

Florence Jaffray Hurst Harriman Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2002

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Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff
Revised and expanded by Karen Linn Femia

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Collection Summary

Title: Florence Jaffray Hurst Harriman Papers

Span Dates: 1857-1982

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1910-1960)

ID No.: MSS24976

Creator: Harriman, Florence Jaffray Hurst, b. 1870

Extent: 10,000 items

Extent: 32 containers

Extent: 13 linear feet

Extent: 1 microfilm reel

Language: Collection material in English

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm78024976>

Summary: Diplomat, political activist, and author. Correspondence, writings, news clippings, photographs, printed matter, and miscellaneous papers relating primarily to Harriman's activities as United States minister to Norway and her political activities on behalf of the Democratic party, world peace organizations, and District of Columbia voting rights.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Baruch, Bernard M. (Bernard Mannes), 1870-1965--Correspondence.
Berlin, Irving, 1888-1989--Correspondence.
Einstein, Albert, 1879-1955--Correspondence.
Ellington, Duke, 1899-1974--Correspondence.
Harriman, Florence Jaffray, 1870-1967.
Hayes, Helen, 1900-1993--Correspondence.
Hull, Cordell, 1871-1955--Correspondence.
Ickes, Harold L. (Harold LeClair), 1874-1952--Correspondence.
Kefauver, Estes, 1903-1963--Correspondence.
MacLeish, Archibald, 1892-1982--Correspondence.
Marshall, George C. (George Catlett), 1880-1959--Correspondence.
McAdoo, W. G. (William Gibbs), 1863-1941--Correspondence.
Pepper, Claude, 1900-1989--Correspondence.
Pershing, John J. (John Joseph), 1860-1948--Correspondence.
Raemaekers, Louis, 1869-1956.
Roosevelt, Eleanor, 1884-1962--Correspondence.
Roosevelt, Franklin D. (Franklin Delano), 1882-1945--Correspondence.
Truman, Harry S., 1884-1972--Correspondence.
Villard, Oswald Garrison, 1872-1949--Correspondence.
Willkie, Wendell L. (Wendell Lewis), 1892-1944--Correspondence.
Wilson, Edith Bolling Galt, 1872-1961--Correspondence.
Wilson, Woodrow, 1856-1924--Correspondence.
Wilson, Woodrow, 1856-1924.

Organizations

American Red Cross. Women's Motor Corps.
League of Nations.
United States. Commission on Industrial Relations.
United States. National Defense Advisory Commission. Committee on Women in Industry.
Woman's National Democratic Club (U.S.)

Subjects

Diplomatic and consular service, American--Norway.
Home rule--Washington (D.C.)
Industrial relations--United States.
Peace--Societies, etc.
Presidents--United States--Election--1912.
Social problems.
Women in the labor movement.
Women--Societies and clubs.
World War, 1914-1918--Manpower.
World War, 1914-1918--War work--France.
World War, 1914-1918--Women.

Places

Norway--Foreign relations--United States.
United States--Foreign relations--Norway.

Occupations

Authors.
Diplomats.
Labor leaders.

Provenance

The papers of Florence Jaffray Hurst Harriman, diplomat, political activist, and author, were given to the Library of Congress by Harriman in 1957. Additions to the papers were made by Harriman between 1958 and 1968 and by Phyllis Darling in 1998.

Processing History

The papers of Florence Jaffray Hurst Harriman were arranged and described in 1957. Additions I and II were processed and the register revised in 2002.

Transfers

Some photographs have been transferred to the Library's Prints and Photographs Division where they are identified as a part of these papers.

Copyright Status

Copyright in the unpublished writings of Florence Jaffray Hurst Harriman in these papers and in other collections of papers in the custody of the Library of Congress has been dedicated to the public.

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Florence Jaffray Hurst Harriman 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.

Microfilm

A microfilm edition of part of these papers is available on one reel. Consult reference staff in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan. To promote preservation of the originals, researchers are required to consult the microfilm edition as available.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container or reel number, Florence Jaffray Hurst Harriman Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1870, July 21	Born, New York, N.Y.
1880-1888	Educated in Mrs. Lockwood's private classes, New York, N.Y.
1889	Married J. Borden Harriman (died, 1914)
1903-1916	President, Colony Club, New York, N.Y.
1906-1918	Member, Board of Managers of New York State Reformatory for Women at Bedford, New York, N.Y.
1912	Active in the presidential campaign for Woodrow Wilson
1913-1916	Member, U.S. Commission on Industrial Relations
1917-1918	Organized the American Red Cross Women's Motor Corps of the District of Columbia and directed the Women's Motor Corps in France.
1922	Founder and first president, Woman's National Democratic Club, Washington, D.C.
1923	Published <i>From Pinafores to Politics</i> . New York: Henry Holt and Co.
1937-1941	Minister to Norway
1940	With the German invasion of Norway; fled to Sweden and arranged for the safety of other Americans and the Norwegian royal family.
1941	Published <i>Mission to the North</i> . Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott
1967, Aug. 31	Died, Washington, D. C.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Florence Jaffray Hurst Harriman (1870-1967) span the years 1857-1982 with the bulk of the material dating from 1910 to 1960. The papers are organized in the following series: [Personal Correspondence](#), [Oslo Correspondence](#), [Subject Files](#) (in two chronological sections), [Speech and Article File](#), [Miscellany](#), and [Additions](#).

The [Personal Correspondence](#) primarily contains family correspondence. The [Oslo Correspondence](#) series, 1937-1940, pertains to Harriman's service as the United States minister to Norway, a post she had to abandon following the Nazi invasion of Norway in 1940.

The rest of the papers contain a wide variety of material reflecting Harriman's broad interests and activities throughout her long and vigorous life. She was a member of the U.S. Commission on Industrial Relations, 1913-1916, and chairman of the U.S. National Defense Advisory Commission's Committee on Women in Industry, 1917-1919. She worked on behalf of world peace organizations and for the League of Nations. She helped organize and then served as director of the American Red Cross Women's Motor Corps in France during World War I. She cofounded the Colony Club in New York City and the Woman's National Democratic Club in Washington, D.C. Harriman became one of Washington's great hostesses, regularly having Sunday evening dinner parties for the politically well-connected at her home. Late in life, Harriman worked on behalf of home rule for the District of Columbia. Material is lacking on her service, 1906-1918, as a member of the board of managers of the Bedford Reformatory for Women in New York.

Notable correspondents include Bernard M. Baruch, Irving Berlin, Albert Einstein, Duke Ellington, Helen Hayes, Cordell Hull, Harold L. Ickes, Estes Kefauver, Archibald Macleish, George C. Marshall, Claude Pepper, John J. Pershing, Eleanor Roosevelt, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Harry S. Truman, Oswald Garrison Villard, and Wendell L. Wilkie.

Addition I contains correspondence and an autograph album. The correspondence is primarily professional and pertains to Harriman's political activities and involvement in social reform movements as well as her service as minister to Norway. The autograph album contains notes signed by many notable people, including William Gibbs McAdoo, John J. Pershing, and Woodrow Wilson. Also in the album is a pencil drawing with watercolor by the Dutch cartoonist Louis Raemaekers.

Addition II includes a scrapbook, correspondence, speeches and writings, transcripts of radio broadcasts, news clippings, and photographs. The scrapbook, which documents Harriman's work in Woodrow Wilson's 1912 presidential campaign, is available on microfilm only. Correspondence from William Gibbs McAdoo and John J. Pershing document the close personal relationship Harriman had with both of these men. Other notable correspondents in Addition II include Franklin D. Roosevelt, Edith Bolling Galt Wilson, and Woodrow Wilson.

Organization of the Papers

The collection is arranged in six series:

- Personal Correspondence, 1937-1949
- Oslo Correspondence, 1937-1940
- Subject File, 1912-1950
- Speech and Article File, 1912-1950
- Miscellany, 1926-1950
- Additions, 1857-1982

Description of Series

Container	Series
BOX 1-2	<p><u>Personal Correspondence, 1937-1949</u></p> <p>Letters sent and received. Arranged as Harriman family, Norway, and miscellaneous correspondence.</p>
BOX 3-9	<p><u>Oslo Correspondence, 1937-1940</u></p> <p>Letters sent and received. Arranged alphabetically by subject.</p>
BOX 10-22	<p><u>Subject File, 1912-1950</u></p> <p>Correspondence, reports, memoranda, and printed matter. Organized in two chronological groupings, 1912-1937 and 1940-1950, and arranged therein alphabetically by subject.</p>
BOX 23-25	<p><u>Speech and Article File, 1912-1950</u></p> <p>Handwritten, typewritten, and near-print copies of speeches and articles. Arranged alphabetically by subject with miscellaneous writings at the end.</p>
BOX 26-29	<p><u>Miscellany, 1926-1950</u></p> <p>Newspaper clippings, scrapbook, financial papers, photographs, awards and souvenirs, and printed matter. Organized alphabetically by type of material.</p>
BOX 30-32	<p><u>Additions, 1857-1982</u></p>
BOX 30	<p><u>Addition I, 1857-1956</u></p> <p>Autograph album and correspondence. Arranged alphabetically by type of material and therein chronologically.</p>
BOX 31-32	<p><u>Addition II, 1906-1982</u></p> <p>Correspondence, biographical material, scrapbook, news clippings, photographs, writings, and miscellaneous material. Scrapbook available on microfilm only (shelf no. 21,870). Arranged alphabetically by name of person or type of material.</p>

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Oslo Correspondence, 1937-1940

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	Cutting Bill, 1932
	Democratic party material, 1936-1937
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Additions, 1857-1982

Container

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Unidentified (R. F. P. ?), 1906, undated