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**MS 651  
Pearce, Joseph H., 1873-1958  
Papers, ca. 1903-1957****DESCRIPTION**

Consists primarily of an autobiographical manuscript entitled *Line Rider* by Joseph H. Pearce which describes his life in the Arizona Territory and the early days of statehood as a law enforcement officer, along with shorter reminiscences by him and clippings of articles from newspapers and magazines about him and those Arizona Rangers and other lawmen with whom he was associated. Includes as well correspondence he maintained with the APHS and others.

1 Box, .25 linear ft.

**BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE**

Joseph Harrison Pearce was born in a covered wagon along the Utah-Nevada border in 1873. He came to the Arizona Territory as a small child, living with his parents in Young and Taylor, Arizona and ranched in Eager as an adult. After serving as one of the first forest rangers in Arizona, he became an Arizona Ranger in 1902, a position that lasted until 1905. He also served as a line rider and police chief of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation as well as a deputy marshal for Tombstone. After his retirement, he was active in creating a monument to the Arizona Rangers and produced many articles for various publications regarding his memories of Arizona law enforcement.

**ACQUISITION**

Donated by Joseph H. Pearce.

**ACCESS**

There are no restrictions on access to this collection.

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**PROCESSING**

The collection was processed by Mike Speelman, intern, in 2001.

**ARRANGEMENT**

By format