Contents
Box 7, folder 56  
**Folder containing materials on tunnels. s.d.**  
Physical Description: 3 items

Box 7, folder 57  
**Henny, D.C. Two earth dams of the United States Reclamation Service. American Society of Civil Engineers, 1911**  
Physical Description: 56 pages  
Scope and Contents  
Reprinted from the Society's transactions LXIV (1911), p. 38-93.

Box 7, folder 58  
**Klamath River Bridge on the Redwood Highway, Del Norte County, California: a memorial to the late assemblyman G.H. Douglas. California Highway Commission, 1923**  
Physical Description: 15 pages

Box 7, folder 59  
**Prince, George T. Cheesman Dam. American Water Works Association, 190-?**  
Physical Description: 33 pages  
Scope and Contents  
Presented at the 26th Annual Convention of the Association.

**CHLORINE WATER TREATMENT**

Box 7, folder 60  
Physical Description: 7 p. (Technical publication; 8)  
Scope and Contents  
Reprint from Engineering news, September 7, 1916.  
Cover title: Chlorination at Dunwoodie.  
With: information folder and questionnaire laid in.

Box 7, folder 61  
**Hyde, Charles Gilman. Report upon the sanitary quality of the Owens River water supply delivered to consumers in Los Angeles through the Los Angeles Aqueduct System. Los Angeles, 1915**  
Physical Description: 54 pages  
Scope and Contents  
Reprinted from the 14th annual report of the Board of Public Service Commissioners of the City of Los Angeles.

Box 7, folder 62  
**Hyde, Charles Gilman. Stream pollution and present status of controlling legislation in California 1913**  
Physical Description: 16 pages  
Scope and Contents  
Reprint from American journal of public health IV:10 (1913), p. 819-834.

Box 7, folder 63  
**Memorandum: clarification and purification of domestic water supply for Sonora and Jamestown 191-?**  
Physical Description: 6 pages  
Scope and Contents  
Typewritten.  
Second draft (7 p.)
Box 7, folder 64

Physical Description: 21 pages
Scope and Contents
With: questionaire to be sent to obtain quotations on apparatus laid in.

MACHINERY

Box 7, folder 65

Physical Description: 64 p. (Bulletin; 104)

Box 7, folder 66

Physical Description: 4 pages
Scope and Contents
Order form laid in.

Box 7, folder 67
Pelton Water Wheel Company Pelton-Doble centrifugal pumps. San Francisco: The Company, 190-?

Physical Description: 4 pages
Scope and Contents
Order form tipped in.

Box 7, folder 68
Sulzer Frères. Moteurs marins, Diesel-Sulzer. Winterthur, Suisse: Sulzer Frères, 1918?

Physical Description: 33 pages
Scope and Contents
Brochure for nautical engines.

MISCELLANEOUS

Box 7, folder 69

Box 7, folder 70
Miscellaneous documents pertaining to material and building costs, prices, and valuation 1911-24

Physical Description: 5 items (in 2 folders)

Box 7, folder 71
Miscellaneous materials pertaining to Bruneau Irrigation Company, Idaho Valley Counties Power Company, Butte County (map); North Yuba Canal, Sierra County Clancy River (Photographs); Nevada Irrigation District map of Tahoe National Forest 1909); 1909); 1923); 1916

Physical Description: 8 items (in folder)

Box 7, folder 72
Miscellaneous personal letters of Rhodin in envelope document in Swedish 1913-15);

Physical Description: 2 items (in folder)
Scope and Contents
On envelope: Personal letters of interest.