

Carl Schurz Vrooman 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/mm81075817>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms012190>

Prepared by John Gardner

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2012

Collection Summary

Title: Carl Schurz Vrooman Papers

Span Dates: 1872-1975

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1890-1975)

ID No.: MSS75817

Creator: Vrooman, Carl Schurz, 1872-1966

Extent: 4,750 items

Extent: 14 containers

Extent: 5.4 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm81075817>

Summary: Farmer, publicist, and U.S. assistant secretary of agriculture. Chiefly correspondence and family papers of Vrooman and members of the Vrooman and Scott family, including his wife, Julia Scott Vrooman, and her mother, Julia Green Scott.

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

Bickel, Carl G.

Brandeis, Louis Dembitz, 1856-1941--Correspondence.

Bryan, Mary Baird, 1861-1930--Correspondence.

Bryan, William Jennings, 1860-1925--Correspondence.

Douglas, Paul H. (Paul Howard), 1892-1976--Correspondence.

Harding, Warren G. (Warren Gamaliel), 1865-1923--Correspondence.

Hoover, Herbert, 1874-1964--Correspondence.

House, Edward Mandell, 1858-1938--Correspondence.

Lindsay, Vachel, 1879-1931--Correspondence.

Lindsay, Vachel, 1879-1931.

Niebuhr, Reinhold, 1892-1971--Correspondence.

Roosevelt, Eleanor, 1884-1962--Correspondence.

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

Scott family.

Scott, Julia Green, 1839-1923. Julia Green Scott papers.

Stevenson, Adlai E. (Adlai Ewing), 1900-1965--Correspondence.

Vrooman family.

Vrooman, Carl Schurz, 1872-1966.

Vrooman, Frank Buffington, 1862-1951. Frank Buffington Vrooman papers.

Vrooman, Hiram, 1871- Hiram Vrooman papers.

Vrooman, Julia Scott. Julia Scott Vrooman papers.

Vrooman, Walter, 1869- Walter Vrooman papers.

Wilson, Edith Bolling Galt, 1872-1961--Correspondence.

Wilson, Woodrow, 1856-1924.

Organizations

Farmers' Political Conference of Illinois.

Ruskin Hall, Oxford.

Scott-Lees Collegiate Institute.

United States. Department of Agriculture.

University of Wisconsin.

Subjects

Agriculture and state--United States.
Agriculture--United States.
Patriotism.
Religion.
Spirituality.
World War, 1914-1918--United States.

Places

Washington (D.C.)--Social life and customs.

Occupations

Farmers.
Public officials.
Publicists.

Provenance

The papers of Carl Schurz Vrooman, farmer, author, and assistant secretary of agriculture, were given to the Library of Congress by Julia Scott Vrooman via Helen M. Cavanagh in 1978.

Processing History

The collection was processed in 1982. The finding aid was revised in 2012.

Copyright Status

Copyright in the unpublished writings of Carl Schurz Vrooman in these papers and in other collections of papers in the custody of the Library of Congress has been dedicated to the public, except that these rights are reserved to Mrs. Vrooman and to others only with her written permission for her lifetime.

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Carl Schurz Vrooman 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, Carl Schurz Vrooman Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1872, Oct. 25	Born, Macon, Mo.
1890	Entered Washburn College, Topeka, Kans.
1891-1894	Studied at Harvard College, Cambridge, Mass.
1896	Campaigned for William Jennings Bryan for president Married Julia Scott
1900	Published <i>Taming the Trusts</i>

1908	Published "Our Railroad Riddle" on railroad safety
1913	Published <i>A Political Pilgrimage</i>
1914	Senatorial candidate in Illinois Appointed assistant secretary of agriculture by Woodrow Wilson.
1918	Toured Europe to aid in agricultural postwar relief; resigned post in December
1924	Suggested as a possible Democratic presidential or vice-presidential candidate
1921	Active in promoting free grain program for European relief and promoting farm bill of 1921
1927	Published <i>Personal Religion</i>
1936	Published <i>The Present Republican Opportunity, by a Democrat</i> . Chenoa, Ill.: C. Vrooman
1940	Active in Committee to Defend America by Aiding the Allies
1944	Wrote "A United Spiritual Offensive" Gave radio addresses for presidential campaign of Franklin D. Roosevelt
1945	Wrote "A Prospective Center Block"
1946	Democratic candidate for Congress Wrote "The Future of the Farmer"
1948	Democratic candidate for congress
1961	Wrote "A Christian Manifesto"
1966, Apr. 8	Died, Normal, Ill.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Carl Schurz Vrooman (1872-1966) span the years 1872-1975, with the bulk of the material concentrated in the period 1890-1975. The collection consists of diaries, correspondence, speeches and writings, and other papers of family members, including Vrooman; his wife, Julia Scott Vrooman (1876-1961); mother-in-law Julia Green Scott (1839-1923), president-general of the National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution; and several of Carl Vrooman's brothers, Frank, Hiram, and Walter Vrooman.

Among the topics of importance are agriculture and agricultural policy, especially during Vrooman's tenure as assistant secretary of agriculture in the Woodrow Wilson administration, social life in Washington in the early twentieth century, and Vrooman's interest in religion and spirituality. Special correspondents of Carl Vrooman include Louis Dembitz Brandeis, William Jennings Bryan, Paul H. Douglas, Warren G. Harding, Herbert Hoover, Edward Mandell House, Reinhold Niebuhr, and Franklin D. Roosevelt. Special correspondents of Julia Scott Vrooman include Mary Baird Bryan, Vachel Lindsay, Eleanor Roosevelt, Edith Bolling Galt Wilson, and Adlai Stevenson (1900-1965), Mrs. Vrooman's cousin.

Also in the collection are files devoted to Carl Bickel and the Farmers' Political Conference of Illinois. Other files relate to the poet Vachel Lindsay; the founding of Ruskin Hall, Oxford; a deposition of Carl Vrooman in a case concerning the Scott-Lees Collegiate Institute; and materials concerning the "Wisconsin matter" of 1917 in which Vrooman questioned the wartime loyalty and leadership of the University of Wisconsin.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is organized by type of material.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Diaries
BOX 1	1894-1918
BOX 2	1914-1915
BOX 2	1921-1965
BOX 2	Family correspondence, miscellaneous
BOX 2	Miscellaneous family correspondence of Carl Vrooman
BOX 2	Correspondence of Carl and Hiram Vrooman
BOX 2	1910-1939
BOX 3	1940-1949
BOX 3	Correspondence of Carl Vroom and Julia Green Scott
BOX 3	Correspondence of Carl Vrooman and Julia Vrooman
BOX 3	1890s-1914
BOX 3	1916-1919
BOX 3	1920-1927
BOX 3	1928-1948
BOX 3	1949-1950
BOX 3	Correspondence of Julia Green Scott and Julia Vrooman
BOX 3	Correspondence of Julia Vrooman with other family members
BOX 3	General correspondence of Claude, Frank B., and Hiram Vrooman
BOX 4	General correspondence of Carl Vrooman
BOX 4	A-R
	(8 folders)
BOX 5	S-Z and miscellaneous
	(3 folders)
BOX 5	Special correspondence of Carl Vrooman
BOX 5	<i>A-B Correspondents include</i>
BOX 5	Clinton P. Anderson
BOX 5	Alben W. Barkley
BOX 5	William Edgar Borah
BOX 5	Louis Dembitz Brandeis
BOX 5	Mary Baird Bryan
BOX 5	William Jennings Bryan
BOX 5	Albert Burleson
BOX 5	<i>C-G Correspondents include</i>
BOX 5	James M. Cox
BOX 5	Rachel Crothers
BOX 5	Josephus Daniels
BOX 5	John W. Davis
BOX 5	Emily Taft Douglas
BOX 5	Paul H. Douglas
BOX 5	Dwight D. Eisenhower and Gabriel Hauge
BOX 5	Charles W. Eliot

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 5	James A. Farley
BOX 5	Lindley M. Garrison
BOX 5	Cary T. Grayson
BOX 5	<i>H-J Correspondents include</i>
BOX 5	Warren G. Harding
BOX 5	Herbert Hoover
BOX 5	Edward Mandell House
BOX 5	D.F. Houston
BOX 5	Cordell Hull
BOX 5	<i>K Correspondents include</i>
BOX 5	Judson King
BOX 5	<i>L-N Correspondents include</i>
BOX 5	Franklin K. Lane
BOX 5	David Lawrence
BOX 5	Vachel Lindsay
BOX 5	Walter Lippman
BOX 5	Scott Lucas
BOX 5	W. G. McAdoo (1863-1941)
BOX 5	Thomas R. Marshall, Herbert Hoover, and others
BOX 5	Reinhold Niebuhr
BOX 5	Richard Nixon
BOX 5	<i>O-R Correspondents include</i>
BOX 5	Harlan B. Phillips
BOX 5	Gifford Pinchot
BOX 5	Nelson Rockefeller
BOX 5	Eleanor Roosevelt
BOX 5	Franklin D. Roosevelt
BOX 5	Daniel C. Roper
BOX 5	<i>S Correspondents include</i>
BOX 5	John P. St. John
BOX 5	H. Alexander Smith
BOX 5	Adlai E. Stevenson (1835-1914)
BOX 5	Adlai E. Stevenson and secretary Carol Evans (1900-1965)
BOX 5	<i>T-Z Correspondents include</i>
BOX 5	Harry S. Truman
BOX 5	Joseph C. Wallace
BOX 5	William Allen White
BOX 5	Wendell Willkie
BOX 5	Woodrow Wilson
BOX 6	Letters of introduction for Carl Vrooman
BOX 6	Telegrams relating to appointment as assistant secretary of agriculture, 1914
BOX 6	“Reactions to Carl Vrooman’s ‘A Prospective Center Block,’” 1945-1946
BOX 6	Miscellaneous correspondence of Carl Vrooman
BOX 6	General correspondence of Julia Green Scott

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 6	General correspondence of Julia Vrooman, A-Z and miscellany (2 folders)
BOX 6	Special correspondence of Julia Vrooman
BOX 6	<i>A-Q Correspondents include</i>
BOX 6	Elizabeth Baker
BOX 6	Newton Diehl Baker
BOX 6	Mary Baird Bryan
BOX 6	Grover Cleveland
BOX 6	Emily Taft Douglas
BOX 6	Paul H. Douglas
BOX 6	Thomas Watts Gregory
BOX 6	Edward Mandell House
BOX 6	Cordell Hull
BOX 6	Judson King
BOX 6	Vachel Lindsay
BOX 6	<i>R Correspondents include</i>
BOX 6	Eleanor Roosevelt and secretary
BOX 6	<i>S Correspondents include</i>
BOX 6	Adlai E. Stevenson (1835-1914)
BOX 6	Adlai E. Stevenson and secretary Carol Evans (1900-1965)
BOX 6	Lewis Stevenson
BOX 6	<i>T-Z Correspondents include</i>
BOX 6	Harry S. Truman
BOX 6	Henry C. Wallace
BOX 6	Edith Bolling Galt Wilson
BOX 6	Other correspondence
BOX 6	Speeches and writings
BOX 6	Carl Vrooman
BOX 6	1872-1899
BOX 7	1900-1917 (7 folders)
BOX 8	1918-1959 (6 folders)
BOX 9	1960-1964
BOX 9	Julia Vrooman, 1916-1964
BOX 9	Julia Green Scott
BOX 9	Frank B. Vrooman
BOX 9	Hiram Vrooman, 1893-1940 (2 folders)
BOX 9	Walter Vrooman
BOX 10	Special file
BOX 10	Carl Bickel, Farmers' Political Conference of Illinois
BOX 10	Vachel Lindsay
BOX 10	Ruskin Hall, Young Oxford Folder (3 folders)
BOX 10	Scott-Lees Collegiate Institute v. W. W. Charles, and C.
BOX 10	Wisconsin matter, loyalty at the university, 1917

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 11	Material relating to early history of the Scott, Green, and Stevenson families (2 folders)
BOX 11	Material relating to early history of the Vrooman family
BOX 11	Papers relating to Matthew Thompson Scott and Julia Green Scott
BOX 11	Papers relating to Matthew Thompson Scott, Chenoa, Ill. Centennial
BOX 11	Papers relating to Hiram P. Vrooman and Aarah Buffington Vrooman
BOX 11	Carl Vrooman miscellaneous papers
BOX 11	1891-1898
BOX 12	1890s
BOX 12	Miscellaneous papers relating to Julia Vrooman and her relatives, Admiral Sir Sidney Bailey and Viscount Trenchard
BOX 12	Papers relating to Frank B. Vrooman, Harry Vrooman, Hiram Vrooman, and Walter Vrooman
BOX 12	Clipping file 1, 1883-1970 (5 folders)
BOX 13	Clipping file 2, 1896-1964 (4 folders)
BOX 13	Clipping file of Julia Scott Vrooman
BOX 13	1896-1924, July
BOX 13	1924, Aug.-1925, Jan.
BOX 14	1925-1975, Feb.
BOX 14	Clipping file of Julia Greem Scott
BOX 14	Clipping file of Frank B. Vrooman
BOX 14	Biographer's files, Helen T. Cavanagh