



University Archives
University of Wisconsin-Stout

Finding Aid for Otto W. Nitz Personal Papers and Publications, 1933-1978

Stout Series 8

Overview of Collection

Repository:	UW-Stout Archives and Area Research Center 315 10th Ave. East Menomonie, WI 54751 715-232-2300 archives@uwstout.edu
Collection Number:	Stout Series 8
Creators:	Otto W. Nitz, 1905-1996
Title:	Otto W. Nitz Personal Papers and Publications
Dates:	1933-1994
Quantity:	2.2 cubic feet
Location of Collection:	14-6-A
Languages:	English
Summary:	This collection includes research records, instructional materials, and correspondence from Dr. Otto W. Nitz covering topics in chemistry.

Biographical Note

Otto Nitz was born on June 25, 1905, in Sigourney, Iowa. He received his Bachelor of Science and Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry at the University of Iowa in 1933 and 1936 respectively.

Dr. Nitz served as Professor of Chemistry at Parsons College in Fairfield, Iowa, and as Head of the Chemistry Department at Northern Montana College at Havre, Montana, prior to his coming to Stout in the fall of 1952 to take Mary McCalmont's place following

her retirement. Dr. Nitz was appointed the first Chair of the newly created Chemistry Department in September 1969, which was previously part of the Science Department. Dr. Nitz authored a widely used chemistry text for non-chemistry majors, *Introductory Chemistry*. He also wrote over 38 chemistry-related articles for *Encyclopedia Americana*.

Dr. Nitz retired in June 1971. He passed away during 1996. "After his retirement in 1971, Nitz enjoyed photography and other special hobbies. Through a bequest, Nitz endowed a scholarship fund to be known as the 'Olive and Otto Nitz Endowed Scholarship Fund' in the amount of \$28,000. The first scholarship will be awarded in 1997." (Stout Alumnus, Fall 1996). As of Fall 2019, there is still a College of Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Management (CSTEMM) Scholarship named for Otto Nitz for an Applied Science Major with a 3.0 GPA.

Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of correspondence, course notes, research notes, speeches given by Dr. Nitz, materials regarding the First Congregational Church in Menomonie, notes and the articles Dr. Nitz wrote for the *Encyclopedia Americana*, and various editions of the Chemistry textbook although there is also correspondence relating to the Chemistry Department at Stout. The course notes appear to be related both to Dr. Nitz's work as a chemistry student and as a chemistry instructor. Talks given by Nitz include such diverse subjects as hay fever, the future of the oil industry, plastics, development of chemistry, atomic energy and the bomb, and science and religion.

Related Collections

In Special Collections:

QD31.N5 1972 Manual – *A Laboratory Manual for Introductory Chemistry*, 4th ed., by: Otto W. Nitz and Nelva G. Runnalls, 1972 (also located in Box 5 of this collection)

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions:

There are no access restrictions on the materials, and the collection is open to all members of the public in accordance with state law.

Use Restrictions:

The researcher assumes full responsibility for conforming to the laws of libel, privacy, and copyright which may be involved in the use of this collection (*Wisconsin Statutes* 19.21-19.39)

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