

**Reference code:** GB165-0084

**Title:** Arthur Dickson Collection

**Name of creator:** Dickson, Arthur G. M.

**Dates of creation of material:** 1962

**Level of description:** Fonds

**Extent:** 12 sheets

**Biographical history:** Dickson, Arthur G. M.

Educated Oxford University. Middle Eastern banker, 1890-1950. Joined Ottoman Bank in 1890 and went to Constantinople. The Governor of the Ottoman Bank, Sir Edgar Vincent, was a friend of Arthur Dickson's father. After initial training sent to Philippopolis in Bulgaria and later served in three branches in Asia Minor, starting with a branch in Balukessor. Resigned from the Ottoman Bank in 1897 to take up the post of Financial Controller of the Provisional British Administration of the Candia province of Crete. Left Crete in 1899. Offered job of the Manager of the Ionian Bank Ltd and Inspector of their Greek branches and moved to Athens. In 1904 applied for the vacant post of Sub-Governor of the National Bank of Egypt and stayed in this post until 1917 when he was offered, by Lord Faringdon, the position of Manager of the new British Trade Corporation, which he accepted and in June 1917 moved to London.

**Scope and content:** Typescript memoirs of his career with the Ottoman Bank and the National Bank of Egypt, and in business, in the Middle East and elsewhere, 1890-1950. The memoirs include a description of Arthur Dickson's service in the National Bank of Egypt and special measures taken during the First World War and the start of the British Trade Corporation.

**Access conditions:** Open

**Language of material:** English

**Conditions governing reproduction:** No restrictions on copying or quotation other than statutory regulations and preservation concerns

**Immediate source of acquisition:** Purchased by the Archive from Messrs Peter Eaton 31 Oct 1973

**Related Units of Description:**

**In MEC Archive**

For other papers relating to banking in the Middle East see:

- GB165-0313 Henderson, Alexander, 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Faringdon.

Papers relating to the formation and commercial activities of the National Bank of Turkey, especially in relation to Mesopotamian oil, and various building contracts and loans; negotiations with the Foreign Office over the extent of the bank's influence; correspondents include Louis Mallet, Sir Edward Grey, Sir Arthur Nicholson, Sir Henry Babington Smith, H.P. Kingham, and S. de Bilinski. 50 boxes.

- GB165-0200 Sir H. Osborne Mance Collection

Papers on the operations of the Ottoman Bank throughout the Middle East, including dealings over railways, trade agreements, oil, mines and other operations, 1911-60. 8 boxes.

**Finding aids:** In Guide; Handlist

**Archivist's note:** Fonds level description created by Clare Brown 27 Aug 1998 and revised by Debbie Usher 9 Jul 2019. Biographical history based on information in the memoir. Arthur Dickson is likely to have been born in the late 1860s or early 1870s if he went straight from Oxford University presumably at the age of 20 to work for the Ottoman bank in 1890.