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## Guide to the Abraham Haas - Fannie Koshland Letters, 1885-1886, 1979

### Collection number: 92/3

Western Jewish History Center

Berkeley, California

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### Descriptive Summary

**Title:** Abraham Haas - Fannie Koshland Letters,

**Date (inclusive):** 1885-1886, 1979

**Collection number:** 92/3

**Extent:** 3 folders

**Repository:** The Western Jewish History Center.

Berkeley, California 94705

**Language:** English

### Introduction

In 1992, Seymour Fromer purchased this collection of 28 letters.

### Access

Collection is open for research by appointment only every Monday-Thursday, except for those Jewish and Federal holidays when it is closed.

### Publication Rights

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### Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Abraham Haas - Fannie Koshland Letters, 92/3, The Western Jewish History Center, Judah L. Magnes Museum, Berkeley, California.

### Brief Biographical Note

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Abraham Haas (1847 -1921) was born in Reckendorf, Bavaria and emigrated to Portland, Oregon at 16 to work in a grocery store established by his cousins, Charles, Samuel, and Kalman Haas. After a brief stint in Northern California, Abe joined his brother Jacob in Los Angeles in the firm, Hellman, Haas & Company. This successful wholesale enterprise soon became a launching pad for Haas' other business ventures, including the development of hydroelectric and gas power.

At 39, already a successful businessman, Haas met 21 year old Fannie Koshland while on one of his buying trips to San Francisco. Within the year they were married. Soon a son, Charles, was born, followed by Walter (1889), Ruth (1891), and Eleanor (1900). Relocating to San Francisco just prior to Eleanor's birth, the Haas family soon became involved in the philanthropic, social, and religious affairs of the Jewish community. In 1901, Abe became president of Haas, Baruch, and Co., a position that he held until his death in 1921.

### **Scope and Content**

This collection is comprised of letters written by Abraham Haas to Fannie Koshland during their courtship in late 1885 and early 1886. There is also a pamphlet, "Abe Haas: Portrait of a Proud Businessman," by Bernice Scharlach.

1. **Title:** Haas Family Papers, 1863-1869. Nine items.
1. **Identifier/Call Number:** 68/29
2. **Title:** William Haas Papers, 1849-1927.  
Seventeen items.
2. **Identifier/Call Number:** 72/11
3. **Title:** Haas-Lilienthal Photo Collection.  
Ninety-nine photographs.
3. **Identifier/Call Number:** 95/1
4. **Title:** Rosalie Meyer Stern Collection, 1867-1996.
4. **Identifier/Call Number:** 71/3
5. **Title:** Elise Stern Haas Personal Papers, 1914-1957.
5. **Identifier/Call Number:** 92/7
6. **Title:** Haas Brothers Records, 1869-1919.  
Ninety-one items.
6. **Identifier/Call Number:** 88/7
7. **Title:** Genealogy of the Goldman, Levy, Wertheim, Kaufman, Fleishman, Haas, Koshland, Stern, Strauss, Meyer, Newmark families.  
Compiled by Douglas E. Goldman.
7. **Identifier/Call Number:** 85/17
  1. Richard Goldman
  2. Walter A. Haas, Sr.
  3. Elise Stern Haas

Box-folder 1/0 **Descriptive Guide**

Box-folder 1/1 **Correspondence 1885**

Box-folder 1/2 **Correspondence 1886**

Box-folder 1/3 **"Abe Haas: Portrait of a Business Man" 1979**