

Roosevelt, Franklin D.

PAPERS PERTAINING TO FAMILY, BUSINESS AND PERSONAL AFFAIRS

1882-1945

Accession Numbers:

42-339, 44-75, 44-77, 45-57, 47-7, 47-35, 56-8 and 72-24

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Quantity: 37 feet (approximately 74,000 pages)

Restrictions: None

Related Materials:

Anna Eleanor Roosevelt Papers: Appendix I-Family Papers
Roosevelt Family Papers
Roosevelt Family Papers Donated by the Children of
Franklin D. and Eleanor Roosevelt
Delano Family Papers

Franklin D. Roosevelt: Family Business and Personal Papers

This collection contains those papers of Franklin D. Roosevelt which describe his family, business, philanthropic, intellectual and other personal interests during his lifetime. They are distinct from his official and political papers and were so maintained by the President. As Roosevelt held no public office prior to 1910 nor during the period 1920-28, a majority of the papers in this group are found to belong to these years. Among these materials are papers relating to his school years, law practice, civic activities, business interests, family and home activities, historical and genealogical pursuits, editing and writing and financial matters. In form, they contain correspondence, school records, law briefs, publications of organizations, genealogical charts, ships' logs, manuscripts of writings, galley proofs of publications, scrapbooks of newspaper clippings and bank statements and checks.

A. General Correspondence File, 1904-1928. A file, arranged alphabetically, of persons with whom Roosevelt corresponded, generally on personal, business or intellectual matters, during the years 1904-28. Although occasional political items are found in this file, most such items are in other groups of papers. Correspondents include: Van Lear Black, Isaiah Bowman, William Jennings Bryan, Richard E. Byrd, Renah F. Camalier, James M. Cox, Josephus Daniels, Livingston Davis, Norman H. Davis, Abram I. Elkus, Julian Goldman, Louis McHenry Howe, Arthur P. Homer, Marguerite A. LeHand, William Gibbs McAdoo, Langdon P. Marvin, John A. McIlhenny, Marvin H. McIntyre, D. Basil O'Connor, William Gorham Rice, G. Hall Roosevelt, and Alfred E. Smith. Boxes 1-6.

B. Subject File. This series contains boxes and folders of correspondence, arranged alphabetically, on many business, civic, family, and cultural interests of Roosevelt. It also includes genealogical materials, Mr. Roosevelt's school records and printed programs, menus, and other souvenirs of events in Mr. Roosevelt's life.

His business papers contain correspondence and reports on enterprises in which he had an investment or in which he served as an officer. Here are found papers papers pertaining to the law firm of Carter, Ledyard and Milburn, 1906-10; American Investigation Corporation, 1921-25; Fidelity and Deposit Company of Maryland, of which he was a Vice President, 1920-28. Photomation, Inc., 1927-28; Sanitary Postage Service Corpoartion, 1926-28; United European Investors, Limited, 1922-26, of which he was President; Associated Bankers Corporation, 1919-23; Compo Bond Corporation, 1921-29, of which he was a Director; Federal International Investment Trust, 1928; General Trust Co., 1928, F.D.R. a director; and Montacal Oil Co., 1920-28.

Examples of Roosevelt's many philanthropic and civic interests, especially for the years 1920-28, include the American Construction Council, 1922-28; Boy Scout Foundation of Greater New York, 1922-28; Cathedral of St. John the Divine fund-raising campaign, 1922-28; Taconic State Park Commission, 1925-28; Vassar College Board of Trustees, 1922-28; Woodrow Wilson Foundation, 1921-28; Legion Endowment Fund, 1925-26; Fifth Avenue Hospital, 1921-28; The Navy Club of New York, 1920-27; Near East Relief, 1921-28; Walter Hines Page Memorial, 1923-27; and Seaman's Church Institute of New York, 1909-23.

The family and personal files include materials on forestry and farming on the Roosevelt estate, 1911-33, including correspondence with Syracuse University College of Forestry on demonstration planting; Roosevelt a local historian, 1912-27; correspondence related to the Harvard Class of 1904 and Harvard University, 1908-29; trips on the houseboats "Weona" and "Larocco", 1922-27; correspondence relating to Campobello (summer house of the Roosevelts), 1911-28; and invitations received by Roosevelt, 1921-28. Cultural Activities of the President are exemplified by his collecting activities in the fields of naval history, Hudson Valley and Dutchess County history; his correspondence with dealers, collectors and historians, 1903-33; and his interest in the Holland Society of New York and the Dutchess County Historical Society with respect to their plans to publish historical documents.

Roosevelt's interest in the histories of the Roosevelt, Delano and related families is illustrated by his fairly extensive collection of genealogical materials. Present is correspondence, genealogical charts, volumes of genealogical materials, news clippings, notes and other materials, some compiled by Roosevelt, some given to him by members of his family, and much donated by admirers claiming common ancestry. Among the items is a genealogical volume kept by Roosevelt himself; a typescript volume entitled "Ghillebert de Lannoy in Medieval Lithuania..." by Petras Klimas (New York, 1944); a volume of Roosevelt genealogy given to him by his uncle, Frederick A. Delano; a typescript volume, "Roosevelt Background" by M. Fortescue Pickard; and several large genealogical charts.

Roosevelt's school records are small in bulk. For the period 189-96, when he was tutored privately at Hyde Park, there are notebooks of school exercises, some original drawings, and a record book of grades. For his years at Groton School, 1896-1900, there are school exercises, compositions and examination papers. Remaining from his days at Harvard University, 1900-04, are an appointment book, compositions on naval and Roosevelt family history, and programs, tickets and other souvenirs of college life. In addition there are a few notes from law school courses taken at Columbia University Law School, 1904-07.

This series also contains a collection of printed programs, menus, and other souvenirs of events in Roosevelt's life, 1904-45, and two scrapbooks of newspaper articles and photographs dealing with Roosevelt's career in business and philanthropic activities in the 1920's and with his mother's activities. Boxes 6-38.

C. Speeches and Writings. This section includes speeches, public statements and public writings for the entire period of Roosevelt's life but excludes those items of political nature or those made in the capacity of a public official. Speeches made by Roosevelt as a private citizen include a speech before the Berkshire Banker's Association, June 20, 1921, and a speech at the dinner of the Kosciusko Foundation, May 17, 1928. Examples of statements of Roosevelt are: a press release on United European Investors, 1922; press releases for the American Construction Council, May 21, 1923, and July 1, 1923; and a press release of December 18, 1923 referring to the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York. Roosevelt's work as a private author and editor are exemplified by the following: an article published in Asia magazine, July 1923, on the subject of Japan; an article for the St. James Bard (Hyde Park, New York), November 1924, on historical publications; an article for the Poughkeepsie (N.Y.) Sunday Courier, written February 28, 1925, on the Mid-Hudson Bridge; a letter to the New York Herald-Tribune, July 17, 1925, on the American Legion Endowment Fund; a review of Bower's Jefferson and Hamilton, November 19, 1925; a book Whither Bound (Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston: 1926); editorship of Minutes of the Council of Appointment of New York, April 4, 1778- May 3, 1779 (Little & Ives, New York: 1925); and editorship of Records of the Town of Hyde Park (A.V. Haight, Poughkeepsie, N.Y.:1928). Boxes 38-45.

D. Financial Papers, 1903-43. These files contain check stubs, cancelled checks, bank statements, receipted bills, investment papers, income tax returns with supporting papers, and other financial matters relating to his home at Hyde Park, to Georgia Warm Springs Foundation, to Val-Kill Cottage and to other investments and business ventures. Boxes 46-61.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
FAMILY, BUSINESS AND PERSONAL PAPERS

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2	D Daniels, Josephus Davis, Livingston Davis, Norman H. Delano Family E Elkus, Abram I. F G Goldman, Julian
3	Graves, George B. Gunn, Sidney Ha-Hi Harding, Earl Hawkins, David S. Ho-Hy Homer, Arthur P. Hughes, George A. I-J K L Lawrence, John S.
4	LeHand, Marguerite A. Lynch, Humphrey J. Campaign Committee Ma-Mi Marvin, George Marvin, Langdon P. Marx, Robert S. McAdoo, William G. McCarthy, Charles H. McIlhenny, John A. McIntyre, Marvin H. Mo-My

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6	T U-V Van Namee, George R. Wa-Wi Waters, Frank Welles, Sumner Wo-Z
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7	American Construction Council Correspondence: H Correspondence: O-W Correspondence: Roosevelt, Franklin D. Meetings and Minutes American Federation of Labor American Homesteaders American Investigation Corporation Commercial Airship Operation
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10	Campobello Carter, Ledyard and Milburn American Express Co. Astor Estate Baumann vs. Waterbury Burlingame vs. Waterbury May Estate Miscellaneous Legal Cases Notes Schieffelin Estate Tonnele Estate
11	Cathedral of St. John the Divine Correspondence: A-L Correspondence: M-R Correspondence: S-W Minutes: Board of Trustees and Executive Committee Miscellaneous Chiriqui [Panama] Coal Company Civil Service Reform Collections Correspondence Auction of Naval Items
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13	Collections Correspondence Correspondence: Stan V. Henkels Historical Manuscripts Longhand Lists of Periodicals Longhand Lists of Book Purchases Miscellaneous Paintings, Prints, Engravings Ship Models Stamps
14	Columbia University Law School and Practice Miscellaneous Notes 1904-c.1913 Notebook on Constitutional Law Compo Bond Corporation Death Certificate Diary, 1921 Dutchess County Matters Dutchess County Society of New York Employment Applications Engagement Engineering-Economics Foundation Federal International Investment Trust Federation Bank of New York
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