



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
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Frank Benton Papers UA.17.438

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Michigan State University Archives and Historical Collections

Conrad Hall

943 Conrad Road, Room 101

East Lansing , MI 48824

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

Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Biographical Note	3
Scope and Contents	4
Administrative Information	4
Controlled Access Headings	5
General Note	6
Collection Inventory	6
Papers	6
Photographs and Postcards	9
Photographs	9
Postcards	10

Summary Information

Repository:	Michigan State University Archives and Historical Collections
Creator:	Benton, Frank, 1852-1919
Creator:	United States. Department of Agriculture
Title:	Frank Benton papers
ID:	UA.17.438
Date [inclusive]:	1879-1915
Physical Description:	2 Cubic Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Language of the Material:	Some of the materials are in Japanese.

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."

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical Note

Frank Benton (1852-1919), born in Coldwater, Michigan, graduated from Michigan Agricultural College (now Michigan State University) with his B.S. in 1879 and his M.S. in 1886. He also studied at the University of Tennessee, the University of Munich, and the University of Athens. In 1879, he taught modern languages at M.A.C. Benton spent 1880-1891 studying honeybees in Europe, Africa, and Asia. Around 1880, he was the investigator in charge of apiculture with the Bureau of Entomology in the United States Department of Agriculture. In 1894, he was corresponding secretary of the Entomological Society of Washington and the North American Beekeepers Association. He was also secretary of the Michigan State Beekeepers Association and a member of various scientific organizations including the National Geographic Society and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He authored two books: *Bee-Keeping* and *The Honey Bee* (1896), as well as many articles on apiculture, a partial listing of which is included in this collection and is located in Box 6209 Folder 1.

According to the January 27, 1914 issue of the *M.A.C. Record*, Benton traveled to Palestine "to investigate the bee industry, and as a result of his efforts there is now in this country a particular strain of bees known as Holy Land bees, which are scattered widely over the United States (page 5)."

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Contents

The Frank Benton papers include academic correspondence, newspaper clippings which discuss apiculture, Benton's work in Ceylon (Sri Lanka), the 25th Annual Meeting of the North American Beekeepers Association and miscellaneous poems and writings, papers from the Association, a Japanese translation of his book *The Honey Bee*, personal notes, and a cash book for the Carnolian Apiaries (1899-1900). Of note are personal manuscripts by Benton on topics such as the Spanish-American War, Greece, Italy, Germany, and women. Also a set of patent papers for a new beehive design (1896). Several of the manuscripts are hand written translations of articles written and published in foreign languages. Also various membership letters and cards of the international apiarian clubs to which Benton belonged, and miscellaneous publications of the United States Department of Agriculture. There are photographs of family members, his home in Washington D.C., beehives, the Smithsonian, and Benton's trip around the world. Miscellaneous items include address books, account books, memo books, ticket books, postcards, and stereocards. Also included in the collection are photographs of the Michigan State University campus showing educational buildings and faculty residences.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Conditions Governing Access

Collection is open for research. It is likely that the negatives in this collection are nitrate. Researchers must view digitized versions of these negatives.

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.

Processing Information

Changed record group from 00062 to UA 17.428 to reflect Benton's connection to Michigan State University. M. Badgley Malone, December 2019.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Controlled Access Headings

- Apiaries
- Bee culture
- Entomology -- Sri Lanka
- Spanish-American War, 1898
- Germany
- Greece
- Italy
- Account books
- Clippings (Books, newspapers, etc.)
- Letters (correspondence)
- Manuscripts
- Patents
- Periodicals
- Photographs
- Postcards
- Reports
- Michigan State University. Class of 1879
- Pan-American Exposition (1901 : Buffalo, N.Y.)

- World's Columbian Exposition (1893 : Chicago, Ill.)
- Ford, Zoe B.

General Note

The Honey Bee: a Manual of Instruction in Apiculture by Frank Benton, in Japanese, is included in the collection. An English version may be found in the Michigan State University Library.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Collection Inventory

Papers		
Title/Description	Instances	
Account Books, 1906, Undated	box 6210	folder 1
Account Book, July 15, 1904- December 1906	box 6210	folder 2
Address Book, Undated	box 6210	folder 3
"The American Bee Journal", June-July 1897	box 6209	folder 63
Appointment Book, 1915	box 6210	folder 4
Biography for membership in the Botanical Society of Washington and list of related articles in newspapers contained in the large print drawers.	box 6209	folder 1
Cash book for the Carniolan Apiaries, 1899-1900	box 6209	folder 77
Correspondence		
January 12, 1892-October 31, 1894	box 6209	folder 2
November 1, 1894-December 31, 1895	box 6209	folder 3
January 13, 1896-December 21, 1896	box 6209	folder 4
January 9, 1897-December 15, 1897	box 6209	folder 5
January 5, 1898-December 22, 1898	box 6209	folder 6
January 4, 1899-December 29, 1899	box 6209	folder 7
January 2, 1900-December 10, 1900	box 6209	folder 8
January 7, 1901-December 27, 1902	box 6209	folder 9
January 6-March 16, 1903	box 6209	folder 10

Frank Benton Papers UA.17.438

March 17, 1903-May 6, 1908	box 6209	folder 11
Undated	box 6209	folder 12
Event Souvenirs: World's Columbian Exposition ticket book (1893), Pan American Exhibition ID Card (1901), event date cards and ticket books, 1893-1902	box 6210	folder 5
Fabric wallet with photographs, calling cards, stamps and miscellaneous items -- photographs by Flora Benton, Undated	box 6210	folder 6
General Land Office Annual Report, 1868	box 6210	folder 7
Hymnal of the Protestant Episcopal Church, 1874	box 6210	folder 35
Manuscripts		
"The Giant Bee of India" and Related Materials, Circa 1881	box 6209	folder 15
"The Criticisms on Apiarian Experiments at Michigan Agricultural College", 1891	box 6209	folder 16
"Fertilization of Queens in Confinement" Experiment, 1892	box 6209	folder 17
"Work in Agriculture at the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture", Circa 1892	box 6209	folder 18
"The Len Korah or Persian Bees" by M. Pritouleukou, 1896	box 6209	folder 19
"Causes and Effects of Our Troubles with Spain in 1897-1898", 1898	box 6209	folder 20
"The Honey Bee", 1900	box 6209	folder 21
"The Names of the Oldest Genera of Dermapters..." by Dr. H.A. Krauss	box 6209	folder 23
"Benefits from the Introduction of Foreign Races", 1903	box 6209	folder 24
"The Formation of Nectar" by Dr. Marcel Miranale, 1903	box 6209	folder 25
"Alleged Manufacture of Comb Honey", 1904	box 6209	folder 26
"Bee or Flies on Chrysanthemums", 1904	box 6209	folder 27
"Queens Mating Twice", 1904	box 6209	folder 28
"Successful Bee Keeping", Undated	box 6209	folder 30
"The Importation and Breeding of Various Types of Honey Bees", 1905	box 6209	folder 31
"Artificial or Forced Swarming", Undated	box 6209	folder 32
"Bee Culture in the U.S. and Its Needs", Undated	box 6209	folder 33
"Cyprio-Carniolan Bees", Undated	box 6209	folder 34
"The Importance, Development and the Structure of the Honey Bee", Undated	box 6209	folder 35
"The Importation of Honey Bees", Undated	box 6209	folder 36

Frank Benton Papers UA.17.438

"Moisture in Hives in Winter", Undated	box 6209	folder 37
"The Needs of Bee Culture", Undated	box 6209	folder 38
"Pure Honey in New York", Undated	box 6209	folder 39
"Queen Rearing", Undated	box 6209	folder 40
"Suggestions as to Experimental Work in Agriculture", Undated	box 6209	folder 41
"Tunisian Bees", Undated	box 6209	folder 42
"The Winter Losses and the Lessons There From", Undated	box 6209	folder 43
"On the Theory of Parthenogenesis Among Bees" by Andre de Rausehuling	box 6209	folder 44
"Germany of Today", Undated	box 6209	folder 45
On Florence, Italy, Undated	box 6209	folder 46
Greece	box 6209	folder 47
"The Necessity for a Higher Physical Life for Women", Undated	box 6209	folder 48
"Our Need of Other Tongues", Undated	box 6209	folder 49
"Paper on Zinc", Undated	box 6209	folder 50
<i>The Honey Bee: A Manual of Instruction in Apiculture</i> , Undated	box 6209	folder 75
Manuscript. Miscellaneous. Duplicate Proofs, Undated	box 6209	folder 58
Memo books, Undated	box 6210	folder 8
Miscellaneous		
1891-1915	box 6209	folder 64
Undated	box 6209	folder 65-70
Miscellaneous. Bee Papers		
Miscellaneous Bee Papers, 1904, Undated	box 6209	folder 29
1893-1900, Undated	box 6209	folder 51
1897, 1903, Undated	box 6209	folder 52
1904, Undated	box 6209	folder 53-54
Undated	box 6209	folder 55-57
Miscellaneous Calling Cards, Postcard, Undated	box 6210	folder 9
Miscellaneous Unused Stationery, Undated	box 6209	folder 74
Newspaper Clippings		
1872-1905, Undated	box 6209	folder 71
Undated	box 6209	folder 72
North American Bee-Keepers Association Convention		

October 10-12, 1894	box 6209	folder 60
1894	box 6209	folder 61
1894, Undated	box 6209	folder 62
Notebook, Undated	box 6210	folder 10
Pocket Diary, Undated	box 6209	folder 76
Receipts and Accounts		
1894-1908	box 6209	folder 13
Undated	box 6209	folder 14
Reports of Experimental Stations, 1901-1903, Undated	box 6209	folder 22
Report of Standing for Zoe Benton, 1905	box 6210	folder 33
Requests for Information, 1911-1913, Undated	box 6209	folder 73
Stereocards. Switzerland, Undated	box 6210	folder 34
Union Literary Society Commencement Banquet Program, 1907	box 6210	folder 35

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Photographs and Postcards

Photographs

Title/Description	Instances	
Agriculture. Farm Buildings	box 6210	
Animals. Fowl	box 6210	
Beehives, October 1905, Undated	box 6210	folder 11
Beehives at Washington Home, Undated	box 6210	folder 12
Bee-Keeping	box 6210	
Benton Family, 1892-1905, Undated	box 6210	folder 13
Benton Home Interior, Undated	box 6210	folder 14
Benton, Frank, 1902	box 6210	folder 15
Benton, Frank. Trip Around the World , 1903-1906	box 6210	folder 16-22
Benton, Frank. Washington D.C. home, apiary, and Smithsonian (4 folders), Undated	box 6210	folder 24-27
Benton, Harriet and Frank. Argyll Park, Circa 1901	box 6210	folder 28
Benton, Ralph, 1896	box 6210	folder 29

Benton, Zoe, Undated	box 6210	folder 30
Benton, Zoe (2), 1905, Undated	box 6210	folder 31
Hunting	box 6210	
Michigan. Henrietta	box 6210	
MSU Campus Scenes	box 6210	folder 95
New York. Buffalo	box 6210	
People. Benton, Frank	box People Photo 3	
People. Bretherton, George	box 6210	
People. Groups	box 6210	
People. Kellogg, George	box 6210	
Prisons. Southern Michigan Prison	box 6210	
Recreation. Bicycling	box 6210	

Postcards

Title/Description	Instances	
Benton, Zoe, Undated	box 6210	folder 32
Michigan. Henrietta. Christ's Church. Laying Cornerstone	drawer Postcards	
People. Gott, Mr. & Mrs. John	drawer Postcards	
People. Stewart, Dr. and Passenger, in Horse-Drawn Carriage	drawer Postcards	
Trip Around the World, 1906, Undated	box 6210	folder 23

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)