

**HAROLD S. HULBERT PAPERS, 1920-1956**

**Series 55/23**

**Boxes 1-2**

**Biography**

Harold Stacey Hulbert was born January 27, 1887 at Newburyport, Massachusetts, the son of Palmer Stephen and Rosa M. (Stacey) Hulbert. He graduated from Oak Park (Illinois) High School in 1906 and took an M.D. degree from the University of Michigan Medical School in 1914. Hulbert served on the resident staff of Michigan's State Psychopathic Hospital in Ann Arbor, 1914-1917, and was a demonstrator in mental diseases at the University of Michigan, 1915-1917. He directed the Detroit Psychopathic Clinic, 1916, and worked with the National Committee for Mental Hygiene. Between 1917 and 1919 Hulbert was an officer in the United States Navy. From 1919 through 1929 he was an instructor and, later, an associate in neurology at the University of Illinois. For several years after 1929 Hulbert was a psychiatrist for child guidance clinics in Gary and East Chicago, Indiana.

From 1921 to his death Hulbert maintained a private medical practice specializing in neurology and psychiatry. He was known as one of the leading alienists of his time and in this capacity he prepared forensic case studies for a number of celebrated criminal trials. Hulbert was a defense witness at the 1924 murder trial of Nathan Leopold and Richard Loeb.

Hulbert was a member of numerous professional, social, and fraternal organizations. From 1932 to his death he was an associate editor of the *Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology*. He authored several articles and co-authored "Forensic Neuro-Psychiatric Examination of Testator" (1928) and "The Military Chaplain and His Parishioners" (1943).

Hulbert married Alice Margaret Jenks of Aurora, Illinois on April 21, 1917. The couple had two children: Harold Stacey, who died in childhood, and Margaret Helen (Mrs. Kenneth Buckingham Marble). Hulbert died on February 14, 1949.

**Description of the Series**

The Harold S. Hulbert Papers are arranged in one box and include Hulbert's notes and correspondence pertaining to his examination of John Kammerer, a convicted murderer executed February 13, 1925 at Wheaton, Illinois.

Kammerer, a native of Bavaria, came to the United States in 1906. He claimed to have had a difficult and unhappy childhood. Kammerer had hoped to pursue studies leading to ordination in the Roman Catholic Church but was rejected from several seminaries. His experiences with the Church left him with a lasting bitterness toward its clergy. Kammerer held a series of marginal restaurant jobs in Chicago and the Midwest and made few acquaintances and friends. A minor dispute with one acquaintance, Otto Eder of Villa Park, Illinois, prompted Kammerer to kill Eder along with Eder's wife and three children on June 27, 1924. Police apprehended Kammerer for

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this crime on July 12, 1924, and he was indicted on October 9th of that year. Kammerer stood trial in DuPage County beginning December 1, 1924 and was found guilty on December 8th. Hulbert was a defense witness at the Kammerer trial and attempted to convince the jury of the defendant's insanity. In this regard Hulbert quoted one juror who spoke after the verdict: "We knew he was crazy, Doc, but we also felt he was too mean to live, so we voted to hang him. Don't you feel badly; it was the information you got which made us realize he was both guilty and crazy." (Box 1, Folder 3)

Included with Hulbert's examination notes are several of Kammerer's holographic writings, which describe his life, the Eder murders, other crimes committed, and the attempted poisoning in 1916 of George Cardinal Mundelein, Catholic Archbishop of Chicago. Hulbert believed that Kammerer, using the alias Jean Crones, was a primary suspect in this crime.

Hulbert considered authoring a book or article on Kammerer and his crimes but never completed the project.

The case notes and Kammerer's writings are arranged according to an index prepared by Hulbert. The index, filed with the series, explains the nature or purposes of the various documents included. A few biographical materials pertaining to Hulbert are filed at the end of the series.

**Provenance:** Separated from the papers of John H. Wigmore, November 18, 1987 (Accession 87-243).

**Restrictions:** None.

**Processor:** Kevin B. Leonard; November 19, 1987.

**Scanned and Reformatted by:** Rachel C. Teuer; August 23, 2004.

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**Description of Addition to the Series**

This addition to the Harold S. Hulbert Papers consists of Hulbert's contributions as a consulting psychiatrist in the celebrated Loeb and Leopold case of 1924. Hulbert, in conjunction with Karl M. Bowman M.D., conducted lengthy psychiatric and physical examinations of Nathan Leopold and Richard Loeb. The contents of this addition include the write-up of these evaluations, the full confessions and statements by Leopold and Loeb to the authorities, photographic copies of check receipts, examples of handwriting, and examples of typewriting. The photographic copies appear to have been used as court evidence. Also included are the original ransom notes written to Jacob Franks concerning the kidnapping of his son, Robert.

**Provenance:** Separated from the Papers of John H. Wigmore. June 21, 1988.

**Restrictions:** None.

**Processor:** Carter A. Roeber; June 22, 1988.

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**Container List**

<b><u>Box</u></b>	<b><u>Folder</u></b>	<b><u>Title</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>
1	1	Correspondence and Hulbert's Introduction to the Kammerer Case	1933-1939, n.d.
	2	Index to Hulbert's Abstract and Case Documents	
	3	Abstract of Crimes, Arrest, Trial, and Psychiatric Study of John Kammerer	
	4	Index to Case Documents ("Sections")	
	5	Hulbert's Examination Notes	
	6	Hulbert's Notes Concerning Kammerer's Confession	
	7	Hulbert's Original Examination Notes	
	8	Hulbert's Post Verdict Examination Notes	
	9	Detective's Notes Concerning John Kammerer	
	10	Correspondence and Clippings	
	11	Parole Board Correspondence	
	12	Hulbert's Notes Concerning Jean Crones	
	13	Hulbert—Kammerer Correspondence	
	14	Kammerer's Journal: "Autobiography, General"	
	15	Transcription (See Folder 14)	
	16	Kammerer's Journal: "Villa Park Quintuple Murders"	
	17	Transcription (See Folder 16)	
	18	Kammerer's Journal: "Contemplated Crimes and Murder List"	
	19	Transcription (See Folder 18)	
	20	Kammerer's Journal: "Miscellaneous Crimes"	
	21	Transcription (See Folder 20)	
	22	Kammerer's Journal: "Mundelein Banquet Poisoning and the Jean Crones Mystery"	
	23	Transcription (See Folder 22)	
	24	Harold S. Hulbert: Biographical Materials	1920-1956
2	1	Loeb & Leopold Case: Richard Loeb Psychiatric Evaluation by Karl M Bowman and Harold S. Hulbert	
	2	Loeb & Leopold Case: Nathan Leopold Psychiatric Evaluation by Karl M. Bowman and Harold S. Hulbert	
	3	Loeb & Leopold Case: Confessions and other statements of Leopold and Loeb	
	4	Loeb & Leopold Case: 3 Photographic copies of Ransom letter to Jacob Franks	
	5	Loeb & Leopold Case: Photographic reproductions of court evidence	

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<b><u>Box</u></b>	<b><u>Folder</u></b>	<b><u>Title</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>
2	6	Loeb & Leopold Case: Court envelope for Original ransom letter to Jacob Franks	5/21/24
	7	Loeb & Leopold Case: Original instruction letter left in car Quarren # 507 in telegram rack	
	8	Loeb & Leopold Case: Original letter sent to Jacob Franks	5/21/24