Collection Summary

Title: Joseph Pulitzer Papers
Span Dates: 1880-1924
ID No.: MSS37044
Creator: Pulitzer, Joseph, 1847-1911
Extent: 5,500 items; 12 containers; 4.8 linear feet
Language: Collection material in English
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
Summary: Journalist and United States representative from New York. Correspondence, memoranda, writings by and about Pulitzer, critiques of editorials, biographical material, and miscellaneous personal papers.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

People
Bryan, William Jennings, 1860-1925.
Cobb, Frank Irving, 1869-1923--Correspondence.
Cortelyou, George B. (George Bruce), 1862-1940.
Norris, John, 1856-1914--Correspondence.
Pulitzer, Joseph, 1847-1911.
Roosevelt, Theodore, 1858-1919.
Seitz, Don Carlos, 1862-1935--Correspondence.
Taft, Charles Phelps, 1843-1929.

Subjects
Canals, Interocianic.
Journalism.

Places
Panama Canal (Panama)
United States--Politics and government--1865-1933.

Occupations
Journalists.
Representatives, U.S. Congress--New York (State)

Administrative Information

Provenance
The papers of Joseph Pulitzer, journalist and United States representative from New York, were given to the Library of Congress by his sons, Herbert Pulitzer, Joseph Pulitzer (1885-1955), and Ralph Pulitzer, in 1935.

Processing History
The papers of Joseph Pulitzer were arranged and described in 1966. The finding aid was revised in 2011.

Copyright Status
The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Joseph Pulitzer is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).
Access and Restrictions

The papers of Joseph Pulitzer are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Joseph Pulitzer Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date | Event
--- | ---
1847, Apr. 10 | Born József Politzer, Makó, Hungary
1864 | Emigrated with family to New York; enlisted in the Union Army
1872 | Purchased the *St. Louis Post*
1878 | Merged the newly founded *St. Louis Dispatch* with the *St Louis Post* into the *St Louis Post-Dispatch*
1883 | Purchased the New York *World*
1887 | Founded the *Evening World* (New York)
1911, Oct. 29 | Died, Charleston, S.C

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Joseph Pulitzer (1847-1911) span the years 1880-1924 and cover the later years of his life. Letters and telegrams from Pulitzer to his staff, Dan Carlos Seitz, John Norris, and Frank Irving Cobb, make up the largest part of the collection. The letters and memoranda are arranged in chronological order from 1880 to 1911, and there are a few letters and a copy of his will after 1911. At the end of the collection is a miscellany file including newspaper clippings and reports, apparently the opinions of Pulitzer on topics ranging from Venezuela to the “rest cure.”

There are several commentaries on political matters by Pulitzer in the correspondence, but more often in memoranda or critiques of editorials. Theodore Roosevelt (1858-1919), William H. Taft, and William Jennings Bryan are most mentioned, as are Nelson W. Aldrich, George B. Cortelyou, and Charles Phelps Taft. Most of the newspaper clippings in the miscellany concern the death of Pulitzer. Included also is a file on the New York *World* concerning Roosevelt’s authorization to purchase Panama Canal rights and the subsequent dispute between Pulitzer and Roosevelt in the press.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged by type of material.
## Container List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Letters and telegrams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>1880, Oct.-1897, July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 2</td>
<td>1897, Aug.-1899, Dec.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 3</td>
<td>1900, Jan.-1903, Dec.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 4</td>
<td>1904, Jan.-1905, July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 6</td>
<td>1907</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 7</td>
<td>1908, Jan.-Nov.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 8</td>
<td>1908, Dec.-1909, Dec.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 9</td>
<td>1910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 10</td>
<td>1911</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 11</td>
<td>1912, Jan.-1924, Jan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 12</td>
<td>Miscellany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 12</td>
<td>Newspaper clippings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 12</td>
<td>Obituaries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 12</td>
<td>Magazine articles</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>