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## A. L. Musson Papers

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# A. L. Musson Papers

## Finding Aid

South Dakota State University Archives and Special Collections  
Briggs Library (SBL) Room 241 Box 2114  
1300 North Campus Drive  
Brookings, SD 57007  
Phone: 605-688-5094  
Email: [arcrefs@sdstate.edu](mailto:arcrefs@sdstate.edu)

## Collection Summary

### *Identifier*

UA 53.8

### *Title*

A. L. Musson Papers

### *Creator*

A.L. (Alfred Lyman) Musson

### *Dates*

1950-1962

### *Extent*

0.42 linear feet -- 1 document case, photographs

### *Language*

English

### *Repository*

South Dakota State University Archives and Special Collections, Hilton  
M. Briggs Library, Brookings, South Dakota.

### *Access note*

This collection is open to researchers without restrictions. The materials in the Archives do not circulate and may be used in-house only.

### *Preferred Citation*

*Name of item.* A.L. Musson Papers. UA 53.8. South Dakota State University Archives and Special Collections, Hilton M .Briggs Library, Brookings, South Dakota.

### *Abstract*

A.L. Musson was a professor and head of the animal science department. This collection consists primarily of items collected by Musson on a trip to Somalia and East Africa in 1954. Also includes correspondence and research resulting from the trip.

## **Biographical Note**

Alfred Lyman Musson was born on August 31, 1911 at Honolulu, Hawaii to Alfred and Mildred Musson. In 1933, he received his bachelor's degree from Connecticut State College at Storrs. In 1934, Alfred earned a master's degree and in 1951 a doctorate degree both from Iowa State University at Ames. Alfred married Helen Saunders on November 28, 1935 at South Norwalk, Connecticut. They had three children; Alfred L., Jr., Esther, and Merrill and five grandsons. Helen Saunders Musson died in November 1987. He married Hannah Sharp at Brookings on February 18, 1989.

The Musson's were house parents at Greer School at Hope Farm in New York from 1938 to 1941. Alfred was called to active duty from the U.S. Army Reserve from 1931 to 1945 where he served in the 271st Infantry, 69th Infantry division of the United States Army. He was a veteran of World War II and retired from the service as a lieutenant colonel. He was employed with Iowa State University for six years, and later at the Hope Farm School for Dependent Children for three years. He joined the South Dakota State College faculty in October 1952 as professor and head of the Animal Science Department. From 1960 until his retirement in 1973, he served in the office of the Dean of Agriculture and Biological Sciences under various titles, and retired as associate director of the South Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station in June 1973. After his retirement, Musson pursued genealogy. He wrote a family history of his great-grandmother, which was published privately in 1986, and from 1980 until 1982, he published a family genealogy newsletter. He was a member of the Brookings Area Genealogy Society, the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society and the Marblehead (Mass.) Historical Society. He was also involved with the Mystic Seaport, Inc., the 69th Infantry Division Association, the American Society of

Animal Science, Gamma Sigma Delta, Sigma Xi, and St. Paul's Episcopal Church. He was a former Rotarian and Scoutmaster at Ames, Iowa.

Alfred died on Saturday, July 21, 1990 at Sioux Valley Hospital in Sioux Falls. Interment was made at the Westwood Cemetery in Westwood, NJ.

## **Contents Note**

This collection is composed of materials from a trip made by Musson to Somalia, East Africa in 1954. Included are scrapbooks, photographs, negatives, slides, notes, correspondence, some publications and articles about Somalia, maps, and trip preparation items.

The scrapbooks consist of pictures taken while in Somalia. Included are Musson's translations of the Italian descriptions that are written on the back of most of the pictures. The photographs, negatives and slides consist of more pictures of Somalia but do not include any description of each image.

The notes consist of writings made by Musson while in Somalia. The correspondence consists mainly of communications with the Foreign Operations Administration in preparation for Musson's trip. The publications and articles include items about Somalia that Musson probably read in preparation for his trip. The trip preparations include information about customs in Somalia, immunizations for travel abroad, and some paper work that includes an investigation form for security clearance that details some biographical information about Musson. Also included are a few maps of Somalia that show some of the places that Musson visited.

## **Key Words**

Agricultural assistance, American -- Somalia

Musson, A. L. (Alfred Lyman), 1911-1990

Somalia

## **Administrative Information**

### *Conditions Governing Access*

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### *Arranged and Described by*

Crystal J. Gamradt, Archivist, 1998 August 31.

## **Container List**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>
1	1	Articles	1962, undated
1	2	Contacts	1954
1	3	Correspondence	1954-1962, undated
1	4	Maps	undated
1	5	Memorabilia	undated
1	6	Notes	undated
1	7	Photographs	1954
1	8	Proposed program for agricultural technical assistance for Somalia by Musson and Worzella	1954
1	9	Recommendations for the development of an agricultural research and educational program in the Somalia Republic...by John T. Stone	1962
1	10	Reconnaissance ground water survey of Somalia, East Africa by Thomas P. Ahrens	1951
1	11	Reports	1950-1954, undated

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>
1	12	Scrapbook I	1954
1	13	Scrapbook II	1954
1	14	Slides and negatives	1954
1	15	Trip preparation	1954