

Charlotte Everett Hopkins
Collection of National Civic
Federation, Woman's
Department, District of
Columbia Section Records

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the
Library of Congress

Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff
Revised by Kathleen O'Neill



Manuscript Division, Library of
Congress

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Collection Summary

Title: Charlotte Everett Hopkins Collection of National Civic Federation, Woman's Department, District of Columbia Section Records.

Span Dates: 1900-1926

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1910-1918)

ID No.: MSS26484

Creator: Hopkins, Charlotte Everett

Extent: 700 items; 6 containers; 1.2 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

Abstract: Civic leader, philanthropist, and social reformer. Correspondence, circulars, reports, clippings, and other printed matter primarily relating to Charlotte Everett Hopkins's activities as chairman of the Woman's Department of the National Civic Federation, District of Columbia Section.

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

Ayres, Steven B. (Steven Beckwith), 1861-1929--Correspondence.

Beeks, Gertrude, b. 1867--Correspondence.

Burroughs, Nannie Helen, 1879- --Correspondence.

Catt, Carrie Chapman, 1859-1947.

Dyer, Leonidas Carstarphen, 1871-1957--Correspondence.

Gallinger, Jacob H. (Jacob Harold), 1837-1918--Correspondence.

Hammond, Natalie Harris, 1861-1931--Correspondence.

Hopkins, Charlotte Everett.

Jones, Thomas Jesse, 1873-1950--Correspondence.

Shaw, Anna Howard, 1847-1919.

Simms, Ruth Hanna McCormick, 1880-1944--Correspondence.

Wetmore, Maude A. K. (Maude Alice Keteltas), 1873-1951--Correspondence.

Organizations

Alley Improvement Association--Correspondence.

Associated Charities of the District of Columbia--Correspondence.

Colored Settlement Association (Washington, D.C.)--Correspondence.

Council of National Defense (Washington, D.C.). Woman's Committee--Correspondence.

National American Woman Suffrage Association--Correspondence.

National Civic Federation. Woman's Department. District of Columbia Section. Charlotte Everett Hopkins collection of National Civic Federation. Woman's Department. District of Columbia Section records. 1900-1926.

National Committee on Prison Labor--Correspondence.

National Surgical Dressings Committee--Correspondence.

Subjects

Health.

Housing--Washington (D.C.)

Juvenile delinquency--Washington (D.C.)

Milk.

Municipal government--Washington (D.C.)

Playgrounds--Washington (D.C.)

Refuse collection--Washington (D.C.)
War relief.
Work environment--Washington (D.C.)
World War, 1914-1918--Civilian relief--United States.

Occupations
Civic leaders.
Philanthropists.
Social reformers.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The collection of Charlotte Everett Hopkins, civic leader, philanthropist, and social reformer, relating to the National Civic Federation, Woman's Department, District of Columbia Section, was deposited in the Library of Congress by Charlotte Everett Hopkins in 1927.

Processing History

The collection of Charlotte Everett Hopkins was arranged and described circa 1950. The finding aid was expanded and revised in 2010.

Copyright Status

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

Access and Restrictions

The collection of Charlotte Everett Hopkins is 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, Charlotte Everett Hopkins Collection of National Civic Federation, Woman's Department, District of Columbia Records, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note and Organizational History

Charlotte Everett Hopkins

Charlotte Everett Hopkins was born in Cambridge, Massachusetts on June 7, 1851. She married Archibald Hopkins of Williamstown, Massachusetts on November 14, 1878. A civic leader, philanthropist, and social reformer in the District of Columbia, Hopkins was a prominent crusader for the betterment of the working and living conditions of the District's poor and working class citizens. Hopkins was chairman of the Woman's Department of the National Civic Federation, District of Columbia Section; president of the Home for Incurables, Washington, D.C.; board member of the United States Hospital for the Insane, Washington, D.C.; chairman of the D.C. Housing Commission, Washington, D.C.; and a trustee of the Society for the Preservation of Places of Historic Interest and Natural Beauty, Washington, D.C. Hopkins fought to eradicate alley slums in the District of Columbia. She is credited with educating First Lady Ellen Axson Wilson on this issue, resulting in Wilson's support of the Ellen Wilson Memorial Homes. She was also instrumental in the formation of the Washington Committee on Housing (later the Washington Planning and Housing Association) and the passage of the Alley Dwelling Elimination Act in 1934. She published

with Elizabeth Christophers Hobson, *A Report Concerning the Colored Women of the South*, Baltimore: Trustees, 1896. In 1914, *Harper's Weekly* published her article, "The Washington Alley Bill."

National Civic Federation

The National Civic Federation, founded in 1900, was an organization of business and labor leaders that sought progressive reform by mediating disputes between industry and organized labor. The District of Columbia Section's activities included improving the welfare and working conditions of District residents, improving jail conditions, supporting public schools and libraries, and preventing communicable diseases. After the outbreak of World War I, the Woman's Department focused on aiding the war effort through clothing, surgical dressing, and materials drives as well as providing support services for returning servicemen. The organization worked in cooperation with the American Red Cross, National Patriotic Relief, and the Woman's Committee of the Council of National Defense (Washington, D.C.).

Scope and Content Note

The collection of Charlotte Everett Hopkins (1851-1935) relating to the National Civic Federation, Woman's Department, District of Columbia Section spans the years 1900-1926 with the bulk of the material dating from 1910-1918. The collection includes correspondence, bulletins, circulars, reports, clippings, and printed matter. The material represents Hopkins's work as chairman of the Woman's Department of the National Civic Federation, District of Columbia Section.

The bulk of the collection is correspondence, both incoming and outgoing, with members of the Woman's Department including Gertrude Beeks, Nannie Helen Burroughs, and Maude A. K. Wetmore. Other notable correspondents include Steven B. Ayres, Leonidas Carstarphen Dyer, Jacob H. Gallinger, Natalie Harris Hammond, Thomas Jesse Jones, and Ruth Hanna McCormick Simms. Notable organizational correspondents include the Alley Improvement Association, Washington D.C.; Associated Charities of the District of Columbia; Colored Settlement Association (Washington, D.C.); Council of National Defense (Washington, D.C.) Woman's Committee; National American Woman Suffrage Association; National Committee on Prison Labor, New York, N.Y.; and the National Surgical Dressings Committee, Washington, D.C.

A subject file includes circulars, minutes, and reports from the Council of National Defense and the National Civic Federation. Authors include Carrie Chapman Catt and Anna Howard Shaw from the Woman's Committee of the Council of National Defense (Washington, D.C.). This file also contains reports from various committees covering health education efforts, veteran support services, and the physical condition and safety of jails, schools, hospitals, and workplaces.

Miscellany files in the collection include clippings, invitations, notes, and educational pamphlets.

Although many of the correspondents are prominent, much of the correspondence itself is not extensive. Portions of the correspondence are in fragments or lack pages. There are only a few papers relating to the Ellen Wilson Memorial Homes project. The strength of the collection lies in the report material for municipal reform efforts in the areas of war relief, housing, garbage collection, health, diet, pure milk, juvenile delinquency, playgrounds, and working conditions of District citizens.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged type of material and therein alphabetically.

Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1	General correspondence, 1900-1926
BOX 1	Addams, Jane
BOX 1	Ayres, Steven B.
BOX 1	"A" miscellaneous
BOX 1	Baker, Newton Diehl
BOX 1	Boardman, Mabel Thorp
BOX 1	Brownlow, Louis
BOX 1	Burroughs, Nannie Helen
BOX 1	"B" miscellaneous
BOX 1	Catt, Carrie Chapman <u>See Container 3, Council of National Defense, Circulars</u>
BOX 1	Council of National Defense (Washington, D.C.) Woman's Committee
BOX 1	Crago, Thomas Spencer
BOX 1	Curtis, Charles
BOX 1	"C" miscellaneous
BOX 1	Derby, Richard
BOX 1	Dillingham, William P.
BOX 1	Dyer, Leonidas Carstarphen
BOX 1	"D" miscellaneous
BOX 1	"E" miscellaneous
BOX 1	Fisher, Walter L.
BOX 1	"F" miscellaneous
BOX 1	Gallinger, Jacob H.
BOX 1	"G" miscellaneous
BOX 1	Hamilton, Alice
BOX 1	Hammond, Natalie Harris
BOX 1	Harriman, Florence Jaffray
BOX 1	Harris, William J.
BOX 1	Hitchcock, Frank H.
BOX 1	Hollis, Henry French
BOX 1	Hoover, Herbert
BOX 1	Howe, Frederic Clemson <u>See Container 2, National Civic Federation</u>
BOX 1	"H" miscellaneous
BOX 1	"I" miscellaneous
BOX 1	Johnson, Ben
BOX 1	Jones, Thomas Jesse
BOX 1	Jones, Wesley Livsey
BOX 1	"J" miscellaneous
BOX 1	Kahn, Julius
BOX 1	Kenyon, William Squire
BOX 1	"K" miscellaneous
BOX 2	Lane, Franklin Knight

Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 2	Lee, Sarah Roosevelt
BOX 2	Library of Congress
BOX 2	Low, Seth
BOX 2	"L" miscellaneous
BOX 2	McCoy, Walter Irving
BOX 2	McIlhenny, John A.
BOX 2	"M" miscellaneous
BOX 2	National American Woman Suffrage Association
BOX 2	National Civic Federation, Woman's Department, District of Columbia Section. <u>See Container 4, Subject file, National Civic Federation</u>
BOX 2	1909-1912
BOX 2	1913
BOX 2	1914
BOX 2	1915
BOX 2	1916-1918
BOX 2	National Surgical Dressings Committee, Washington, D.C.
BOX 2	Newton, Bryan R.
BOX 2	Noyes, Theodore W.
BOX 2	"N" miscellaneous
BOX 2	"O-P" miscellaneous
BOX 2	Page, Robert Newton
BOX 2	Poindexter, Miles
BOX 2	Ralph, Joseph E. <u>See also Container 3, "U" Miscellaneous</u>
BOX 2	Shaw, Anna Howard <u>See Container 1, Council of National Defense</u> and <u>Container 3, Council of National Defense, Circulars</u>
BOX 2	Simms, Ruth Hanna McCormick
BOX 2	Smith, William Henry
BOX 2	"S" miscellaneous
BOX 2	Treadway, Allen Towner
BOX 2	Tumulty, Joseph P.
BOX 2	"T" miscellaneous
BOX 3	"U" miscellaneous <u>See also same container, Wetmore, Maude A.K. and</u> <u>Container 2, Ralph, Joseph E.</u>
BOX 3	"V" miscellaneous
BOX 3	Wetmore, Maude A. K. <u>See also same container, "U" miscellaneous</u>
BOX 3	Wickersham, George W.
BOX 3	Wiley, Harvey Washington
BOX 3	Williams, John Sharp
BOX 3	Wilson, Edith Bolling Galt
BOX 3	Wilson, Woodrow
BOX 3	"W" miscellaneous
BOX 3	"Y" miscellaneous
BOX 3	Fragments of correspondence
BOX 3	Subject file, 1900-1918
BOX 3	Associated Charities of the District of Columbia
BOX 3	Council of National Defense (Washington, D.C.) Woman's Committee
BOX 3	Circulars

Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 3	1917
BOX 3	1918 (2 folders)
BOX 4	Reports
BOX 4	1917
BOX 4	1918
BOX 4	1918, undated
BOX 4	Miscellaneous, 1917-1918, undated
BOX 4	Ellen Wilson Memorial Homes, 1916-1918
BOX 4	National Civic Federation, Woman's Department, District of the Columbia Section. <u>See Container 2, National Civic Federation</u>
BOX 4	Lists, undated
BOX 4	Minutes
BOX 4	1911-1913
BOX 4	1914-1917
BOX 4	Reports
BOX 4	1900-1912
BOX 4	1913-1914
BOX 5	1915-1918, undated
BOX 5	Undated (3 folders)
BOX 5	Fragments of circulars, minutes, and reports, undated
BOX 5	Reports by others, 1917-1918, undated
BOX 6	Miscellany
BOX 6	<i>Homes of London Poor</i> by Octavia Hill, excerpts and notes, undated
BOX 6	Invitation, notes, and receipts
BOX 6	Printed matter (7 folders)