

JOSEPH A. POLACK PAPERS

Mss. # 5063

Inventory

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

2012

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SUMMARY

Size	0.5 linear ft.
Geographic locations	Baton Rouge, LA.
Inclusive dates	1941-2004
Bulk dates	1961-2000
Language	English, French.
Summary	Former scientist at the Audubon Sugar Institute, Exxon, and LSU Chemical Engineering faculty. Worked for Alma Sugar Factory, founded the Top Management Company, and acted as Director Pro-tem of Baton Rouge Technology Council. Papers consist of periodicals, speeches, articles, correspondence, and other documents relating to his time with Exxon, LSU, Audubon Sugar Institute, and the Baton Rouge Technology Council.
Restrictions on access	If microfilm is available, photocopies must be made from microfilm.
Arrangement	Papers are arranged chronologically.
Related collections	None
Copyright	For those materials not in the public domain, copyright is retained by the descendants of the creators in accordance with U.S. Copyright law.
Citation	Joseph A. Polack Papers, Mss. # 5063, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, La.
Stack locations	19:9; OS:P

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

Joseph A. Polack was born in New Orleans and attended Tulane University. In 1970 he was granted early retirement from Exxon Research and Development Laboratories to become a professor and head of the LSU department of Chemical Engineering. He served in that capacity for the next six years. In 1976, Polack became Interim Director of the Audubon Sugar Institute in addition to his duties as head of the chemical engineering department, but soon thereafter resigned as head to become the full time director of ASI, where he remained until his retirement in 1988. In 1988 he went to work for Alma Sugar Factory and from 1991 to 1996 he ran his own business, Top Management Company. He was also director pro-tempore of Baton Rouge Technology Council.

In 1972, during a Louisiana State University sponsored trip to Switzerland, Polack bought a newspaper with a French headline "Racial Incidents in Louisiana- 4 Dead", which is included in the collection. Polack translated the article, which describes a violent civil rights incident that took place in Baton Rouge and claimed the lives of 4 people.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Joseph A. Polack Papers consist of newspaper clippings, speeches, articles, correspondence, photographs, and other documents relating to his time with Exxon, Louisiana State University, the Audubon Sugar Institute, and the Baton Rouge Technology Council. The papers include memoranda during Polack's time at Esso (which later became Exxon). This includes photos of himself and other employees of the time. The papers also reflect Polack's involvement with Louisiana State University and the Audubon Sugar Institute and his time as head of the Chemical Engineering Department until 1988, and his continued involvement after he left as depicted in correspondence dated in 2004. The papers also document the evolution of ethanol, and his involvement with it, through various newspaper clippings and correspondence with his colleagues. Also documented is Polack's involvement with the Baton Rouge Technology Council and his time as director pro-tempore, including correspondence, meeting agendas, minutes, and other documents. Included with these documents is a newspaper dated from 1972 that Polack brought back from Geneva, Switzerland depicting the headline "Racial Incidents in Louisiana- 4 Dead".

INDEX TERMS

Audubon Sugar Institute.

Baton Rouge (La)

Baton Rouge Technology Council.

Chemical engineering--Study and teaching--Louisiana--Baton Rouge.

College teachers--Louisiana--Baton Rouge.

Ethanol.

Esso Standard Oil Company.

Exxon Company --United States.

Esso Standard Oil Company.

Louisiana State University (Baton Rouge, La.)--Dept. of Chemical Engineering--Faculty.

Polack, J. A. (Joseph A.)

Sugar--Manufacture and refining--Louisiana.

Thesis and dissertation.

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Stack</u>			<u>Contents with dates</u>
<u>Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folders</u>	
19:9	1	1	"Design, Construction, and Tests of a Sulphur Smoke Generator", 1943.
		2	Thesis Photos and I.D.
		3	Management Exxon, 1961-1975.
		4	Personnel of Esso Research Laboratories, undated.
		5	Exxon Photos, undated.
OS:P	--	OS1	French Newspaper, 1972.
	1	6	Publications and Talks, 1972-1987.
		7	Audubon Sugar Institute, 1977-1987.
		8	Shinkle/Bonds/BCI, 1990.
119:9	2	1	Ethanol, 1991-1996.
		2	The Fluid Bed Reactor, 1998.
		3	ASI Articles, 1998-1999.
		4	Baton Rouge Technology Council, 2000.
		5	ASI Ag. Center Correspondence, 2004.