

Alaska State Library  
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

**Riggs, Thomas, 1873-1945**

**Papers of Governor Thomas Riggs, 1918-1924**

**MS 273**

1 box  
6 volumes

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**ACQUISITION:** This collection was donated by Renee Isely Tobin, granddaughter of Governor and Mrs. Riggs. Acc. # 2013-034.

**ACCESS:** The collection is unrestricted.

**COPYRIGHT:** Request for permission to publish or reproduce material from the collection should be discussed with the Librarian.

**PROCESSING:** The diaries have been scanned for access, and stored in archival housings. The diaries are being transcribed and will be made available in full text.

## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Thomas W. Riggs (October 17, 1873 – January 16, 1945) was an engineer who supervised the Alaska-Canada Boundary Survey which concluded in 1912, later serving as the Commissioner of the Alaska Engineering Commission overseeing the construction of the Alaska Railroad. Mr. Riggs participated, with James Wickersham, in the 1915 Tanana Chiefs Conference in Fairbanks. He was appointed Governor of the Alaska Territory in 1918, serving until 1921. Riggs later served as the Commissioner of the International Boundary Commission.

## SCOPE AND CONTENTS NOTE

This collection consists of Governor Riggs' personal hand written diaries, 1918 through 1924. Significant events discussed in the diaries include the influenza outbreak of 1918, World War I, the sinking of the *Princess Sophia*, and the development of the Alaska Territorial Library and Museum.

## INVENTORY

- Volume 1: 1918-1919
- Volume 2: 1920
- Volume 3: 1921
- Volume 4: 1922
- Volume 5: 1923
- Volume 6: 1924