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Search

NYCV-NID

Taylor, Harden Franklin, 1890-1966.  
Papers, 1920-1965.  
81 items.

Biologist, frozen food technologist.

Summary: Included are correspondence, clippings, notes, and published and printed materials relating to such topics as the fishing industry, frozen food technology, and his assessment of the contribution of Clarence Birdseye to the development of frozen food technology.

REPORT OF THE CURATOR AND ARCHIVIST, 1962-1966.

Cite as: Harden Franklin Taylor. Papers, #2567. Department of Manuscripts and University Archives, Cornell University Library.

1. Birdseye, Clarence, 1886-1956. 2. Fisheries--United States. 3. Frozen foods. 4. Biologists.

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Taylor, Harden Franklin, 1890-1966. Papers, 1920-1965.

Biologist; frozen food technologist. Include carbon copies of Taylor's letter to Congressman Frank Oliver (1927) concerning remuneration for writing he did on fish refrigeration for a U.S. Bureau of Fisheries, Department of Commerce, publication and a letter to William Wing of the New York Herald Tribune (1961) concerning Wing's articles on the New England fishing industry; carbons of four letters (1958-1962) from L. V. Burton of Scarsdale to scientific writers and journalists, written in refutation of statements they had made concerning the origins of frozen food technology and giving his assessments of the respective contributions of Taylor and Clarence Birdseye; letters (1931) to Taylor from H. E. Anthony, Curator, Department of Mammalogy, The American Museum of Natural History, New York, and from Richard S. Lull, Director, Peabody Museum of Natural History, Yale University, written in reply to his inquiries concerning the edibility of frozen mammoth flesh, extracts (13 pp. type-script) from travel accounts and scientific journals with the comments of the compiler, presumably Taylor, and a printed copy of William R. Farrand's monograph "Frozen Mammoths and Modern Geology," from Science, March 17, 1961; biographical and bibliographical information on Taylor; copies of three of his monographs on food preservation by freezing and refrigeration, written while he was with the Bureau of Fisheries or after he became affiliated with the Atlantic Coast Fisheries Company, New York City; clippings and notes on Birdseye's career; printed matter, bibliographical references, and miscellaneous notes dealing with the frozen food industry, fisheries, and various persons and subjects of interest to Taylor. Unpublished guide available. 81 items.

Main entry: as above

Cross references to main entry:

Anthony, Harold Elmer, 1890-  
 Birdseye, Clarence, 1886-1956  
 Burton, L V  
 Fisheries  
 Food technology  
 Frozen foods  
 Lull, Richard Swann, 1867-1957  
 Mammoths  
 Refrigeration  
 U.S. Bureau of Fisheries  
 Wing, William

Harden Franklin Taylor, 1890-1966. Checklist of Papers, 1920-1965.

Folder 1 Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1927-1962; 6 items (10 pcs.)

Letter (3 pp. typescript carbon copy, April 6, 1927) to Hon. Frank Oliver, Congressman from the Bronx, concerning a claim the writer (unsigned, but Taylor) had against the federal government for services rendered in connection with a publication on fish refrigeration and comment by H.F.T.

Letter (1 p. typescript carbon copy, May 31, 1958) to S. A. Goldblith and B. E. Proctor, (Authors "From Test Tube to Table," Technology Review, March 1958), M.I.T., Cambridge, Massachusetts, concerning an alleged misstatement in the above noted paper concerning the origin of the frozen food industry; recipients are referred to Harden F. Taylor's study, "The Refrigeration of Fish," Appendix VIII to Report of the U.S. Commissioner of Fisheries for 1926, pp. 501-633 (1927). Unsigned, but may be L. V. Burton (see below).

Letters (3 pp. typescript carbon copies, March 7, 12, 1960) to Miss Nan Ickeringill, New York Times Food Editor, from L. V. Burton on the contributions of Taylor and Birdseye. Refuting notion that Birdseye the father of frozen food industry, writer states that he believes that Birdseye was "the victim of a plausible legend that grew so large he feared to deny it," that C.B. failed in the frozen fish business in New York City, then chanced to meet Taylor who "told him what he ought to have done," and that later C.B. became associated with General Sea Foods Corporation in Gloucester, Massachusetts. Suggests recipient get the correct story of the origin of quick freezing from Taylor. "He has all the documentary evidence you may want. I should warn you however that he does not claim priority for himself, but ascribes it to Plank, Erenbaum & Reuter in Germany, many years ago." (see clipping folder).

Letter (1 p. typescript carbon copy, March 29, 1961) to William G. Wing, New York Herald Tribune, from Taylor, on Wing's article on New England fishing industry.

Letter (1 p. typescript carbon copy, June 25, 1962) to J. F. Thomas from "L.V.B." (Burton?) concerning this writer's article in The American Weekly; states "I don't know how it comes about that all you feature writers on food topics persist in giving credit to Clarence Birdseye. . . he did a lot to popularize food freezing, but. . . did not originate the method, nor was he the first to preserve foods commercially by freezing." Goes on to suggest he contact Taylor, ". . . who is the one who gave Clarence Birdseye his first successful idea." (see below for American Weekly feature in question).

Harden Franklin Taylor, 1890-1966. Checklist of Papers, 1920-1965.

Folder 2 Information Regarding Mammoth Carcasses and Related Correspondence, 1931-c. 1961; 4 items.

Letter to Taylor (1 p. typescript, January 14, 1931) from H. E. Anthony, Curator, Department of Mammalogy, The American Museum of Natural History, New York City, re edibility of the flesh of mammoths which have been preserved in ice or frozen ground.

Letter to Taylor (1 p. typescript, January 17, 1931) from Richard S. Lull, Director, Peabody Museum of Natural History, Yale, referring him to certain studies on mammoth collecting in Siberia and discussing the edibility of mammoth flesh.

William R. Farrand, "Frozen Mammoths and Modern Geology," clipped from Science, Vol. 133, No. 3455, March 17, 1961. pp. 729-735.

Extracts from travel accounts, scientific journals, etc. with comments of compiler, presumably Taylor. 13 pp. typescript. n.d.

Folder 3 Biographical and Bibliographical Information on Taylor, c. 1920-c.1946; 6 items.

Biographical outline. 1 p. typescript on heavy paper.

List of publications, 1916-1936. 3 pp. typescript on heavy paper.

List of publications, 1916-1946. 3 pp. typescript carbon.

Department of Commerce Fisheries Service Bulletin, Washington, January 2, 1924--No. 104; contains news note on the resignation of Taylor from the post of assistant in charge of the fisheries industries division.

Selected pages from various lists of Bureau of Fisheries publications, with those of Taylor checked. 5 pcs. Dates uncertain.

One photograph (approx. 4 1/4" w., 3 1/8" h.) of Taylor and another man. Autographed on reverse: With many thanks Yours Trochkintz [? spelling uncertain], 10/3/1920."

Folder 4 Monographs by Taylor, 1921-1930; 3 items.

"Brine Freezing of Fish," Dept. of Commerce Bureau of Fisheries, Economic Circular No. 53, issued November 26, 1921. 8 pp. (2 copies).

"Refrigeration in the Preservation of Food." (Paper No. 319). Notation in pencil, "World Engineering Congress Tokyo, Japan. Oct. 1929". 9 pp. + 3 pp. illus.

Proceedings of the Divisional Meetings of the Institute of American Meat Packers Held at Chicago, February 20, 1930, and at New York, March 6, 1930. Issued by the Institute: Chicago. 71 pp. Includes paper by Taylor, "Our Experiences with Quick Freezing Methods," pp. 17-44.

Harden Franklin Taylor, 1890-1966. Checklist of Papers, 1920-1965.

Folder 5 Patent Papers, 1929, 1923; 2 items.

Taylor's packaging (mainly for frozen fish fillets) patent. April 23, 1929. 4 Xerox pp. (3 pes.). No information as to location of original.

Taylor's patent, August 1, 1923, for process of treating comestibles ("particularly to treating fish, meats, poultry, etc. to improve their quality and prevent certain undesirable changes which may occur, especially while the goods are frozen or during storage in the frozen condition."). 4 pp. negative photostat with New York Public Library stamp.

Folder 6 "Origin or 'Invention' of Quick Freezing as Represented in the Popular Press. Quotations and Excerpts from Newspapers and Magazines." 15 pp. typescript carbon + title p., 1945-1962. Note attached: "This exhibit was not submitted with the MS of the New Orleans Meeting. H.F.T."

Folder 7 Magazine article reprints or clippings, 1931, 1956; 2 items.

R. Heiss, "Gegenwartsfragen der Konservierung von Lebensmitteln durch Kälte," from Zeitschrift des Vereines Deutscher Ingenieure, September 12, 1931. pp. 1145-1154.

Harold T. Meryman, "Mechanics of Freezing in Living Cells and Tissues," Science, Vol. 124, No. 3221, September 21, 1956. pp. 515-521. Also, a commentary on this paper, "Mechanism of Freezing in (Plant or Animal?) Living Cells and Tissues," by J. Levitt, Science, February 1, 1957. p. 194.

Folder 8 Clarence Birdseye, 1886-1956. Clippings and Notes Apparently Collected by H.F.T., 1945-1962 and n.d.; 22 items.

Article on Birdseye, clipped from Newsweek, November 10, 1945. pp. 72-73.

Don Wharton, "'Birdseye' Also Means a Man," Reader's Digest, August 1946. pp. 71-74.

Fragment beginning "The industry accepts July 31, 1923, as its birthday. It was then that Clarence Birdseye. . .started the first fish-freezing plant in New York. . ." [1954].

Note on Birdseye in "The Periscope" column of Newsweek, January 30, 1956. p. 18.

Obituaries, October 8-9, 1956, from the Times, Tribune, World Telegram & Sun, Journal-American, and Wall Street Journal. 5 items.

Article on Birdseye, clipped from Time, October 16, 1950. pp. 86, 88-89.

Brief section on Birdseye in The American Weekly, Sunday supplement of The Journal American, June 24, 1962. p. 8.

Miscellaneous notes on Birdseye and his enterprises, written in part on 3x5's, apparently by H.F.T. 11 items.

Harden Franklin Taylor, 1890-1966. Checklist of Papers, 1920-1965.

Folder 9 Miscellaneous Publications, 1930-c. 1965; 3 items.

2 pp. clipped from Moody's Manual of Investments (1930): General Foods Corporation (p. 3014) and Frosted Food Company (p. 3016).

John A. Zapp, Jr., "The Anatomy of a Rumor." 14 pp. pamphlet defending the use of teflon in cooking utensils. c. 1965.

Bulletin, Silicate P's & Q's, Vol. 45, No. 5, May 1965. c. 1965 by Philadelphia Quartz Company. 2 pp. (1 pc.)

Folder 10 Newspaper clippings, (1950-1963); 22 items, mainly from the Times and Tribune, concerning the frozen food industry, fisheries, and various persons and subjects of interest to H.J.T. Also bibliographical references and miscellaneous notes, n.d. 10 items.

NOTE: Attached to the Taylor Oral History Interview (<sup>trac. 1217</sup> # ) is another paper by Taylor, "Refrigeration in the Fishing Industry: History to 1933" (11 pp. typescript) with a one-page bibliography of twelve selected American, British, and German papers on the history of food refrigeration, 1796-1931. kj, 8/71.