Collection Summary

Title: W. Cameron Forbes Papers  
**Span Dates:** 1904-1946  
**ID No.:** MSS20982  
**Creator:** Forbes, W. Cameron (William Cameron), 1870-1959  
**Extent:** 2,500 items ; 11 containers ; 2.2 linear feet  
**Language:** Collection material in English  
**Location:** Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.  
**Summary:** Business executive, government official, and diplomat. Typewritten transcripts of journals documenting Forbes’s activities in the civil government of the Philippines and as a diplomat and businessman.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library’s online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

**People**  
Aguinaldo, Emilio, 1869-1964--Correspondence.  
Greene, Warwick, 1879-1929--Correspondence.  
Harrison, Francis Burton, 1873-1957--Correspondence.  
Hatheway, Conrad--Correspondence.  
Hoover, Herbert, 1874-1964--Correspondence.  
McCoy, Frank Ross, 1874-1954--Correspondence.  
Osmeña, Sergio, 1878-1961--Correspondence.  
Roosevelt, Franklin D. (Franklin Delano), 1882-1945--Correspondence.  
Roosevelt, Theodore, 1858-1919--Correspondence.  
Stimson, Henry L. (Henry Lewis), 1867-1950--Correspondence.  
Taft, William H. (William Howard), 1857-1930--Correspondence.  
Wood, Leonard, 1860-1927--Correspondence.

**Organizations**  
American Economic Mission to the Far East.  
Brazil Railway Company.  
United States. Philippine Commission (1900-1916)

**Subjects**  
Banks and banking--United States.  
Diplomatic and consular service, American--Japan.

**Places**  
Haiti--History.  
Japan--Foreign relations--United States.  
Philippines--History--1898-1946.  
United States--Commerce.  
United States--Foreign relations--Japan.

**Occupations**  
Businessmen.  
Diplomats.  
Public officials.
Administrative Information

Provenance
The papers of W. Cameron Forbes, business executive, government official, and diplomat, were given to the Library of Congress by Forbes between 1951 and 1953.

Processing History
The collection was processed circa 1953. The finding aid was created in 2008.

Other Repositories
Originals of the collection are in the Houghton Library, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass. Typewritten transcripts are also available at the Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, Mass.

Copyright Status
The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of W. Cameron Forbes is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions
The papers of W. Cameron Forbes are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation
Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, W. Cameron Forbes Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1892</td>
<td>Graduated, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1904-1908</td>
<td>Commissioner of commerce and police, Philippine government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1908-1909</td>
<td>Vice-governor, Philippine government</td>
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<tr>
<td>1909-1913</td>
<td>Governor-general of the Philippines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1921</td>
<td>Appointed head of Woods-Forbes Commission to investigate conditions in the Philippines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1930</td>
<td>Chairman of commission to investigate conditions in Haiti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1930-1932</td>
<td>Ambassador to Japan</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Scope and Content Note
The papers of William Cameron Forbes (1870-1959) span the years 1904-1946. The collection consists of typewritten transcripts of journals documenting Forbes's activities in the civil government of the Philippines as secretary of commerce,
vice-governor, governor-general, and member of the United States Philippine Commission, and as receiver of the Brazil Railway Company, member and chairman of presidential missions to study conditions in Haiti and the Philippines, ambassador to Japan, chairman of the American Economic Mission to the Far East, and partner or director in several American business and banking firms. Some correspondence is transcribed with the daily entries and a few printed items are tipped in to the journals.


**Arrangement of the Papers**

This collection is arranged in two sets arranged as received in general chronological order. Separate indexes accompany the sets.
## Container List

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<tr>
<td>BOX 10</td>
<td>Vol. IV, 1929-1934</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 11</td>
<td>Vol. V and Index to Set B, 1935-1946</td>
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