ISIDORE COHN PAPERS  
(Mss 3425) Inventory  

Compiled by Kristina Dawson Zack  

Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections  
Special Collections, Hill Memorial Library  
Louisiana State University Libraries  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana  

1994
Summary

Size. 29 linear feet

Geographic locations. New Orleans, Louisiana, Southern United States, United States, England, Sweden, Denmark, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Brazil, Uruguay, Peru, Venezuela.

Inclusive dates. 1879-1972, n.d.

Bulk dates. 1920-1965

Languages. English, French, Spanish, Catalan, Italian.

Summary. Article and lecture manuscripts and visual aids, notes, correspondence, financial papers, legal documents, printed material, plats, and photographs document Isidore Cohn's activities and associations as a New Orleans surgeon, medical educator, and community leader.


Access. No restrictions.

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Stack locations. 34:136-174 ; OS:C; 102:69-70
Biographical/Historical Note

Isidore Cohn (pronounced "cone"), New Orleans surgeon and medical educator, was born in Brusle Landing, Louisiana on April 9, 1885 to Henry Cohn, Jr. and Sophie Farmbacher Cohn. He grew up in Baton Rouge and in 1899 graduated from St. Vincent's Academy. The same year, at the age of 14, he entered Louisiana State University, and graduated in 1903. He then matriculated into the Medical school at Tulane University, graduating in 1907 at the age of 22. He interned both at Shreveport Charity Hospital and Touro Infirmary in New Orleans. In 1910, he married Elsie Waldhorn (1888-1960). They had three children: Babette Cohn Golden (b. 1913, married Dr. Abe Golden), Elise Cohn Rosenthal (b. 1918, married Robert Rosenthal), and Dr. Isidore, Jr. (b. 1921, married Jacqueline Heymann).

Cohn began his career as a medical educator in 1909 when he was appointed by his friend and mentor Dr. Rudolph Matas (1860-1957) to the position of assistant demonstrator of minor surgery at Tulane University Medical School. He was later to be appointed Professor of Clinical Surgery at Tulane University, a position he held until 1937. In 1937, he left Tulane University to teach at the Louisiana State University Medical School, also in New Orleans, and there occupied the positions of Professor of Graduate Surgery and Professor of Clinical Surgery. He served at LSU in this capacity until his retirement in 1952.

Dr. Cohn was also connected with Touro Infirmary, where he eventually succeeded his friend, associate, and mentor, Rudolph Matas as Chief of Surgery in 1935 and served Touro in that capacity until 1940. He also was Senior Surgeon at New Orleans Charity Hospital and consultant in surgery at Flint-Goodridge Hospital (Dillard University).

He published over 400 articles on medical subjects as well as on religious and social issues. He is also known for his Normal Bones and Joints and Rudolph Matas: A Biography (with Hermann Deutsch). Special interests in medical subjects included bone development in children, surgery of trauma, and fracture treatment. Other favorite subjects were medical ethics, socialized medicine, and medical and nursing education.

Dr. Cohn was an active member of many medical societies, including the Orleans Parish Medical Society, Louisiana State Medical Society, Louisiana Surgical Society, the American Medical Association, the American College of Surgeons, and the International Society of Surgery. He served as president of the Louisiana Surgical Society in 1950 and Vice President of the Southern Surgical Association. Dr. Cohn also travelled abroad to medical conferences, and represented American surgery and medical education on several occasions in Europe and South America.
Social issues also occupied Dr. Cohn's time, including active membership in the New Orleans Community Chest, International House, and the National Conference of Christians and Jews. He was a member of Touro Synagogue and surgical advisor to the Jewish Orphan's home, as well as Hope Haven Institution (Catholic), and the Episcopal Children's Home.

Dr. Cohn resided in New Orleans until his death on January 3, 1980.
Scope and Content Note

The career and activities of Dr. Isidore Cohn are documented by correspondence, manuscripts (both medical and non-medical), notes, drafts of articles, financial and legal papers, blueprints, newspaper clippings, other printed material, and photographs covering the period from around 1880-1967. Most of the correspondence relates to Dr. Cohn's professional activities, including membership in societies/committees, publications, and discussions on various medical subjects from 1913-1972. These include letters written in arranging for a festschrift for Rudolph Matas (1929-1932), as well as planning for the International Society of Surgery Congress held in New Orleans in 1949. The collection also contains a small number of personal letters from family members and close friends, many documenting trips abroad between 1936 and 1956, as well as personal letters of appreciation from patients. Personal business affairs are covered to a small extent by letters as well as legal documents and blueprints, specifically matters dealing with the Cohn Subdivision in Port Allen, LA, and land donation to that city.

NOTE: In arranging this collection, care has been taken to preserve Isidore Cohn's original organization whenever feasible. Most material was organized by Dr. Cohn by subject; therefore, manuscripts, drafts, notes and visual aids for articles and lectures as well as letters pertaining to them were filed together. This organization has been followed in Series I.& II. (see p. 5) in order to maintain the connection between articles and lectures and related correspondence. In the balance of series, letters were separated from notes, meeting minutes, and other papers, but the basic organization of papers by subject has been maintained wherever possible. Remaining correspondence files reflect both personal and professional affiliations. In cases where an individual has an extensive affiliation with Isidore Cohn outside of the organization which he or she represents, there may be two or more sets of letters from that individual--one interfiled with organizational correspondence, one contained in a folder labelled with the individual's name, as well as any award or publication in which an individual might have collaborated with Dr. Cohn. Major correspondents in Series I.&II. are named in the series and subseries descriptions (p. 6).
List of Series and Subseries

I. Medical Subjects, 1913-1961, (bulk dates 1913-1949), n.d.
   Subseries 1. Articles, Lectures, 1913-1961, (bulk dates 1913-
   Subseries 2. Other medical, 1917-1929, n.d.

   Subseries 2. The Rudolph Matas History of Medicine in
   Subseries 3. Matas Birthday Volume, a Collection of Surgical
   Subseries 4. Rudolph Matas Award in Vascular Surgery, 1933-1967,
   n.d.
   Subseries 5. Tributes and Lectures/Articles about Rudolph Matas,

III. Medical/Surgical Societies, 1913-1966, n.d.


V. Correspondence, 1913-1972 (Bulk dates 1930-1966), n.d.

VI. Printed Material, ca. 1885-1970 (Bulk dates ca, 1925-1960), n.d.


VIII. Photographs, ca. 1880-1967, n.d.

IX. Phonograph/Cassette Recordings, 1955, n.d.

Series and Subseries Descriptions

I. Medical Subjects, 1913-1961 (bulk dates 1913-1949), n.d. (4.33 lf.)

Subseries 1. Articles, Lectures. 1913-1961 (bulk dates 1913-1949), n.d. (3.33 lf.)

**Summary:** Drafts, notes, and manuscripts of articles written by Isidore Cohn on various medical subjects. Letters pertaining to their publication.

Articles written by Cohn are on various subjects include such topics as "Masses in the Groin", "Masses in the Neck", fracture treatment, spleen disorders, bone diseases and disorders, and bone growth (including experiments on test animals with different types of metal bone screws). Some papers include multiple drafts, both typed and handwritten, as well as typed and handwritten notes and visual aids such as flash cards for lectures and sketches for article illustrations. Included also are articles by other physicians, including Cohn's discussion of them. Letters in this subseries are those written by Cohn in preparing these articles or planning lecture trips and letters to medical journals and publishers and their replies, concerning the publication of these articles, as well as letters discussing specific papers and requesting reprints. This subseries also includes drafts of the introduction and Chapters one and two from *Normal Bones and Joints* (1924). Letters with publishers Paul B. Hoeber Co., W.F. Prior & Co. and others help illustrate the publication process. Letters are to and from a large number of people, including those from Dean Lewis, W. H. Anderson, Rudolph Matas, various Tulane and LSU medical faculty, and a 1927 bill from Carl Weiss.

Also included are several handmade charts on various medical studies, including studies on the spleen and a pedigree chart for polydactylysm.

Subseries 2. Other Medical. 1917-1929, n.d. (1 lf.)

**Summary:** Lectures, examination questions, samples of student work, and miscellaneous medical notes.

This subseries contains lectures in minor surgery and fracture treatment given at Tulane University and Touro Infirmary. Lectures on surgical nursing given to students at the Touro Infirmary School of Nursing are also included. This subseries also contains examples of senior class papers from Touro Infirmary internes, 1926-27, and a paper "Report on a Case of Hand Infection" by Tulane student Esther Kirk, 1929. Also included are miscellaneous notes on various medical subjects, as well as the contents of several notebooks labelled "medical notebook".
II. Non-Medical Subjects, 1879-1968, n.d. (9.5 lf.)


Summary: Notes by Isidore Cohn and Rudolph Matas, drafts, manuscripts of various chapters, and legal documents. Letters regarding collaboration of Cohn with Hermann Deutsch and publisher (Doubleday).

In 1960, Cohn published a biography of his mentor and friend, Rudolph Matas (1860-1957), in collaboration with Hermann Deutsch. This subseries includes extensive notes, multiple drafts of book chapters, including those with notes of Hermann Deutsch as well as Cohn. Notes cover life of Rudolph Matas and his family, and the history of Louisiana, Touro Infirmary, Tulane University, and medicine in general from approximately 1860 to the time of Dr. Matas' death in 1957. They include notes made by Matas' father, Narciso Hereu Matas (1837-1904) and copies of some of Matas' legal documents, such as property deeds and copies of Matas' will and death certificate. Other items in this subseries include photocopies of letters from Lafcadio Hearn to Matas and some of Matas' own correspondence (1879-1957). Other correspondents include William Osler, Elliott Cutler, Michael DeBakey, Evarts Graham, and W.S. Halsted. There are also letters from Adrienne Matas (Matas' wife) to her son, Arthur Landry, while he was in treatment for tuberculosis in North Carolina, and letters from Narciso Matas (some photocopies) and to Kate P. Hess, Matas' secretary, from Matas. Three volumes of Mrs. Matas' diaries (1909, 1911, 1913) and one notebook of her son, Arthur Landry, are also included here. Letters to Cohn include correspondence with the publisher of the book (Doubleday).

Note: For galleys of Rudolph Matas: A Biography, please see series VI., Printed Material.

Subseries 2. The Rudolph Matas History of Medicine in Louisiana, 1952-1965 (1 lf.).

Summary: Drafts, financial papers, meeting notes, and correspondence dealing with the writing and publication of the Rudolph Matas History of Medicine in Louisiana.

This subseries primarily documents the organizational processes behind the publication of the Rudolph Matas History of Medicine in Louisiana (edited by John Duffy, using Matas' notes). Letters between Cohn and John Duffy discuss such topics as editorial choices made by Duffy in sorting through Matas' notes, and financial matters, such as
Duffy's salary and funding for writing supplies. Financial papers include sample statements from Whitney National Bank, showing the activity of the trust fund set up by Matas to fund the project. Notes and letters document meetings between members of the committee administering the trust, which included Drs. Isidore Cohn, Andrew V. Friedrichs, Edwin Lawson, and Arthur A. Herold. Other letters include those from the Louisiana State Medical Society (primarily Dr. C. Grenes Cole), Louisiana State University Press (Donald R. Ellegood), Hathaway Aleman, Mary Louise Marshall, and Moise Dennery, Cohn's nephew and attorney.


**Summary:** Letters, notes, committee meeting notes, and manuscripts dealing with the publication of a Festschrift honoring Dr. Rudolph Matas.

The Matas Birthday Volume was organized by Cohn, along with a committee gathered by him, in 1929-1931 to commemorate the birthday of Dr. Rudolph Matas. Material in this subseries consists mainly of correspondence between Cohn, potential article contributors, committee members, possible monetary contributors, prospective publishers, and the publisher, Paul B. Hoeber. Included are some of the manuscript contributions. Also included in this series is a ledger book (1930-1932) which records subscriptions to the volume.

**Note:** For galleys of the Matas Birthday Volume, please see Series VI., Printed Material.


**Summary:** letters and notes regarding the Rudolph Matas Award in Vascular Surgery.

The Rudolph Matas Award in Vascular Surgery was founded in 1933 at the behest of Violet Hart, a prominent New Orleans socialite and patient of Dr. Rudolph Matas, in gratitude for his kindness and skill in treating the long illness of which she finally died. The award was designed to honor those vascular surgeons who make significant or historic contributions to the field. Letters between Isidore Cohn and Mike Hart (the brother of Violet Hart) document the arrangements for the first and subsequent awards. Other letters track the award process for various awards, from the first in 1933, to 1967, and consist of correspondence with candidates for the award. Letters also document the business of the trust fund committee, consisting of Drs. Isidore Cohn, Emile Bloch,
Lucian Landry, and Oscar Creech, the latter two of whom were replaced by their sons, Drs. Rudolph Matas Landry and Oscar Creech, Jr.

NOTE: Invitations, programs, and other print material relating to the Matas Award in Vascular Surgery may be found in Series VI.

Subseries 5. Tributes and Lectures/Articles about Rudolph Matas, 1936-1961, n.d. (.33 lf.)

**Summary:** Notes, drafts, and manuscripts of articles and lectures on the life and accomplishments of Rudolph Matas. Letters arranging publication of articles or forums for lectures.

Notes, drafts, and manuscripts of articles and lectures by Cohn documenting the life and accomplishments of Dr. Rudolph Matas are mainly laudatory in tone, with the exception of some more fact-based biographical sketches. Letters in this subseries show Cohn's contact with various social and medical societies in planning lectures or publications about Matas.

Subseries 6. Other Non-Medical, 1927-1968, n.d. (2.75 lf.)

**Summary:** Letters, notes, lectures, and articles dealing with various topics, ranging from socialized medicine, medical ethics and education to travel notes and medical history. Also included are notes on Touro Infirmary and LSU, both the School of Medicine and history of the institution.

This subseries contains the balance of Isidore Cohn's notes on non-medical subjects. There are several lectures on socialized medicine for lay audiences, as well as material from the Committee to Uphold Constitutional Government and American Foundation for Studies in Government.

Material on medical ethics includes lectures and articles directed at the medical profession and deal with fee-splitting, the ethics of the doctor/patient relationship, and expert testimony. Some titles are "Fee-splitting", "Opportunity and Obligation", "The Responsibility of the Surgeon", and "The Doctor in Court". Notes deal with many aspects of medical ethics and support articles and lectures on the subject, including transcripts from several court cases.

Notes and articles cover the history of Touro Infirmary, business from Touro Infirmary, and biographical information about Judah Touro, founder and benefactor of Touro Infirmary. Business notes are composed of hospital reports and notes regarding those
reports for the years 1942-1943. Notes include Cohn's plan for financial help for families of physicians in the service in World War II. Other notes deal with everyday running of the hospital, dealing with such concerns as operating room hours and the need for more beds. Organizational notes also concern the nursing staff and the Touro Infirmary School of Nursing, and include graduation addresses Cohn made at capping and commencement ceremonies at the nursing school. Other notes cover the history of Touro and biographical material on Judah Touro, including statements from early organizational meetings, as well as photocopies and photostats of the will and death certificate of Judah Touro and the Touro Infirmary and Hebrew Benevolent Association constitution and by-laws. Notes also cover the reception (1955) at Touro Infirmary in honor of Dr. Cohn, including guest lists, Dr. Cohn's address, "Personal Recollections of Touro Infirmary" and tributes by Leo. L. Hirsch and Charles Rosen.

Medical and nursing education are covered in such articles and lectures as "Observations on Medical Education" and "A Plea for Bedside [Nurse] Training". Other articles, addresses and miscellaneous notes are comprised of Cohn's thoughts on undergraduate and graduate medical education, as well as preparation for medical school.

Notes, articles and lectures document Cohn's interest in medical history and medical biography. "The Passing Parade" and "Observations on the Development of Gastroenterology over Fifty Years" are examples of his work in medical history, and his work on Profiles in the Surgery of Trauma and biographies of such men as Stanford Chaille and Marcus Feingold are examples of his interest in the people in medical history. This subseries contains other articles on medical history and biographies of historical figures as well as obituaries and biographical sketches of Cohn's contemporaries. Notes and letters support these articles as well as add to the material contained in them. Material on race relations and Judaism deal with the National Conference of Christians and Jews, the New Orleans Conference of Catholics, Jews, and Protestants, and the New Orleans Council on Judaism, as well as the position of Jews in the medical profession and the conditions of Jews in World War II. Also included are notes on the Episcopal Children's Home in New Orleans to which Dr. Cohn volunteered his services as a surgeon.

Notes on travel span the years 1936-1956 and cover both the European and South American continents. Both medical notes from conferences and sight-seeing notes are included in this subseries, as they oftentimes fall together in narrative form, as in "Notes on Tour of South America". The contents of several books of handwritten travel notes are also included in this group.
Material on LSU covers Cohn's experiences with LSU as an undergraduate, alumnus and as a faculty member at the Graduate School of Medicine. Business notes document Cohn's activities in the LSU Alumni Association (1939-1944, n.d.), specifically his tenure as Alumni Association President in 1943-44. "Reminiscences of LSU at the Turn of the Century" shows his impressions of his undergraduate years. Faculty meeting notes from the Graduate School of Medicine at LSU (1937, n.d.) and notes on the faculty walkout of 1945 show Cohn's involvement as a faculty member.

Notes, meeting notes, and financial reports document Cohn's activities in the Community Chest of New Orleans, and "Flint-Goodridge--An Educational Asset" shows Cohn's interest in medical institutions other than Touro Infirmary. Other materials in this subseries are book reviews by Cohn (1936-1949) and "Feature," a biographical story in The Pioneer, a publication of Newman School (New Orleans), of which Cohn's granddaughter, Elsa Golden, was editor.

**NOTE:** A great deal of printed material on the subject of socialized medicine may be found in Series VI. For more documentation of Cohn's trips abroad, see letters to his family and Rudolph Matas in Series V.


**Summary:** Notes, meeting minutes and proceedings documenting Isidore Cohn's involvement in medical societies.

Some of the items this series contains are documents showing Cohn's involvement in the American College of Surgeons, specifically in what has been known in various times in its history as the General Fracture Committee, Committee on Fractures, Committee on Fractures and Other Traumas, and Committee on Trauma. There are meeting minutes for the general committee and the Louisiana regional committee, as well as annual reports, registers from meetings, proceedings, and other notes. Also included are two articles, "A Method of Study and Organization of Emergency Facilities and Services" and "General Principles of Emergency Care".

Also included in this series are notes on the International Society of Surgery. General notes, 1938-1950, include Rudolph Matas' inaugural address from the 1938 congress and notes from various other activities and congresses of the society. The bulk of material, however, documents Cohn's activities as local chairman of arrangements for the 1949 congress, which was held in New Orleans. This includes informal notes as well as formal reports. Also included are two register books from the 1949 congress in New Orleans.
Other medical and surgical societies represented in Cohn's notes are the following: American Association for the Surgery of Trauma; Louisiana State Medical Society, Worker's Compensation and Hospital Committees; Orleans Parish Medical Society; Surgical Association of Louisiana; Louisiana State Board of Health; Southern Medical Association/Surgical Section, Appendicitis Committee; Southern Surgical Association; International College of Surgeons; and Broadway Medical Society. Proceedings from medical congresses in Lima, Peru, "Primer Congreso Pan Americano de Educacion Medica" (1951), and "VII Congresso Americano de Cirugia" (1950) are also included.


**Summary:** Financial papers and notes dealing with the Cohn family's property in Port Allen, Louisiana. Income and property tax material. Lawsuit filed against Cohn.

Business concerning the property Cohn and other members of his family owned in Port Allen is documented in this subseries. It contains deeds of sale/donation of land to be used for a firehouse in Port Allen and the Cohn High School and Cohn Elementary School, as well as legal documents pertaining to the Cohn Subdivision Company and the Carolina Planting and Lumber Company. Other documents include income tax returns, notes, and receipts, as well as property tax material for Isidore Cohn for the years 1960-1963. Included as well are notes and depositions concerning Cohn's involvement in an auto accident in 1949 and the subsequent lawsuit, "Mr. and Mrs. William E. Bolnar v. Isidore Cohn and the Travellers Insurance Company." Also included are various other Cohn family legal papers, such as passports and travel visas and an undated bank charter for a "State Bank in the town of Port Allen", which was removed from a frame for conservation purposes.

Plats relating to the Cohns' affairs in Port Allen and the Cohn Subdivision may be found in Series VI, Printed Material.

V. Correspondence, 1913-1972 (bulk dates 1930-1966), n.d. (4.5 lf.).

**Summary:** Correspondence between Isidore Cohn and family, friends and colleagues.

This series contains correspondence between Isidore Cohn and his family, friends and colleagues. Family correspondence (1930-1970) includes letters to and from Henry Cohn, Jr., Elsie, Isidore Jr., Babette, Elise, Jacqueline, Robert Rosenthal, Robert
Rosenthal, Jr. (Robby -- Cohn's grandson), Moise Dennery, Linda Golden and Solon Farbmacher. Letters discuss everyday life, including notes of congratulations to Isidore, Jr. on outstanding achievements, such as publications and Isidore Jr.'s admission to "the American Surgical" [American College of Surgeons?]. Included also are letters from both Elsie and Isidore to the Cohn children regarding trips abroad and letters from Babette describing some of the Goldens' vacations. Other subjects include family business affairs, such as the Cohn Subdivision and the Carolina Planting Co..

Correspondence (1921-1956) between Dr. Rudolph Matas and Isidore Cohn is also included. Both Cohn and Matas wrote to each other when travelling, primarily Cohn to Matas. This subseries contains those letters as well as replies. Matas' travel letters to Cohn contain his impressions of London as well as of sightseeing in the American Southwest and California. The bulk of Cohn's letters to Matas while travelling mostly date from the 1950s and discuss Cohn's impressions of Europe and the people and programs at the medical congresses he was attending there. Other letters discuss everyday concerns of organization at Touro Infirmary and Tulane University Medical Department. Other business letters pertain to matters concerning the International Society of Surgery, specifically the 1949 congress which was held in New Orleans.

Larger groups of personal letters include correspondence between Cohn and Drs. Robert Kennedy, Eduardo Palma, George Grey Turner, Frederic Bancroft and his wife, Dorothy, Rabbi Harold and Flora Reinhart, Lady Etta and Sir Benjamin Drage, and (Mrs.) Clover Seeling. Letters between the Drages and the Grey Turners discuss medical conferences, specifically congresses of the International Society of Surgery; anticipated visits of the Cohns to London, including plans for entertainment; World War II and food rationing, and also the shortages of food and clothing resulting from the English "Austerity" plan following the war; and personal news and events, such as illnesses and vacations. Letters from the Reinharts discuss anticipated visits of the Cohns to London, as well as the "Austerity" program and personal news. Letters from Fred Bancroft talk about medical society business and news from the medical world as well as some personal news. Dorothy Bancroft's letters relate her husband's last and lengthy illness and her difficulties in coping with their situation and also discuss an obituary of her husband, written by Cohn. Correspondence between Cohn and Dr. Robert Kennedy discusses medical society business and also includes some personal matters, such as congratulatory messages or thank-yous for gifts. Letters between Cohn and Clover Seeling discuss hobbies, personal news, and ageing.

Cohn also corresponded with some former students. Some examples of these are Drs. Charles Wall, Richard Faust, Alfred Gage, and Leonard Greentree. Some groups of correspondence, such as that between Cohn and Charles Wall and Leonard Greentree, are mostly newsy. Charles Wall began their correspondence late in life, and his letters
contain mostly current news of his life and reminiscences of his time at Tulane University Medical School and Touro Infirmary and of Dr. Rudolph Matas. Leonard Greentree's letters relate his adventures as a young doctor doing work in the far east in the 1930s and 1940s. Other students wrote to Dr. Cohn, asking for help, as in the case of Dr. Richard Faust, who enlisted Cohn's help in his application for admission to the American College of Surgeons. Letters between Cohn and Alfred Gage illustrate Cohn's willingness to help young doctors financially and show Dr. Gage's efforts to repay Cohn after medical school, in the late 1930s.

Correspondence also documents Cohn's involvement with many organizations and institutions. Just a few examples of medical societies include the International Society of Surgery, the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma, and various Louisiana, New Orleans, and Southern organizations. These discuss meetings, policies, and other relevant operations of the organizations. Most prominent are letters documenting Cohn's work in planning the International Society of Surgery's 1949 congress in New Orleans and his work as a Regional Chairman for the American College of Surgeons' Committee on Trauma.

Letters to and from institutions mostly discuss everyday organizational problems. Institutions represented include Tulane University School of Medicine, Touro Infirmary (including the Nursing School), Flint-Goodridge Hospital, Louisiana State University Alumni Federation, LSU Medical Center, and others. Cohn's work on behalf of charitable institutions is shown in his correspondence with such institutions as the Jewish Orphan's Home, the Episcopal Children's home, Hope Haven Institution, and the New Orleans Community Chest. His interest in social issues is reflected by letters to and from The National Conference of Christians and Jews and letters documenting his work on behalf of Dwight D. Eisenhower in his 1952 bid for president.

Letters to and from colleagues discuss medical procedures, medical society conferences, medical ethics, and other issues pertaining to local, national, and international medicine. Correspondents include such doctors as Michael DeBakey, Lord Alfred Webb-Johnson, Charles Scudder, George Curry, as well as many other surgeons affiliated with surgical societies, like Rene Leriche (International Society of Surgery), Bowman C. Crowell, Arthur Allen, and Paul Hawley (American College of Surgeons), some of whose personal letters may be found interfiled with institutional business letters.

All letters which do not fit into a series of letters from institutions or individuals are filed under "Correspondence -- Miscellaneous" by date [1913-1972, n.d.].

NOTE: For a full list of files in Series V., please see Appendix.
VI. **Printed Material**, ca. 1885-1970 [bulk ca. 1925-1960], n.d. (6 lf.)

**Summary:** News clippings, reprints of works by Isidore Cohn and Rudolph Matas, galley sheets, invitations, business cards, programs, pamphlets, proceedings, certificates/awards, ephemera and other print and near-print material.

Under the heading of "reprints" by Isidore Cohn and Rudolph Matas are included actual reprints as well as articles torn out of journals by Cohn and photocopies of printed articles by Cohn and Matas. Reprints are of articles on both medical and non-medical subjects.

Galley sheets from articles and books written by Isidore Cohn include those from Rudolph Matas, the Matas Birthday *Volume*, "Observations on Malignancies of the Large Bowel", "An Appreciation of Professor Rudolph Matas", and illustrations, title page, and preface to *The Rudolph Matas History of Medicine in Louisiana*, "Rudolph Matas: His Influence on Vascular Surgery with Particular Reference to the Use of the Suture", "Urgent Abdominal Surgery in the Aged", "Personal Experiences in Abdominal Surgery Emergencies", and "Medical Education, and its End Product--the Doctor." One galley of an article not written by Isidore Cohn is of a June 12, 1955 article from the *New Orleans Item* entitled "After 48 Years' Service Surgeon-Scholar Retires".

Bulletins, newsletters, programs, and proceedings were collected by Dr. Cohn from various organizations, societies, and institutions. Some programs document conferences and meetings Dr. Cohn attended for various medical societies. Some show schedules for events or institutions, such as Tulane University Medical School class schedules from the turn of the 20th century to the 1930s and schedules for summer seminars given at Flint-Goodridge Hospital in New Orleans for African-American doctors. Proceedings of events are also included.

Brochures, pamphlets, and flyers emanate from various sources, ranging from flyers, information pamphlets, and other promotional material from the American Medical Association's National Education Committee (on socialized medicine) to brochures from surgical equipment and pharmaceutical companies and pamphlets about historic places to a pronunciation guide to Louisiana names. Subject matter ranges from human interest and historical material to religious and political messages and medical and surgical interests such as first aid training. The subject matter most covered is socialized medicine, with various flyers, pamphlets, and other items, mostly opposing socialized medicine, from various organizations. Included are such items as a comic book from the Committee on Public Medical Education (n.d.) entitled "The Sad Case of Waiting-Room Willie" and "A Simplified Blueprint of the Campaign Against Compulsory Health
Insurance" (1949) by the National Education Campaign of the American Medical Association.

News clippings report on various events in Isidore Cohn's life, primarily events that happened in his own life, though some news events are also documented. Deteriorating news clippings were photocopied onto acid-free paper in order to preserve the information contained in them.

Larger sections of newspapers collected by Cohn as well entire publications are also included in this group. They include daily "newspapers" from medical conferences, publications of other organizations such as the Council for Judaism, the American Medical Association, the American Jewish Committee, International House of New Orleans, and such publications as Common Sense and The Federationist.

Organization and society information in this series include such items as printed by-laws and constitutions of organizations, requirements for admission into certain societies, and rules and regulations for institutions. Also included are information booklets on organizations. Examples of organizations, societies, and institutions represented are the American College of Surgeons, the American Board of Surgery, Touro Infirmary and Charity Hospital.

Reports document the actions of such organizations and institutions as Louisiana State University, the Rockefeller Foundation, the American Medical Association, National Congress of Christians and Jews, and various other organizations, as well as city, parish, and state agencies. Workman's Compensation Act legislation from various states was also collected by Isidore Cohn in 1917.

Awards, diplomas, and other honors include diplomas from Lousiana State University, Tulane University School of Medicine, Charity Hospital of New Orleans, and Touro Infirmary. Awards include certificates of appreciation from Touro Infirmary, the Jewish Children's Home, and the Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana. Also included in this group are certificates of membership in such organizations as the New Orleans Surgical Society, National Gastroenterological Association, International Society of Surgery, American College of Surgeons, B'nai B'rith, and the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana (Masons).

Other printed material include various ephemera such as placecards, travel souvenirs, prints of paintings of nineteenth-century surgical scenes, an enlarged photocopy of Touro Infirmary ca. 1855 and a printed facsimile of the admissions book of Touro Infirmary, dated "August, September 1856."
This series also contains one map of New Orleans, entitled "Sanitary Map of the City of New Orleans Exhibiting the location of the various NUISANCES and other causes affecting the SALUBRITY of the CITY as shewn in the occurrence of near 30,000 Cases of Yellow Fever in the Epidemic of 1853, in the DISTRICTS & WARDS respectively, according to which the U.S. Census was taken in 1850, so that the ratio to the estimated population should be shewn as in Table R intended to illustrate the influence of these causes upon health. Prepared for the Report of the Sanitary Commission by E.H. Barton, A.M.M.D." This map was removed by Isidore Cohn from Report of the Sanitary Commission of New Orleans on the Epidemic of Yellow Fever of 1853, which is also owned by this library. Marks made in red pen on this map indicate real estate holdings of Judah Touro in 1854.


**Summary**: Scrapbooks and notebooks compiled by Isidore Cohn, containing notes for lectures and articles, text of lectures and articles, general notes, autographs, letters, and news clippings.

Scrapbooks and notebooks in this series contain a combination of types of items, ranging from notes on specific subjects to autographs and letters. Pages have been removed from scrapbook and notebook binders for preservation purposes, and deteriorated news clippings in scrapbooks have been photocopied onto acid-free paper in order to preserve their content.

Transcriptions of lectures and articles include such topics as "Lectures which Express Personal Views" and "Medical Ethics." Also included are notes researching travel and autographs from various physicians, most of which seem to have been clipped from other sources, mostly letters.

News clippings cover the Rudolph Matas Award in Vascular Surgery, the ceremonies at the presentation of the Matas Birthday Volume, the International Society of Surgery's 1949 Congress in New Orleans, and scandals in Louisiana State government in 1939, 1945, and 1952 involving the resignation of Governor Richard Leche (1939) and the LSU Board of Supervisors following a money scandal and the threatened resignation of LSU medical school faculty members in 1945 in protest over what they considered poor management choices, and over the management of Charity Hospital (1952). One scrapbook is dedicated solely to "The Palestine Problem" (1947). Other news clippings document various events in Cohn's life, and also include news clippings from 1893 and 1894 regarding Rudolph Matas' appointment to the Professor of Surgery position at Tulane University.

Some scrapbooks contain letters from grateful patients, students, and other physicians.
VIII. Photographs, ca. 1880-1967, n.d. (2 lf.)

Summary: Photographs and photomechanical prints of Cohn, Matas, other physicians, family members, places and events.

The majority of photographs in this series are black and white, although a few photographs from the 1960s are color.

This series contains photographs of physicians from about 1880 to 1950, though many are not dated. People included are many physicians who corresponded with Cohn during his life, such as Alfred Blalock, Warren Stone Bickham, Lucian Landry, Robert H. Kennedy, Donald Guthrie, Charles Veneble, Michael DeBakey, Leo DeJardin, Emile Holman, and others.

Many photographs of Dr. Rudolph Matas are included in this series and range in date from an undated photograph from around 1880 to photographs of Matas on his 95th birthday in 1955. Most of these photographs are portraits, including photographs of a painted portrait of Matas made in 1928. Some show Matas giving demonstrations in surgery (1935); as a Major in the Army Medical Corps Base Hospital 24 (Tulane University, ca. 1917); at the top of Mt. Mitchell in 1903; and being interviewed on television on his 95th birthday in 1955. There are also two portraits of Adrienne Matas, dating from around 1880 and 1900, and a snapshot of her at a typewriter, ca. 1903.

There are also many photographs of Isidore Cohn. A few are portraits, ranging from one which appeared in the LSU Gumbo in 1903 as Cohn's senior picture to portraits of Cohn in middle life and around 1960. Other photographs of Cohn show him at various events, such as the 1934 award of the Rudolph Matas Award in Vascular Surgery and an American College of Surgeons Trauma Committee meeting in 1945. Group shots include a photograph of Isidore Cohn and others in a photograph from 1908-1909 of what was probably interns at Touro Infirmary; a group photograph in front of Tulane University, 1928; a photograph of the staff and instructors at Tulane University Base Hospital 24, United States Army Medical Corps; and two 1904 shots of Cohn and fellow medical students dissecting a cadaver at Tulane Medical School Anatomy Laboratory. A portrait of two small boys and a baby picture may also be of Isidore Cohn.

There are a few pictures of Cohn family members in this series. Several photographs of Isidore, Jr. appear here, including one from 1930, taken at Camp Lookout. One photograph of Elise is labelled "From Elise to Daddy on my 11th birthday", 1928, and another was taken at the celebration of the publication of Rudolph Matas, 1960. A snapshot of Babette Cohn Golden at "Doctor's Day" in 1967 is also included.
Also included in this series are photographs of sights in Europe, Mexico, South America and the U.S. Though some of these are original photographs, most of them were purchased. Examples of places shown in these photos are, Italy, Spain, Mexico, France, Sweden, Scotland, Stanford University, and Columbia River Highway. Some pictures taken in Spain include shots of Elsie and her sister, Augusta Dennery.

Picture postcards show scenes from North and South America, and Europe.

**IX. Phonograph/Cassette recordings**, 1955, n.d. (3 items).

**Summary:** Recordings of the voices of Isidore Cohn and Rudolph Matas.

This series includes two recordings, originally made onto 33 and 78 rpm records and copied onto one cassette tape for patron use. One record (ca. 1926) is a recording of Rudolph Matas reading his Presidential address for the American College of Surgeons, which was originally delivered in Philadelphia in 1926, and expounded the ideals of the American College of Surgeons. It was recited again at a later date and recorded under the auspices of the Orleans Parish Medical Society. This recording is very deteriorated and therefore difficult to understand.

The second recording was recorded September 12, 1955 during a television program in honor of Rudolph Matas' 95th birthday. On this program Isidore Cohn was interviewed by a television reporter about the life of Dr. Matas, and Cohn interviews Matas himself. In the Cohn/Matas interview, Matas recalls the medicine of earlier eras and discusses the advances made by modern medicine. This recording is very clear.

Both recordings were recorded onto a cassette tape for patron use.

**X. Ephemera**, 1924-1972, n.d. (14 items)

**Summary:** Plaques and framed trophies of various awards and events.

This series includes several plaques presented to Isidore Cohn. They include the following: the National Safety Award for 1966; a plaque of appreciation of service from Touro Infirmary, 1972; and a framed inscription of a prayer, from the Hope Haven Institution in honor of Cohn's 80th birthday. Other items include a plaque bearing the profile of Wilhelm Konrad Roentgen; an award to Rudolph Matas from the Laudun Sanitorium for the Aged and Infirm (1952); and a framed pen which bears the inscription "used by Governor Hy. L. Fuqua to sign Anti-Klan Bills June 12, 1924, presented to his friend Hy. Cohn Jr."

This series also contains several identification pins from various medical conferences,
including the Southeastern Surgical Conference (1936) and the International Society of Surgery Congress (1949).
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16 Rudolph Matas -- Miscellaneous, n.d.

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9 53-56 Rudolph Matas History of Medicine in Louisiana -- notes, illustrations, chapter drafts, n.d.
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10 29 Matas birthday volume... -- Manuscripts/translations, essays (incomplete), c. 1931.
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30 Southern Medical Association/Surgical Section -- Appendicitis Committee notes, rosters, minutes, 1939, n.d.

31-32 Southern Surgical Association -- notes, minutes, memoranda, 1945-1963, n.d.

33 International College of Surgeons -- "Estraits des Statuts", n.d.

34 "Primer Congreso Pan Americano de Educacion Medica" (Lima, Peru) -- notes, 1951

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15 36 Auto accident, suit, "Mr. and Mrs. William E. Bolnar v. Dr. Isidore Cohn and the Travellers Insurance Co." -- court summons, depositions, 1949.

37 Loans to students -- notes, receipts, checks, 1932-1934.


16 Other Cohn family legal papers, 1902-1956, n.d.

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56-67  **Correspondence** -- Miscellaneous, 1913-1948.
19 1-23  **Correspondence** -- Miscellaneous, 1949-1972, n.d.

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**NOTE:** For a list of correspondents in this collection, please see appendix.

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<td><strong>Reprints by Rudolph Matas</strong> -- articles, reprints, photocopies, ca. 1880-1950.</td>
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| 46  |        | Galleys, various articles and books, 1928-1956, n.d. |

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3  4  Notebooks, "Hyperthyroidism,


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35  Portraits, group photographs, snapshots, 1906-1960, n.d.

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<td>Portraits -- physicians, n.d.</td>
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<td>Photographs, Adrienne Matas -- portraits, snapshots, ca. 1887-1903.</td>
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<td>Portraits -- various physicians, a dog, 1929-1956, n.d.</td>
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41  1-4  **Photographs** -- Snapshots, Portugal, Denmark, Spain, Norway, n.d.

42&43  **Postcards** -- Europe, South America, Mexico, USA, n.d.

44  **Photographs** -- portraits, snapshots, group photos of physicians, 1930-1950, n.d.

45  **Photographs** -- Group photos -- Tulane University School of Medicine, class of 1907, Medical Congress (ca. 1920), n.d.

**OS:C**  **Photographs** - 2 panoramic, group photos -- International Society of Surgery, XII congress, 1947; Primer Congreso Panamericano de Educacion Medica, 1951.

**NOTE:** For a list of correspondents and friends of Cohn whose photographs appear in this collection, please see appendix. Please note that the list in the appendix is not a complete list, but only lists major correspondents and family members.
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American Foundation Studies in Government; 1936-1937
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Manuel Bastos Ansart; 1953-1963
Antoine's Restaurant; 1940-1966
Dorothy Bancroft; 1949-1966
Frederic W. Bancroft; 1932-1956
Sadie Harris Baskin; 1964-1965, n.d.
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Stanhope Bayne-Jones; 1957-1960
Leo A. Bergman; 1947-1966
Frank B. Berry; 1956-1966
Ellen Johnston Beyt and Buddy Beyt; 1961
I. A. Bigger; 1947
Guy Blackburn; 1951-1960
Vilray Papin Blair; 1931-1941
Alfred Blalock; 1947-1950
Emile Bloch; 1960
Hale Boggs; 1955-1959
Banduccio L. Borri; 1954
Rogers Brewster; 1941-1943, n.d.
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Henry Cohn, Jr.; 1930-1933
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Ian and Lauren Cohn; 1953
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Isidore Cohn and Elsie Cohn; 1950-1959, n.d.
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Frank Coleman; 1946-1947
Frederick A. Coller; 1947-1948
Committee to Uphold Constitutional Government; 1939-1940, n.d.
Community Chest (New Orleans); 1940-1949
Conference of Jews and Christians (New Orleans); 1933-1939
Atilio J. Costa; 1950-1953
Clarence Crafoord; 1951-1955, n.d.
Oscar Creech, Jr.; 1959-1967
Harold Cummins; 1947-1966
George J. Curry; 1952-1967
Louise Darling; 1957
Michael DeBakey; 1947-1963
George Degensheim; 1957-1958
Moise Dennery; 1933-1970
Henri S. Denninger; 1937, n.d.
Departamento de Turismo (Mexico); 1957
Hermann Deutsch; 1950-1958
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Dillard University; 1960
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Reynaldo dos Santos; 1938-1957, n.d.
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Lady Etta Drage; 1951-1960, n.d.
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Fernando Etcheforry; 1950-1956
Solon Farrnbacher; 1930
Richard Faust; 1956-1965
David Fichman; 1937-1955
Warfield M. Firor; 1947
Flint-Goodridge Hospital; 1946-1960
Andrew Friedrichs; 1960-1966
Alfred Gage; 1939
I. Mims Gage; 1939-1954
Mario Galeazzi; 1954-1955
Lucien S. Gaudet; 1960
Irving Glassberg; 1942-1943
Elsa Golden; 1962
Linda Golden; n.d.
J. Leighton Green; 1960
Leonard Greentree; 1936-1946, n.d.
George Grey Turner; 1947-1957
Elston Grey Turner; 1951-1960
Mrs.(?) Grey Turner; 1951-1960
Eleanor Grimm; 1960, n.d.
Fraser B. Gurd; 1940-1946
Michael Gurdin; 1939-1941
Donald Guthrie; 1940-1955
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Paul R. Hawley; 1955
Aruthur Herold; 1949-1963
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Emile Holman; 1930-1966
Russell L. Holman; 1958
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Charle M. Horton; 1955-1958
Henry P. Houser; 1961-1962
John Howard; 1960
Sidney and Peggy Hummel; 1960
J.L. Hydrick; 1951
International College of Surgeons; 1936-1941
International House, New Orleans; 1949-1955
International Society of Surgery; 1936-1955, n.d.
Jewish Orphan's Home; 1963
Joseph M. Jones; 1955-1960
Tom Spec Jones; 1927-1947
R.J. Kamish; 1963-1965
Robert Hayward Kennedy 1935-1965; n.d.
Joe King; 1957-1963
Martin H. Klein; 1962
Amos Koontz; 1950-1951
Hiram W. Kostmayer; 1933-1942
Robert A. Lambert; 1930-1960
Lucian H. Landry; 1957
Rudolph Matas Landry; 1960
Max Lapham; 1941-1961
Harry Latter; 1937
James Learmonth; 1954-1955
J.C. Lee; 1937-1938
W.R. LeFanu; 1955-1960
Anna Lea Lelli; 1954
Rene Leriche; 1951
J.C. Liversedge; 1960
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Louisiana State Police; 1938-1940
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John C. Mackenzie; 1947-1960
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Hilda Scudder Manning; 1941
Mary Louise Marshall; 1922-1958
Leander Marx; 1950-1960
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Dorthea McIntosh; ca. 1951
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Macie Mims; 1941-1948
Rudolph Moise; 1955-1962
Joseph R. Morrell; 1928-1942
deLesseps S. Morrison; 1949-1961
Gordon M. Morrison; 1940-1955, n.d.
National Safety Council; 1963-1969
Andrew Kinrannon Naugle; 1934-1935
Edward T. Newell; 1931-1960
Edward T. Newell, Jr.; 1931-1960
New Orleans Association of Commerce; 1940-1949
William Perrin Nicholson; 1935-1955
Alton Ochsner; 1931-1951, n.d.
Orleans Parish Medical Society; 1917-1962
Ernest F. Osborn, Publisher; 1941
Whyte Glendower Owen; 1931-1932
Pan American Airways; 1950-1956
Willard H. Parsons; 1955-1960
Fernanco Paulino; 1950
Robert Lee Payne; 1931-1955
Carlos Enrique Paz-Golden; 1951
Adalberto Pazzini; 1953-1954
Rawley Penick; 1949
Esmond Phelps; 1942
Phi Delta Epsilon Fraternity; 1928-1929
Robert and Fay Pool; 1946-1960
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Julian Quattlebaum; 1960-1969
Frederick Ratzburg; 1955-1968, n.d.
I.S. Ravdin; 1951-1955
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James D. and Marion Rives; 1940-1964, n.d.
Lenna Belle Robinson; 1963-1965
Jane Grey Rogers; 1926-1927
Lambert Rogers; 1949-1960
Louis Ronchi; 1954-1955
Charles Rosen; 1941-1955
Warren Rosen; 1937-1947
Elise Cohn Rosenthal; 1947, n.d.
F.L. Rosenthal; 1939
Robert Rosenthal, Jr.; 1959
Hulbert A. Royster; 1937-1955
William R. Sandusky; 1963-1964
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A. C. Scott, Sr.; 1939
Charles Scudder; 1929-1946, n.d.
Sam Seeley; 1964-1966
Clover Seelig; 1962-1965
Major Seelig; 1927-1947
Herman Shann; 1959-1960
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Beverly Chew Smith; 1952-1953
Constance Smith; 1952-1953
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Lawrence Strug; 1931-1960
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Marten tenHoor; 1947-1960
Texas Railway Surgeons’ Association; 1933
Thomas Cook and Son; 1936-1960
Hugh H. Trout, Sr.; 1931-1944
Joseph Trueta; 1948-1969
Tulane University; 1934-1966, n.d.
Jac S. Ullman; 1955-1957
Charles A. Vance; 1930-1955
Charles S. Venable; 1939-1953
Dan Waddill; 1955, n.d.
Preston A. Wade; 1941-1966
Charles K. Wall; 1960-1972
Alexander Webb; 1962-1963
Alfred Webb-Johnson; 1949-1955
Cecelia Webb-Johnson; 1955-1960
West Baton Rouge Parish School Board; 1948-1959
West Surgical Association; 1964
M. B. Wheeler; 1955-1963
R. J. White; 1960-1968
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T. Harry Williams; 1963
Winthrop Chemical Company; 1940-1941
A. Dickson Wright; 1960-1962
S. Wood; 1959

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Eugene deBellard; 1962-1963
Julian Feibelman; 1938-1963
Oscar Guzman de Villar; 1950-1951
Carlos F. Krumdieck; 1950-1951
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Juan Nasio; 1953-1954
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Touro Infirmary; 1946-1969, n.d.
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Note: This is not a complete list of photographs. Only friends, family members, and major correspondents of Isidore Cohn are listed here.

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Emile Holman, 1954
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Major Seeling, n.d.
Mary Louise Marshall, n.d.
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J.M.T. Finney, 1931
Charles Veneble, n.d.
Rogers Brewster, n.d.

Box 35:
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Isidore Cohn, 1908-1966
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Michael DeBakey, 1954
Emile Holman, 1954
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Elise Cohn Rosenthal, ca. 1960
Rudolph Matas, ca. 1917-1931 n.d.
Lucian Landry, ca. 1917, n.d.
Officers, Base Hospital #24, United States Army Medical Corps, ca. 1917.
Rogers Brewster, n.d.

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E.L. Eliason, n.d.
H.H. Royster, n.d.
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Charles Rosen, n.d.
J. Shelton Horsley, 1928
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<td>First aid in illness and injury</td>
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