

Ben Stein papers, 1920-1972

Overview of the Collection

Creator	Stein, Ben, approximately 1890-
Title	Ben Stein papers
Dates	1920-1972 (inclusive) 1920 1972
Quantity	0.94 cubic feet (2 boxes) plus 2 audio cassettes
Collection Number	1916 (Accession No. 1916-001)
Summary	Tape-recorded interview of an immigrant from Russia concerning life in Seattle
Repository	University of Washington Libraries, Special Collections Special Collections University of Washington Libraries Box 352900 Seattle, WA 98195-2900 Telephone: 206-543-1929 Fax: 206-543-1931 speccoll@uw.edu
Access Restrictions	No restrictions on access.
Languages	English, Russian

Biographical Note

Born around 1890 in the Russian-controlled Belarusian city of Minsk, Ben Stein arrived as an immigrant to the United States in 1915. Initially landing in Seattle, he soon traveled east across the country and tried his hand at a series of professions. Stein never returned to Russia, but instead chose to settle in the Seattle area for the remainder of his life. After working in the luggage business for a time, Stein began to sell insurance in Seattle with his cousin, M.N. Ketzlach. Though his work as an insurance agent provided him with his primary source of income, the true focus of his energy was his involvement with Seattle's Jewish community. Stein served as the financial secretary for the Seattle branch of the Workmen's Circle, an organization that provided fiscal, cultural, and educational support to Jewish citizens in the area.

Content Description

The collection contains general correspondence, academic work, and journals that belonged to Ben Stein, as well as a tape-recorded interview with Stein in 1972 that discusses his life and his time with the Workmen's Circle organization.

Use of the Collection

Alternative Forms Available

[Listen to the audio recording](#) of this interview on the Libraries Digital Collections site.

Restrictions on Use

Creator's literary rights not transferred to the University of Washington Libraries.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donated by Ben Stein, May 9, 1972

Processing Note

Processing completed in 2016.

Separated Materials

Material Described Separately:

[Workmen's Circle/Der Arbeter Ring Branch 304 photograph collection \(PH0769\)](#)

[Workmen's Circle/Der Arbeter Ring Branch 304 records \(Manuscript collection 1859\)](#)

Detailed Description of the Collection

Series 1: Ben Stein Papers

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
1/1	General Correspondence	1920-1972
1/2	School Papers	1920-1924
1/3	Drawing	undated
1/4	Notebook	undated
1/5	Diary	1929-1930

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box		
2	Record Books of Stein and Ketzlach Insurance Co.	1939-1965

Series 2: Ben Stein Interview

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Cassette		
1	Audio Interview with Ben Stein, Part 1	1972
2	Audio Interview with Ben Stein, Part 2	1972

Names and Subjects

Personal Names :

Stein, Ben, approximately 1890- --Archives

Other Creators :

Corporate Names :

Washington State Jewish Archives (University of Washington)
(creator)

Washington State Jewish Archives (University of Washington)

Names and Subjects

Subject Terms :

Personal Papers/Corporate Records (University of Washington)

Other Creators :

Corporate Names :

Washington State Jewish Archives (University of Washington)

2007 (Last modified: 4/19/2018)



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