

**The New York Public Library  
Humanities and Social Sciences Library  
Manuscripts and Archives Division**

**Theodore Koppanyi Papers**  
1910-1930  
Mss Col 6306

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## Summary

<b>Main entry:</b>	Koppanyi, Theodore
<b>Title:</b>	Theodore Koppanyi papers, 1910-1930
<b>Size:</b>	0.4 linear feet (1 box)
<b>Source:</b>	Donated as part of the Schwimmer-Lloyd Collection.
<b>Abstract:</b>	Theodore Koppanyi was a Hungarian émigré and professor of pharmacology, who spent the majority of his career at Georgetown University. He was a pioneer in modern pharmacology, physiology and cellular biology, and the author of numerous papers on the structure and operation of the eye, in particular eye transplantation in animals.
<b>Access:</b>	Apply in the Special Collections Office for admission to the Manuscripts and Archives Division.
<b>Preferred citation:</b>	Theodore Koppanyi Papers, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library.
<b>Special formats</b>	Photographs

## **Provenance note**

The Theodore Koppanyi Papers were initially donated to the New York Public Library and processed as parts of Series Q of the Schwimmer-Lloyd Collection. In 2006 they were reprocessed and now constitute a separate collection, while remaining administratively within the Schwimmer-Lloyd Collection.

## **Biographical note**

Born in Gyönyös, Hungary on Dec. 26, 1901, Tivadar Koppanyi studied at the University of Budapest from 1918-1920. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Vienna in 1923 and moved to the United States later that year, adopting the Americanized version of his name. His career began as an instructor teaching Physiology at the University of Chicago Medical School, from 1923-1927. Following this, he was an assistant professor of Pharmacology at Syracuse University (1927-1929), a research associate and professor in Pharmacology at Cornell University (1929-1930), and a professor of Pharmacology at Georgetown University (1930-1967). Koppanyi became chair of that department in 1932. He was also a visiting professor at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in 1959.

Koppanyi was a pioneer in modern pharmacology, physiology and cellular biology, and authored more than 500 papers over the course of his career. In the early 1920s his research focused on the structure and operation of the eye, and in particular on eye transplantation in rabbits and rats. He claimed to have conducted several such procedures successfully, with subjects regaining some sight and perception of color. Koppanyi's research covered a wide array of biological foci, often at the whole-organism level, and varying as to species of subject. In addition, he was a friend of pacifist and world government advocate, Rosika Schwimmer, and employed novel treatments for her diabetes.

## **Scope and content note**

The collection consists of correspondence, scientific writings, printed matter, press clippings, and a small number of photographs. In English, Hungarian, and German.

## Container list

<u>Box</u>	<u>Fol</u>	
1	1	<p>General correspondence, 1921-1925, n.d.            Consists of correspondence related to Koppanyi's research and publications, and some personal correspondence. Dr. Koppanyi's colleague Dr. Paul Kammerer, and Franciska and Rosika Schwimmer are each represented by a few letters in this series. There are several letters in German and Hungarian.</p>
	2	<p>Family correspondence, 1923-1925            Contains letters received from Koppanyi's parents, in Hungarian.</p>
	3-4	<p>Published papers, 1920-1930, n.d.            Printing proofs, abstracts, texts, and journals containing a large number of Koppanyi's published papers are arranged in these folders. Highlights include "Die Replantation von Augen," "The Effects of Dislocation of the Eye Upon the Orientation and Equilibrium of the Goldfish," and "Studies on Pupillary Reactions in Tetrapods."</p>
	5	<p>Manuscripts, drafts &amp; research notes, undated            Contains a list of publications by Koppanyi compiled while he was at the University of Chicago, several manuscripts in Hungarian, notes in Hungarian and German, and typescript drafts of several of his papers, including "The Nature of Heredity," "The Overthrow of the Mimicry Hypothesis; The True Origin of Adaptation in Animals," and "Problems of Physiological Birth Control."</p>
	6	<p>Printed matter and newspaper clippings, 1910, 1922-1925, n.d.            Printed matter arranged in this folder consists of press releases related to Koppanyi's research, short papers by his friend and colleague Paul Kammerer, and newspaper clippings on his research and other related topics of interest. Several newspaper clippings are in German and Hungarian.</p>
	7	<p>Photographs and mementos, 1924-1925, n.d.            There are four photographs in the collection, three featuring Koppanyi, and one of Lola Maverick Lloyd's daughter Jessie, with her nanny. Also included are various poems and illustrations, possibly done by Rosika Schwimmer, and several of Koppanyi's calling cards.</p>