



## FINDING AID

# **LOESCH FAMILY PAPERS**

### **1904, 1934 (bulk dates: 1904)**

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12/28/2010

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Catalog Number: YELL 185382

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## ***HISTORY***

Frank J. Loesch, born 1852 and raised in Buffalo, New York, was the son of Frank, a carpenter, from Badin, Germany, and Marie Eva Fisher or Mary A. of Alsace-Lorraine which is now part of France. Frank J. moved to Chicago in 1870 and wrote an account of the Great Chicago Fire of 1871 titled "Personal Experiences During the Chicago Fire". While attending Northwestern University law school and working for Western Union he married Lydia T. Richards of Elgin, IL in 1874. In 1898, he was appointed a member of the Board of Education, Chicago.

In 1904, Frank (52) and Lydia (54) ventured into Yellowstone by train, wagon, and horseback. They brought along their children Angeline (Angie), Winifred (Winnie), Richards Lewellyn (Dick), and Joseph Benjamin (Jo or Joe). Winnie's husband Fred (Frederick Zero Marx) and Robert L. Graves (Rob) accompanied the family on the trip. It is noted in the donation paperwork that Angeline and Robert were married after the trip.

Frank J. became president of the Chicago Bar Association in 1906, and stayed in that position for two years. And in 1908, he became the Special State's Attorney for Cook County. Following that, in 1928, he was president of the Chicago Crime Commission and is attributed with coining the phrase "public enemy". His specialties in practicing law were railroads, telegraphs, and corporations.

According to the Illinois Death Index, Lydia was deceased in 1924. The 1930 United States Census notes Frank J. being married to May B. Loesch and lawyer as his occupation.

Richards L. and his wife, Margaret I. Johnson (Margaret J. Loesch), obtained Bachelor of Science degrees from the University of Wisconsin and lived in Montrose, Colorado. Joseph B. obtained the same degree. From census records it appears Richards and his brother Joseph ran a "general farm" together in Montrose. Joseph is noted as "manager" and Richards is noted as "partner". The son of Joseph B. and Constance Harrison Loesch was born in 1916, in Montrose and was named Harrison Loesch.

Harrison Loesch became Assistant Secretary of the Interior in 1969. Much of his work with the Department of the Interior required working with several branches including Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, and the National Park Service. In 1973, he was fired for requiring written documentation of funds requested by the Assistant to the President, John Ehrlichman, during the Watergate years.

Sources for the above information are recorded in the MSC 018 Loesch collection file.

## ***SCOPE AND CONTENT***

LOESCH FAMILY PAPERS  
1904, 1934 (bulk dates: 1904)

*CATALOG NUMBER* YELL 185382

*VOLUME* .25 LF

*DESCRIPTION* This manuscript collection records the Loesch Family's trip into Yellowstone from Chicago in 1904, less than two years after the completion of the eastern section of road between Fishing Bridge and Cody. The materials recording this trip include a photographic print, a dairy, and Frank Loesch correspondence. It is mentioned in the correspondence that Fred took more than 159 photographs. The donor believes the included photograph to be one of them. The diary marked "My Own Account of It" appears to be written by a man and is most likely Robert L. Graves, but all parties in the group are mentioned, including Rob. It is uncertain who wrote the diary. The diary records more social detail than the correspondence. It relates events such as what kind of food was eaten, size and number of fish caught, attempts to summit mountains, and bear attacks in camp. The correspondence of Frank J. Loesch relates a more logistical account of the events, camps, and landscape to his sister, brother, and aunt. According to Frank, the trip included a train ride from Chicago to just outside of Cody, wagon ride into Yellowstone National Park, a side trip to Gardiner, and the trip continuation into the Teton Range is also mentioned. Frank describes the details of the outfit, the trip schedule, and lists each night's camp location. He mentions the guides: Ed Robinson, Mr. Jordan or Jordan, and Aleck Lydiard who drove, hunted, and cooked for them. It is presumed these men were hired while the group was in Cody, WY. Subjects of interest are as follows: Cody, Rattlesnake Mountain, Elkhorn River, Mt. Washburn, Canyon, Norris, (Mammoth) Hot Springs, Gibbon River, (West) Thumb, Mud Geyser, The Growler, Hurricane, Devil's Bath tub, Constance, elk, pelicans, beaver, geese, ducks, flowers, cedars, Sage Brush Tourists, and Dudes.

*ORGANIZATION* Arranged by material type into folders: Photograph, diary, correspondence.

*PROVENANCE* Gift of Sonia L. Remick on August 25, 2008. She states this collection was maintained by her father Franklin C. Loesch.

*RESTRICTIONS* NO

### ***CONTAINER LIST***

#### **Box 1**

<b>File Unit Nbr</b>	<b>Title</b>
1	Photographic Print
2	"My Account of It" Diary
3	Correspondence of Frank J. Loesch