

Ralph H. Stimson Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2008

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm93081865>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms008090>

Prepared by Kathleen M. Dondanville with the assistance of Patricia Craig
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Collection Summary

Title: Ralph H. Stimson Papers

Span Dates: 1896-1961

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1925-1930)

ID No.: MSS81865

Creator: Stimson, Ralph H. (Ralph Humphreys), 1898-1986

Extent: 8,400 items

Extent: 24 containers

Extent: 9.6 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm93081865>

Summary: State Department research analyst and armaments expert. Correspondence, memoranda, reports, notes, and printed matter relating to Stimson's involvement in the League of Nations opium trafficking conferences (1924-1925), and his research relating to international organizations and the manufacture and international trade of armaments.

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

Stimson, Ralph H. (Ralph Humphreys), 1898-1986.

Organizations

Opium Conference.

Subjects

Arms transfers.

Drug control--International cooperation.

International agencies.

Military weapons.

Opium trade.

Weapons industry.

Occupations

Armaments experts.

Research analysts.

Provenance

The papers of Ralph H. Stimson, State Department research analyst and armaments expert, were given to the Library of Congress in 1992 by his wife, Laura Stimson. A description of the Ralph H. Stimson Papers can be found in *Library of Congress Acquisitions: Manuscript Division, 1992*, pp. 36-37.

Processing History

The papers of Ralph H. Stimson were arranged and described in 1995. The finding aid was revised in 2008.

Transfers

Maps have been transferred to the Geography and Map Division where they are identified as part of the Ralph H. Stimson Papers.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Ralph H. Stimson is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Ralph H. Stimson 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, Ralph H. Stimson Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1898, Nov. 28	Born, Columbus, Ohio
1918	Served in United States Army, World War I
1921	B.A., Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio
1924	M.A., Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.
1924-1925	Research assistant, opium section, Secretariat of the League of Nations, Geneva, Switzerland
1931	Ph.D., University of Illinois, Urbana, Ill.
1931-1932	Instructor of political science, University of Illinois, Urbana, Ill.
1932-1934	Instructor of political science, University of Vermont, Burlington, Vt.
1934-1935	Research assistant, United States Senate Special Committee Investigating the Munitions Industry, Washington, D.C., 1934-1936
1935-1936	Research technician, Research Committee on Urbanism, National Resources Committee, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.
1936-1937	Honorary fellow, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio
1937-1966	Successive appointments as research analyst and review officer, State Department, Washington, D.C.
1986, July 8	Died, Falls Church, Va.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Ralph H. Stimson (1898-1986) span the years 1896-1961 with the bulk of the items concentrated in the period 1925-1930. The collection is organized into four series: [General Correspondence](#), [Professional File](#), [Research File](#), and [Miscellany](#).

The collection includes correspondence, memoranda, reports, notes, printed matter, and other material relating primarily to Stimson's work for the opium trafficking conferences held by the League of Nations in 1924-1925 and his research on international organizations and the manufacture and international trade of armaments. It contains only a few papers pertaining to Stimson's career at the State Department, his tenure as an instructor of political science at the University of

Illinois and the University of Vermont, and to his research for the United States Senate's Special Committee Investigating the Munitions Industry. General correspondence and miscellaneous files containing biographical material, drafts and printed versions of articles and speeches, job and fellowship applications, and classroom notes comprise the remainder of the papers.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in four series:

- [General Correspondence, 1919-1946](#)
- [Professional File, 1910-1961](#)
- [Research File, 1896-1940](#)
- [Miscellany, 1919-1961](#)

Description of Series

Container	Series
BOX 1	<p><u>General Correspondence, 1919-1946</u></p> <p>Incoming and outgoing letters between Stimson and his university professors, publishing companies, prospective employers, and others.</p> <p>Arranged chronologically.</p>
BOX 1-9	<p><u>Professional File, 1910-1961</u></p> <p>Correspondence, memoranda, reports, drafts, notes and printed matter pertaining to professional positions held by Stimson.</p> <p>Arranged alphabetically by name of institution or affiliation and by topic or type therein.</p>
BOX 9-22	<p><u>Research File, 1896-1940</u></p> <p>Correspondence, notes, newspaper clippings, graphs, charts, and printed matter relating to Stimson's research interests.</p> <p>Arranged alphabetically by topic.</p>
BOX 23-24	<p><u>Miscellany, 1919-1961</u></p> <p>Correspondence, class notes, fellowship and job applications, drafts and printed versions of articles and speeches, and a draft of Stimson's doctoral dissertation.</p> <p>Arranged alphabetically by topic or type of material.</p>

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	General Correspondence, 1919-1946 Incoming and outgoing letters between Stimson and his university professors, publishing companies, prospective employers, and others. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 1	1919-1936 (8 folders)
BOX 1-9	Professional File, 1910-1961 Correspondence, memoranda, reports, drafts, notes and printed matter pertaining to professional positions held by Stimson. Arranged alphabetically by name of institution or affiliation and by topic or type therein.
BOX 1	League of Nations
BOX 1	Administrative matters, 1924-1925
BOX 2	Drug seizure memoranda and reports, 1924-1926 (7 folders)
BOX 3	Fifth assembly, advisory committee, 1924-1925
BOX 3	First opium conference
BOX 3	Drafts of official documents, 1924-1926 (5 folders)
BOX 4	Minutes of meetings, 1924-1925 (3 folders)
BOX 4	Notes and miscellaneous writings, 1924-1925
BOX 4	Second opium conference
BOX 4	Drafts of official documents, 1924-1926 (3 folders)
BOX 4	Administrative rules and methods, 1925
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BOX 5	State Department
BOX 5	Afghanistan, 1940
BOX 5	Armaments
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BOX 5	Canada, 1942
BOX 5	Civil War pardons, 1940
BOX 5	Commodity classification, 1954
BOX 5	Currency value references, 1956-1957
BOX 5	Efficiency rating appeal, 1944
BOX 6	<i>Foreign Relations, 1900-1918</i> , general index to published volumes, 1937-1940 (3 folders)
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Professional File, 1910-1961

Container	Contents
BOX 6	Great Britain, 1940
BOX 6	Gross national product, 1960
BOX 6	Jefferson, Thomas, birthday proclamation, 1938
BOX 6	Latin America, 1941
BOX 6	Miscellaneous, 1937-1961
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BOX 6	Efficiency rating appeal, 1944-1945 (2 folders)
BOX 7	General, 1940-1944 (3 folders)
BOX 7	Petroleum, 1952
BOX 8	Reviews of memoranda, 1949-1950
BOX 8	Tariffs, 1950
BOX 8	World War II, 1941-1942
BOX 8	United States National Resources Committee, Research Committee on Urbanism, 1935-1936
BOX 8	United States Senate, Special Committee Investigating the Munitions Industry, 1934-1936
BOX 8	University of Illinois, Urbana, Ill.
BOX 8	American national government, undated
BOX 8	International organizations, 1929-1932 (3 folders)
BOX 8	International relations, 1927
BOX 8	Miscellaneous, undated
BOX 8	National politics and administration, 1927
BOX 8	State government in the United States, undated
BOX 8	University of Vermont, Burlington, Vt.
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BOX 9	Latin America, circa 1932-circa 1934 (2 folders)
BOX 9-22	Research File, 1896-1940 Correspondence, notes, newspaper clippings, graphs, charts, and printed matter relating to Stimson's research interests. Arranged alphabetically by topic.
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BOX 9	Aerial warfare, 1925-1930
BOX 9	Anthropology of armaments, circa 1927
BOX 9	Chemical warfare, 1922-1930
BOX 9	Crowell, Benedict, 1927
BOX 9	Disarmament, 1924-1933
BOX 9	Evils of armament manufacture, 1927-1929
BOX 9	Federal Trade Commission, 1927
BOX 9	French parliamentary debates and proceedings
BOX 9	1925
BOX 10	1926-1928 (3 folders)

Research File, 1896-1940

Container	Contents
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BOX 11	General, 1918, 1927-1931 (2 folders)
BOX 11	Rearmament, 1931-1940
BOX 11	Reichstag votes, 1930
BOX 11	Government personnel, 1924-1929 (3 folders)
BOX 11	Great Britain
BOX 11	1908, 1917, 1926-1929 (2 folders)
BOX 12	1930
BOX 12	Industrial mobilization, 1924-1929
BOX 12	Institute of Makers of Explosives, 1927-1929
BOX 12	International Congress of Munitions Makers, Paris, France, 1925
BOX 12	International regulations, 1926-1929
BOX 12	Invention, 1927-1929
BOX 12	Japan, 1925
BOX 12	Kellogg-Briand Pact, 1927-1929
BOX 12	Labor, 1923-1930
BOX 12	League of Nations
BOX 12	Dec. 1920-Oct. 1921 (2 folders)
BOX 13	Jan. 1922-Aug. 1923 (6 folders)
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BOX 15	Armstrong-Whitworth, 1900-1927 (2 folders)
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BOX 15	Colt's Patent Fire Arms Manufacturing Co., 1926
BOX 16	E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Co., 1925-1930
BOX 16	Fried, Krupp Germaniawerft A. G. Kiel-Gaarden, 1927-1930
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BOX 16	Krupp, 1927-1930
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Research File, 1896-1940

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BOX 19	British commonwealth, 1927-1931
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BOX 21	Political theory, undated
BOX 21	Sanctions, 1932
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BOX 21	Locarno, 1925-1927
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Research File, 1896-1940

Container	Contents
BOX 21	World Court, 1921-1936
BOX 21	World economic proposals, 1923-1930
BOX 21	Opium trade
BOX 21	1919-1922
BOX 22	1923-1931 (8 folders)
BOX 23-24	Miscellany, 1919-1961 Correspondence, class notes, fellowship and job applications, drafts and printed versions of articles and speeches, and a draft of Stimson's doctoral dissertation. Arranged alphabetically by topic or type of material.
BOX 23	Biographical material, 1925, 1933-1936, 1950
BOX 23	Conference on the Cause and Cure of War, Washington, D.C., 1932-1933
BOX 23	Education
BOX 23	Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., circa 1920-circa 1924, 1933, 1940 (2 folders)
BOX 23	Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, 1919-1921, 1940
BOX 23	University of Illinois, Urbana, Ill., 1928-1933, 1940
BOX 23	Fellowship applications
BOX 23	John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, circa 1930
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