

**MC-MBL2003-03, AC 2004-14  
MERKEL H. JACOBS PAPERS  
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DIRECTOR OF MBL (1926-1937)**

Merkel H. Jacobs, whose given name was his mother's maiden name, was born on December 6, 1885 in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. He earned his A.B. in 1905 and his Ph.D. in 1908 from the University of Pennsylvania. He returned to the University of Pennsylvania in 1910 after completing post-doctoral studies, and remained there until his retirement in 1955. His primary studies areas were protozoology, cell permeability, and erythrocytes. Volume 47 (1956) of the Journal of Cellular and Comparative Physiology was dedicated to Dr. Jacobs in recognition of his scientific contributions and work as an associate editor of the journal beginning in 1932.

Dr. Jacobs served as Associate Director from 1925-26 and as director from 1926-1938. He also directed the Physiology course from 1921-1929. He is credited with staggering the summer courses to alleviate overcrowding and shepherding the MBL through the Great Depression.

**BOX A - All boxes include correspondence with F. M. MacNaught about daily matters at MBL (construction of building, etc.)**

Folder

1. 1921-1925  
Mainly correspondence with Jacobs and F. R. Lillie with (among others) Samuel E. Pond; Wallace O. Fenn; Thomas E. Larkin; Fred R. Griffith (1921-1925).  
Subject: organizing physiology course at MBL.
  
2. 1925-1927  
  
Mainly correspondence of Jacobs and F. R. Lillie with (among others): Thomas E. Larkin; F. M. MacNaught; A. J. Carlson; C. R. Plunkett; Gary N. Calkins; T. H. Morgan; Alfred C. Redfield; Henry B. Bigelow; G. E. Coghill; Wallace O. Fenn; Robert Chambers; Detlev W. Bronk; Henry E. Crampton, Raymond Pearl.  
•Resolution on the death of well-known MBL people (among others Jacques Loeb)  
•Report on Drs.. S. C. and M. M. Brooks (1926)  
•Estimated receipts and disbursements (1926)  
Subject: organizing physiology course at MBL and other MBL matters.
  
3. 1928  
  
Correspondence with, among others, T. H. Morgan; W. C. Curtis, Paul A. Conklin; Hallowell Davis; A. C. Redfield; Gary Calkins, Alfred F. Hess; S. C. Pescott; Charles Sheard; Carl R. Moore; Henry J. Fry; Ware Cattell; S. C. Brooks;

E. G. Conklin, J. A. Dawson; W. S. Carter. Subject: Organize courses and lectures at MBL.

4. Jan. - June, 1929

MBL Correspondence. Jacobs with, among others, F. R. Lillie; B. M. Duggar; W. C. Curtis; Gary N. Calkins; Ware Cattell; A. J. Carlson; G. H. Parker; E. M. East; S. C. Prescott; W. C. Curtis; B. M. Duggar; Friedrich Breck; Edwin J. Cohn; S. C. Prescott.

- List of funds for investigations on "Effects of Radiation Upon Organisms."
- Memo to Executive Committee of MBL.
- Brochure of the Children's School of Science 1929.

5. July - Sept., 1929

Correspondence. Jacobs with, among others, E. M. East; W. C. Curtis; W. B. Cannon; Samuel E. Pond; F. R. Lillie, L. L. Woodruff.

6. Oct.-Dec, 1929

Correspondence Jacobs with, among others, A. C. Redfield; F. M. MacNaught; F. R. Lillie; J. A. Dawson; Mrs. T. H. Montgomery; Karl T. Belar; Ernest A. Buttrick, Edwin J. Cohn.

- Memo of Jacobs on F. R. Lillie's contributions to MBL.

7. 1925

Correspondence of F. R. Lillie mainly with the General Education Board concerning housing problem at MBL with, among others, Gilmar A. Drew; T. H. Morgan; M. H. Jacobs.

- Memo's to the Executive Committee and two photo's of an MBL building under construction.

## **BOX B - JACOBS PAPERS**

### Folder:

1. Jan.-Feb., 1930

Jacobs papers mainly about reserving lab space for the summer. Jacob's correspondence with, among others, Alexis L. Romanoff; Maynard M. Metcalf; F. R. Lillie, Alfred C. Redfield; Heinz Rosenberger; Sister Florence Marie Scott; S. O. Mast; L. L. Woodruff; Howard C. Warren; S. C. Brooks; E. B. Wilson, T. H. Morgan; Charles Morrill; Horace W. Stunkard; H. S. Jennings, Charles Packard; T. E. Larkin.

2. March-April, 1930

Jacobs correspondence with, among others, Ruth Stocking Lynch; F. R. Lillie; H. S. Jennings; W. C. Curtis; T. E. Larkin; B. F. Skinner; Gary Calkins; Mrs. T. Montgomery; S. O. Mast; Alfred C. Redfield; Wase Cattell; W. Mansfield Clark; Francis O. Schmitt; Mathilde Lange; T. H. Morgan; W. S. Carter; Charles W. Metz.

3. May, June, July, 1930

Jacobs correspondence Alfred C. Redfield, F. O. Schmitt; Carl R. Moore; E. G. Conklin; C. R. Stockard; W. B. Scott; R. P. Bigelow; E. B. Wilson; Ware Cattell; D. E. Lancefield; Ancel B. Keys; H. S. Jennings; F. R. Lillie; T. H. Morgan; W. B. Scott; Peyton Rouse; Frederick Smith.

•Re reserving lab space for the summer.

4. Aug.-Dec., 1930

Correspondence Jacobs about general subjects relative to MBL.

5. 1930

Correspondence (no order)

•Report to Accompany the Supply Department Inventory, December, 1930.

**BOX C - JACOBS PAPERS**

Folder:

1. 1931

Correspondence Jacobs (no order). mainly about reserving labs and space for the summer at MBL with, among others, Albert Tyler; E. E. Wilson; A. E. Navez/ J. H. Bodine; Ancel B. Keys; W. C. Curtis; A. F. Huettner; E. G. Conklin; T. H. Morgan.

2. Jan.-Dec., 1931

Correspondence Jacobs mainly about reserving space at MBL with W. C. Curtis; C. W. Metz; T. H. Morgan; Eric G. Ball; F. R. Lillie; W. S. Carter; Leigh Hoadley; Mansfield Clark, Frederick F. Russell.

•List of evening lecturers who gave lectures at MBL 1917-1931.

3. 1932

Correspondence Jacobs with, among others, E. B. Wilson, Philip Bard, W. S. Carter; Samuel E. Pond; Selig Hecht; E. Newton Harvey; E. Conklin; John R. Murlin; H. C. Barrett Eugene Landis; Charles Packard.

- Report about estimated receipts and disbursements (1932)
- Report "Alterations to the Power Plant, Battery and Electric Circuits." (1932)
- Summary of Attendance as of August 1932.
- Schedule for General Scientific Meeting September 1932.
- Brochure of Children's School of Science 1932.

4. Jan.-Feb. 1933

Jacobs Correspondence with, among others, F. M. MacNaught; F. R. Lillie; E. V. Cowdry, Eric G. Ball; Lawrason Riggs; Robert T. Hance; Floyd Lyle; re daily business matters relating to MBL. •financial reports of MBL.

5. March - May, 1933

F. M. MacNaught; F. R. Lillie; W. S. Carter; Robert T. Hance; H. S. Jennings; Arthur K. Parpart; E. B. Wilson; C. E. McClung; L. V. Heilbrunn; J. H. Bodine; Z. M. Bacq.

6. 1933

Jacobs Correspondence F. R. Lillie; Oscar W. Richards; C. E. Allen; F. M. MacNaught (daily matters relating to MBL); Henry B. Ward; Phillip B. Armstrong; Philip Bard; W. C. Allee; H. S. Jennings; Robert Chambers; Henry B. Bigelow; Oliver S. Strong; Alfred C. Redfield; C. E. McClung; G. E. Coghill.  
•Report of Assistance rendered by MBL to Cooperating Institutions for 1933.

## **BOX D - JACOBS PAPERS**

### Folder:

1. May-Dec., 1933

Jacobs Correspondence with, among others, L. V. Heilbrunn; H. C. Bazett; J. H. Bodine; E. S. Guzman Barron; D. E. Lancefield; C. E. Coghill; W. O. Fenn; Alfred C. Redfield; J. V. Osterhout; Philip B. Armstrong; Edwin G. Conklin; Rudolf Hober; E. Newton Harvey; R. S. Lillie.

2. 1934

Jacobs correspondence with, among others, F. M. MacNaught (daily matters concerning MBL); Simon Flexner; W. S. Carter; Samuel E. Pond; S. O. Mast; J. Percy Moore; Homes W. Smith; Samuel E. Pond; H. B. Goodrich; George Wald;

B. H. Willier; H. C. Bazett; Alfred C. Redfield; E. Newton Harvey; Ware Cattell; F. R. Lillie.

- Some statistics on MBL 1934
- Schedule of Scientific Meeting 1934
- Minutes of the Committee of Review of the MBL
- Tentative schedule of Woods Hole Lectures 1934
- Newspaper clipping about the name "Woods Hole"
- The Directory of Scientific Workers in Woods Hole for 1934

3. 1935

Jacobs Correspondence with, among others, F. M. MacNaught (daily matters); A. N. Richards; B. M. Duggar; Samuel E. Pond; F. R. Lillie.

- Report "Estimated Receipts and Disbursements (1935)"
- Announcement about the General Scientific Meeting.

4. 1935

Jacobs correspondence with F. M. MacNaught; Elbet C. Cole; S. C. Brooks; J. V. Osterhout; Simon Flexner; Margaret Sunwalt; Alfred F. Huettner; W C. Curtis.

- Minutes of a meeting of the Apparatus Committee MBL.
- Schedule for a General Scientific Meeting.

5. 1936

Jacobs correspondence with F. M. MacNaught; W. C. Curtis; S. C. Brooks, Selig Hecht; W. R. Taylor; F. R. Lillie; S. O. Mast; A. Baird Hastings; E. Newton Harvey; Oscar W. Richards; M. Dubuisson; Robert P. Bigelow.

6. 1936

Jacobs correspondence with W. C. Curtis, Oscar W. Richards; F. M. MacNaught (daily matters); F. P. Kelpel; W. C. Allee; A. Baird Hastings; Samuel E. Pond; Horace W. StunKard; O. Dubosq; Elbert C. Cole; Kurt G. Stern; D. E. Lancefield; Philip B. Armstrong; W. C. Curtis; Warren Weaver; Ware Cattell

- Report "Estimated receipts and disbursements (1936)"
- List of independent investigators (1936)

7. 1936

Jacobs correspondence with Kurt G. Stern; Samuel E. Pond; F. M. MacNaught (daily matters); Charles Packard; Alfred C. Redfield.

- List of research assistants (1936).

**BOX E - JACOBS PAPERS**

Folder:

1. Jan.-June, 1937

Correspondence with E. G. Conklin; F. M. MacNaught (daily matters); Valy Menkin; C. E. McClung; W. O. Fenn.  
•Tentative budget for 1937 by S. E. Pond.

2. 1937

Jacobs correspondence with William R. Taylor; H.K. Hartline; Gary N. Calkins; Detlev W. Bronk; E. G. Conklin; H. C. Bazett; F. M. MacNaught; F. R. Lillie; Charles Packard; Ware Cattell.  
•List of papers presented at the General Scientific Meeting (1937)  
•Budget MBL 1937  
•List of evening lecturers and topics (1937)

3. 1938-1939

Jacobs correspondence with F. R. Lillie; F. M. MacNaught; W. C. Curtis; Charles Packard; C. E. McClung; McKeen Cattell; Ware Cattell; George Whipple; E. Newton Harvey.  
•Report: Space Allocation and Equipment for Research  
•Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees of MBL 1939  
Report of the Committee on Research and Equipment (1938?)

4. 1940

Jacobs Correspondence about the Rockefeller Grant for the Library and with Charles Packard; Alfred C. Redfield; W. O. Fenn; Samuel E. Pond; Warren Weaver; F. R. Lillie; George Wald.  
•Memoranda on Special equipment for the 1940 season.  
•List of Lecturers for the summer of 1940

5. 1941

Jacobs correspondence with Charles Packard; F. M. MacNaught; B. H. Willier; Samuel E. Pond; Arthur K. Parpart; C. E. McClung.  
•Financial statement 1941  
•Plan for reviewing the present setup of the staffs of investigation  
•Obituary notice of Dr. David Hilt Tennet by Jacobs  
•List of Friday Evening Lectures

6. 1942

Jacobs correspondence with H. B. Steinbach; Charles Packard; Robert Chambers; Arthur K. Parpart; F. M. MacNaught; Lester F. Boss; B. H. Willier; F. R. Lillie; W. C. Allee; George L. Streeter; Arthur K. Parpart; Harry P. Levine.

- Correspondence re successor of Dr. Lillie
- Circular letter about law to exploit the Biology field for the war effort.
- List of Friday Evening Lectures

7. 1943

Jacobs correspondence with Charles Packard; Ware Cattell; H. B. Steinbach.

- List of lecturers and topics, Summer 1942
- Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the MBL 1943.

8. 1944

Jacobs correspondence with Frank M. MacNaught; Charles Packard; W. C. Allee

- Minutes of the Committee of Review of the MBL (1944)
- Information about fellowships at MBL
- Trust deed under which the Endowment funds of the MBL

9. 1945-1965

Jacobs correspondence with Charles Packard; Wallace O. Fenn; W. C. Allee (about his last conversation with F. R. Lillie before Lillie died. Subject: organization of the MBL's management).

**BOX F - JACOBS PAPERS** (Big archival box)

FOLDER:

1. 1937

Some reports of MBL's Special Committee on Policies and the Future of MBL (F. R. Lillie; E. G. Conklin; T. H. Morgan; Gary N. Collins) 1937

- Report upon depreciation and depreciation reserves (1937)

2. 1929-1932

Reports and correspondence concerning Supply Department, MBL 1928-1932.

3. 1924-1932

Reports, statements about financial situation, MBL (salaries, etc.) Attendance at MBL (1930's-1940's) and MBL's trial Balances 1924-1932.

4. 1929-1935  
Jacobs correspondence about Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution 1929-1935
5. 1920's/1930's  
Correspondence Jacobs. Letters from which pages are missing
6. 1925-1965  
Miscellaneous correspondence Jacobs
7. 1938-1968  
Jacobs correspondence concerning his work as professor in General Physiology at the University of Pennsylvania
8. 1914-1937  
Jacobs correspondence concerning
  - MBL (1926-1937)
  - Early correspondence about the Zoological Group Committee at the University of Pennsylvania (1914-1918)
  - Correspondence about the American Society of Zoologists (1920-1925)
9. 1921-1945  
Jacobs correspondence concerning his work as professor in General Physiology at University of Pennsylvania (among other things: about a symposium of the American Society of Zoologists, 1939 - (1939-1945)
  - Some early correspondence (Jacobs applications for University positions. (1921-1929)
10. 1924-1945  
Jacobs correspondence concerning his work as professor in General Physiology at University of Pennsylvania.
11. 1939-1942  
Jacobs correspondence concerning his work as Professor in General Physiology at the University of Pennsylvania.
12. 1938
  - Material concerning WWII.
  - Letter 1938 from Jacobs to the Nobel Committee of the Royal Caroline Institute in Stockholm, Sweden, in which Jacobs submits the nomination for the Nobel



Prize in Physiology and medicine for 1938 to Wendall M. Stanley (Rockefeller Institute). Stanley received the Nobel Prize in 1946.

13. 1932-1933

Jacobs correspondence concerning his work as Professor in General Physiology at University of Pennsylvania.

14. 1934-1939

Jacobs correspondence concerning his work as Professor in General Physiology 1934-1939.

## **BOX G - JACOBS PAPERS**

### **FOLDER:**

1. 1938-1942

Personal correspondence about financial matters and family matters.

2. 1920's-1940's

Miscellaneous correspondence, including Jacobs checks for charity also correspondence about Jacobs radio talk "What Blood Tells," 1932

- Some information concerning MBL (MBL Tennis Club, 1939)
- Correspondence with scientists about Physiology (also F. R. Lillie and Robert Chambers) 1930's.

3. 1930's-1940's

- Correspondence with Arthur K. Parpart about employment in 1927.
- Eugene M. Landis in 1926
- Correspondence relating to job applications by researchers. (Letters of recommendation.)

4. 1917, 1926-1943

Correspondence relating to the National Research Council, National Academy of Science, and National Research Fellowship Board in the Natural Sciences.

- Jacobs elected to the National Academy of Science in 1939.
- Many letters of congratulations to Jacobs.
- One letter from Jacobs to George E. Hale (1917)

5. 1930's to 1940's

- Correspondence relating to National Research Council (Advisory Committee on Fellowships).
6. 1927-1940  
  
Correspondence with well-known scientists relating to Jacobs' own field of research (General Physiology Blood research) in chronological order.
    - Notebooks of Jacobs and Henry Klein - Summers at Woods Hole 1927.
  7. 1941-1968  
  
Correspondence with well-known scientists relating to Jacobs' own field of research (General Physiology Blood Research).
  8. 1930-1968  
  
Correspondence relative to Jacob's editorship of the Journal of Cellular and Comparative Physiology.
  9. 1927-1944  
  
Correspondence relating to Jacob's editorship of the Journal of Experimental Zoology.
    - Correspondence about the "Cell Symposium" in 1939.
  10. 1927-1942  
  
Correspondence relating to "The Biological Bulletin" published by MBL.
    - Correspondence with Eric G. Ball; Arthur K. Parpart; Eric Ponder; Alfred C. Redfield (editor); Louis Hoeffler; Harry P. Levine; Carl R. Moore (editor); H. B. Steinbach.
  11. 1926-1938  
  
Correspondence relative to the proceedings of the Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine. 1926-1938.
    - Correspondence with, among others, Dr. A. J. Goldfarb, editor.
  12. 1927-1943  
  
Correspondence with D. R. Hooker, editor, relating to Physiological Reviews (1936-1940) and American Journal of Physiology.
    - Correspondence relating to Proceedings of the American Society of Zoologists (1926-1943).
    - Correspondence relative to the Wistar Institute of Anatomy and Biology (1927-1928).

- Correspondence relating to some other journals: Journal of Morphology and Physiology (1928-1940)
  - Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society.
13. 1929-1959
- Jacobs' correspondence relating to Annual Review of Physiology (1939-1958)
- American Review of Biochemistry (1929-1945).
14. Miscellaneous correspondence.