

Judson King Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2023

Contact information: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm82028621>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms003062>

Prepared by Manuscript Division staff

Finding aid encoded by Manuscript Division staff, 2003
Revised 2023 September

Collection Summary

Title: Judson King Papers

Inclusive Dates: 1900-1959

Bulk Dates: 1912-1958

ID No.: MSS28621

Creator: King, Judson, 1872-1958

Extent: 21,700 items

Extent: 99 containers

Extent: 38.6 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm82028621>

Summary: Lecturer, writer, and political consultant. Correspondence, memoranda, writings, reports, press releases, scrapbooks, newspaper clippings, printed matter, charts, maps, photographs, and other material relating primarily to the development of public power policy in the United States and King's role in the United States Rural Electrification Administration.

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

Aiken, George D. (George David), 1892-1984--Correspondence.

Carmody, John M. (John Michael), 1881-1962--Correspondence.

Hill, Lister, 1894-1984--Correspondence.

King, Judson, 1872-1958.

Lilienthal, David Eli, 1899-1981--Correspondence.

Milton, George Fort, 1894-1955--Correspondence.

Norris, George W. (George William), 1861-1944--Correspondence.

Pinchot, Gifford, 1865-1946--Correspondence.

Roosevelt, Franklin D. (Franklin Delano), 1882-1945--Correspondence.

Slattery, Harry, 1887-1949--Correspondence.

Walsh, Frank P.--Correspondence.

White, William Allen, 1868-1944--Correspondence.

Organizations

National Popular Government League.

Tennessee Valley Authority.

United States. Rural Electrification Administration.

Subjects

Electric power--United States.

Energy policy--United States.

Political parties--United States.

Public utilities--United States.

Rural electrification--United States.

Places

Tennessee River Valley.

Occupations

Authors.

Consultants.

Lecturers.

Acquisition Information

The papers of Judson King were given to the Library of Congress by Bertha Hale King in 1959. Additions were given by Ronald Ross in 1960, 1964, and 1983, Charles D. Wrege in 1983-1984, the University of Arkansas in 1985, and the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma in 2011.

Processing History

The papers of Judson King were arranged and described by William Cassidy in 1959. Subsequent additions received 1960-1964 were interfiled with these papers. An addition consisting of two accessions from 1983 was processed by David Mathisen in 1985, and material received later that year was interfiled with the addition by Connie L. Cartledge in 1999. An addition was processed and the finding aid revised by Rachel McNellis in 2023.

Additional Description

A note concerning the Judson King Papers appeared in the *Library of Congress Information Bulletin* 18, no. 23 (8 June 1959).

Copyright Status

Copyright in the unpublished writings of Judson King 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 Judson King are open to research. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Judson King Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1872, Apr. 19	Born, Waterford, Pa.
1889-1893	Attended Battle Creek College, Battle Creek, Mich.
1893-1896	Attended University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.
1902	Founder and editor, <i>Morning Sun</i> , Denison, Tex.
1905-1906	Editor, <i>Independent Voter</i> , Toledo, Ohio
1906-1908	Secretary, Toledo University, Toledo, Ohio
1908-1910	Field secretary, Ohio Direct Legislation League
1910-1913	Traveled and lectured
1912	Married Cora Smith Eaton (divorced, date unknown)
1913-1958	Director, National Popular Government League
1926	Married Bertha Hale White
1935-1944	Special consultant to Rural Electrification Administration
1958, July 4	Died, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Judson King span the period 1900-1959, with the bulk dating 1912-1958. The material relates primarily to the development of public power policy in the United States and King's role as a consultant to the United States Rural Electrification Administration.

The [Correspondence](#) spans the years 1912 to 1958, with the majority dating primarily after 1933. Correspondence for the year 1937 is missing. Correspondents include George D. Aiken, John M. Carmody, Lister Hill, David Eli Lilienthal, George Fort Milton, George W. Norris, Gifford Pinchot, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Harry Slattery, Frank P. Walsh, and William Allen White.

The [Article and Book File](#) contains manuscript and typescript drafts of King's articles and writings, including bulletins for the National Popular Government League, which King organized and directed.

The [Subject File](#) is comprised of memoranda, reports, charts, maps, tabulations, pamphlets, and articles pertaining to the Rural Electrification Administration, Tennessee Valley Authority, and state legislative initiatives.

The [Scrapbooks](#) include newspaper clippings pertaining primarily to public power policy and related topics.

The [Miscellany](#) includes photographs, newspaper clippings, and printed matter.

The [1985 Addition](#) is comprised of financial and legal papers, photographs, three binders of bulletins and reports for the National Popular Government League, and scrapbooks of clippings.

The [2023 Addition](#) consists primarily of bulletins and reports for the National Popular Government League. Also included are newsletters for The People's Legislative Service, congressional reports, and clippings.

Arrangement of the Collection

This collection is arranged in seven series:

- [Correspondence, 1912-1958](#)
- [Article and Book File, 1913-1958](#)
- [Subject File, 1900-1943](#)
- [Scrapbooks, 1907-1940](#)
- [Miscellany, 1902-1958](#)
- [1985 Addition, 1902-1958](#)
- [2023 Addition, 1921-1959](#)

Description of Series

Container	Series
BOX 1-60	<p><u>Correspondence, 1912-1958</u></p> <p>General correspondence and special correspondence. An incomplete index precedes the general correspondence.</p> <p>General correspondence is arranged chronologically and therein alphabetically by name of state, correspondent, or subject. Special correspondence is arranged alphabetically by name of individual.</p>
BOX 61-77	<p><u>Article and Book File, 1913-1958</u></p> <p>Notes and drafts of <i>The Conservation Fight, From Theodore Roosevelt to the Tennessee Valley Authority</i> and handwritten, typewritten, and near-print copies of articles, bulletins, and press releases.</p> <p>Arranged by type of material.</p>
BOX 78-84	<p><u>Subject File, 1900-1943</u></p> <p>Memoranda, reports, charts, maps, tabulations, pamphlets, and articles.</p> <p>Arranged by topic and type of material.</p>
BOX 85-91	<p><u>Scrapbooks, 1907-1940</u></p> <p>Clippings mounted in scrapbooks.</p> <p>Arranged chronologically by volume.</p>
BOX 92-94	<p><u>Miscellany, 1902-1958</u></p> <p>Newspaper clippings, photographs, notes, and printed matter.</p> <p>Arranged by type of material.</p>
BOX 95-97	<p><u>1985 Addition, 1902-1958</u></p> <p>Financial and legal papers, photographs, notebooks of bulletins and press releases, and scrapbooks of clippings.</p> <p>Arranged alphabetically by topic and type of material.</p>
BOX 98-99	<p><u>2023 Addition, 1921-1959</u></p> <p>Articles, clippings, bulletins, newsletters, and reports.</p> <p>Arranged alphabetically by type of material.</p>

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1-60	Correspondence, 1912-1958 General correspondence and special correspondence. An incomplete index precedes the general correspondence. General correspondence is arranged chronologically and therein alphabetically by name of state, correspondent, or subject. Special correspondence is arranged alphabetically by name of individual.
BOX 1	General Undated, partial index 1912-1916 Arkansas-Ohio
BOX 2	Oklahoma-Virginia 1913-1932
BOX 3	1933 "A-Ba" miscellaneous
BOX 4	"Be-Ro" miscellaneous
BOX 5	"Ru-W" miscellaneous Alabama-District of Columbia
BOX 6	Florida-New York
BOX 7	North Carolina-Wyoming Canada and foreign
BOX 8	1934 "A-S" miscellaneous
BOX 9	"T-W" miscellaneous Alabama-Michigan
BOX 10	Minnesota-Washington
BOX 11	West Virginia-Canada and foreign 1935 "A-Ne" miscellaneous
BOX 12	"No-W" miscellaneous Alabama-Iowa
BOX 13	Kansas-Canada
BOX 14	Canada and foreign 1936 "A-Ak" miscellaneous
BOX 15	"Al-W" miscellaneous
BOX 16	Alabama-Montana
BOX 17	Nebraska-Canada
BOX 18	1938 "A-Ra" miscellaneous
BOX 19	"Re-W" miscellaneous Alabama-Illinois

Correspondence, 1912-1958

Container	Contents
BOX 20	Indiana-New York
BOX 21	North Carolina-Canada and foreign
	1939
	"A-D" miscellaneous
BOX 22	"E-V" miscellaneous
BOX 23	"W" miscellaneous
	Alabama-Maryland
BOX 24	Massachusetts-Pennsylvania
BOX 25	Rhode Island-Canada and foreign
BOX 26	1940
	"A-Mar" miscellaneous
BOX 27	"Mas-W" miscellaneous
	Alabama-District of Columbia
BOX 28	District of Columbia-New York
BOX 29	New York-Canada and foreign
BOX 30	1941-1944
	"A-W" miscellaneous
	Alabama-Colorado
BOX 31	Connecticut-District of Columbia
BOX 32	District of Columbia-Iowa
BOX 33	Kansas-Missouri
BOX 34	Missouri-New York
BOX 35	New York-Oregon
BOX 36	Pennsylvania-Washington
BOX 37	West Virginia-Canada and foreign
	1945-1949
	"A-Ca" miscellaneous
BOX 38	"Ch-Kea" miscellaneous
BOX 39	"Ken-O" miscellaneous
BOX 40	"P-W" miscellaneous
	Alabama-California
BOX 41	California-District of Columbia
BOX 42	Florida-Massachusetts
BOX 43	Michigan-New York
BOX 44	New York-Oregon
BOX 45	Pennsylvania-Wisconsin
BOX 46	Wisconsin-Canada and foreign
BOX 47	1950-1954
	"A-G" miscellaneous
BOX 48	"H-Mas" miscellaneous
BOX 49	"May-W" miscellaneous
BOX 50	Alabama-Georgia
BOX 51	Idaho-New York
BOX 52	North Carolina-Canada and foreign
BOX 53-54	Membership, requests and dues assessments
BOX 55	1955-1958

Correspondence, 1912-1958

Container

Contents

	"A-Ba" miscellaneous
BOX 56	"Bu-Ke" miscellaneous
BOX 57	"Ki-W" miscellaneous
BOX 58	Alabama-Indiana
BOX 59	Iowa-Ohio
BOX 60	Oklahoma-Canada and foreign
	Special
	James, W. Frank, and constituents, 1930
	Slattery, Harry, and George W. Norris, 1928-1930
BOX 61-77	Article and Book File, 1913-1958
	Notes and drafts of <i>The Conservation Fight, From Theodore Roosevelt to the Tennessee Valley Authority</i> and handwritten, typewritten, and near-print copies of articles, bulletins, and press releases.
	Arranged by type of material.
BOX 61-69	Book file
	<i>The Conservation Fight, From Theodore Roosevelt to the Tennessee Valley Authority</i> , notes, background material, and drafts
BOX 70	"The Great Lakes, St. Lawrence Seaway, A Brief History"
	St. Lawrence Seaway, a chronology
	"The St. Lawrence Under Two Flags"
	Newspaper articles, 1923-1927
	Carbon typescripts
	Clippings
BOX 71	Bulletins and reports, National Popular Government League
	Bulletins
	1913-1921
BOX 72	1921-1924
BOX 73	1927-1930
BOX 74	1930-1933
BOX 75	1934-1948
BOX 76	1929-1953 (incomplete)
BOX 77	Reports, 1913-1933
BOX 78-84	Subject File, 1900-1943
	Memoranda, reports, charts, maps, tabulations, pamphlets, and articles.
	Arranged by topic and type of material.
BOX 78	Federal Power Commission, 1933-1938
	Initiative, referendum, and recall of state legislation
	Arizona, 1914-1928
	Arkansas, 1912-1928
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BOX 79	Michigan, 1911-1928
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Subject File, 1900-1943

Container

Contents

	Oregon, 1904-1929
	Washington, 1911-1928
	Pamphlets and articles, 1900-1935 (6 folders)
BOX 80	Pamphlets and articles, 1900-1935 (3 folders)
	Tabulations, 1900-1929
BOX 81	Kent, William, biographical material, 1938
BOX 82	Rural Electrification Administration
	Reports, 1934-1935
	Labor policy, 1941
	Legislative record, 1935-1941
	Miscellaneous printed matter
BOX 83	National Advisory Committee, 1934-1937
	"Rural Electrification for the Millions" by Harry Slattery
	Research for study, 1911-1943
BOX 84	Tennessee Valley Authority
	Basic data, 1937-1940
	Charts and maps of Muscle Shoals, Ala., 1913-1929, undated
	Reports made by King, 1933-1934
	Water power legislation index, 1904-1932
BOX 85-91	Scrapbooks, 1907-1940
	Clippings mounted in scrapbooks.
	Arranged chronologically by volume.
BOX 85	1907, miscellaneous (2 vols.)
	1916, initiative and referendum, Arkansas
BOX 86	1917, Robert L. Owen
	1918-1920, National Popular Government League
BOX 87	1922, Water and Power Act, California
	1928, power trust
	Vol. 1
BOX 88	Vols. 2-3
BOX 89	Vol. 4
	1928-1930, George L. Norris
BOX 90	1929-1933, Muscle Shoals, Ala.; Tennessee; and other subjects
	1931, Beauharnois investigation, Ottawa, Canada
BOX 91	1931-1932, hydro investigation, Canada
	1940, Union Electric Co. case
BOX 92-94	Miscellany, 1902-1958
	Newspaper clippings, photographs, notes, and printed matter.
	Arranged by type of material.
BOX 92	Newspaper clippings, 1914-1956

Miscellany, 1902-1958

Container	Contents
	Photographs, 1904-1948
BOX 93	Printed matter, 1950-1956
BOX 94	Printed matter and miscellany, 1902, 1913, 1928-1931, 1938-1939, 1951-1958, undated
BOX 95-97	1985 Addition, 1902-1958 Financial and legal papers, photographs, notebooks of bulletins and press releases, and scrapbooks of clippings. Arranged alphabetically by topic and type of material.
BOX 95	Financial and legal papers, 1926, 1946-1949, undated National Popular Government League, bulletins and releases, 1923-1958 (3 vols.) Photographs, 1902, 1923, undated
BOX 96	Scrapbooks 1929-1930 (2 vols.)
BOX 97	1930-1932, 1953 (2 vols.)
BOX 98-99	2023 Addition, 1921-1959 Articles, clippings, bulletins, newsletters, and reports. Arranged alphabetically by type of material.
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BOX 98	Congressional reports, 1938, 1952-1953
BOX 98	The League of Women Voters, newsletter, 1921
BOX 98	National Popular Government League, bulletins and reports, 1922-1945 (6 folders)
BOX 99	National Popular Government League, bulletins and reports, 1946-1959 (3 folders)
BOX 99	The People's Legislative Service, newsletters, 1927-1931