

Francis Bowes Sayre Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2012

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm73022350>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms012177>

Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff
Revised by David Mathisen

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2012

Collection Summary

Title: Francis Bowes Sayre Papers

Span Dates: 1861-1967

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1915-1961)

ID No.: MSS22350

Creator: Sayre, Francis Bowes, 1885-1972

Extent: 8,100 items

Extent: 27 containers

Extent: 10.8 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm73022350>

Summary: Diplomat and statesman. Correspondence, official reports and communications, writings, printed matter, and miscellaneous material relating to Sayre's diplomatic career and his role as a spokesman for Christianity and the Episcopal Church. Includes a reading copy of Woodrow Wilson's Fourteen Points message to Congress, telegrams, election returns, and other papers pertaining to Wilson.

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

Acheson, Dean, 1893-1971--Correspondence.
Austin, Warren Robinson, 1877-1962--Correspondence.
Baker, Ray Stannard, 1870-1946--Correspondence.
Farley, James A. (James Aloysius), 1888-1976--Correspondence.
Green, William, 1870-1952--Correspondence.
Grenfell, Wilfred Thomason, Sir, 1865-1940--Correspondence.
Hart, Thomas Charles--Correspondence.
Hull, Cordell, 1871-1955--Correspondence.
Lattimore, Owen, 1900-1989--Correspondence.
Lehman, Herbert H. (Herbert Henry), 1878-1963--Correspondence.
MacArthur, Douglas, 1880-1964--Correspondence.
Marshall, George C. (George Catlett), 1880-1959--Correspondence.
Murphy, Frank, 1890-1949--Correspondence.
Nevin, Wilberforce, -1899. Wilberforce Nevin letterbook. 1861-1864.
Osmeña, Sergio, 1878-1961--Correspondence.
Pepper, Claude, 1900-1989--Correspondence.
Phillips, William, 1878-1968--Correspondence.
Pound, Roscoe, 1870-1964--Correspondence.
Quezon, Manuel Luis, 1878-1944--Correspondence.
Quezon, Manuel Luis, 1878-1944.
Roosevelt, Franklin D. (Franklin Delano), 1882-1945--Correspondence.
Roosevelt, Franklin D. (Franklin Delano), 1882-1945.
Sayre, Francis Bowes, 1885-1972.
Scarlett, William, 1883-1973--Correspondence.
Stettinius, Edward R., Jr. (Edward Reilly), 1900-1949--Correspondence.
Truman, Harry S., 1884-1972--Correspondence.
Wilson, Woodrow, 1856-1924--Correspondence.
Wilson, Woodrow, 1856-1924.

Organizations

Episcopal Church.

United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration.
United Nations. Trusteeship Council.
United States. Department of State.
United States. High Commissioner to the Philippines.

Subjects

Christianity.
Diplomatic and consular service, American--Thailand.
Diplomats--Japan--Correspondence.
International trade.
World War, 1939-1945--Pacific Area.
World War, 1939-1945--Philippines.

Places

Corregidor Island (Philippines)--History.
Philippines--Foreign relations--United States.
Philippines--History--Japanese occupation, 1942-1945.
Philippines--Politics and government--1935-1946.
Thailand--Foreign relations--United States.
United States--Commerce.
United States--Commercial policy.
United States--Foreign relations--Thailand.
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.

Occupations

Diplomats.
Statesmen.

Provenance

The papers of Francis Bowes Sayre, diplomat and statesman, were given to the Library of Congress between 1965 and 1973 by Sayre and his wife. An addition was given by J. Richard Kyle in 1983.

Processing History

The papers of Francis Bowes Sayre were arranged and described in 1965. Additional material received in 1983 was incorporated into the collection in 1985, and an invocation given by Sayre in 1967 was transferred to these papers from the Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection in 2012. The finding aid was revised in 2012.

Additional Guides

In 1965 the Library published *Francis Bowes Sayre, a Register of His Papers in the Library of Congress*.

Copyright Status

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

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Francis Bowes Sayre 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, Francis Bowes Sayre Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1885, Apr. 30	Born, South Bethlehem, Pa.
1909	A.B., Williams College, Williamstown, Mass.
1912	LL.B., Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.
1913	Married Jessie Woodrow Wilson, daughter of President Woodrow Wilson
1913	Deputy Assistant District Attorney, New York County, N.Y.
1914-1917	Assistant to the president and instructor in government, Williams College, Williamstown, Mass.
1918	S.J.D., Harvard University, Cambridge Mass.
1919-1924	Assistant professor of law, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.
1924	Professor of law, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.
1925	Adviser on foreign affairs to Siamese government
1925	Envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary from Siam
1929	Director, Harvard Institute of Criminal Law, Cambridge, Mass.
1933	State commissioner of correction, Massachusetts
1933-1939	Assistant secretary of state
1939-1942	U. S. high commissioner to the Philippines
1943	Special assistant to the secretary of state
1944-1947	Diplomatic Adviser, United National Relief and Rehabilitation Administration
1947-1952	U. S. representative on Trusteeship Council of the United Nations

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Francis Bowes Sayre (1885-1972) span the years 1861-1967, with the bulk of the material concentrated in the period 1915-1961. The collection consists of letters received and copies of letters sent; records, reports, and memoranda; an autobiography; printed and near-print copies of addresses and articles; clippings; a small amount of memorabilia; and other printed items. The papers are organized into six series: [General Correspondence](#); [Special Correspondence](#); [Subject File](#); [Book, Article, and Speech File](#); [Miscellany](#); and [Addition](#).

Sayre's long service as a spokesman for Christianity and the Episcopal Church is reflected in his religious writings and addresses. Letters on the subject are found in both the [General Correspondence](#) and [Special Correspondence](#) series.

Although this service for Christianity is illustrated throughout the entire collection, the papers primarily illustrate Sayre's diplomatic career as assistant secretary of state, high commissioner to the Philippine Islands, diplomatic adviser to the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA), and as a member and president of the Trusteeship Council of the United Nations. There is also some correspondence relating to his service as an adviser to and envoy from Siam.

Papers for the period of his tenure as assistant secretary of state especially concern the foreign trade policies of the first two administrations of Franklin D. Roosevelt. Files on UNRRA are principally comprised of reports from Sayre on his efforts to secure contributions for that agency from Latin America, Europe, Asia, and Africa. Papers relating to the trusteeship council are mainly concerned with the Pacific Trust Territories, particularly Samoa, although there is some material on Palestine and Southwest Africa.

Material on the Philippines in the [Subject File](#) and in the [Special Correspondence](#) series relates to World War II in the Pacific. The files cover the period from the fall of 1939 when Sayre assumed office until February 1942 when he was evacuated from Corregidor, and are concerned with subjects such as defense preparations, internees and prisoners of war,

conditions on Corregidor, Philippine independence, Manuel Luis Quezon, and collaborators. Especially interesting are memoranda of conversations and correspondence with Japanese diplomats.

Among the correspondents are Dean Acheson, Warren Robinson Austin, Ray Stannard Baker, James A. Farley, William Green, Sir Wilfred Thomason Grenfell, Cordell Hull, Thomas Charles Hart, Owen Lattimore, Herbert H. Lehman, Douglas MacArthur, George C. Marshall, Frank Murphy, Sergio Osmeña, Claude Pepper, William Philips, Roscoe Pound, Manuel Luis Quezon, William Scarlett, Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., and Presidents Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harry S. Truman.

Also included in the collection is a Civil War letterbook of Union Army officer Wilberforce Nevin.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in six series:

- [General Correspondence, 1915-1961](#)
- [Special Correspondence, 1924-1952](#)
- [Subject File, 1925-1952](#)
- [Book, Speech, and Article File, 1918-1961](#)
- [Miscellany, 1861-1967](#)
- [Addition, 1924-1967](#)

Description of Series

Container	Series
BOX 1-3	<p><u>General Correspondence, 1915-1961</u></p> <p>Letters received and copies of letters sent relating to academic, diplomatic, editorial, religious and personal matters.</p> <p>Arranged chronologically by years, with an alphabetical arrangement within each year.</p>
BOX 4-7	<p><u>Special Correspondence, 1924-1952</u></p> <p>Correspondence with eminent contemporaries relating to diplomatic, political, administrative, personal, and legal matters.</p> <p>Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondents.</p>
BOX 8-14	<p><u>Subject File, 1925-1952</u></p> <p>Records, memoranda, reports, correspondence, press releases and printed matter relating to the Philippines, United National Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, the United Nations, and Siam.</p>
BOX 15-24	<p><u>Book, Speech, and Article File, 1918-1961</u></p> <p>Manuscripts, drafts, notes, printed and near print copies of addresses, speeches, and books.</p> <p>Arranged by type of writing or material</p>
BOX 25-27	<p><u>Miscellany, 1861-1967</u></p> <p>Biographical material, printed matter, a letterbook of Wilberforce Nevin, and other miscellaneous material.</p> <p>Organized by type of material.</p>
BOX 27	<p><u>Addition, 1924-1967</u></p> <p>Letters, telegrams, and memoranda mainly concerning Siamese affairs. Also an invocation at a memorial service for Carl Sandburg.</p> <p>Arranged chronologically.</p>

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1-3	General Correspondence, 1915-1961 Letters received and copies of letters sent relating to academic, diplomatic, editorial, religious and personal matters. Arranged chronologically by years, with an alphabetical arrangement within each year.
BOX 1	1915-1938
BOX 2	1939-1941
BOX 3	1942-1961, undated
BOX 4-7	Special Correspondence, 1924-1952 Correspondence with eminent contemporaries relating to diplomatic, political, administrative, personal, and legal matters. Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondents.
BOX 4	“A” miscellaneous <i>Correspondents include</i> Emilio Aguinaldo and Hachiro Arita
BOX 4	Acheson, Dean
BOX 4	Austin, Warren Robinson
BOX 4	“B” miscellaneous <i>Correspondents include</i> Roger N. Baldwin, Bernard Baruch, Adolph A. Berle, Jr., William C. Bullitt, Harold B. Burton, Harry F. Byrd, and Richard E. Byrd
BOX 4	Baker, Newton D.
BOX 4	Baker, Ray Stannard
BOX 4	Byrnes, James F.
BOX 4	“C” miscellaneous <i>Correspondents include</i> Oscar Chapman, Chiang Kai-shek, Bennett Champ Clark, William L. Clayton, and Homer Cummings
BOX 4	“D” miscellaneous <i>Correspondents include</i> Josephus Daniels, Cleveland E. Dodge, and John Foster Dulles
BOX 4	“E-F” miscellaneous <i>Correspondents include</i> Cyrus S. Eaton and Felix Frankfurter
BOX 4	Farley, James A.
BOX 4	“G” miscellaneous <i>Correspondents include</i> Joseph Grew and Sir Edward Grigg
BOX 4	Grady, Henry F.
BOX 4	Green, William
BOX 4	Grenfell, Sir Wilfred Thomason
BOX 4	“H” miscellaneous <i>Correspondents include</i> Will Hays, Christian A. Herter, Alger Hiss, J. Edgar Hoover, W. E. Hocking, and Edward M. House
BOX 4	Hart, Thomas Charles
BOX 4	Hull, Cordell
BOX 5	“I-J” miscellaneous <i>Correspondents include</i> Robert H. Jackson, Nelson T. Johnston, and Jesse Jones
BOX 5	Ickes, Harold
BOX 5	Jessup, Philip C.
BOX 5	“K” miscellaneous <i>Correspondents include</i> Saburu Kurusu and Frank Knox
BOX 5	“L” miscellaneous <i>Correspondents include</i> Alf. M. Landon, Chieh Liu, and Isadore Lubin
BOX 5	LaGuardia, Fiorello

Special Correspondence, 1924-1952

Container	Contents
BOX 5	Lattimore, Owen
BOX 5	Lawrence, Gertrude
BOX 5	Leham, Herbert H.
BOX 5	Luce, Henry R.
BOX 5	“M” miscellaneous <i>Correspondents include</i> Joseph McNarey, Henry Morgenthau, Mike Mansfield, Agnes Elizabeth Ernst Meyer, and Raymond Moley
BOX 5	Mac Arthur, Douglas
BOX 5	McCormack, John
BOX 5	Marshall, George C.
BOX 5	Murphy, Frank
BOX 5	“N” miscellaneous <i>Correspondents include</i> Kichisaburo Nomura and George W. Norris
BOX 5	“O” miscellaneous <i>Correspondents include</i> Robert L. O'Brien and Sergio Osmeña
BOX 5	“P” miscellaneous <i>Correspondents include</i> Thomas N. Page, Robert P. Patterson, and Frances Perkins
BOX 5	Pepper, Claude
BOX 5	Phillips, William
BOX 5	Polk, Frank
BOX 5	Pound, Roscoe
BOX 5	Quezon, Manuel Luis
BOX 6	“R” miscellaneous <i>Correspondents include</i> Stanley Reed, Eleanor Roosevelt, and Dean Rusk
BOX 6	“S” miscellaneous <i>Correspondents include</i> G. Howland Shaw, Henry K. Sherrill, Frank Stanton, Edward R. Stettinius, Jr. Henry L. Stimson, Harlan Fiske Stone, J. W. Studebaker, and John Leighton Stuart Scarlett, William
BOX 6	“T” miscellaneous <i>Correspondents include</i> Elbert Thomas and Millard Tydings
BOX 6	“V” miscellaneous <i>Correspondents include</i> Arthur Vandenberg and John Carter Vincent
BOX 6	“W-Z” miscellaneous <i>Correspondents include</i> Robert F. Wagner, Frank Walker, Henry A. Wallace, David I. Walsh, Fred Warning, Sumner Welles, Margaret Woodrow Wilson, Harry T. Woodring, Wu te Chen, and Harry E. Yarnell
BOX 7	Presidential correspondence
BOX 7	Hoover, Herbert
BOX 7	Roosevelt, Franklin D. Roosevelt (3 folders)
BOX 7	Truman, Harry S.
BOX 7	Wilson, Woodrow, including reading copy of Wilson's Fourteen Points address to Congress
BOX 8-14	Subject File, 1925-1952 Records, memoranda, reports, correspondence, press releases and printed matter relating to the Philippines, United National Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, the United Nations, and Siam.
BOX 8	Philippines
BOX 8	Articles and drafts
BOX 8	Reports
BOX 8	1938-1942
BOX 9	1942
BOX 9	Budgetary and financial papers
BOX 9	Internees and prisoners of war
BOX 9	Defense and collaborators

Subject File, 1925-1952

Container	Contents
BOX 9	Corregidor
BOX 9	Personnel
BOX 9	Japanese conversations and memoranda
BOX 9	Manuel Quezon Luis
BOX 10	Commissioner's office, resignation and sugar question
BOX 10	Independence
BOX 10	Miscellaneous notes and memoranda
BOX 10	United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration
BOX 10	Reports
BOX 10	Argentina
BOX 10	Belgium
BOX 10	Bolivia
BOX 10	Brazil
BOX 10	Chile
BOX 10	Columbia
BOX 10	Cuba
BOX 10	Denmark
BOX 10	Dominican Republic
BOX 11	Egypt
BOX 11	Equador
BOX 11	Guatemala
BOX 11	India
BOX 11	Iran
BOX 11	Iraq
BOX 11	Mexico
BOX 11	Panama
BOX 11	Peru
BOX 11	Portugal
BOX 11	Southern Rhodesia
BOX 11	Switzerland
BOX 11	Union of South Africa
BOX 11	Uruguay
BOX 11	Venezuela
BOX 12	Miscellaneous
BOX 12	Articles and speeches
BOX 12	Printed matter
BOX 12	Correspondence and memoranda
BOX 12	United Nations
BOX 12	Notes and miscellaneous writings
BOX 12	Correspondence, 1946-1952
BOX 13	Printed matter
BOX 13	Records of meetings
BOX 13	Speeches and articles
BOX 13	Statements and press releases
BOX 13	Palestine and Southwest Africa
BOX 13	Drafts and reports

Subject File, 1925-1952

Container	Contents
BOX 13	Reports
BOX 14	Samoa
BOX 14	Meetings
BOX 14	Drafts of reports and final reports
BOX 14	Notes and miscellaneous materials; speeches and official statements
BOX 14	Siam, correspondence, 1924-1952
BOX 15-24	Book, Speech, and Article File, 1918-1961 Manuscripts, drafts, notes, printed and near print copies of addresses, speeches, and books. Arranged by type of writing or material
BOX 15	Speeches and articles
BOX 15	1927-1935
BOX 16	1936-1941
BOX 17	1942-1944
BOX 18	1945-1951
BOX 19	1952-1961, undated
BOX 20	Religious writings and addresses
BOX 20	1927-1950
BOX 21	1951-1957, undated
BOX 22	Books
BOX 22	Memories, "Youthful Days in the Far West" and "Williams College Years"
BOX 22	Glad Adventure (1957)
BOX 22	Drafts
BOX 23	Original manuscript
BOX 24	Printer's copy and master carbon
BOX 25-27	Miscellany, 1861-1967 Biographical material, printed matter, a letterbook of Wilberforce Nevin, and other miscellaneous material. Organized by type of material.
BOX 25	Notes, fragments, biographical material, and other printed matter
BOX 25	Nevin, Wilberforce, letterbook, 1861-1864
BOX 25	Philadelphia Public Ledger, 1859
BOX 26	Printed matter
BOX 27	Printed matter
BOX 27	Addition, 1924-1967 Letters, telegrams, and memoranda mainly concerning Siamese affairs. Also an invocation at a memorial service for Carl Sandburg. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 27	Correspondence, 1924-1965
BOX 27	Invocation by Sayre at memorial service for Carl Sandburg, Lincoln Memorial, Washington, D.C., 1967