

Raymond Leslie Buell Papers
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Washington, D.C.
2010

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Prepared by Manuscript Division staff

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Collection Summary

Title: Raymond Leslie Buell Papers

Inclusive Dates: 1915-1984

Bulk Dates: 1920-1946

ID No.: MSS61465

Creator: Buell, Raymond Leslie, 1896-1946

Extent: 17,900 items

Extent: 51 containers

Extent: 20.4 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm83061465>

Summary: Educator, lecturer, and publicist; active in international affairs. Correspondence, memoranda, speeches, statements, writings, subject files, and other papers relating to Buell's career as a writer and speaker on international affairs, to his travels, and to his activities with the Foreign Policy Association and the Republican Party.

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

Adamic, Louis, 1899-1951--Correspondence.
Baker, Frederick E.--Correspondence.
Baldwin, Roger N. (Roger Nash), 1884-1981--Correspondence.
Bellegarde, Dantès, 1877-1966--Correspondence.
Bernays, Edward L., 1891-1995--Correspondence.
Brandt, Karl, 1898-1974--Correspondence.
Buell, Frances Dwight, 1894-1985.
Buell, Raymond Leslie, 1896-1946.
Buell, Raymond Leslie, 1896-1946. Poland: key to Europe. 1939.
Chamberlain, Joseph P. (Joseph Perkins), 1873-1951--Correspondence.
Claxton, Brooke, 1898-1960--Correspondence.
Davenport, Russell W. (Russell Wheeler), 1899-1954--Correspondence.
Dellunde, Ventura F.--Correspondence.
Dewey, Thomas E. (Thomas Edmund), 1902-1971--Correspondence.
Dulles, John Foster, 1888-1959--Correspondence.
Einstein, Albert, 1879-1955--Correspondence.
Emeny, Brooks, 1901-1980--Correspondence.
Firestone, Harvey S., 1898-1973--Correspondence.
Grady, Henry Francis, 1882-1957--Correspondence.
Hays, Brooks--Correspondence.
Jessup, Philip C. (Philip Caryl), 1897-1986--Correspondence.
Jászi, Oszkár, 1875-1957--Correspondence.
Landon, Alfred M. (Alfred Mossman), 1887-1987--Correspondence.
Luce, Clare Boothe, 1903-1987--Correspondence.
Luce, Henry Robinson, 1898-1967--Correspondence.
Milton, George Fort, 1894-1955--Correspondence.
Niebuhr, Reinhold, 1892-1971--Correspondence.
Roosevelt, Eleanor, 1884-1962--Correspondence.
Roosevelt, Franklin D. (Franklin Delano), 1882-1945--Correspondence.
Slichter, Sumner H. (Sumner Huber), 1892-1959--Correspondence.
Smith, H. Alexander (Howard Alexander), 1880-1966--Correspondence.

Waymack, W. W. (William Wesley), 1888-1960--Correspondence.
Williams, W. Walter, 1894-1983--Correspondence.
Willkie, Wendell L. (Wendell Lewis), 1892-1944--Correspondence.
Willkie, Wendell L. (Wendell Lewis), 1892-1944.

Organizations

Foreign Policy Association.
League of Nations.
Republican Party (U.S. : 1854-)
Time, inc.

Subjects

Elections--Massachusetts.
International relations.
Journalism--United States.
New Deal, 1933-1939.
Political campaigns--United States.
Presidents--United States--Election--1940.
Presidents--United States--Election--1944.
Reconstruction (1939-1951)--Europe.
World politics.

Places

Africa--History--20th century.
Massachusetts--Politics and government--1865-1950.
Poland--History--20th century.
United States--Economic policy--1933-1945.
United States--Foreign relations--20th century.
United States--Politics and government--20th century.

Occupations

Editors.
Educators.
Publicists.

Acquisition Information

The papers of Raymond Leslie Buell, educator, lecturer, and publicist, active in international affairs, were given to the Library of Congress as a permanent deposit by the Houghton Library of Harvard University at the request of Buell's wife, Frances Buell, in 1983.

Processing History

The Buell papers were processed by Connie L. Cartledge with the assistance of Allyson H. Jackson and Patrick M. Kerwin in 1991. The finding aid was revised in 2010.

Copyright Status

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

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Raymond Leslie Buell 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, Raymond Leslie Buell Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1896, July 13	Born, Chicago, Ill.
1918	A.B., Occidental College, Los Angeles, Calif.
1918-1919	Sergeant of ordnance, American Expeditionary Forces
1919	Student, University of Grenoble, Isere, France; wrote <i>Contemporary French Politics</i>
1920	M.A., Princeton University, Princeton, N.J.
1920-1921	Assistant professor of history and economics, Occidental College, Los Angeles, Calif.
1922	Ph.D., Princeton University, Princeton, N.J.
1922-1925	Instructor in government, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.
1925-1926	Investigated political conditions in Africa, Bureau of International Research, Harvard University and Radcliffe College, Cambridge, Mass.
1926-1927	Assistant professor, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.
1927-1939	Research director, 1927-1933, and president, 1933-1939, Foreign Policy Association
1928	Married Frances March Dwight Representative of Foreign Policy Association, Pan American Conference, Havana, Cuba Published <i>The Native Problem in Africa</i> (New York: Macmillan Co. 2 vols.)
1934	Chairman, Commission on Cuban Affairs
1934-1935	Cofounder and research advisor, National Policy Committee
1935-1936	Director, Geneva Research Center, Geneva, Switzerland
1938-1942	Advisor and roundtable editor for Time, Inc.
1939	Published <i>Poland: Key to Europe</i> (New York: Alfred A. Knopf. 364 pp.)
1940	Published <i>Isolated America</i> (New York: Alfred A. Knopf. 457 pp.) Foreign affairs adviser to Wendell L. Willkie's presidential campaign
1942	Unsuccessful candidate for Congress, first district of Massachusetts
1942-1946	Foreign affairs advisor to the editors of <i>Time</i> , <i>Life</i> , and <i>Fortune</i> magazines
1946	Died, Montreal, Canada

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Raymond Leslie Buell (1896-1946) span the years 1915-1981, with the majority of the items concentrated in 1920-1946. The bulk of the papers document Buell's activities as a lecturer, advisor, and writer on domestic and international issues. The papers consist of five series: [General Correspondence](#) ; [Time, Inc. File](#) ; [Subject File](#) ; [Speeches, Statements, and Writings File](#) ; and [Miscellany](#) . Many of the papers carry notes and notations by Buell's wife, Frances Dwight Buell.

The [General Correspondence](#) series (1920-1946) includes incoming and outgoing correspondence relating to Buell's work and writings on international and national affairs. Much of the correspondence is between Buell and prominent leaders of

the period, consisting of requests by Buell for information, invitations to people to join the Foreign Policy Association or Buell's roundtables, and discussions of domestic and foreign policy issues. Subjects include the League of Nations, world politics after World War II, political campaigns, and New Deal policies.

The [Time, Inc., File](#) (1938-1946) consists chiefly of memoranda documenting Buell's work as foreign policy advisor and roundtable editor for Time, Inc. Most of the memoranda pertain to postwar reconstruction of Europe and the role of the United States as a world leader. Some foreign policy memoranda also appear in the [Speeches, Statements, and Writings](#) series. Papers in the [Subject File](#) (1917-1947) also document Buell's interests in international matters, as well as his concern for economic issues affecting the United States.

The [Speeches, Statements, and Writings File](#) (1915-1975) documents Buell's prolific work as a speaker and writer. Buell not only wrote his own addresses and lectures but sometimes those of other prominent people as well. For example, he wrote a 1944 speech entitled "American Policy Toward China" for Clare Boothe Luce. Three of Buell's most notable books were *The Native American Problem in Africa*, *Isolated America*, and *Poland: Key to Europe*. The latter, published in 1939, forecasts the partition of Poland by Germany. Papers relating to Buell's books are fragmentary with the exception of *Poland: Key to Europe*. Also included in this series are numerous articles, book reviews, and letters to editors, all in various stages from drafts to final printed copies. Some speeches and statements also appear in the [Miscellany](#) series.

The final series in the papers, [Miscellany](#) (1916-1981), relates chiefly to Buell's travels and his activities with the Foreign Policy Association and Republican politics. The Foreign Policy Association, located in New York, was a national organization of research and education in the field of foreign affairs. One of the highlights of Buell's twelve-year tenure with this organization was his service on the Commission of Cuban Affairs which published "Problems of the New Cuba." In addition, he wrote a foreign policy speech for Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1932. Other files document Buell's unsuccessful campaign for the United States Congress (first district of Massachusetts) in 1942 and his active role in Wendell L. Willkie's presidential campaigns of 1940 and 1944. Buell served as Willkie's advisor on foreign affairs and wrote several speeches for him. The travel files in this series pertain to Buell's trips both abroad and in the United States. The majority of these papers relate to his study of the political, economic, and social conditions of Africa, conducted while on a grant from the Bureau of International Research of Harvard University and Radcliffe College. Also included in this series are letters of Frances Buell pertaining mainly to her research about her husband's career and writings.

The most significant and frequent of Buell's correspondents are Louis Adamic, Frederick E. Baker, Roger N. Baldwin, Dantès Bellegarde, Edward L. Bernays, Karl Brandt, Joseph P. Chamberlain, Brooke Claxton, Russell W. Davenport, Ventura F. Dellunde, Thomas E. Dewey, John Foster Dulles, Albert Einstein, Brooks Emery, Harvey S. Firestone, Henry Francis Grady, Brooks Hays, Oszkár Jászi, Philip C. Jessup, Alfred M. Landon, Clare Boothe Luce, Henry Robinson Luce, George Fort Milton, Reinhold Niebuhr, Eleanor Roosevelt, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Sumner H. Slichter, H. Alexander Smith, W. W. Waymack, Wendell L. Willkie, and W. Walter Williams.

Arrangement of the Papers

The collection is arranged in five series:

- [General Correspondence, 1920-1946](#)
- [Time, Inc., File, 1938-1946](#)
- [Subject File, 1917-1947](#)
- [Speeches, Statements, and Writings File, 1915-1975](#)
- [Miscellany, 1916-1981](#)

Description of Series

Container	Series
BOX 1-17	<p><u>General Correspondence, 1920-1946</u></p> <p>Correspondence with friends, colleagues, acquaintances, and the general public. Includes appended material such as clippings, speeches, and pamphlets. Arranged alphabetically by topic or name of person or institution.</p>
BOX 17-26	<p><u>Time, Inc., File, 1938-1946</u></p> <p>Correspondence, memoranda, reports, notes, clippings, and printed matter documenting Buell's activities as foreign affairs advisor to Time, Inc. Arrangement is alphabetical by name of person or institution, topic, or type of material.</p>
BOX 27-31	<p><u>Subject File, 1917-1947</u></p> <p>Correspondence, memoranda, reports, notes, clippings, and printed matter relating to subjects of interest to Buell. Arrangement is alphabetical by subject.</p>
BOX 32-40	<p><u>Speeches, Statements, and Writings File, 1915-1975</u></p> <p>Correspondence, memoranda, speeches and background information, articles, book reviews, book drafts, notes, contracts, clippings, scrapbooks, and printed matter. Arrangement is alphabetical by type of material and therein alphabetical by type of material, subject, or title.</p>
BOX 40-51	<p><u>Miscellany, 1916-1981</u></p> <p>Correspondence, memoranda, speeches, reports, notes, photographs, clippings, and printed matter documenting Buell's professional and personal activities. Arrangement is alphabetical by subject or type of material.</p>

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	Arrangement is alphabetical by name of person or institution, topic, or type of material.
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