



Herman Schroeder papers 2468

This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on September 14, 2021.

Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Manuscripts and Archives

PO Box 3630

Wilmington, Delaware 19807

askhagley@hagley.org

URL: <http://www.hagley.org/library>

Table of Contents

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Summary Information | 3 |
| Biographical Note | 3 |
| Scope and Content | 4 |
| Administrative Information | 4 |
| Related Materials | 5 |
| Controlled Access Headings | 5 |
| Collection Inventory | 5 |
| Personal items | 5 |
| Awards | 7 |
| Patents and Publications | 9 |
| Meetings and Presentations | 9 |

Summary Information

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Repository: | Manuscripts and Archives |
| Creator: | Schroeder, H. E. |
| Title: | Herman Schroeder papers |
| ID: | 2468 |
| Date [inclusive]: | 1901-1997 |
| Physical Description: | 6 Linear Feet |
| Language of the Material: | English . |
| Abstract: | H.E. Schroeder (1915-2009) was a research chemist who spent most of his career with E.I. du Pont de Nemours & Company. His papers consist of documents and memorabilia covering his family and professional life. |

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical Note

H.E. Schroeder (1915-2009) was a research chemist who spent most of his career with E.I. du Pont de Nemours & Company. Herman Elbert Schroeder was born in Brooklyn, New York, on July 6, 1915. He attended Brooklyn's well-known Polytechnic Preparatory Country Day School and completed all of his college studies at Harvard, receiving his Ph.D. in chemistry in 1939.

He joined DuPont in 1938 and rose to become Director of Research and Development in 1963 to 1980, specializing in the fields of synthetic rubber and plastics. During this period, he received thirty-seven patents and published forty papers. After retirement, Schroeder served as a consultant to several major museums on the chemical aspects of art conservation, as well as being an industrial consultant and lecturer.

He received the Charles Goodyear Medal of the American Chemical Society and the Lavoisier Medal for research leadership from the DuPont Company. He died at the Stonegates retirement home in Greenville, Delaware on November 28, 2009.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Content

The Herman Elbert Schroeder papers are a mixed collection of documents and memorabilia covering his family and professional life. Personal items cover the Schroeder family history, biographical data, childhood and education, retirement letters, funeral plans, and notes on the Sunset Park neighborhood of Brooklyn where Schroeder grew up.

Schroeder's professional life is covered by copies of some research papers, articles and patents, mostly on elastomers and particularly the history and chronology of neoprene. There are also biographical sketches of other DuPont scientists and a photograph of the Gossamer Albatross, a muscle-powered airplane sponsored by DuPont.

Materials relating to awards and honors include a copy of Schroeder's remarks at a Nobel Prize banquet for Ernst Ruska, materials relating to the 1987 Nobel Prize awarded to fellow DuPont chemist Charles J. Pedersen, correspondence regarding Schroeder's own numerous awards and honors, and his actual Lavoisier Medal.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Manuscripts and Archives

PO Box 3630

Wilmington, Delaware 19807

askhagley@hagley.org

URL: <http://www.hagley.org/library>

Access Restrictions

Items less than 25 years old are closed to researchers.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Related Materials

Related Material

Hagley Museum and Library, Accession 500, Series II, Part II, Records of E.I. du Pont de Nemours & Company.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Controlled Access Headings

- Industrial chemists
- Elastomers
- Rubber, Artificial
- Patents
- Speeches
- Research, Industrial.
- E.I. du Pont de Nemours & Company

Collection Inventory

Personal items, 1901-1997

Scope and Contents

Personal items cover the Schroeder family history, biographical data, childhood and education, retirement letters, funeral plans, and notes on the Sunset Park neighborhood of Brooklyn where Schroeder grew up.

| Title/Description | Instances |
|--|-----------|
| Retirement cards, letters, poem, and Schroeder's farewell remarks, 1979 December 5 | box 1 |
| Retirement sign-in guest book, undated | box 1 |
| Poly Prep Country Day School 1932 reunion publication with Schroeder bio information, 1997 | box 1 |
| Harvard embroidered shield with Schroeder's name, 1995 | box 1 |
| Caroline Schmidt Schroeder family certificates and photocopies, undated | box 1 |

| | |
|--|-------|
| Schroeder burial plots in Greenwood Cemetery, early 1900s | box 1 |
| Will of Nicholas Schroeder, 1915 | box 1 |
| Copy of a photograph of a Schroeder family home built in 1905 in Hanover, Germany, undated | box 1 |
| Wedding certificate copies from Hermann Schroder and Rebecca Maria Wolber, undated | box 1 |
| Henry William Schroeder - copy of certificate of promotion, Brooklyn Public Schools, 1901 | box 1 |
| History of Brooklyn's Sunset Park neighborhood, undated | box 1 |
| <i>The Polyglot</i> year books, Polytechnic Preparatory Country Day School, Dyker Heights, Brooklyn, NY, 1931 - 1932 | box 1 |
| Letter opener made of the first Delrin Acetal Resin from DuPont, 1950s | box 1 |
| Schroeder's funeral preference form, memo regarding new vat dyes at Jackson Laboratory and note regarding nitro, undated | box 1 |
| Herman Schroeder correspondence folder, undated | box 1 |
| Letter from The Metropolitan Museum of Art regarding Paintings Conservation Dept consultant work with Schroeder, 1980 June 2 | box 1 |
| DuPont announcement, new Polymer Products Department, 1979 November 15 | box 1 |
| DuPont announcement, retirement of Edwin A. Meyer, Comptroller, 1979 December 31 | box 1 |
| <i>Forbes</i> article entitled, "There will always be a DuPont", 1997 October 13 | box 1 |
| Letter from National Museum of American History regarding DuPont assistance creating a "Materials" exhibit, 1985 October 23 | box 1 |
| Paper on Synthesis of Azobiphenyldicarboxylic Acid (ABC Acid) by Schroeder, September 1948 | box 1 |
| Patent Reports on 4,4' Acetylnitrobiphenyl and Azobenzene-4,4'-dicarboxylic acid, undated | box 1 |
| U.S. Patent Office: Elastic Linear Copolyesters; Polymeric Products; Polyalkylene Ether Glycol-Arylene Di-isocyanate Elastomer Sponge; and Thermoplastic Polyurethane Elastomers Suitable for Injection Molding, undated | box 1 |
| Chemistry poetry composed by Gordon Robbins, 1950s | box 1 |
| Photo of the "Gossamer Albatross", The Challenge: To Fly a Human-Powered Airplane from England to France, 1979 June 12 | box 1 |
| Papers by Schroeder on Fluorocarbon Elastomers, Elastomeric Polyexters, Vitron (fluoroelastomer), and fluoroelastomers, undated | box 1 |

| | |
|---|-------|
| Confidential report on Commercial Neoprene Recipes, 1962 October 16 | box 1 |
| Properties of Hydrocarbon; Halogenated Methanes and Ethanes; and Freons, undated | box 1 |
| Properties of Raw Polymer and Vulcanizates, undated | box 1 |
| Factors Influencing Processability, undated | box 1 |
| Concepts of Polymer Science, undated | box 1 |
| Elastomeric Condensation Block Copolymers, undated | box 1 |
| Recent Advances in Isocyanate Chemistry, undated | box 1 |
| Two photo negatives on Hytrel, solvent cast polyester elastomer film, undated | box 1 |
| Neoprene - 12 Billion Pounds, 1985 | box 1 |
| Report - The Chronological Development of Neoprene, 1923 - 1974 | box 1 |
| Progress Report - 3,4-Benzopyryrene-1,5-Quinone and Related Polynuclear Quinones, Serial Number 19644, original draft copy and report, 1947 | box 1 |
| Problem Report - Polynuclear Ketones of the 3,4- Benzopyryrene-1,5-Quinone Series, Serial No. 20280, 1948 | box 1 |
| Biography of Elmer Keiser Bolton, industrial researcher, undated | box 1 |
| Letter from Wallace H. Carothers to Dr. Hamilton Bradshaw, 1927 Nov. 9 | box 1 |
| The American Asso. For the Advancement of Science, "Wallace H. Carothers and Fundamental Research at DuPont", 2 Aug. 1985 | box 1 |

Scope and Contents note

reprint

| | |
|--|-------|
| <i>Industrial and Engineering Chemistry</i> , "Vinylidene Fluoride - Hexafluoropropylene Copolymer - A Thermally Stable Elastomer", October 1957 | box 1 |
|--|-------|

Scope and Contents note

reprint

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Awards, 1939-1997

Scope and Contents

Materials relating to awards and honors include a copy of Schroeder's remarks at a Nobel Prize banquet for Ernst Ruska, materials relating to the 1987 Nobel Prize awarded to fellow DuPont chemist Charles J. Pedersen, correspondence regarding Schroeder's own numerous awards and honors.

| Title/Description | Instances |
|--|-----------|
| General Award of the International Institute of Synthetic Rubber Producers, 1979 | box 1 |
| Wisdom Award of Honor, undated | box 1 |
| Poly Prep Country Day School Distinguished Achievement Award, April 1997 | box 1 |
| <p>Scope and Contents note</p> <p>includes E.E. Schroeder identification cards</p> | |
| Charles Goodyear Medal, Rubber Division, American Chemical Society, May 1984 | box 1 |
| <p>Scope and Contents note</p> <p>See certificate in Box 6.</p> | |
| Nomination for Technical Award of the International Institute of Synthetic Rubber Producers, 1979 | box 1 |
| DuPont Lavoisier Medal for Technical Achievement, 1992 | box 2 |
| <p>Scope and Contents note</p> <p>Includes listing of other Lavoisier Award Winners. Award trophy in Box 6.</p> | |
| Pedersen Award Winners, undated | box 2 |
| Copy of remarks made at a "Banquet Nobel A Stockholm" including Ernst Ruska, undated | box 2 |
| "The Discovery of Crown Ethers" by Charles J. Pedersen paper and Nobel lecture, 1987 December 8 | box 2 |
| "The Productive Scientific Career of Charles Pedersen" by Schroeder, undated | box 2 |
| Photographs of Nobel Prize award, 1987 | box 2 |
| <i>DuPont Directions</i> newsletter featuring Charles J. Pedersen, 1987 | box 2 |
| <i>Industrial Chemist</i> publication featuring Charles J. Pedersen, Feb. 1988 | box 2 |
| Bio on Charles J. Pedersen, undated | box 2 |
| Nobel Prize folder - newspaper clippings and related documents/ mementos, undated | box 2 |

Charles J. Pedersen Publications and Papers, 1939-1988 box 2

Pedersen Project Advisory Committee Meeting, 1986 October 6 box 2

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Patents and Publications, 1946-1987

Scope and Contents

Schroeder's professional life is covered by copies of some research papers, articles and patents, mostly on elastomers and particularly the history and chronology of neoprene. There are also biographical sketches of other DuPont scientists and a photograph of the Gossamer Albatross, a muscle-powered airplane sponsored by DuPont.

| Title/Description | Instances |
|--|-----------|
| Schroeder Biographical Data and list of publications, undated | box 3 |
| Schroeder oral history interview transcript, 1986 December 30 | box 3 |
| Schroeder oral history interview transcript, 1987 January 12 | box 3 |
| Articles by Schroeder - "Innovation: A first-person tale of joy" and "Nieuwland and neoprene", undated | box 3 |
| Julius A. Nieuwland Centenary Memorial Mass, 1978 | box 3 |
| Schroeder Publications, 1949 - 1984 | box 3 |
| Schroeder Patents, 1946-1977 | box 3 |
| Slides and Reprints, undated | box 3 |

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Meetings and Presentations, 1950-1992

Scope and Contents

Conference materials, newsletters, and professional association publications. Includes Schroeder's actual Lavoisier Medal.

| Title/Description | Instances |
|---|-----------|
| 12th International Symposium on Macrocyclic Chemistry, Hiroshima Japan, July 1987 | box 4 |
| <i>American Dyestuff Reporter Journal</i> , Perkin Centennial Issue, 1956 August 27 | box 4 |
| <i>Angewandte Chemie</i> , International Edition in English, January 1972 | box 4 |
| <i>Angewandte Chemie</i> , in German, 1988 August | box 4 |
| Horizons Guest Lecturers invitation to speak, 1987 September 8 | box 4 |

| | |
|--|-------|
| Symposium on History of High Performance Polymers, Advances in Fluoroelastomers, undated | box 4 |
| Remarks at Schroeder's 25th Anniversary celebration, undated | box 4 |
| <i>The Effect of Dye Structure on Affinity for Fibers</i> (reprint) by Schroeder and S.N. Boyd, 1957 | box 4 |
| Articles and papers by Schroeder, undated | box 4 |
| <i>DuPont Chambers Works News</i> newsletter, DuPont Industries, Deepwater, New Jersey, announcing Schroeder's appointment to Elastomer Chemicals Department post, 1956 Nov. 3 | box 4 |
| <i>Journal - Every Evening</i> , Wilmington DE newspaper reporting Schroeder's appointment, 1956 Nov. 30 | box 4 |
| Contingency Planning for an Energy Emergency meeting, 1980 July 24 | box 4 |
| American Chemical Society, World War II Synthetic Rubber meeting program, July 1979 | box 4 |
| Report to the National Science Foundation on "Polymers and People" Project, December 1988 | box 4 |
| International Institute of Synthetic Rubber Producers, Inc. Eleventh Annual Meeting Proceedings Mexico, Schroeder speech and photograph, May 1970 | box 4 |
| <i>Rubber & Plastics News</i> , The Rubber Industry's Newspaper, Schroeder article, 1984 August | box 4 |
| Talk at the Harvard colloquium, 1950 December 12 | box 4 |
| International Institute of Synthetic Rubber Producers, Inc. (IISRP) 16th Annual Meeting, presentation by Schroeder, May 1975 | box 4 |
| IISRP Souvenir booklet from 20th Annual Meeting, 1979 May | box 4 |
| Industrial Research Institute research papers, 1985 | box 4 |
| Fluoro Elastomers paper, April 1986 | box 4 |
| <i>AERA Weekly</i> publications, in Japanese, undated | box 4 |
| Scope and Contents note | |
| No. 20, 10.4; No. 23, 10.25 | |
| <i>DuPont Pensioner</i> Newsletter, Fall 1988 | box 4 |
| <i>Industrial Chemist</i> publication, December 1987 | box 4 |
| Fluoropolymer Development Charts, undated | box 5 |
| Scroll from Elastomer Chemical Department to Schroeder on his 25th Anniversary, undated | box 5 |
| Swedish newspaper front page copy, 1928 June 28 | box 5 |

| | |
|--|-------|
| Swedish development charts from Charles J. Pedersen, undated | box 5 |
| Charles Goodyear Medal Award Certificate from American Chemical Society to Schroeder, undated | box 5 |
| American Chemical Society, Delaware Section - 50-Year Award Winner - Program and Certificate, 1992 | box 5 |
| DuPont - Lavoisier Medal for Technical Achievement trophy awarded to Schroeder, undated | box 6 |

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)