

UA1999.30

John C. Fitzgerald Papers

Dates: 1927-1992

Creator: Fitzgerald, John C. (1903-1991)

Extent: 6.0 linear feet

Level of description: Folder

Processor & date: Brett Epich and Adam Shprintzen, March 2008; Laura McDowell, August 2008

Administration Information

Restrictions: None.

Copyright: Consult repository for information.

Citation: Loyola University of Chicago. Archives and Special Collections. John C. Fitzgerald Papers, 1927-1992. Box #, Folder #.

Provenance: The papers were donated to the School of Law by Dean Fitzgerald's daughter Ann F. Caron in September of 1999. The materials were then transferred to the Loyola University Archives in October of 1999.

Separations: None.

See Also: Office of the President, James Hussey, S.J., records; Law School records

Biographical Sketch

Judge John C. Fitzgerald was born in 1903 in Boston, Massachusetts. He graduated from Boston College in 1925, where he was an honors student and All-American goalie for the college's hockey team. Fitzgerald later received his J.D. from Harvard Law School in 1928.

Fitzgerald began working at Loyola University Chicago's Law School as a faculty member in 1929, commencing a 30 year career at the school. In 1937 he was named the Dean of Loyola University Law School, and held this position until 1959. During this tenure, Dean Fitzgerald reshaped the law school's curriculum while revitalizing its student body following the school closure during World War II. Fitzgerald's curriculum valued research and legal theory, preparing graduates for work in all jurisdictions and practices. Fitzgerald's changes also stressed morality and public service as being important qualities for those pursuing a legal career.

In addition to his efforts at Loyola, on several occasions Fitzgerald served both the government of the United States and its legal community. During the Law School's closure for World War II, Fitzgerald worked with the government's Alien Enemy Hearing Board in assessing the status of "enemy threats" in America and their legal protections (1941-1942). Fitzgerald then worked with the Office of the Alien Property Custodian overseeing the legal status of personal property and redress of alien enemy detainees (1942-1946). Dean Fitzgerald also served the government through his work on the Atomic Energy Commission (1949-1957), where he evaluated access restrictions for those participating in the United States' atomic energy program. In addition, Fitzgerald

served the civilian sector through his work with the National College of State Trial Judges (1959-1970), and participated in the American Bar Association's performance reviews of law schools around the United States (1951-1961).

After leaving Loyola in 1959, Fitzgerald worked as a judge and administrator in the Circuit Court of Cook County, and was a leading figure behind the reorganization of the court system in 1964. Fitzgerald served over twenty years with the Cook County Circuit Court, with most of his efforts directed at finding solutions to the massive backlog of cases in Cook County and the inefficient organization of the court system. As an administrator of the court, Fitzgerald also participated in numerous National Conferences of Court Administrative Officials, where he provided direction and leadership. Fitzgerald retired from the courts in 1979 and moved to South Carolina where he spent the rest of his years. Fitzgerald remained closely tied to the Cook County Circuit Courts and Loyola University until his death in 1991.

Scope and Content

The John C. Fitzgerald papers consist of 6.0 linear feet spanning the years 1942-1992. The collection is comprised of five series: Loyola Law School, Governmental Work, Academics Outside of Loyola, Cook County Circuit Court Reorganization, and Cook County Circuit Judge. The papers include personal and professional correspondence; notes; brochures; photographs; and reports. Subjects covered include the Cook County Circuit Court, Loyola University School of Law, the Atomic Energy Commission, and the Alien Enemy Hearing Board. Some notebooks and case files include notes written in Fitzgerald's version of shorthand.

Series

Series 1: Loyola Law School, 1927-1992, N.D., Boxes 1-2

This series contains correspondence, brochures, notes and photographs pertaining to John C. Fitzgerald's tenure as Dean of the School of Law of Loyola University of Chicago (1937-1961). The series includes correspondence with university administration, particularly of note Father James Hussey, President of Loyola; correspondence with Adlai Stevenson, then Governor of Illinois, regarding Fitzgerald's appointment as a member of the Illinois Legislative Advisory Bureau (1950); and documents relating to events at Loyola, including the Loyola Convocation (1948), and the university's Diamond Jubilee (1984). Volumes in box 2 are in especially fragile condition and have been placed in phase boxes for protection.

Series 2: Governmental Work, 1939-1957, N.D., Boxes 3-4

Included in this series are notes, correspondence, and reports related to Dean Fitzgerald's activities working for the federal government during two different periods. Particularly of note are Fitzgerald's notes and case files from his work with the Alien Enemy Hearing Board during World War II (1939-1942), as well as his work with the Atomic Energy Commission evaluating security clearance for potential employees (1942-1957). In addition, the series includes the draft of a banking code for the state of Illinois written by

Fitzgerald in 1939, as well as a copy of the bill passed by the state based on this draft (1939).

Series 3: Academics Outside Loyola, 1951-1970, N.D., Box 5

This series contains correspondence, notes and reports related to Dean Fitzgerald's work with the American Bar Association's professional reviews of law schools (1951-1961), as well as his participation in the creation of the National College of State Trial Judges (now the National Judicial College), and as a faculty member and department chair (1959-1970). Also included are correspondence and notes from Dean Fitzgerald's work in an advisory capacity for the American Bar Association (1959-1961).

Series 4: Cook County Circuit Court Reorganization, 1952-1981, N.D., Boxes 6-7

The Circuit Court Reorganization series includes personal notes, case files and correspondence related directly to Dean Fitzgerald's work in the Illinois Circuit Court System, with most materials covering his years working for Cook County. Of note are Dean Fitzgerald's notes and correspondence from his work in formulating the Judicial Article of 1964, which reorganized the Illinois court system, as well as his efforts in eliminating much of the court's burdensome backlog (1952-1973). Correspondence includes exchanges with Chicago Mayor Richard J. Daley and other prominent Illinois and national court administrators.

Series 5: Cook County Circuit Court Judge, 1964-1976, N.D., Boxes 8-10

This series contains booklets and notebooks used by Fitzgerald during the years he served as a judge in the Cook County Circuit Court (1966-1979). Booklets in the series deal primarily with legal theory and cases presided over by Fitzgerald, specifically the trial of suspected Skokie murder John V. Carter. The notebooks contain Fitzgerald's hand written trial notes for cases from 1964-1976.

Subjects:

Loyola University of Chicago
Loyola University of Chicago School of Law
Cook County Circuit Court backlog and reorganization
Illinois Legislative Advisory Bureau
Alien Enemy Hearing Board
Atomic Energy Commission
Cold War
World War II
Illinois Banking Code
American Bar Association
National College of State Trial Judges

Accession No.: UA1999.30

Creator: Fitzgerald, John C. (1903-1991)

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Dates</u>
<i>Series 1: Loyola Law School, 1927-1992, N.D.</i>			
1	1	Loyola Personal Papers	1927-1947
1	2	Legal Theory Materials and Writings	1933-1965, N.D.
1	3	<i>Courts and Lawyers in Northern and Western Illinois</i> by P.G. Rennick	1937
1	4	Correspondence as Dean of Law School	1937-1961
1	5	Photographs	1941
1	6	Loyola Convocation	1948
1	7	News Articles	1949-1982, N.D.
1	8	Correspondence with Adlai Stevenson	1950
1	9	Educational Materials and Correspondence After Retirement	1978-1992
1	10	Loyola University Diamond Jubilee	1983-1984
1	11	Judge Cartoons	N.D.
2	1	<i>Cases and Other Materials on the Legal Profession</i> by Elliott E. Cheatham	1938
2	2	<i>Cases and Materials on the Law of Contracts</i> by Harold Shepherd	1939
2	3	<i>Cases and Materials on Contracts</i> by Harold Shepherd	1946
2	4	<i>Basic Contract Law, American Casebook Series</i> by Lon L. Fuller	1947
2	5	<i>Basic Contract Law, American Casebook Series</i> by Lon L. Fuller	1947
<i>Series 2: Governmental Work, 1939-1957, N.D.</i>			
3	1	Draft of Proposed Banking Code for the State of Illinois	1939
3	2	A Bill to Revise the Law of Illinois on "Banks and Banking"	1939
3	3	Alien Enemy Hearing Board, Case Notes and Correspondence (Folder 1 of 2)	1941-1942
3	4	Alien Enemy Hearing Board, Case Notes and Correspondence (Folder 2 of 2)	1942, N.D.
3	5	Annual Report, Office of Alien Property Custodian, March 11, 1942, to June 30, 1943	1942-1943
3	6	Office of Alien Property Custodian, Appointment Materials	1942-1943
3	7	Office of the Alien Property Custodian, Final	1943-1946

Determinations, Vested property Claims Committee,
Vol. 1, Dec. 1943-Mar. 1946

4	1	Office of the Alien Property Custodian, Final Determinations of the Vested Property Claims Committee, December 1943 to March 1946	1943-1946
4	2	Annual Report, Office of Alien Property Custodian, Fiscal Year Ending June 1944	1944
4	3	Annual Report, Office of Alien Property Custodian, Fiscal Year Ending June 1945	1945
4	4	Office of Alien Property Custodian, Resignation	1946
4	5	Atomic Energy Commission, Security Clearance Correspondence	1949-1957

***Series 3: Academics Outside Loyola, 1951-1970,
N.D.***

5	1	American Bar Association Reviews (Folder 1 of 2)	1951-1959
5	2	American Bar Association Reviews (Folder 2 of 2)	N.D.
5	3	American Bar Association Correspondence	1951-1960, N.D.
5	4	American Bar Association Case Files	1959-1961, N.D.
5	5	National College of State Trial Judges, Notes and Correspondence	1959-1967
5	6	National College of State Trial Judges Catalogues	1966-1970

***Series 4: Cook County Circuit Court
Reorganization, 1952-1981, N.D.***

6	1	Circuit Court Personnel	1952-1974, N.D.
6	2	Circuit Court Personal Correspondence	1956, 1960-1981, N.D.
6	3	Circuit Court Reorganization and Backlog (Folder 1 of 3)	1956-1961
6	4	Circuit Court Reorganization and Backlog (Folder 2 of 3)	1962-1973
6	5	Circuit Court Reorganization and Backlog (Folder 3 of 3)	N.D.
6	6	Circuit Court Notes from Meetings with Judges	1959-1960
6	7	In the Supreme Court of Illinois, Reports of Henry P. Chandler, Court Administrator, and John C. Fitzgerald, Deputy Court Administrator for Cook County	1960
6	8	Supreme Court of Illinois, Reports by Court Administrator and Deputy Court Administrator for Cook County	1960-1962

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7	1	Bulletins to Superior and Circuit Court Judges (Cook County) April 1, 1960-December 31, 1963	1960-1963
7	2	Circuit Court Correspondence with Hon. Walter Schaefer	1960-1963
7	3	JCF's – any and all “statistics” – etc. (other than Bulletins which are in separate notebooks) – from beginning to date	1960-1964
7	4	In the Supreme Court of Illinois, Reports by Albert J. Harno, Court Administrator, and John C. Fitzgerald, Deputy Court Administrator Cook County	1961
7	5	Minutes of Meetings, Illinois Judicial Conference Executive Committee, April 8, 1961 to Dec. 14, 1963	1961-1963
7	6	In the Supreme Court of Illinois, Reports by Albert J. Harno, Court Administrator, and John C. Fitzgerald, Deputy Court Administrator for Cook County	1962
7	7	Circuit Court Personal Notes	1962, N.D.
7	8	Minutes: Cook County Judicial Organization Com. (“Merger Com.”)	1963
7	9	In the Supreme Court of Illinois, Introduction by John C. Fitzgerald, Administrative Director of the Illinois Courts	1963

Series 5: Cook County Circuit Court Judge, 1964-1976, N.D.

8	1	Criminal Pleas, Dec 1964	1964
8	2	Civil 1, Dec 6 1966	1966
8	3	Circuit Court Case Files	1966-1975
8	4	<i>The Trial Lawyer's Guide</i>	1966
8	5	Civil 3, Sept 25 1967	1967
8	6	Criminal Pleas 2, Aug 7 1967	1967
8	7	In the Supreme Court of Illinois, People of the State of Illinois vs. John V. Carter	1967
8	8	Civil 4, Jan 30 1968	1968
8	9	Civil 5, April 9 1968	1968
8	10	Civil 6, Sept 9 1968	1968
8	11	Civil 7, May 19 1969	1969
8	12	Civil 8, Nov 7, 1969	1969
8	13	Civil 9, May 12, 1970 to Oct 27, 1970	1970
9	1	Civil 10, Oct 27, 1970	1970
9	2	Civil 11, March 1, 1971	1971
9	3	Civil 12, June 1971	1971
9	4	Civil 13, Oct 1971	1971
9	5	Civil 14, March 22, 1972	1972
9	6	Civil 15, July 5, 1972	1972
9	7	Civil 16, May 14, 1973	1973

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9	8	Civil 17, May 15, 1973	1973
9	9	Civil 18, OKTR6P 22, 1973 + Mapt 26, 1974	1973-1974
9	10	Civil 19, Mar 26, 1974	1974
9	11	Civil 21, 11/18/74	1974
10	1	Civil 22, March 1975	1975
10	2	Civil 23, July 11, 1975	1975
10	3	Civil 24, Sept 24, 1975	1975
10	4	Civil 26	1976
10	5	Civil 27, 10/3/76 to the end	1976
10	6	Case Notebook	1976
10	7	Case Notebook	N.D.