

THE IDA PEARL AND JOSEPH CUBA ARCHIVES AND GENEALOGY CENTER
OF
THE WILLIAM BREMAN JEWISH HERITAGE MUSEUM
1440 SPRING STREET
ATLANTA, GA 30309
www.thebreman.org

MANUSCRIPT COLLECTION

REGISTER:
OSCAR ELSAS FAMILY PAPERS

Processed by Sandra Berman
August 1993

MSS NO: 56

Oscar Elsas (1871-1924) was born in Atlanta, Georgia, on September 28, 1871, the son of Jacob and Clara Stahl Elsas. Jacob Elsas was the founder of Fulton Bag and Cotton Mill, a business which opened its doors on Decatur Street in 1881, and which would eventually become the largest employer in Atlanta.

Oscar received his early education in the Atlanta public schools and at the English High School of Boston, Massachusetts. Upon graduation, he entered the Georgia School of Technology, and was a member of the first graduation class of that university. In 1895, Oscar married Emma Erhlich, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Ehrlich of Boston Massachusetts. A son, Norman, was born to Oscar and Emma in 1896, followed by a daughter, Helen, in 1906. In 1909, Oscar Elsas became president of Fulton Bag and Cotton Mill following the retirement of his father, Jacob. Conscious of the philanthropic commitment of his father to various Atlanta community organizations, such as Grady Memorial Hospital, the Georgia Institute of Technology, the Hebrew Orphans' Home, and the Temple, Oscar continued to support these institutions and was active in a wide variety of civic affairs. Unfortunately for his family and the community of Atlanta, Oscar met an untimely death at the age of 52 while on a trip to Boston.

The Oscar Elsas Family Papers, 1870-2000, are arranged in alphabetical order by subject and chronologically within each folder. The social historian interested in the growth and development of a pioneering Atlanta Jewish family will find this collection of special interest. There is also secondary source material relating to the history and daily operations of the Fulton Bag and Cotton Mill and Rich's Inc.

Restrictions: Available to the serious scholar

Number of containers: 4

Oversize flat items: Removed to oversize collection

Photographs: Removed to the visual arts collection

Textiles: Removed to textile collection

Shelf space occupied: 2.4 linear feet.

CONTAINER

- 1 Subject file, A-R, 1870-2000.
 - Folder 1: Anniversary and wedding memorabilia, 1895-1933.
 - Folder 2: Asher, Barbara, 1979.
 - Folder 3: Asher, Helen Elsas, 1928-1935.
 - Folder 4: Asher, Joseph, 1951.
 - Folder 5: Asher, Tom, 1986.
 - Folder 6: Bookplate (photocopy) designed for Oscar Elsas, undated.
 - Folder 7: Carter Center, Emory University, 2000.
 - Folder 8: Correspondence, 1871-1945. (includes ALS Jacob Elsas to Mr. Joseph Hirsch & Lady, October 5, 1871 requesting their company at the circumcision of Oscar Elsas)
 - Folder 9: Ehrlich, Adolph family memorabilia, 1948 & undated.
 - Folder 10: Elsas, Jacob, 1932.
 - Folder 11: Family genealogy, undated.
 - Folder 12: Family history, 1878-1986.
 - Folder 13: Family reunion, 1993.
 - Folder 14: Fox, Lawrence M., testimonial program, 1950.
 - Folder 15: Fulton Bag and Cotton Mills, 1870-1991.
 - Folder 16: Georgia Institute of Technology, 1938.

- Folder 17: “Gone With The Wind” Movie Premiere program, 1949.
- Folder 18: Grady Memorial Hospital, undated.
- Folder 19: The Howard School-newsletters and general records, 1978-1984.
- Folder 20: Ingleside Country Club-Greens Committee record book, 1925-1936.
- Folder 21: Miscellany, 1932-1946.
- Folder 22: Obituaries and letters of condolence re. the death of Oscar Elsas, 1924.
- Folder 23: Rich’s, Inc.-advertisement, undated.
- Folder 24: Rich’s Inc.-annual report, 1947-1964.
- Folder 25: Rich’s, Inc.-annual reports, 1965-1974.

CONTAINER

2 Subject File, R-S, 1929-1986

- Folder 1: Rich’s Inc.-centennial celebration, 1967.
- Folder 2: Rich’s Inc.-Credit Union, 1963.
- Folder 3: Rich’s Inc.-Dear Store, by Celestine Sibley, 1967.
- Folder 4: Rich’s Inc.-employee handbooks, undated.
- Folder 5: Rich’s Inc.-financial report, 1954.
- Folder 6: Rich’s Inc.-history, 1953.
- Folder 7: Rich’s Inc.-newspaper clippings, 1929 and undated.
- Folder 8: Rich’s Inc. – President’s Club.
- Folder 9: Rich’s Inc.-Publications, “Little Bits,” 1951-1952.
- Folder 10: Rich’s Inc.- Publications, “Rich Bits,” 1938-1961.
- Folder 11: Rich’s Inc.-“Rich Bits,” 1965-1967.

Folder 12: Rich's Inc.-publicity, 1955-1986

Folder 13: Rich's Inc.-Rich's of Atlanta, by Henry Givens Baker, 1953.

CONTAINER

3 Subject File, R-W, 1895 -1985

Folder 1: Rich's Inc.-tribute to Frank Neely, 1969.

Folder 2: Scrapbook of Helen Elsas, re. ballet, 1915-1917.

Folder 3: Scrapbook of telegrams re. the wedding of Emma Ehrlich to Oscar Elsas, 1895.

Folder 4: The Standard Club-program, 1949, 1976.

Folder 5: The Temple-program and brochures, 1931 and undated.

Folder 6: Woodruff Robert W., 1985.

CONTAINER

4 Oversize bound volume – “Rich's Believes in the Men's Business so Rich's Specializes in the Men's Business, 1951.