



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY  
**ARCHIVES**  
AND HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS

## **William L. Carpenter Papers UA.10.3.411**

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Finding aid written in English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Michigan State University Archives and Historical Collections

Conrad Hall

943 Conrad Road, Room 101

East Lansing , MI 48824

[archives@msu.edu](mailto:archives@msu.edu)

URL: <http://archives.msu.edu/>

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Michigan State University Archives and Historical Collections
<b>Creator:</b>	Carpenter, William Leland (1854-1936)
<b>Creator:</b>	Buesser, Fred G. (Frederick Gustavus), 1881-1950
<b>Title:</b>	William L. Carpenter papers
<b>ID:</b>	UA.10.3.411
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1851-1950
<b>Physical Description:</b>	0.66 Cubic Feet 2 boxes, 1 volume on shelf, postcards and photographs
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English

### Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: "Item title, Collection title, Collection Identifier, Michigan State University Archives & Historical Collections, East Lansing, Michigan."

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## Biographical Note

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William Leland Carpenter was born in 1854, graduated Michigan Agricultural College (now Michigan State University) in 1875, and from the University of Michigan Law School in 1878. After practicing law for fifteen years he became a Wayne County Circuit Court Judge in 1894. In September 1902, he was elected to the Michigan Supreme Court. He resigned in September 1908, resuming the Detroit law practice which he maintained until his death in January 1936.

[Source: Detroit Free Press]

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## Scope and Contents

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The bulk of the collection is composed of letters Carpenter received and duplicates of many of those that he sent. Many of them are of an essentially personal nature. In later life he became particularly interested in family genealogy and many letters were written and received on this subject.

Included in the collection are a number of writings by Carpenter relating his experiences as a lawyer and judge. References to Michigan Agricultural College (now Michigan State University) appear throughout the collection as Carpenter had two brothers and two sisters who also attended M.A.C.

There are letters from Europe written during World War I by his son, Rolla, and a diary kept by his son-in-law, Dr. Frederick Buesser (1881-1950). This diary is valuable for its day-to-day accounts of life in the medical corps. The diary includes a good description of Armistice Day in 1918.

Carpenter's correspondence includes letters from several prominent people including Woodbridge Ferris, Charles Evans Hughes, John Basset Moore, Elihu Root, and William Howard Taft.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

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### Conditions Governing Access

Collection is open for research.

### Conditions Governing Use

Permission to publish material from this collection must be obtained from University Archives & Historical Collections, Michigan State University.

## Conditions Governing Access

**Legal Status:** Donor(s) have transferred any applicable copyright to Michigan State University but the collection may contain third-party materials for which copyright was not transferred. Copyright restrictions may apply. Property Rights: Michigan State University.

## Custodial History

Gift of Frederick Buesser, 1961-06-16.

## Processing Information

Changed record group from 00015 to UA 10.3.411 to reflect Carpenter's connection to Michigan State University. S. Roberts, December 2019.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- World War, 1914-1918
- Armistice Day
- Michigan -- History
- Letters (correspondence)
- Photographs
- Postcards
- Speeches
- Hughes, Charles Evans, 1862-1948
- Moore, John Bassett, 1860-1947
- Root, Elihu, 1845-1937
- Taft, William H. (William Howard), 1857-1930
- Carpenter family (William Leland Carpenter, 1854-1936)
- Michigan Agricultural College
- Michigan State University. Class of 1875
- Oakland County Bar Association (Mich.)
- United States. Army -- Military life -- History
- Buesser, Frederick G., Jr.

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## Collection Inventory

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### Correspondence

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
1851-1876	box 6201	folder 1
1883-1887	box 6201	folder 2
1888-1889	box 6201	folder 3
1902-1908	box 6201	folder 4
1909-1910 (missing)	box 6201	folder 5
November 1910	box 6201	folder 6
1-7 December 1910	box 6201	folder 7
8-15 December 1910	box 6201	folder 8
16-19 December 1910	box 6201	folder 9
20 December 1910	box 6201	folder 10
21-22 December 1910	box 6201	folder 11
23-31 December 1910	box 6201	folder 12
1911-1917	box 6201	folder 13
1918	box 6201	folder 14
1919-1926	box 6201	folder 15
1927	box 6201	folder 16
1928	box 6201	folder 17
1929	box 6201	folder 18
1930	box 6201	folder 19
1931	box 6201	folder 20
1932	box 6201	folder 21
1933	box 6201	folder 22
1934	box 6201	folder 23
1935	box 6201	folder 24
1942-1950	box 6201	folder 25
undated	box 6201	folder 26

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## Speeches and Papers

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
"The Advancement of Practicality" , 26 August 1874	box 6202	folder 1

Speech by Carpenter at Banquet of Delta Tau Delta Fraternity , 30 May 1907	box 6202	folder 2
"Courts of Last Resort" , 25 August 1909	box 6202	folder 3
"The Social Life of Russia", (cc. 1891-1917)	box 6202	folder 4
"The Vatteure" - An Episode In the Lives of John Marshall and Thomas Jefferson", April 1924	box 6202	folder 5
Speech For Dedication of Beaumont Tower , 22 June 1929	box 6202	folder 6
Memorandum of Remarks At The Meeting of the Oakland County Bar , 22 August 1934	box 6202	folder 7
"Charity In Word and Thought", undated	box 6202	folder 8
"Christ and the State: Christ and Government", undated	box 6202	folder 9
"Comfort For Old Folks", undated	box 6202	folder 10
"How Michigan Became a State" , undated	box 6202	folder 11
Speech On Judge Brooke, undated	box 6202	folder 12
Speech On Judge's Dissenting Opinions , undated	box 6202	folder 13
"The Ideal Judge", undated	box 6202	folder 14
"The Judge Infallible" , undated	box 6202	folder 15
Speech on Obligations of Jurors , undated	box 6202	folder 16
"The Lawyer As a Public Servant" , undated	box 6202	folder 17
Speech to New Lawyers , undated	box 6202	folder 18
"Leonardo Da Vinci" , undated	box 6202	folder 19
"Alfred Russell" , undated	box 6202	folder 20
"The Supreme Court", undated	box 6202	folder 21
"A Paper By C.K. Carpenter" On Subject of Temperance", undated	box 6202	folder 22
"Testimony In Will Contest" , undated	box 6202	folder 23

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Financial Records, 1889-1932, undated	box 6202	folder 24
Legal Records, (1889, 1935, 1949)	box 6202	folder 25
Biographical Sketch of Frederick G. Buesser For Detroit Medical News , 4 July 1950	box 6202	folder 26
Advertising Circular For Lectures of Charles E. Davis , 1922	box 6202	folder 27
Writing Tablet Used by Carpenter , undated	box 6202	folder 28

List of People Who Recommended Flavius Brooke For Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court , December 1910	box 6202	folder 29
"An Appreciation of James H. Lynch" , 22 August 1934	box 6202	folder 30
Genealogical Information For Carpenter Family , undated	box 6202	folder 31
Magazine Clipping , 8 June 1929	box 6202	folder 32
School Notebook of William Carpenter , 1876	box 6202	folder 33
Autograph Books, undated	box 6202	folder 34
"One Line of the Carpenter Family In America" by Paul Carpenter, 1896	box 6202	folder 35
Financial Account Book of Frederick Buesser , 1905-1944	box 6202	folder 36
World War One Diary of Frederick Buesser , 1917-1919	box 6202	folder 37

## Volume

Title/Description	Instances
Letterpress Volume of Correspondence, February-July, 1908	volume 1

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## Photographs

Title/Description	Instances
People. Carpenter, William L.	box People Photo Box 5

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## Postcards

Title/Description	Instances
Korea. Seoul. Chosen Hotel	drawer Postcards
Virginia. Fredericksburg. Brompton, Marye Mansion, 1925	

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