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Descriptive Summary

Identifier  ICU.SPCL.BIGELOWHA

Title  Bigelow, Harry A. Papers

Date  1925-1948

Size  2.5 linear ft. (5 boxes)

Repository  Special Collections Research Center
University of Chicago Library
1100 East 57th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60637 U.S.A.

Abstract  Harry A. Bigelow (JD’1899 Harvard Law) spent the bulk of his teaching career at the University of Chicago Law School. Joining the faculty just two years after the founding of the program and named Dean in 1929, Bigelow was instrumental in guiding the early development of the School. The Papers consist almost exclusively of correspondence.

Information on Use

Access

No restrictions.

Citation

When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: Bigelow, Harry A. Papers, [Box #, Folder #], Special Collections Research Center, University of Chicago Library

Biographical Note

Harry A. Bigelow (1874-1950) was born in Norwood, Massachusetts. He graduated from Harvard University in 1896 and went on to earn a law degree from his alma mater in 1899. He spent one year teaching criminal law at Harvard before relocating to Honolulu where he practiced law for three years. Bigelow married in 1902. His wife, Mary Parker, died in 1920. In 1904 he was appointed to the faculty of the University of Chicago Law School, which had been founded just two years prior. Bigelow spent the remainder of his career at the University of Chicago, serving as Dean of the Law School from 1929 through to his retirement in 1935. As Professor Emeritus, however, Bigelow continued to teach in the Law School long after his formal retirement. An expert in property law, Bigelow served as an advisor to the American Law Institute. He was also a member of the Academy of Arts and Sciences and the Order of the Coif. An avid big game hunter, Bigelow traveled to Africa for several expeditions. He died from heart failure in 1950 and was survived by his sister.

Scope Note
The Harry A. Bigelow Papers contain 2.25 linear feet of material and roughly cover 1925-1948, though the bulk of the materials were generated in the late 1920s. The collection consists almost entirely of correspondence. The correspondence materials, which can be found in both Series I: Papers and Correspondence and Series II: Research and Publication Materials, are largely composed of communications between Bigelow and various co-authors. Correspondence with his publisher, West Publishing Company, is also substantial. The Papers also contain a small collection of research notes and several of Bigelow’s student notebooks from Harvard. Lastly, there is a final series devoted to general files, which consist largely of undated hand-written notes.

Related Resources
The following related resources are located in the Department of Special Collections:

http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/spcl/select.html

University of Chicago. Law School. Records

Subject Headings
• Bigelow, Harry A., 1874-1950
• Wright, Frank Lloyd, 1867-1959 -- Friends and associates
• American Law Institute
• University of Chicago. Law School
• Property -- Law and Legislation

INVENTORY

Series I: Papers and Correspondence
This series contains Bigelow’s general correspondence files. While communications directly related to publication and research have, for the most part, been filed in Series II, correspondence regarding publications can also be found in Series I, in particular in the folders: Aigler, Powell, West Publishing, and White. Otherwise, the correspondence in Series I is varied, ranging from communications with university administration to personal letters exchanged with friends and acquaintances.

Box 1
Folder 1
   A, 1925-1929
Box 1
Folder 2
   Aigler, Ralph, 1926-1942 See also Powell and West Publishing Company; Series II: Research and Publication Materials
Box 1
Folder 3-7
   American Law Institute, 1926-1929
Box 1
Folder 8
   B, 1927-1942
Box 1
Folder 9
   C, 1926-1948
Box 2
Folder 1
   D-G, 1928-1947
Box 2
Folder 2
   H, 1926-1942
Box 2
Folder 3
   I-L, 1925-1932
Box 2
Folder 4
   M-O, 1926-1941
Box 2
Folder 5
   Madden, Joseph, 1928-1933
Box 2
Folder 6
   P-S, 1926-1932
Box 2
Folder 7-8
   Powell, Richard, 1926-1942 See also Aigler and West Publishing Company; Series II:
   Research and Publication Materials
Box 3
Folder 1
   T-V, 1926-1929
Box 3
Folder 2
   University of Chicago, 1927-1948
Box 3
Folder 3
   W-Z, 1925-1929
Box 3
Folder 4-5
   West Publishing Company, 1926-1942 See also Aigler and Powell; Series II: Research and
   Publication Materials
Box 3
Folder 6
   White, Charles (of the Land Title Company), 1927-1928
Box 3
Folder 7
Unknown, 1927-1929

**Series II: Research and Publication Materials**

Box 3
Folder 8-9
  Rights in Land: Correspondence with co-authors and publishers, general correspondence, notes, 1925-1945

Box 3
Folder 10
  Correspondence regarding publications, 1942

Box 3
Folder 11
  Correspondence regarding publications, 1943

Box 4
Folder 1
  Correspondence regarding publications, 1944

Box 4
Folder 2
  Correspondence regarding publications, 1945

**Series III: Student Notebooks**

Housed in this series are several of Bigelow’s student notebooks from his years at Harvard University. They are titled, but not dated.

Box 4
Folder 3
  Property, n.d.

Box 4
Folder 4
  Property, n.d.

Box 4
Folder 5
  Carriers, n.d.

Box 5
Folder 1
  Trusts and Sales, n.d.

Box 5
Folder 2
  Corporations, n.d.

**Series IV: General Files**

This series contains notes, pamphlets, receipts for household expenses (many from Hyde Park businesses and other miscellaneous papers.

Box 5
Folder 3
Miscellaneous papers, n.d.

Box 5
Folder 4-7
Receipts, 1920s