Smith Simpson Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress

Prepared by Joseph K. Brooks

Manuscript Division, Library of Congress

Washington, D.C.

2002

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Collection Summary

Title: Smith Simpson Papers
Span Dates: 1833-1991
Bulk Dates: (bulk 1925-1979)
ID No.: MSS81483
Creator: Simpson, Smith
Extent: 5,000 items; 16 containers; 6.2 linear feet
Language: Collection material in English
Repository: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
Abstract: Diplomat. Correspondence, family papers, topical files, photographs, scrapbooks, printed matter, and miscellaneous material relating to Simpson's career as a diplomat and industrial relations specialist.

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
Bruère, Robert W. (Robert Walter), 1876-1964--Correspondence.
Colegrove, Kenneth W. (Kenneth Wallace), 1886-1975--Correspondence.
Hedges, M. H. (Marion Hawthorne), b. 1888--Correspondence.
Hendree family.
Hohman, Elmo Paul, b. 1894--Correspondence.
Lemmers, Marcel J.--Correspondence.
Moran, Hugh Anderson, 1881-1977--Correspondence.
Moran, Irene H.--Correspondence.
Moran, Jean--Correspondence.
Shotwell, James Thomson, 1874-1965--Correspondence.
Simpson family.
Simpson, Edith Smith--Correspondence.
Simpson, Hendree P.--Correspondence.
Simpson, Smith.
Smith family.
Tayler, William L. (William Lonsdale), b. 1899--Correspondence.
Thorne, Florence Calvert--Correspondence.
Tinsley family.
Underwood, Oscar W. (Oscar Wilder), 1890-1962--Correspondence.
Waelbroeck, Pierre, b. 1891--Correspondence.
Watt, Robert J.--Correspondence.
Wilson, Richard--Correspondence.
Winant, John C.--Correspondence.

Organizations
Georgetown University. Institute for the Study of Diplomacy.
International Labour Organisation.
Wabash (Frigate)

Subjects
Communism--Europe.
Diplomacy.
Diplomatic and consular service, American--India.
Diplomatic and consular service, American--Mozambique.

Diplomatic and consular service.
Industrial relations--United States.
International labor activities.
Labor attachés--Belgium.
Labor attachés--Greece.
Labor attachés--Mexico.
Labor unions and mass media--United States.
Labor unions--Europe.
Labor unions--United States.
Peace movements--United States.

Places
Fort Fisher (N.C. : Fort)--Capture, 1865.
India--Foreign relations--United States.
Mozambique--Foreign relations--United States.
United States--Foreign relations--India.
United States--Foreign relations--Mozambique.
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Campaigns.

Occupations
Diplomats.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of Smith Simpson were given to the Library by Simpson in 1992.

Copyright Status

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

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Smith Simpson 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, Smith Simpson Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	*Event*
1906, Nov. 9	Born, Arlington County, Va.
1927	B.S., University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Va.
1928	M.S., University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Va.
1931	LL.B., Cornell University Law School, Ithaca, N.Y.

1931-1932	Postgraduate work, Columbia University, New York, N.Y.
1933-1934	Special labor advisor, National Recovery Administration
1934	Married Henriette Lanniée
1934-1935	Administrator, Asphalt, Shingle, and Roofing Code Authority, National Recovery Administration
1935-1943	Instructor and assistant professor, Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.
1943-1944	Assistant director, Foreign Division, Recruitment and Manning Organization, War Shipping Administration
1944-1945	Department of State; worked on United Nations charter and the establishment of a labor attaché program
1945-1948	First secretary and labor attaché, American embassy, Brussels, Belgium
1947-1949	First secretary and labor attaché, American embassy, Athens, Greece
1949-52	First secretary and labor attaché, American embassy, Mexico City, Mexico
1952-1954	Deputy consul general, Bombay, India
1954-1957	Consul general, Lourenco Marques, Mozambique.
1958-1960	Advisor on African affairs, Department of Labor
1960-1962	Member, Board of Examiners, Foreign Service, Department of State
1967	Published *Anatomy of the State Department*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin
1970-1978	Founder and chairman, Georgetown University Institute for the Study of Diplomacy, Washington, D.C.
1974-1977	Research professor of diplomacy, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service, Washington, D.C.
1978-1992	Cofounder and board member, Institute for the Study of Diplomacy
1980	Published *The Crisis in American Diplomacy*. North Quincy, Mass.: Christopher Publishing House
1986	Published *Perspectives on the Study of Diplomacy*. Washington, D.C.: Institute for the Study of Diplomacy
1987	Published *Education in Diplomacy: An Instructional Guide*. Lanham, Md.: University Press of America

2010, Sept. 5 Died, Charlottesville, Va.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Robert Smith Simpson (1906-2010) span the years 1833-1991, with the bulk of the material covering 1925-1979. Simpson, a labor and industrial relations expert before World War II, helped initiate the labor attaché program of the Department of State during the war. In the postwar era, labor attachés were appointed to blunt communist penetration of trade unions in recently liberated western and southern European countries. Simpson served as labor attaché in Belgium and Greece during 1945-1949 and went on to a further three-year labor posting in Mexico before serving as deputy consul in Bombay, India, and consul general in Lourenco Marques, Mozambique, 1952-1957.

The collection consists of correspondence, printed matter, scrapbooks, subject files, and photographs arranged alphabetically by type of material or subject. File headings include family papers, general correspondence, and labor attaché's reading file.

Family papers are chiefly related to the genealogy of the Hendree, Simpson, Smith, and Tinsley families. A file on Simpson's grandfather, John T. Smith, a naval officer, includes a letter dated January 16, 1865, describing the participation of his ship, the *Wabash* (steam frigate), in the capture of Fort Fisher in North Carolina during the Civil War. Most of the letters are to Simpson from his mother, Northern Virginia civic leader Edith Smith Simpson, while he was attending Cornell and Columbia universities during 1930-1932. There is also correspondence with his father, Hendree P. Simpson, a civil engineer employed by the Navy Department and a horticulturist specializing in irises.

General correspondence spanning 1931-1932 is mainly with college professors and friends, some of whom were active in peace movements. Simpson was preparing to write a dissertation on the American peace movement during the post-World War I period. Material includes Simpson's correspondence relating to surveying the files and archives of peace, disarmament, and women's groups. Correspondents include Marcel J. Lemmers, Hugh Anderson Moran, Irene H. Moran, Jean Moran, Oscar W. Underwood (1890-1962), and Richard Wilson. Correspondence spanning 1936-1941 relates mainly to the International Labour Organisation. Correspondents include Robert W. Bruère, Kenneth W. Colegrove, M. H. Hedges, Elmo Paul Hohman, James Thomson Shotwell, William L. Tayler, Florence Calvert Thorne, Pierre Waelbroeck, Robert J. Watt, and John C. Winant.

Simpson culled most of the material in the labor attaché's reading file from the American popular, official, industrial, and trade union press during a period spanning 1945-1954 when he was a labor attaché in Belgium, Greece, and Mexico and deputy consul general in Bombay, India. The file also includes "The Labor Movement of the United States" by Simpson. He used the material for reference when answering questions from contacts in the host countries and as a source of ideas and opinions to exchange with his foreign interlocutors. According to Simpson, the labor attaché material in the collection is a sampling from a much larger file.

Simpson reviewed his diplomatic career in an interview he gave to the Foreign Affairs Oral History Project in 1991. Other files that document his time in the Foreign Service include photographs and scrapbooks. His continued interest after retirement in the conduct and history of diplomacy and in overcoming deficiencies in the recruitment and training of Foreign Service officers is reflected in his numerous articles and letters to the editor in the writings file and in a file on the Institute for the Study of Diplomacy, which he cofounded.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged by type of material.

Container List

Container	*Contents*
BOX 1	American peace movements, 1921-1933, undated
BOX 1	Commissions and certificates, 1947-1954, 1964, 1973, 1983
BOX 1	Committee for the Study of Diplomacy, 1969-1990
	(3 folders)
BOX 1	Department of Labor Executive Reserve Program
BOX 1	1963-1971
	(2 folders)
BOX 2	Undated
BOX 2	Family papers
BOX 2	Burton, Mrs. Lewis W., "Hendree-Paine Family and Collateral Branches," undated
BOX 2	Christmas newsletters, 1952-1990
BOX 2	Correspondence
BOX 2	1925, Nov. 2-1930, May 20
	(4 folders)
BOX 3	1930, June 2-1932, June 10; 1974, July 23
	(6 folders)
BOX 3	Hendree, William Woodson, *Preludes*, 1880
BOX 3	Maurin, Elana (granddaughter), 1990, undated
BOX 3	Maurin, Margaret Lanniée Simpson (daughter)
BOX 3	"Memories of World War II, an account of the role of the Belgian Consul in Geneva, Switzerland, and Mrs.Marcel Lannieé, and interviews with four Belgian officers," 1985
BOX 3	Miscellany, 1955-1977, undated
BOX 4	Miscellany, 1887, 1938-1940, 1958, 1966-1967, 1974, 1991, undated
BOX 4	Mitchells Presbyterian Church, Mitchells, Va., 1967, 1977
BOX 4	Park, Emily Hendree, 1910-1911
BOX 4	Pickens, Andrew, 1968, 1976, undated
BOX 4	Simpson, Edith Smith (mother), 1903, 1912, 1941, 1950-1958, 1971, 1982, undated
BOX 4	Simpson family, 1986-1990, undated
BOX 4	Simpson, Hendree P. (father), 1927-1931, 1955, undated
BOX 4	Smith, John T., and Smith family, 1833, 1865, 1874, 1901
BOX 4	Tinsley family, 1920, undated
BOX 4	Foreign Affairs Oral History Project, Georgetown University, Washington, D.C., interview with Simpson and other biographical material, 1977-1982, 1991
BOX 5	General correspondence
BOX 5	1926, 1931-1938
	(7 folders)
BOX 6	1939-1941, 1964-1969, 1991
	(5 folders)

Container	*Contents*
BOX 6	Greece, 1947-1948
	(2 folders)
BOX 6	International Labour Organisation, 1936-1941, 1959, undated
BOX 7	Labor attaché's reading file
BOX 7	American history, 1942-1952, undated
BOX 7	American life and people, 1945-1954, undated
	(3 folders)
BOX 7	Foreign policy
BOX 7	Clippings, 1952
	(3 folders)
BOX 8	*Korea 1945 to 1948*, Department of State, 1948
BOX 8	Miscellany, 1924, 1934, 1952, undated
BOX 8	Miscellany, 1942-1954, undated
BOX 8	National security and problems of communism, 1946-1954, undated
BOX 8	News releases, 1953-1954, undated
BOX 8	Soviet Union and its satellites, 1945-1951, undated
BOX 8	Trade unions and industrial relations
BOX 8	Articles, 1945-1954, undated
	(2 folders)
BOX 9	Booklets, pamphlets, and magazines, 1945-1954, undated
	(2 folders)
BOX 9	Clippings, 1948-1950, undated
BOX 9	"The Labor Movement of the United States," and other writings by Simpson, undated
	(2 folders)
BOX 9	Reports, fact sheets, and news releases
BOX 9	"America Is Different," Danish Federation of Labor, undated
BOX 9	Miscellany, 1943-1954, undated
	(2 folders)
BOX 10	United Nations, 1947-1949
BOX 10	World War II and its aftermath, 1941-1946, undated
BOX 10	Miscellany, 1930-1932, 1953, 1984-1987, undated
BOX 10	National Economic and Social Planning Association, *The Textile Industry in the United States of America*, 1937
BOX 10	Photographs, 1944-1954, undated
	(2 folders)
BOX 10	Scrapbooks
BOX 10	1922-1928
	(2 folders)
BOX 11	(1 folder)
BOX 11	Activities
BOX 11	1918-1952
BOX 12	1953-1966
BOX 12	1967-1991
	(2 folders)
BOX 13	(1 folder)
BOX 13	Simpson v. Department of State

Container	*Contents*
BOX 13	Affidavits, 1979
BOX 13	Background material and notes, 1977, undated
BOX 13	Briefs and related material, 1979-1981, undated (3 folders)
BOX 13	Complaints for declaratory and injunctive relief, 1979
BOX 13	Correspondence, 1977-1982
BOX 13	Interrogatories and requests for documents, 1975-1979
BOX 14	Motions, 1979
BOX 14	Orders and opinions, 1979-1981
BOX 14	Writings
BOX 14	*Anatomy of the State Department*, reviews, 1967, undated
BOX 14	Letters to the editor and book reviews, 1978-1991
BOX 15	Scrapbooks
BOX 15	1916-1952
BOX 16	1952-1977