

A0883

Charles Hees Ledlie (1861-1940) Papers, 1856-1906

7 boxes (4.0 linear feet)

Processed by Christopher Gordon, June 2003

REPOSITORY

Missouri Historical Society Archives

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DONOR INFORMATION

This collection was purchased by the Missouri Historical Society with funds from the Bixby Book and Manuscript Fund, circa 1949.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Charles Hees Ledlie (1861-1940) was born July 26, 1861, in Palatine Bridge, New York, the son of Brigadier General James Hewitt and Catherine Hees Ledlie. He was educated in public schools, and graduated from Polytechnic Institute (Troy, New York) in 1882. On February 11, 1885, he married Elizabeth Lucas Johnson in St. Louis. His professional work as consulting engineer was begun with the Old Nevada Central Railroad where he held the position of vice-president in charge of engineering construction and operations. From 1901 to 1903 he was consulting engineer for the New Orleans Railways Company. From that period until his death in 1940, he was closely identified with St. Louis. During the early years of the twentieth century, he was consulting engineer for the Chainlike Telephone Company, the Union Electric Company, the St. Louis and Suburban Railroad Company, and many other firms throughout the country. Ledlie also served on a committee that negotiated the contract for furnishing electricity for the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in 1904.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Charles H. Ledlie Papers consist of correspondence, expense reports, mechanical blueprints, greeting cards, business cards, and newspaper clippings.

The collection is arranged into three series: **Ledlie Family Series**, **Business Correspondence Series**, and **Miscellaneous Series**.

The **Ledlie Family Series** consists of the papers of General James H. Ledlie relating to the purchase of lumber, dredging operations of the Seneca River (New York), and military orders issued to Lieutenant Richardson and Major Kennedy of Company K, 3rd New York Artillery (1856-1863); letters written to Charles Ledlie and his brother George by his grandparents (1870-1878); and a small collection of documents concerning Ledlie's employment with the Pine Bluff (Arkansas) Water and Light Company, 1894-1896.

The **Business Correspondence Series** consists of papers relating to his business affairs during the years 1901 to 1906, which reflect the growth of public utilities in the St. Louis area and

Ledlie's consulting business with companies throughout the United States. The business correspondence relates to Ledlie's associations with Union Electric and Power Company (St. Louis), Citizens Electric Lighting and Power Company (St. Louis), Saint Louis Street Car Company, American Car Company (Granite City, Illinois), Mesker Brothers, Ludlow-Saylor Wire and Iron Company, the Fonda, Johnstown and Gloversville Railroad, Springfield Boiler and Manufacturing Company (Springfield, Illinois), Amsterdam Street Railroad Company (New York, New York), Kinloch Telephone Company (St. Louis), Imperial Electric Light, Heat and Power Company (St. Louis), York Telephone Company (Pennsylvania), Saint Louis and Suburban Railway Company (St. Louis), and Hannibal Water Works (Hannibal, Missouri).

The **Miscellaneous Series** consists of undated items, such as expense receipts, greeting cards, business cards, and correspondence, and dated mechanical blueprints, architectural blueprints, and sketches. Part of this series includes oversized materials, which are described in folders 8 and 9.

Folder List

Box 1

Ledlie Family Series

- folder 1 James H. Ledlie papers, 1856-1866
- folder 2 Personal correspondence, 1870-1874
- folder 3 Personal correspondence, 1875-1878
- folder 4 Personal expenses, 1882-1888
- folder 5 Pine Bluff (Arkansas) Water and Light Company, 1894
- folder 6 Pine Bluff (Arkansas) Water, Gas & Electric Company, 1895-1896

Box 2

Business Correspondence Series

- folder 1 1901-June 1902
- folder 2 July 1902
- folder 3 August 1902
- folder 4 September 1902
- folder 5 October 1902
- folder 6 November 1902
- folder 7 December 1902

Box 3

Business Correspondence Series

- folder 1 January 1903
- folder 2 February 2-15, 1903
- folder 3 February 16-28, 1903
- folder 4 March 1-15, 1903
- folder 5 March 16-31, 1903
- folder 6 April 1903
- folder 7 May 1903

Box 4

Business Correspondence Series

- folder 1 June-July 1903
- folder 2 August-September 1903
- folder 3 October-December 1903
- folder 4 January 1904
- folder 5 February 1904
- folder 6 March 1904
- folder 7 April 1904

no date Mechanical blueprint: Keystone disc water meter,
Pittsburgh Meter Co., East Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

no date Blueprint: proposed stairway boiler room, Union Electric
Light & Power Co., St. Louis, Missouri

folder 9

Oversized, 1903-1905 (filed in Map Drawer 8)

1 Jan 1903 Mechanical blueprint: 6" vacuum pot

1 Oct 1904 Mechanical blueprint: 70-ton heavy-duty steam shovel,
Vulcan Iron Works Co., Toledo, Ohio

9 Feb 1905 Mechanical blueprint: Model Giant D 60-ton steam shovel,
Vulcan Iron Water Co., Toledo, Ohio

2 Aug 1905 Mechanical blueprint: two stage air compressor