



Smithsonian
National Museum of American History
Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Charles W. Trigg Papers

NMAH.AC.0411

Don Darroch

1992

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Charles W. Trigg Papers
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0411
Date:	1834-1961
Extent:	4.5 Cubic feet (13 boxes, 1 oversized folder)
Creator:	Trigg, Charles W., 1898-1989 (chemist)
Language:	Collection is in English. Some materials in German and French.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Collection donated by Mrs. Charles W. Trigg, 1991, May 8.

Related Materials

Materials at Other Organizations

University of Calgary Library

Charles W. Trigg fonds, 1894-1986, predominant 1940-1986

11.7 m of textual records consisting of correspondence; research material on a broad range of mathematical topics; manuscripts of mathematical articles, notes, calculations and solutions to mathematical problems; and published work.

Processing Information

This collection was processed by Don Darroch, Archives Center volunteer.

Preferred Citation

Charles W. Trigg Papers, 1834-1961, Archives Center, National Museum of American History

Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

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Biographical / Historical

Charles W. Trigg (1898-1989) was born in Baltimore, Maryland. He graduated from the Baltimore Polytechnic Institute (1914); B.S., Chemical Engineering, University of Pittsburgh (1917); and a M.A., University of Southern California (1931). He was an Industrial Research Fellow at Mellon Institute, Pittsburgh, 1916-1920, doing original research on processes for producing instant coffee. In 1920, he joined King Coffee Products Corporation, Detroit, as chief chemist. He later served in various college teaching positions; dean of instruction and lecturer, University of Southern California (1950-1963). During World War II, Trigg served as Lt. Cmdr., USNR. He published numerous articles in trade journals, was granted five patents related to coffee processing and was book review editor of the *Journal of Recreational Mathematics*. Trigg was considered one of the foremost recreational mathematicians of the twentieth century.

Scope and Contents

Most material in this collection was generated by Trigg early in his career as an industrial research fellow at Mellon Institute, Pittsburgh, 1916-1920. It includes laboratory notebooks; formal weekly reports (typewritten) on his investigations; correspondence with his industrial sponsors; a few personal letters and some correspondence relating to his interest in coffee processing; his patents and correspondence relating to them; clippings and reprints of technical articles on tea and coffee processing and culture, 1883-1963; U.S. patents relating to these subjects, 1834-1921; foreign patents--British, French and German--1855-1918. Pamphlets contain technical articles on coffee and related subjects, including U.S. Department of Agriculture and Canadian government publications. Trigg's personal file of more than 5000 4" x 6" cards (mainly hand-written, arranged chronologically) reflect his extensive reading of technical literature; they contain bibliographical data and Trigg's brief abstractions.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into six series.

Series 1: C.W. Trigg Work At Mellon Institute

Series 2: Personal Data and Patents of C.W. Trigg

Series 3: Abstracts From Technical Articles on Coffee and Tea

Series 4: Patents and Patent Abstracts

Series 5: Technical Publications

Series 6: Trigg Card File

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Caffeine
Chemists
Coffee
Coffee -- Processing
Coffee, Instant
Tea

Types of Materials:

Abstracts
Clippings
Correspondence -- 1930-1950
Laboratory notebooks
Notebooks
Notes
Pamphlets
Patents
Photographic prints
Publications
Reports
Reprints
Typescripts -- 1910-1920

Names:

Carnegie-Mellon Institute (Pittsburgh, Pa.)
King Coffee Products Corporation

Geographic Names:

Detroit (Mich.)

Container Listing

Series 1: C.W. Trigg Work at Mellon Institute , 1916 - 1920

Triggs laboratory notebooks document his work as a Mellon Institute fellow. The notebooks are bound, paginated, dated and in some instances witnessed with signatures. They contain detailed descriptions, calculations, sketches, testing data, and bibliographic and patent data related to his work on coffee technology, especially soluble coffee. Trigg studied the difference in coffees, examining aromas, roasting conditions, flavor, and the removal process of caffeine from coffee

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| Box 1, Folder 1 | Coffee, preliminary work, laboratory notebook , 1916-09-15 - 1916-10-06
Image(s)
pages 2x-20x; includes research done for the Baker Importing Company of Minneapolis. Folder contains one drawing by GLen D. Bagley of August 17, 1918 for a coffee grinding machine. |
| Box 1, Folder 1 | Coffee, general laboratory notebook, 1915-01-11 - 1919-09-12
pages 1-100 |
| Box 1, Folder 3 | Coffee, general laboratory notebook, 1919-09-12 - 1920-06-20
pages 101-200 |
| Box 1, Folder 2 | J.E. King Industrial Fellowship reports , 1916 - 1917 |
| Box 1, Folder 1A | Coffee, general laboratory notebook, I-1 , 1916-10-10 - 1916-12-20
pages 1-60 |
| Box 1, Folder 4 | Coffee fellowship, general laboratory notebook, I-2 , 1917-01-03 - 1917-05-04
pages 61-120 |
| Box 1, Folder 4 | Coffee fellowship, general laboratory notebook, I-3, 1917-05-10 - 1917-08-29
Image(s)
pages 121-158 |
| Box 1, Folder 5 | Coffee fellowship laboratory notebook, II-1 , 1917-10-01 - 1918-04-08
pages 1-44 |
| Box 1, Folder 5 | Coffee fellowship laboratory notebook, II-2, 1918-05-27 - 1918-07-02 |
| Box 1, Folder 6 | Progress reports , 1917 - 1920 |
| Box 2, Folder 1 | Correspondence , 1915 - 1921 |
| Box 2, Folder 2 | Trigg correspondence , 1918 - 1918 |

Box 2, Folder 3	Trigg correspondence , 1919 - 1919
Box 2, Folder 4	Laboratory test notes and recordings , 1918 - 1919
Box 2, Folder 5	German correspondence , 1914 - 1914
Box 14	Photographs of Mellon Institute staff 1917; Diplomas and certificates 1910-1917

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Series 2: Personal Data and patents of C.W. Trigg, 1917 - 1948

Box 2, Folder 1	Trigg personal , 1917 - 1922
Box 2, Folder 2	Correspondence , 1919 - 1922
Box 2, Folder 3	Correspondence , 1920 - 1924
Box 2, Folder 4	Lummus Co. correspondence , 1917 - 1921
Box 2, Folder 5	Article, ideas , 1917 - 1923
Box 3, Folder 1	Clippings , 1910 - 1946
Box 3, Folder 2	Patent correspondence (Hamer, Trigg, Barnes) , 1917 - 1918
Box 3, Folder 3	Patent applications , 1917 - 1918
Box 3, Folder 4	Original patents, patent assignments, Trigg/King , 1912 - 1921
Box 3, Folder 5	U.S. Patent Office correspondence , 1918 - 1920
Box 3, Folder 6	Trigg Patents , 1919 - 1921
Box 3, Folder 7	Laboratory notebook, test results , 1920 - 1921
Box 3, Folder 8	Laboratory notebooks , 1921 - 1922
Box 3, Folder 9	Trigg Patent correspondence , 1948 - 1948
Box 3, Folder 10	Oils and essential oils , 1910 - 1925
Box 3, Folder 11	Foods, Coffee , 1920 - 1935
Box 3, Folder 12	Production process, blank forms, undated

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Series 3: Abstracts from Technical Articles on Coffee, Tea; Correspondence, Clippings

Box 4, Folder 1	Coffee clippings , 1913 - 1961
Box 4, Folder 2	Coffee bibliography , 1910 - 1918
Box 4, Folder 3	Coffee correspondence , 1917 - 1924 Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 4	Coffee (copies) , 1895 - 1925
Box 4, Folder 5	Tea clippings , 1907 - 1925
Box 4, Folder 6	Tea/coffee clippings , 1917 - 1917
Box 4, Folder 7	Tea bibliography , 1923 - 1926
Box 4, Folder 8	Tea correspondence , 1922 - 1924
Box 5, Folder 1	Tea (copies) , 1883 - 1926
Box 5, Folder 1	Tea (copies) , 1897 - 1912
Box 5, Folder 2	Tea reprints , 1921 - 1922
Box 5, Folder 3	Technical articles (German/English) , 1913 - 1924
Box 5, Folder 4	Coffee reprints , 1917 - 1922
Box 5, Folder 5	Reprints, Robert Kennedy Duncan Club Bulletin , 1916 - 1919
Box 5, Folder 6	Coffee tree culture , undated

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Series 4: Patents and Patent Abstracts re: Coffee Processing

Box 5, Folder 7	U.S. patents 0-100,000 , 1834 - 1869
Box 5, Folder 8	U.S. patents 100,001-200,000 , 1870 - 1870
Box 5, Folder 9	U.S. patents 200,001-300,000 , 1878 - 1884
Box 5, Folder 10	U.S. patents 300,001-400,00 , 1884 - 1889
Box 6, Folder 1	U.S. patents 400,001-500,000 , 1889 - 1893
Box 6, Folder 2	U.S. patents 500,001-600,000 , 1893 - 1898
Box 6, Folder 3	U.S. patents 600,001-700,000 , 1898 - 1902
Box 6, Folder 4	U.S. patents 700,001-800,000 , 1902 - 1905
Box 6, Folder 5	U.S. patents 800,001-900,000 , 1906 - 1911
Box 6, Folder 6	U.S. patents 900,001-1,000,000 , 1908 - 1911
Box 6, Folder 7	U.S. patents 1,000,001-1,100,000 , 1911 - 1914
Box 6, Folder 8	U.S. patents 1,100,001-1,200,000 , 1914 - 1916
Box 6, Folder 9	U.S. patents 1,200,001-1,300,000 , 1916 - 1919
Box 7, Folder 1	U.S. patents 1,300,001-1,400,000 , 1919 - 1921
Box 7, Folder 2	U.S. patents 1,400,001-1,500,000 , 1921 - 1921
Box 7, Folder 3	British patents , 1855 - 1913
Box 7, Folder 4	French patents , 1906 - 1917
Box 7, Folder 5	German patents , 1870 - 1918

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Series 5: Technical Publications

- Box 8, Folder 1 *Mysore Coffee for The English Market*. Fraser Press , 1921 - 1921
- Box 8, Folder 2 *Preparation of Coffee*. Kenya Department of Agriculture , 1921 - 1921
- Box 8, Folder 3 *How Whisky, Tobacco and Drugs Affect the Eyes*. American Medical Association , 1914 - 1914
- Box 8, Folder 4 *Tea and Coffee: Their Physical, Intellectual and Moral Effects*. New York: Fowler and Wells , undated
- Box 8, Folder 5 *The Volatile Principles of Coffee*. L. E. Sayre. , 1916 - 1916
- Box 8, Folder 6 *Robusta Coffee*. Viehovever and Lepper, 1921, 1921 - 1921

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Series 6: Trigg Card File , 1857 - 1939

- Box 9 Chemical Abstract, vols. 1-19: cards 1-1202, , 1905 - 1925
- Box 10 Chemical Abstract, vols. 20-28: cards 1203-2211 , 1926 - 1933
English.
- Box 11 Chemical Abstract, vols. 29-31: cards 2212-2633; , 1934 - 1937
- Box 11 Chemical Abstract, volume 32: non numbered cards, 1937 - 1938
- Box 11 U.S. Patents: cards 10001-10700, 1858 - 1884
- Box 12 U.S. Patents: cards 10701-11462; , 1884 - 1922
- Box 12 U.S. Patents: non numbered, 150 cards , 1922 - 1937
- Box 13 Index Medicus
, 1st series (1879-1890): approx. 80 cards; Index Medicus, 2nd series
(1903-1920): approx. 300 cards; Index Medicus, 3rd series (1921-1925): 17
cards; Cumulative Index (1917 1924): 27 cards; *Journal of Society of Chemical
Industry* (1882-1916): cards 1-35; Miscellaneous publications (1857-1939):
approx. 450 cards

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