



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE
AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

**A Finding Aid to the
Abraham and Ida Levinson Papers**

Manuscript Collection No. 69

DR. A. LEVINSON
25 W. HOOVER AVE.
CHICAGO, ILL. May 13-29

Dear Son: -
The kiddie & the rest of the family
are well. We only hope that you will get
the well deserved slot in St. Louis.
Mother's day has left quite an impression
upon me. It brought home the realization
of your value as a mother. Even right
after I left you on the train I was
overcome by a deep feeling of maternal
responsibility. It is true that you are a
great man & I saw so many problems that might
arise that only a mother can do. I looked
upon myself as a helpless father, or rather
as a helpless mother.
Nevertheless, I don't think I am fit for
the mother's job. I think I'll let you
handle it as you did before you left
for St. Louis.
My depression yesterday was expanded
by a visit to Dr. Abts. He seemed to
be crushed, so that without his wife, that
he presented a pathetic figure.
Last night was the 1st anniversary of a

Collection Summary

Title	Abraham and Ida Levinson Papers
Dates	1910-1955 (bulk 1910-1930)
Collection Number	MS-69
Repository	The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives
Creator	Levinson, Abraham, 1888-1955 Levinson, Ida
Extent	0.4 linear feet (1 Hollinger box)
Language of the Material	English, Hebrew, and Yiddish

Administrative Information

Biographical Sketch

Abraham Levinson was born in 1888. He received his B.S. degree in 1917 from the University of Chicago and his M.D. degree in 1911 from the University of Illinois College of Medicine. Levinson went on to pursue post-graduate studies with Bela Schick and Heinrich Finkelstein in Europe.

Levinson was a noted researcher in pediatric neurology and pioneered the study of cerebrospinal fluid. A professor of pediatrics at Northwestern University Medical School, Levinson founded the Levinson Research Foundation for research in pediatric neuropsychiatry. Other research interests included diphtheria, influenza, meningitis and tuberculosis. In 1949, Levinson was honored by the American Medical Association for his many achievements.

Levinson wrote several books and medical papers including: co-editorship of the Pediatric Yearbook (1916-1920), Cerebrospinal Fluid in Health and Disease (1919), Pediatric Nursing (1925) and Pioneers of Pediatrics (1936). Several of these books were translated into Hebrew and the nursing textbook became the official text for the nurses of the Hadassah Medical Organization.

Levinson and his wife Ida were keenly interested in the Zionist cause. During his post-graduate studies in the early 1920s, Levinson came into contact with many prominent Zionist figures including Chaim Weizmann and Chaim Bialik.

Abraham Levinson died in 1955.

Scope and Content

Contains correspondence, Ida Levinson's diaries, appointment books, postcards and miscellaneous material. The first three folders consist of personal correspondence of Ida and Abraham Levinson and reflects the development of Dr. Levinson's career as a pediatrician and their deep involvement with Zionism. Letters of particular interest give descriptions of contact in Europe with Jewish personalities of the era including: Chaim Weizmann (10 August 1923), Rimon (14 October 1923), Chaim Bialik (26 October 1923), Elma Levinger (13 April 1932) and the press exhibit in Cologne, Germany (20 August 1928).

Arrangement

The collection is arranged by material type.

Terms of Access

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Preferred Citation

Footnotes and bibliographic references should refer to the Abraham and Ida Levinson Papers and the American Jewish Archives. A suggestion for at least the first citation is as follows:

[Description], [Date], Box #, Folder #. MS-69. Abraham and Ida Levinson Papers. American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Provenance

Donor unknown.

Index Terms

Subjects Jewish physicians / Jewish women / Jews -- Illinois -- Chicago / Zionism
Personal Names Levinson, Abraham, 1888-1955 / Levinson, Ida
Media Diaries

Series A. General, 1910-1955

Box and Folder Listing

- Box 1. Folder 1. Correspondence, personal, 1910-1922
- Box 1. Folder 2. Correspondence, personal, 1923
- Box 1. Folder 3. Correspondence [Hebrew], 1914-1954
- Box 1. Folder 4. Diaries. Levinson, Ida, 1912-1921
- Box 1. Folder 5. Personal invitations and announcements, 1922, 1955
- Box 1. Folder 6. Pocket diaries, 1927-1932
- Box 1. Folder 7. Postal cards, 1923-1928
- Box 1. Folder 8. Miscellaneous materials.