

**R. C. Leffingwell Letterbooks**  
**A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress**



**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**  
**Washington, D.C.**  
**2010**

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm73029835>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms010261>

Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff

Finding aid encoded by Glenn R. Gardner, 2010

## Collection Summary

**Title:** R. C. Leffingwell Letterbooks

**Span Dates:** 1917-1920

**ID No.:** MSS29835

**Creator:** Leffingwell, R. C. (Russell Cornell), 1878-1960

**Extent:** 15,000 items

**Extent:** 16 containers

**Extent:** 6.2 linear feet

**Extent:** 37 microfilm reels

**Language:** Collection material in English

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

**LC Catalog record:** <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm73029835>

**Summary:** United States assistant secretary of the treasury. Letters relating to war debts and loans, post-World War I financing, and bond drives signed by Leffingwell during his term as assistant secretary of the treasury and by other Treasury Department officials.

## 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

Auchincloss, Gordon, 1886-1943--Correspondence.  
Baker, Newton Diehl, 1871-1937--Correspondence.  
Baruch, Bernard M. (Bernard Mannes), 1870-1965--Correspondence.  
Billy, Édouard de, 1866-1919--Correspondence.  
Burke, John, 1859-1937--Correspondence.  
Colby, Bainbridge, 1869-1950--Correspondence.  
Crosby, Oscar Terry, 1861-1947--Correspondence.  
Daniels, Josephus, 1862-1948--Correspondence.  
Gregory, Thomas Watt, 1861-1933--Correspondence.  
Harding, W. P. G. (William Proctor Gould), 1864-1930--Correspondence.  
Hoover, Herbert, 1874-1964--Correspondence.  
Lansing, Robert, 1864-1928--Correspondence.  
Leffingwell, R. C. (Russell Cornell), 1878-1960.  
Legge, Alexander, 1866-1933--Correspondence.  
Lever, Samuel Hardman, 1869-1947--Correspondence.  
Long, Breckinridge, 1881-1958--Correspondence.  
Macchi di Cellere, Vincenzo, conte, 1866-1919--Correspondence.  
McAdoo, W. G. (William Gibbs), 1863-1941--Correspondence.  
Palmer, A. Mitchell (Alexander Mitchell), 1872-1936--Correspondence.  
Polk, Frank L. (Frank Lyon), 1871-1943--Correspondence.  
Strong, Benjamin, 1872-1928--Correspondence.  
Tardieu, André, 1876-1945--Correspondence.  
Wilson, Woodrow, 1856-1924--Correspondence.

### Organizations

United States. Department of the Treasury.

### Subjects

Debts, Public.  
Finance, Public.  
Government securities.  
World War, 1914-1918--Finance.

**Titles**

*R. C. Leffingwell papers*

**Occupations**

Public officials.

**Provenance**

The letterbooks of R. C. Leffingwell, United States assistant secretary of the treasury, were given to the Library of Congress by Edward Pulling in 1961.

**Processing History**

The letterbooks were processed in 1972 and 1979. The finding aid was revised in 2010.

**Additional Guides**

An index to the Leffingwell Letterbooks is available in the Manuscript Division Reading Room.

**Copyright Status**

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

**Access and Restrictions**

The papers of R. C. Leffingwell 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 these papers is available on thirty-seven reels. 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.

**Preferred Citation**

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container or reel number, R. C. Leffingwell Letterbooks, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

**Biographical Note**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
1878, Sept. 10	Born, New York, N.Y.
1899	Graduated, Yale University, New Haven, Conn.
1902	Graduated, Columbia University Law School, New York, N.Y. Joined law firm of Guthrie, Cravath, and Henderson (became partner in 1907)
1906	Married Lucy Hewitt (died 1959)

1917-1920	Assistant secretary of the treasury
1920	Rejoined law firm of Cravath, Henderson, Leffingwell, & de Gersdorff
1923-1940	Partner, J. P. Morgan & Co.
1940-1943	Vice-chairman, J. P. Morgan & Co.
1943-1955	Chairman, J. P. Morgan & Co.
1944-1953	Member, Council of Foreign Relations (president, 1946-1953)
1946	Named chairman, Carnegie Corp.
1955-1960	Director, J. P. Moran & Co.
1960, Oct. 2	Died, New York, N.Y.

## Scope and Content Note

The letterbooks of Russell Cornell Leffingwell (1878-1960) span the years 1917-1920. The collections consist of official letters relating to war debts and loans, post-World War I financing, and bond drives signed by Leffingwell during his term as United States assistant secretary of the treasury and by other Treasury officials. Included are letters to Gordon Auchincloss, Newton Diehl Baker, Bernard M. Baruch, Édouard de Billy, John Burke, Bainbridge Colby, Oscar Terry Crosby, Josephus Daniels, Thomas Watt Gregory, W. P. G. Harding, Herbert Hoover, Robert Lansing, Alexander Legge, Sir Hardman Lever, Breckinridge Long, Conte Vincenzo Macchi di Cellere, W. G. McAdoo, A. Mitchell Palmer, Frank L. Polk, Benjamin Strong (1872-1928), André Tardieu, and Woodrow Wilson.

## Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged chronologically.

# Container List

Available on microfilm. Shelf no. 17,704

<b>Container</b>	<b>Contents</b>
BOX 1 REEL 1-3	1917, 25 Nov.-1918, 16 Jan.
BOX 1 REEL 1-3	1918
BOX 1 REEL 1-3	16 Jan.-23 Feb.
BOX 1 REEL 1-3	21 Feb.-23 Mar.
BOX 2 REEL 4-6	23 Mar.-23 Apr.
BOX 2 REEL 4-6	23 Apr.-2 May
BOX 2 REEL 4-6	3-31 May
BOX 3 REEL 7-9	31 May-19 June
BOX 3 REEL 7-9	18 June-6 July
BOX 3 REEL 7-9	6-26 July
BOX 4 REEL 10-12	26 July-18 Aug.
BOX 4 REEL 10-12	13-27 Aug.
BOX 4 REEL 10-12	26 Aug.-13 Sept.
BOX 5 REEL 13-16	13-26 Sept.
BOX 5 REEL 13-16	26 Sept.-9 Oct.
BOX 5 REEL 13-16	9-22 Oct
BOX 6 REEL 16-18	23 Oct.-7 Nov.
BOX 6 REEL 16-18	7-21 Nov.
BOX 6 REEL 16-18	21 Nov.-6 Dec.
BOX 7 REEL 18-20	7-24 Dec.
BOX 7 REEL 18-20	1918, 24 Dec.-1919, 11 Jan.1919
BOX 7 REEL 18-20	1919
BOX 7 REEL 18-20	11-24 Jan.
BOX 8 REEL 20-22	24 Jan.-7 Feb.
BOX 8 REEL 20-22	6-21 Feb.
BOX 8 REEL 20-22	22 Feb.-6 Mar.
BOX 9 REEL 22-24	6-25 Mar.
BOX 9 REEL 22-24	25 Mar.-7 Apr.
BOX 9 REEL 22-24	7-21 Apr.
BOX 10 REEL 24-26	22 Apr.-5 May
BOX 10 REEL 24-26	3-23 May
BOX 10 REEL 24-26	23 May-19 June
BOX 11 REEL 26-28	20 June-7 July
BOX 11 REEL 26-28	5-31 July
BOX 11 REEL 26-28	31 July-19 Aug.
BOX 12 REEL 28-30	19 Aug.-13 Sept.
BOX 12 REEL 28-30	6 Sept.-11 Oct.
BOX 12 REEL 28-30	11 Oct.-10 Nov.
BOX 13 REEL 31-33	10 Nov.-5 Dec.
BOX 13 REEL 31-33	6-26 Dec.

## Container List

Container	Contents
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BOX 13 REEL 31-33	1919, 26 Dec. 1919-1920, 21 Jan.
BOX 14 REEL 33-35	1920
BOX 14 REEL 33-35	21 Jan.-12 Feb.
BOX 14 REEL 33-35	12 Feb.-8 Mar.
BOX 14 REEL 33-35	20 Feb.-3 May
BOX 15 REEL 35-37	3 Mar.-5 Apr.
BOX 15 REEL 35-37	6 Apr.-10 May
BOX 15 REEL 35-37	3 May-21 June
BOX 16 REEL 37	21 June-3 July