

Norman H. Davis Papers

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Prepared by Manuscript Division staff
Revised and expanded by Joseph K. Brooks



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Washington, D.C.

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Collection Summary

Title: Norman H. Davis Papers

Span Dates: 1898-1979

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1915-1944)

ID No.: MSS17962

Creator: Davis, Norman (Norman Hezekiah), 1878-1944

Extent: 44,000 items ; 99 containers plus 1 classified and 4 oversize ; 40.5 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English, with some French and German

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

Abstract: Economist, diplomat and humanitarian. Correspondence, journals, minutes, speeches, statements, scrapbooks, memoranda, news clippings, printed matter, photographs, and other material relating mainly to Davis's participation between the world wars in international conferences on peace, disarmament, and international monetary matters.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

People

Davis, Norman H. (Norman Hezekiah), 1878-1944.

Hoover, Herbert, 1874-1964--Correspondence.

Lamont, Thomas W. (Thomas William), 1870-1948--Correspondence.

Vanderlip, Frank A. (Frank Arthur), 1864-1937--Correspondence.

Organizations

Allied and Associated Powers (1914-1920). Supreme Economic Council.

Conference for the Reduction and Limitation of Armaments (1932-1934 : Geneva, Switzerland)

International Economic Conference (1927 : Geneva, Switzerland)

League of Nations.

London Naval Conference (1935-1936 : London, England)

Monetary and Economic Conference (1933 : London, England)

Nine-Power Conference (1937 : Brussels, Belgium)

Paris Peace Conference (1919-1920)

Subjects

Arms control.

Disarmament.

International economic relations.

International relations.

Peace.

Security, International.

World War, 1914-1918--Peace.

World War, 1914-1918--Reparations.

World War, 1939-1945.

Occupations

Diplomats.

Economists.

Humanitarians.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of Norman H. Davis, economist and diplomat, were given to the Library of Congress in 1953, 1958, 1964, and 1984 by the Council on Foreign Relations. Pricilla Kellert gave a further addition to the collection in 2007.

Processing History

The papers of Norman H. Davis were arranged and described by staff in 1953. The collection was expanded and revised in 1956, 1957, 1958, 1985, and 2012.

Copyright Status

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

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Norman H. Davis 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.

Security Classified Documents

Government regulations control the use of security classified material in this collection. Manuscript Division staff can furnish information concerning access to and use of classified materials.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Norman H. Davis Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1978, Aug. 9	Born, Normandy, Bedford County, Tenn.
1897-1900	Attended Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn., and Stanford University, Stanford, Calif.
1898	Married Mackie Paschall
1902	Began business career in Cuba
1905-1917	Organized Trust Co. of Cuba and served as president of the company
1917	Advisor on foreign loans to the secretary of the treasury
1918	Special delgate to Spain and representative of the United States Treasury in London, England and Paris, France
1919	Appointed finance commisioner of the United States to Europe American member, Armistice Commission Chairman of the finance section, Supreme Economic Council Financial advisor to Woodrow Wilson and the American Commission to Negotiate Peace Member of the Reparations and Financial Commissions Assistant secretary of the treasury

1920	Under secretary of state and acting secretary of state Chairman, Conference on International Communications, Washington, D. C.
1924	Chairman, League of Nations Commission to Determine the Status of Memel
1927	Member, American Delegation to the International Economic Conference, Geneva Switzerland Member, League of Nations Financial Committee
1932	Appointed member of of the organizing committee for the International Monetary and Economic Conference Chairman of the American delegation, Disarmament Conference, Geneva, Switzerland
1935	Head of the American delegation to the London Naval Conference
1937	United States delegate, Nine-Power Conference, Brussels, Belgium
1938-1944	Chairman, American Red Cross
1944, July 1	Died, Alexandria, Va.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of diplomat and economist Norman Hezekiah Davis (1878-1944) span the years 1898-1979 with the bulk of the material concentrated between 1915 and 1944. In 1902 Davis began his business career in Cuba where he organized the Trust Company of Cuba. He commenced a public career in 1917 and served in four presidential administrations consulting on international finance at the Department of Treasury, the Department of State, and international conferences and committees during World War I and the the interwar period. Davis was chairman of the of the American Red Cross from 1938 to his death in 1944.

The papers are organized into seven series: [Correspondence and Other Papers](#), [Printed Matter](#), [Addition I](#), [Addition II](#), [Addition III](#), [Oversize](#), and [Classified](#). The [Correspondence and Other Papers](#) series consists of correspondence, diaries, journals, minutes, addresses, statements, scrapbooks, memoranda, clippings, printed matter, photographs, and other papers relating chiefly to Davis's services as a participant in international conferences and commissions on peace, disarmament, monetary matters and as a financial and economic consultant. The series includes material on conferences and organizations including the Supreme Economic Council of the Allied and Associated Powers (1914-1920), the Armistice, Paris Peace Conference (1919), International Economic Conference (Geneva, 1927), League of Nations, Limitation of Arms Conference (Geneva, 1932-1934), Monetary and Economic Conference (London, 1933), London Naval Conference (1935-1936), the Brussels Nine-Power Conference (1937), and other conferences and organizations. Correspondents include Herbert Hoover, Viscount Robert Gascoyne-Cecil, Cecil of Chelwood, Cordell Hull, Thomas W. Lamont, and Frank A. Vanderlip.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in seven series:

- [Correspondence and Other Papers, 1916-1942](#)
- [Printed Matter, 1933-1937](#)
- [Addition I, 1915-1945](#)
- [Addition II, 1918-1960](#)
- [Addition III, 1898-1979](#)
- [Oversize, 1920-1943](#)
- [Classified, 1927-1944](#)

Description of Series

<i>Container</i>	<i>Series</i>
BOX 1-71	<p><u>Correspondence and Other Papers, 1918-1942</u></p> <p>Letters sent and received, memoranda, copies of statements and addresses, journals, minutes, addresses, statements, scrapbooks, memoranda, clippings, printed matter, photographs, and miscellaneous material.</p> <p>Arranged alphabetically by name of person, organization, or subject. There is some arrangement of dossiers within larger subjects such as the Supreme Economic Council, but many subject groups are wholly unarranged.</p>
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BOX 77-92	<p><u>Addition I, 1915-1945</u></p> <p>Financial papers, subject files, correspondence, printed matter, and newspaper clippings</p> <p>Mostly arranged alphabetically by topic. Some files arranged by type of material.</p>
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BOX CL 1	<p><u>Classified, 1927-1944</u></p> <p>Documents containing national security information removed from the collection.</p> <p>Arranged and described according to the series and folders from which the items were removed.</p>

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