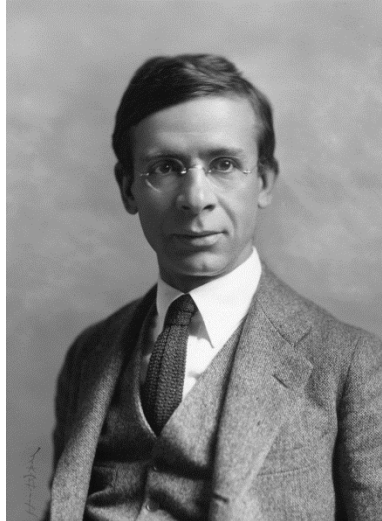




THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE
AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

**A Finding Aid to the
Adolph S. Oko Papers**

Manuscript Collection No. 14



Collection Summary

Title	Adolph S. Oko Papers
Dates	1911-1944
Collection Number	MS-14
Repository	The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives
Creator	Oko, Adolph S. (Adolph Sigmund), 1883-1944
Extent	3.6 linear feet (9 Hollinger boxes)
Language of the Material	English, Dutch, French, German, Hebrew, Latin, Russian, and Yiddish. The bulk of the collection is in English, with other materials in German, Hebrew, Yiddish, French, Latin, Russian and Dutch.

Administrative Information

Biographical Sketch

Adolph S. Oko, librarian, scholar, and philanthropist, was born to Tebel and Mariam Deborah (Popyolek) Oko near Kharkov, Russia on January 5, 1883. Educated in Germany, Oko came to the United States in 1902. After working in the Astor Library, New York, NY in 1905-1906, Oko became librarian of the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, Ohio, which position he held until his resignation in 1933. Under Oko, the Library flourished, outgrowing its quarters twice. Shortly after World War I, Oko went to Europe and acquired some 18,000 volumes for the Library, including the Edward Birnbaum music collection; he also brought to the Library a fine Spinoza collection, the Chinese Jewish manuscripts of Kai-Feng-Fu, and an outstanding collection of incunabula. Oko also helped to start the Hebrew Union College Museum. In 1931, the College awarded to Oko the degree of D.H.L., honoris causa.

Oko and the Board of Governors of the Hebrew Union College had maintained an uneasy peace for 27 years; Oko found it impossible to remain any longer due to the scandal caused by his second marriage. Oko's first wife, Etta Weisinger, had died in 1924; in 1933 Dorothy Kuhn, wife of a man very active in the affairs of the Hebrew Union College, divorced her husband to marry Oko. Upon Oko's resignation from the College, he and his new wife moved to England, where he completed his Spinoza Bibliography. Oko, a devotee of Baruch Spinoza, was a founder and United States secretary of Societas Spinozana, an organization concerned with Spinoza's life and works, and was a trustee of Domus Spinozana in The Hague, Holland.

The Okos remained in England until 1938, at which time they returned to the United States and Oko joined the staff of the American Jewish Committee. In 1943 Oko became associate editor of the AJC magazine Contemporary Jewish Record, and was serving in this capacity until his death in 1944.

Oko wrote many essays and bibliographies, contributing many articles to the Menorah Journal, of which he was an associate editor. Among the bibliographies he published were his Spinoza Bibliography and works on Solomon Schechter and Kaufmann Kohler.

Though not a man of means, Oko was extremely active in philanthropic work, making use of his reputation as a librarian and scholar and with a talent for persuading friends to provide necessary funds. He made tremendous efforts to rescue colleagues, friends, and their families and friends from Europe before World War II, and was expert at providing funds for impoverished colleagues in a manner that would not injure their pride.

Scope and Content

Documents the career and interests of Adolph S. Oko, librarian of the Hebrew Union College, associate editor of the Menorah Journal and Contemporary Jewish Record, bibliographer, essayist, and philanthropist. The collection consists of personal and official correspondence, notes, and articles and essays by Oko and others concerning his numerous activities.

Arrangement

Organized into five (5) series: A. Personal Correspondence, 1911-1944; B. Spinozana, 1914-1944; C. Menorah Association, 1916-1943; D. Contemporary Jewish Record, 1943-1944; E. Essays and Lectures, 1920-1944.

Terms of Access

The collection is open for use; no restrictions apply.

Terms of Reproduction and Use

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Index Terms

- Subjects** Jewish librarians / Jews -- China / Jews -- Ohio -- Cincinnati
- Personal Names** Hurwitz, Henry, 1886-1961 / Oko, Adolph S. (Adolph Sigmund), 1883-1944 / Spinoza, Baruch, 1632-1677
- Corporate Names** Contemporary Jewish Record / Hebrew Union College / Intercollegiate Menorah Association

Series A. Personal Correspondence, 1911-1944

Extent 1.4 linear feet (3.5 Hollinger boxes)

Arrangement This correspondence is arranged alphabetically by the name of the correspondent or subject of the correspondence, and in chronological order whenever possible.

Box and Folder Listing

- Box 1. Folder 1. A, General, 1916-1944
- Box 1. Folder 2. Adler, E. N., 1922-1938
- Box 1. Folder 3. Anonymous Fund, 1922-1923, undated
- Box 1. Folder 4. Asch, Sholem, 1929-1943
- Box 1. Folder 5. B, General, 1917-1944
- Box 1. Folder 6. Baumgardt, David and Carol, 1936-1940
- Box 1. Folder 7. Beer-Hofmann, Richard and Miriam, 1937-1944
- Box 1. Folder 8. Bentwich, Norman,, 1931-1941, undated
- Box 1. Folder 9. Berkowitz, Henry J., 1925-1937
- Box 1. Folder 10. Boyle, Katherine E., 1936-1940
- Box 1. Folder 11. Brunner, Constantin and Lotte [Stigter], 1915-1939
- Box 1. Folder 12. Brunschvicg, Leon, 1937-1941, undated
- Box 1. Folder 13. Buber, Martin, 1936-1944
- Box 1. Folder 14. C, General, 1915-1942
- Box 1. Folder 15. Chinese Jewry [articles and correspondence].
- Box 1. Folder 16. D, General, 1916-1941
- Box 1. Folder 17. E, General, 1915-1944
- Box 1. Folder 18. Elbogen, Ismar, 1924-1942
- Box 1. Folder 19. Epstein, Jacob and Margaret, 1924-1939
- Box 1. Folder 20. Epstein, Jacob and Margaret, 1940-1943
- Box 1. Folder 21. Epstein, Jacob and Margaret, undated
- Box 2. Folder 1. F, General, 1917-1943
- Box 2. Folder 2. Feibleman, James K., 1935-1943
- Box 2. Folder 3. Frank, Waldo, 1925-1942
- Box 2. Folder 4. Frank. Waldo, undated
- Box 2. Folder 5. Frankel, David, 1932-1941
- Box 2. Folder 6. Freed, Abraham, 1924-1928

Box 2. Folder 7. G, General, 1918-1941

Box 2. Folder 8. Goldschmidt, Lazarus, 1941

Box 2. Folder 9. Greene, Pearl Oks, 1937

Box 2. Folder 10. Guest, George and Mary Lapsley, 1934-1939

Box 2. Folder 11. H, General, 1917-1941

Box 2. Folder 12. Hebrew Union College - Board of Governors, 1911-1923

Box 2. Folder 13. Horne, Charles F., 1916-1917

Box 2. Folder 14. Husik, Isaac, 1917-1940

Box 2. Folder 15. I, General, 1921-1936

Box 2. Folder 16. J, General, 1913-1944

Box 2. Folder 17. K, General, 1920-1944

Box 2. Folder 18. Kohler Family, 1913-1943

Box 2. Folder 19. Kohn, Hans, 1936-1941

Box 2. Folder 20. Kohut, George Alexander, 1916-1931, 1934

Box 3. Folder 1. L, General, 1919-1944

Box 3. Folder 2. Landauer, Brigitte and Gudula, 1925-1941

Box 3. Folder 3. Lowenthal, Marvin, 1929-1942

Box 3. Folder 4. M, General, 1917-1943

Box 3. Folder 5. Magnes, Judah Leon and Beatrice, 1935-1938

Box 3. Folder 6. Maritain, Jacques, 1938-1943

Box 3. Folder 7. Marx, Alexander, 1917-1943

Box 3. Folder 8. Mattuck, Israel I., 1924-1937

Box 3. Folder 9. Morgenstern, Julian, 1932-1944

Box 3. Folder 10. N, General, 1914-1943

Box 3. Folder 11. O, General, 1917-1946

Box 3. Folder 12. Ochs, Adolph S. and Iphigene Wise Ochs, 1918-1940

Box 3. Folder 13. Orloff, Chana, 1929-1935

Box 3. Folder 14. P-Q, General, 1917-1943

Box 3. Folder 15. Pollock, Sir John, 1937-1942

Box 3. Folder 16. R, General, 1916-1943

Box 3. Folder 17. Rawidowicz, Simon, 1936-1938

Box 3. Folder 18. Rothman, Walter and Ellen, 1923-1944

Box 4. Folder 1. Sa-Si, General, 1917-1944

Box 4. Folder 2. Schechter, Solomon - Bibliography, 1916-1940

Box 4. Folder 3. Senator, Werner, 1935-1939

Box 4. Folder 4. Shunami, S., 1931-1940

Box 4. Folder 5. Sj-Sz, General, 1919-1943

Box 4. Folder 6. Solow, Herbert, 1930-1941

Box 4. Folder 7. T, General, 1916-1943

Box 4. Folder 8. Taggard, Genevieve, 1934-1936

Box 4. Folder 9. U-V, General, 1912-1944

Box 4. Folder 10. W, General, 1912-1944

Box 4. Folder 11. Wise, Stephen S., 1923-1944

Box 4. Folder 12. X-Y-Z, General, 1920-1943

Box 4. Folder 13. Unidentified, 1917-1940

Series B. Spinoziana, 1914-1944

Extent 0.8 linear feet (2 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note The series contains correspondence, notes for Oko's Spinoza bibliography, and essays and letters concerning Baruch Spinoza by Oko and others.

Arrangement This series is arranged alphabetically by the name of the correspondent or subject of the material, and in chronological order wherever possible.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 4. Folder 14. A, General, 1923-1943

Box 4. Folder 15. B, General, 1925-1941

Box 4. Folder 16. C, General, 1921-1942

Box 4. Folder 17. Carp, J. H., 1925-1936

Box 4. Folder 18. Cohen, Morris Raphael, 1922-1940

Box 4. Folder 19. D, General, 1928-1936

Box 4. Folder 20. De Casseres, Benjamin, 1925-1931

Box 4. Folder 21. Domus Spinozana, 1923-1935

Box 4. Folder 22. E, General, 1914-1932

Box 4. Folder 23. F, General, 1925-1932

Box 5. Folder 1. G, General, 1922-1940

Box 5. Folder 2. Gebhardt, Carl, 1921-1937

Box 5. Folder 3. H, General, 1922-1937

Box 5. Folder 4. Haight, Gordon S., 1940-1943

Box 5. Folder 5. Hutcheson, David, 1889-1925

Box 5. Folder 6. I-J, General, 1924-1937

Box 5. Folder 7. K, General, 1923-1951

Box 5. Folder 8. Kaufmann, Fritz, 1936-1944

Box 5. Folder 9. Knopf, Alfred, 1937-1940

Box 5. Folder 10. L, General, 1915-1942

Box 5. Folder 11. M, General, 1916-1940

Box 5. Folder 12. N-O-P-Q, General, 1917-1936

Box 5. Folder 13. Pollock, Sir Frederick, 1934-1936

Box 5. Folder 14. R, General, 1925-1944

Box 5. Folder 15. Rothschild, Herbert, 1928-1935
Box 5. Folder 16. S, General, 1922-1938
Box 5. Folder 17. Sard, Frederick N., 1926-1932
Box 5. Folder 18. Societas Spinozana, 1920-1932
Box 5. Folder 19. Spinoza Institute of America, 1931-1933
Box 5. Folder 20. T-U-V, General, 1921-1929
Box 5. Folder 21. Thilly, Frank, 1923-1931
Box 6. Folder 1. W, General, 1914-1934
Box 6. Folder 2. Wolfson, Harry Austryn, 1917-1943
Box 6. Folder 3. X-Y-Z, General, 1922-1944
Box 6. Folder 4. Notes, A-M.
Box 6. Folder 5. Notes, N-Z and unclassifiable.
Box 6. Folder 6. Essays.
Box 6. Folder 7. Other authors, General.
Box 6. Folder 8. Other authors - Ames, Van Meter, 1928
Box 6. Folder 9. Other authors - Boyle, Robert.
Box 6. Folder 10. Other authors - Hitchcock, E. A. and Samuel, 1922-1929
Box 6. Folder 11. Other authors - Maccall, William.

Series C. Menorah Association, 1916-1943

Extent 1 linear foot (2.5 Hollinger boxes)

Arrangement This material is arranged alphabetically by the name of the correspondent or subject of the correspondence, and in chronological order wherever possible.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 6. Folder 12. A, General, 1919-1923
Box 6. Folder 13. Aid to Austrian Students.
Box 6. Folder 14. Alexander, Hartley Burr, 1919-1924
Box 6. Folder 15. Altkirch, Ernst, 1921-1923
Box 6. Folder 16. Askowith, H., 1918-1921
Box 7. Folder 1. B, General, 1919-1925
Box 7. Folder 2. C, General, 1919-1925
Box 7. Folder 3. University of Cincinnati, 1919-1922
Box 7. Folder 4. Cincinnati Graduate Menorah Society, 1916-1929
Box 7. Folder 5. Cohen, Elliot E., 1918-1931
Box 7. Folder 6. D-E, General, 1919-1925
Box 7. Folder 7. F, General, 1918-1926
Box 7. Folder 8. Fechheimer, S. Marcus, 1917-1929
Box 7. Folder 9. G, General, 1919-1928

Box 7. Folder 10. H, General, 1918-1922

Box 7. Folder 11. Harvard Menorah Society, 1922-1927

Box 7. Folder 12. Hurwitz, Henry, 1916-1918

Box 7. Folder 13. Hurwitz, Henry, 1919

Box 7. Folder 14. Hurwitz, Henry, 1920

Box 7. Folder 15. Hurwitz, Henry, 1921

Box 7. Folder 16. Hurwitz, Henry, 1922

Box 7. Folder 17. Hurwitz, Henry, 1923-1927

Box 7. Folder 18. Hurwitz, Henry, 1928-1937

Box 7. Folder 19. Hurwitz, Henry, 1938-1943, undated

Box 8. Folder 1. I-J, General, 1918-1920

Box 8. Folder 2. Isaacs, Nathan, 1917-1926

Box 8. Folder 3. Isaacs, Nathan, 1927-1946, undated

Box 8. Folder 4. K, General, 1918-1925

Box 8. Folder 5. Kahn, Julietta, 1921-1923

Box 8. Folder 6. Kaufmann, Fritz, 1939

Box 8. Folder 7. L, General, 1919-1922

Box 8. Folder 8. Lehman, Irving, 1920

Box 8. Folder 9. Lowenthal, Marvin, 1921-1926

Box 8. Folder 10. Ma-Md, General, 1919-1923

Box 8. Folder 11. Mauthner, Fritz, 1921-1933

Box 8. Folder 12. Menorah Educational Conference, 1919-1923

Box 8. Folder 13. Menorah Societies, 1919-1931

Box 8. Folder 14. Me-Mz, General, 1916-1920

Box 8. Folder 15. Mischkind, Louis A., 1918-1930

Box 8. Folder 16. Moore, George Foot, 1921-1922

Box 8. Folder 17. N, General, 1918-1923

Box 8. Folder 18. College of the City of New York Menorah Society, 1919-1921

Box 8. Folder 19. O-P-Q, General, 1918-1923

Box 8. Folder 20. Pann, Abel, 1919-1930

Box 8. Folder 21. R, General, 1919-1926

Box 8. Folder 22. S, General, 1919-1926

Box 8. Folder 23. Solow, Herbert, 1928-1931

Box 8. Folder 24. T-U-V-W, General, 1919-1929

Box 8. Folder 25. Wolfson, Harry Austryn, 1917-1923

Box 8. Folder 26. Wormser, Leo F., 1919-1923

Box 9. Folder 1. X-Y-Z, General, unidentified.

Box 9. Folder 2. Zangwill, Israel, 1919-1923

Series D. Contemporary Jewish Record, 1943-1944

Extent 0.2 linear feet (0.5 Hollinger box)

Arrangement This material is arranged alphabetically by the name of the correspondent or author of the article, and in chronological order wherever possible.

Box and Folder Listing

- Box 9. Folder 3. Correspondence, General, 1942-1944
- Box 9. Folder 4. Correspondence - Salwson, John, 1943-1944
- Box 9. Folder 5. Memoranda.
- Box 9. Folder 6. Introductions to articles.
- Box 9. Folder 7. Aren't, Hanna-"American Foreign Policy and Palestine".
- Box 9. Folder 8. Draftees, Camille-"Letters from a French Jew".
- Box 9. Folder 9. Frank, Waldo-"For a Bill of Human Rights", 1944
- Box 9. Folder 10. Neumann, Emanuel-"Behind and After the Resolutions".
- Box 9. Folder 11. Palestine-The Position of the American Jewish Committee, 1944

Series E. Essays and Lectures, 1920-1944, undated

Extent 0.2 linear feet (0.5 Hollinger box)

Arrangement Biographical essays and lectures are alphabetized by the name of the subject, others by the title when one is provided and by the subject matter when there is no title.

Box and Folder Listing

- Box 9. Folder 12. A-I, General.
- Box 9. Folder 13. Bergson, Henri, 1941
- Box 9. Folder 14. "The Ethics of a Modern Jew".
- Box 9. Folder 15. Gebhardt, Carl, 1934
- Box 9. Folder 16. "In Praise of Learning".
- Box 9. Folder 17. J-P, General.
- Box 9. Folder 18. "The Jew in Our Day".
- Box 9. Folder 19. "Jewish Book Collections in the United States".
- Box 9. Folder 20. Syllabus on "The Jews and the War".
- Box 9. Folder 21. Mauthner, Fritz.
- Box 9. Folder 22. "The Mood of a Sceptic.", 1924
- Box 9. Folder 23. Pollock, Sir Frederick.
- Box 9. Folder 24. Q-Z, General.
- Box 9. Folder 25. Santayana, George.
- Box 9. Folder 26. Schnitzler, Arthur.
- Box 9. Folder 27. "The Yale (Jewish) Exhibit in its Cultural Aspects.", 1940

Box 9. Folder 28. Zunz, Leopold.

Box 9. Folder 29. Articles by others.



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MS-14: Adolph S. Oko Papers

Subject Tracings

Note: The following list represents a selective guide to the significant subjects and correspondents within the ADOLPH S. OKO PAPERS. References are to boxes and folders; e.g. 2/1 = Box 2, Folder 1. This list should be used in conjunction with the Box and Folder List and the Appendices to this inventory.

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Arendt, Hannah	9/6, 9/7
Asch, Sholem	1/4
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Brunner, Constantin	1/3, 1/11, 9/12
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Freiberg, Sidney and Ruth	3/2
Gebhardt, Carl	5/2, 9/15
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Hertz, J.A.	2/11
Heschel, Abraham	1/13
Hurwitz, Henry	7/12-7/19, 9/12
Husik, Isaac	1/5, 2/11, 2/14, 3/10, 3/16, 9/12
Hutcheson, David	5/5
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Jonas, Harold	9/3, 9/12



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Kaufmann, Fritz	5/8, 8/6
Kohler, Kaufmann	2/13, 2/18, 8/4, 9/17
Landauer, Brigitte and Gudula	1/18, 3/2
Lapsley, Mary	2/10
London, Hannah R.	3/2
Lowenthal, Marvin	3/3, 8/9
Magnes, Judah Leon	3/5
Maritain, Jacques	3/6
Maritain, Raissa	3/4, 9/13
Marshall, Louis	8/10
Marx, Alexander	3/7
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Montagu, Ashley	9/3
Moore, George Foot	3/4, 5/11, 8/16, 9/17
Morgenstern, Julian	3/9
Mumford, Lewis	3/4
Neumann, Emanuel	9/6, 9/10
Ochs, Adolph S. and Iphigene Wise Ochs	3/12
Orloff, Chana	3/13
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Philipson, David	3/14
Pollock, Sir Frederick	3/15, 5/13, 9/23
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Schechter, Solomon - bibliography	4/2
Schneiderman, Harry	9/3, 9/24
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Appendices

APPENDIX A: Folder 9/3 - Correspondence, General

American Jewish Committee - Library Committee
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Holzberg, Julius
Kahn, Julietta
Jonas, Harold J.
Montagu, Ashley
Oelsner, Toni
Rukeyser, Muriel
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Sloan, Samuel
Stroock, Alan M.
Waldman, Morris David

APPENDIX B: Folder 9/6 - Introductions to articles

Darmesteter, James - "Race and Tradition"
Montefiore, Claude Goldsmid
Palestine - Neumann and Arendt articles

APPENDIX C: Folders 9/12, 9/17, 9/24 (A-I, J-P, Q-Z, General)

9/12 Bendavid, Lazarus
Brunner, Constantin
"Cataloguing"
Frank, Waldo
Gans, Eduard
Ginzberg, Louis
Hebrew Union College Library
Heine, Heinrich
Herder
Hoffman, David
"High Holy Days, Festivals and Fasts"
Hurwitz, Henry
Husik, Isaac
Isaacs, Nathan



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Appendices

9/17 "The Jews in the Western World: A Survey of Jewish History and Thought Since 70"
Jewish Literature

Jonas, Harold J.

"Judaism and American Ideals and Institutions"

"Christian Europe Today' by Adolph Keller"

Kohler, Kaufmann

"The Law of the Land is Binding Law"

"Lessing and the Life of Reason"

"Martin Luther: Von den JÄden und iren LÄgen"

Moore, George Foot

Moser, Moses

"A Museum of Jewish Cultural History"

Oko, Adolph S.

Oko, Etta Weisinger

"The Prime Need"

9/24 Religious Education

Robinson's Outline

Schneiderman, Harry

Shelley, Percy Bysshe

"Some Christian Estimates of Judaism"

Toller, Ernst

Weizmann, Chaim

Yom Kippur

Three partial bibliographies

Partial inventory and appraisal of a book collection

Headings for an article

Eulogy for Ed, janitor at the Hebrew Union College Library

APPENDIX D. Folder 9/29 - Articles by others

Cannan, Gilbert - "The Rights of Minorities"

Hurwitz, Maximilian - "Ami, Ami, Lomo Osavtoni?"

Mischkind, Louis A. - [report on a conference, perhaps of the CCAR]

Rosenbloom, Sol - "Uniting Faith and Reason (A Viewpoint on the Hebrew University)"