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John Paul Visscher Papers,  
circa 1922-1945 and undated

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Smithsonian Institution Archives, Washington, D.C., <a href="mailto:osiaref@si.edu">osiaref@si.edu</a>
<b>Title:</b>	John Paul Visscher Papers
<b>Identifier:</b>	Record Unit 7239
<b>Date:</b>	circa 1922-1945 and undated
<b>Extent:</b>	2.36 cu. ft. (4 document boxes) (1 5x8 box)
<b>Creator::</b>	Visscher, John Paul, 1895-1950
<b>Language:</b>	English

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## Administrative Information

### Preferred Citation

Smithsonian Institution Archives, Record Unit 7239, John Paul Visscher Papers

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## Historical Note

John Paul Visscher (1895-1950) was born in Holland, Michigan. He received his A.B. degree from Hope College, Holland, Michigan, 1917, and his A.M. and Ph.D. degrees from Johns Hopkins University, 1920 and 1924. Visscher served with the United States Army during World War I, as Lieutenant in the Chemical Warfare Service. His first teaching position was at Washington University, St. Louis, where he served as Instructor of Zoology from 1920 to 1922. In 1924, he joined the staff of Western Reserve University as Assistant Professor of Biology. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 1926, Professor in 1931, and Head of the Biology Department in 1937. Visscher remained at Western Reserve University until his death in 1950.

Visscher's primary interest was protozoology. He also did extensive research on marine fouling of ships' bottoms. From 1922 to 1925, Visscher spent his summers as a special investigator for the United States Bureau of Fisheries, examining marine fouling on United States Navy and commercial ships. This research led to the publication of *The Nature and Extent of Fouling of Ships' Bottoms* in 1928. During 1935 and 1936, Visscher served as special investigator for the United States Navy's Division of Construction and Repair. In 1945 and 1946, he acted as a consultant at the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C.

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## Descriptive Entry

These papers document Visscher's investigations on marine fouling of ship bottoms and include general correspondence, 1922-1945; photographs of ship fouling; manuscripts; and research notes and reports on ship fouling.

## Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Invertebrate zoology  
Marine fouling organisms  
Protozoology

Types of Materials:

Black-and-white photographs  
Manuscripts

Names:

Hope College  
Johns Hopkins University  
Naval Research Laboratory (U.S.)  
United States. Army. Chemical Warfare Service  
United States. Bureau of Fisheries  
United States. Navy  
United States. Navy. Division of Construction and Repair  
Visscher, John Paul, 1895-1950  
Washington University (Saint Louis, Mo.)  
Western Reserve University

Preferred Titles:

*The Nature and Extent of Fouling of Ships' Bottoms (Monograph : 1928)*

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE, 1922-1945. ARRANGED ALPHABETICALLY.

This series consists of incoming and outgoing correspondence of John Paul Visscher. Most of the correspondence concerns Visscher's work examining United States Navy ships, for marine fouling as Special Investigator for the United States Bureau of Fisheries, 1922-1925. Also included is correspondence regarding his service as Special Investigator for the Navy's Division of Construction and Repair, 1935-1936 and correspondence with paint companies concerning anti-fouling paints.

#### Box 1

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| Box 1 of 5 | Folder 1 A-B, general  |
| Box 1 of 5 | Folders 2-3 Bureau of Fisheries, United States, 1922-1927. Most of the correspondence concerns Visscher's work as Special Investigator for the Bureau, 1922-1925.  |
| Box 1 of 5 | Folder 4 C-F, general  |
| Box 1 of 5 | Folder 5 Clapp, William F., 1923-1936  |
| Box 1 of 5 | Folder 6 G-I, general  |
| Box 1 of 5 | Folder 7 Gardner, Henry A., 1923-1925  |
| Box 1 of 5 | Folder 8 J-N, general  |
| Box 1 of 5 | Folders 9-10 Navy Department, United States, 1922-1923. The correspondence concerns Visscher's investigation of ship fouling for the Navy.   |
| Box 1 of 5 | Folders 11-12 Navy Department, United States, 1924-1931, 1934-1936. Includes correspondence concerning a dispute between Visscher and the Navy over the cancellation of a contract for fouling investigations, 1926-1927. (Folders 1-2 of 6) |

#### Box 2

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|------------|--|
| Box 2 of 5 | Folders 1-4 Navy Department, United States, 1924-1931, 1934-1936. Includes correspondence concerning a dispute between Visscher and the Navy over the cancellation of a contract for fouling investigations, 1926-1927. (Folders 3-6 of 6) |
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|------------|--|
| Box 2 of 5 | Folder 5 P-Z, general                          |
| Box 2 of 5 | Folder 6 Varrelman, Ferdinand Armin, 1923-1925 |
| Box 2 of 5 | Folder 7 Von Schrenk, Hermann, 1927-1933       |

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## Series 2: PHOTOGRAPHS, CIRCA 1922-1925.

This series consists of photographs of marine fouling of ship bottoms. Most of the photographs were taken as part of Visscher's work as Special Investigator for the United States Bureau of Fisheries, 1922-1925.

### Box 2

Box 2 of 5                      Folders 8-12 Photographs of marine fouling of ship bottoms (Folders 1-5 of 9)

### Box 3

Box 3 of 5                      Folders 1-4 Photographs of marine fouling of ship bottoms (Folders 6-9 of 9)

Box 3 of 5                      Folder 5 Eurytha Complanata. Photographs.

Box 3 of 5                      Folder 6 Marine Fouling Negatives

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## Series 3: MANUSCRIPTS, 1928 AND UNDATED.

This series consists of manuscripts and galley proofs of articles on marine fouling written by John Paul Visscher.

### Box 3

- Box 3 of 5                      Folder 7 "Reactions of the Cyprid Larvae of Barnacles at the time of attachment." *Biological Bulletin*, March 1928. Manuscript and galley proof.
- Box 3 of 5                      Folder 8 "Reactions of the Cyprid Larvae of Barnacles to Light with special reference to Spectral Colors," by Visscher and Robert H. Luce. *Biological Bulletin*, April 1938. Manuscript and galley proof.
- Box 3 of 5                      Folder 9 "A Neuromoter Apparatus in the Ciliate Dileptus." Manuscript, undated.
- Box 3 of 5                      Folder 10 "Fouling of Ships' Bottoms and its Relation to Electricity." Handwritten and typed manuscript, undated.
- Box 3 of 5                      Folder 11 "A Study in Ecology: Leptogorgia and its Symbionts and Parasites." Manuscript, undated.
- Box 3 of 5                      Folder 12 "Factors determining the Attachment of the Cyprid Larvae of the Barnacle, *Balanus Galeatus*." Manuscript, undated.
- Box 3 of 5                      Folder 13 "Copper as an Anti-Fouling Agent." Handwritten and typed manuscript.

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## Series 4: RESEARCH NOTES AND REPORTS ON SHIP FOULING, CIRCA 1922-1925.

This series consists of research notes on ship fouling made by John Paul Visscher in connection with his work as Special Investigator for the United States Bureau of Fisheries, 1922-1925. Also included are reports on ship fouling by Ferdinand Armin Varrelman, who assisted Visscher on the investigation of Navy vessels.

### Box 3

Box 3 of 5                      Folder 14 Notes on United States Navy Ships examined for fouling,  
1922-1923

### Box 4

Box 4 of 5                      Folder 1 Lists of ships examined and fouling organisms found, 1922-1925

Box 4 of 5                      Folders 2-3 Miscellaneous notes on fouling

Box 4 of 5                      Folders 4-5 Reports on Ship fouling by Ferdinand Armin Varrelman,  
1922-1924

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## Series 5: COPY NEGATIVES.

Box 5

Box 5 of 5

Copy Negatives

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