

# Julius Wangenheim Biography

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Julius Wangenheim, 14 August 1936 [San Diego Historical Society photo]

Julius Wangenheim was born April 21, 1866 in San Francisco, son of businessman Sol Wangenheim (1830-1918) and Fannie Newman (d1918). He was awarded a B.S., civil engineering, University of California, 1887, and married Laura Klauber 1892. Their children were Richard (1893-1894) and Alice (b1895).

Wangenheim was a bridge engineer for Southern Pacific Railroad 1887-1889, followed by becoming a partner in the Simon Newman Company, 1889-1895. He joined the family business, Klauber & Levi (later Klauber-Wangenheim) in San Diego in 1895, and later was chairman of the board. He was a member of the Cuyamaca Club where he met E.W. Scripps, and was a member of the Tuesday Club. He was a member of the San Diego

Chamber of Commerce, and was chair of the Park Improvement Committee that developed Balboa Park. Wangenheim organized the University Club of San Diego in 1901 and served as Vice President. He was a member of the committee to build the San Diego Library in 1902, and became a lifelong bibliophile. Wangenheim was a member of the committee that organized the Pan Pacific Exposition at San Diego in 1915, and was a member of many civic organizations including city harbor commission, water commission, city planning commission.

Wangenheim purchased the Bank of Commerce, 1903 and served as president until 1917. He established Security Savings Bank, 1905, and started Bank of Commerce and Trust, 1907, and served as president. He served on the board of First National Bank. He was President, Southern Title and Trust Company, from 1931 until his death.

Wangenheim played a very important leadership role in Scripps Institution of Oceanography for a period of almost forty years. Wangenheim was a member of the San Diego Chamber of Commerce when Fred Baker persuaded the organization to provide support for William E. Ritter and a group of biologists who wanted to start a marine biological laboratory in San Diego. In 1903, Wangenheim was one of the original members of the Marine Biological Association of San Diego, and served as the first treasurer of the organization, and as a member of its board until his death. In 1907, it was Wangenheim, as representative of the Marine Biological Association of San Diego, who attended the public auction and purchased pueblo lot 1298, the land that is now the Scripps Institution of Oceanography campus. Wangenheim also chaired the building committee. When E.W. Scripps objected to Irving Gill as architect of the first laboratory building preferring a more cost-conscious builder, Wangenheim pledged to personally pay any cost overruns. In 1912, Wangenheim represented the board of the Marine Biological Association in negotiations with the Regents of the University of California that led to the union of the two and the creation of the Scripps Institution of Biological Research. Robert Paine Scripps asked Wangenheim his opinion of Harald Sverdrup in 1936, because Sverdrup had approached Scripps to purchase a new vessel for the institution. Wangenheim strongly supported Sverdrup, and Scripps increased his annual subscription to the institution and purchased a vessel, R/V E.W. SCRIPPS.

Wangenheim served on the first board of trustees of Scripps College, 1925-1937. He served on the University of California Alumni Association 1925 and became president in 1926, serving *ex officio* as a member of the Board of Regents of the University of California until 1928. He was a founder and trustee of the San Diego Museum of Art. Wangenheim died in San Diego on March 10, 1942.

Julius Wangenheim's daughter, Alice Wangenheim married George Heyneman in 1920. Heyneman was a businessman and president, Southern Title and Trust Company, 1932. Their son Robert Heyneman is a mathematician, retired from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. He has two daughters, both physicians. Ellen Heyneman is an Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at UCSD Medical Center in San Diego. His other daughter lives in Chapel Hill.