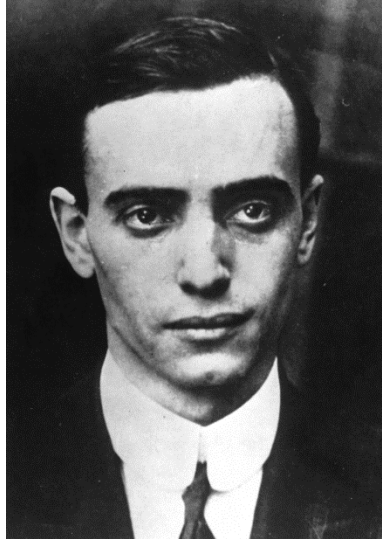




THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE
AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

**A Finding Aid to the
Leo M. Frank Papers**

Manuscript Collection No. 237



Collection Summary

Title	Leo M. Frank Collection
Dates	1913-1965, (bulk 1913-1915)
Collection Number	MS-237
Repository	The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives
Creator	Frank, Leo, 1884-1915
Extent	2.5 linear feet (6 Hollinger boxes)
Language of the Material	English

Administrative Information

Biographical Sketch	<p>Leo Frank was born in Cuero, Texas in 1884 but was raised in Brooklyn, New York. He attended Brooklyn Public Schools, the Pratt Institute, and in 1906, graduated from Cornell University with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering. His first job was in Massachusetts, but soon thereafter he moved back to Brooklyn and was trained as a mechanical engineer.</p> <p>In 1907, Frank moved to Atlanta, Georgia to take a position as a supervisor at the National Pencil Company, owned by his uncle. In 1910, he married Lucille Selig, daughter of a prominent Jewish family. He was an active and respected member of the Jewish community and in 1912 became president of his local B'nai B'rith chapter.</p> <p>Mary Phagan, a fourteen year old employee, was found dead in the basement of the National Pencil factory on 27 April 1913. Frank was arrested the next day and subsequently found guilty of Phagan's murder. The trial lasted for nearly two months. Numerous protests throughout the trial protested that this was a case of prejudice and anti-Semitism.</p> <p>The trial was eventually appealed to the Supreme Court who rejected Frank's final appeal. Georgia governor John Slaton, who believed Frank to be innocent, commuted Frank's sentence to a life term on 21 June 1915. An angry mob later removed Frank from the jail and lynched him on 17 August 1915.</p>
Scope and Content	Collection consisting of correspondence, reports, articles and recollections describing the conviction and subsequent lynching of Frank, 1913-1915; together with materials pertaining to Leonard Dinnerstein's book, <i>The Leo Frank Case</i> , 1963-1965.
Arrangement	These records are organized into a single series, with press clippings/reports followed by correspondence and legal reports.
Copies	Also available in microfilm; available in repository and via inter-library loan; AJA microfilm nos. 2822-2825.
Terms of Access	The collection is open for use; no restrictions apply.
Preferred Citation	Footnotes and bibliographic references should refer to the Leo M. Frank Papers and the American Jewish Archives. A suggestion for at least the first citation is as follows: [Description], [Date], Box #, Folder #. MS-237. Leo M. Frank Papers. American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Provenance	Received from the Hebrew Benevolent Congregation, Atlanta, Ga., 1960; and Leonard Dinnerstein, New York, N.Y., 1967.
Processing Information	Processed by Melinda McMartin, October 2001. Additional processing by Vicki Lipski, July 2006.

Index Terms

Subjects	Antisemitism / Jews -- Georgia -- Atlanta / Lynching
Personal Names	Dinnerstein, Leonard / Frank, Leo, 1884-1915
Media	Photographs

Series A. General, 1913-1965, undated

Box and Folder Listing

- Box 1. Folder 1. Affidavits [Pinkerton Detective Agency], 1913 May
- Box 1. Folder 2. Testimony Recorded at the National Pencil Company, 1913 June 30
- Box 1. Folder 3. Testimony in the Leo Frank case, 1913, undated
- Box 1. Folder 4. Trial papers, 1913, 1915, undated
- Box 1. Folder 5. Grounds for Motion for a New Trial; Fulton County Superior Court, 1913 July
- Box 1. Folder 6. Correspondence to or by various lawyers, 1914-1915
- Box 1. Folder 7. Correspondence regarding the Leo Frank case, 1913-1915
- Box 1. Folder 8. Handbill for protest meeting, 1913 October 26
- Box 1. Folder 9. Letters to Governor Slaton, 1915
- Box 1. Folder 10. Flyer in defense of trial by jury, 1915 June 5
- Box 1. Folder 11. Documents concerning Mary Phagan's mother's lawsuit against the National Pencil Company, 1914-1916
- Box 1. Folder 12. Wise, Stephen S. The Case of Leo Frank: A Last Appeal, 1915 May
- Box 1. Folder 13. Liquidation of the National Pencil Company, 1916
- Box 1. Folder 14. Anti-semitic "Reminder" card, undated
- Box 1. Folder 15. Background information on the Leo Frank case, undated
- Box 1. Folder 16. Partial document concerning newspaper coverage of the Leo Frank case, undated
- Box 1. Folder 17. Various papers about the Leo Frank case, 1961, 1963-1965
- Box 1. Folder 18. Miscellaneous Items, undated
- Box 2. Folder 1. Newsclippings, 1913 May-December
- Box 2. Folder 2. Newsclippings, 1914 February
- Box 2. Folder 3. Newsclippings, 1914 March
- Box 2. Folder 4. Newsclippings, 1914 April
- Box 2. Folder 5. Newsclippings, 1914 May
- Box 2. Folder 6. Newsclippings, 1914 May-June
- Box 2. Folder 7-11. Newsclippings, 1914 December
- Box 3. Folder 1. Newsclippings, 1915 December
- Box 3. Folder 2. Newsclippings, 1915 January
- Box 3. Folder 3. Newsclippings, 1915 January-February
- Box 3. Folder 4. Newsclippings, 1915 March
- Box 3. Folder 5. Newsclippings, 1915 April
- Box 3. Folder 6-10. Newsclippings, 1915 June
- Box 4. Folder 1-8. Newsclippings, 1916 June
- Box 5. Folder 1-2. Newsclippings, 1915 July

Box 5. Folder 3-9. Newsclippings, 1915 August

Box 6. Folder 1. Newsclippings, undated

Box 6. Folder 2-3. Newsclippings, undated

Box 6. Folder 4. Photographs, undated

Box 6. Folder 5. Articles, 1915, undated

Box 6. Folder 6. Leonard Dinnerstein dissertation correspondence, 1963-1965