

Arthur Gleason Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress

Prepared by Allan Teichroew
Revised by Patrick Kerwin



Manuscript Division, Library of
Congress

Washington, D.C.

2005

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Gardner, 2010

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Collection Summary

Title: Arthur Gleason Papers

Span Dates: 1863-1931

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1900-1923)

ID No.: MSS18382

Creator: Gleason, Arthur, 1878-1923

Extent: 3,000 items; 13 containers; 5.2 linear feet; 8 microfilm reels

Language: Collection material in English

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

Abstract: Journalist, editor, and social reformer. Family and general correspondence, writings, subject files, clippings, and printed matter relating to Gleason's editorial work with *Cosmopolitan*, *The Survey*, and *Collier's Weekly*; his experiences as a journalist and medic in World War I; his activities on behalf of the British labor movement, Bureau of Industrial Research, United Mine Workers, and socialism; and his interest in topics such as immigration, Jews in the United States, American isolationism, the Irish question, and religious groups and sects in Southern California.

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

Addams, Jane, 1860-1935.

Baldwin, Roger N. (Roger Nash), 1884-1981--Correspondence.

Blankenhorn, John.

Bliven, Bruce, 1889-1977.

Bok, Edward William, 1863-1930--Correspondence.

Brophy, John, 1883-1963.

Bruère, Robert W. (Robert Walter), 1876-1964.

Bryce, James Bryce, Viscount, 1838-1922.

Butler, Geoffrey G. (Geoffrey Gilbert), Sir, 1887-1929--Correspondence.

Carter, Edward C. (Edward Clark), 1878-1954--Correspondence.

Chesterton, G. K. (Gilbert Keith), 1874-1936.

Churchill, Winston, 1874-1965--Correspondence.

Cohn, Fannia M. (Fannia Mary), 1885- --Correspondence.

Cook, Joe, 1887-1959--Correspondence.

Croly, Herbert David, 1869-1930.

Debs, Eugene V. (Eugene Victor), 1855-1926--Correspondence.

Eastman, George, 1854-1932--Correspondence.

Eaton, Walter Prichard, 1878-1957--Correspondence.

Edwards, Richard Henry, 1877-1954--Correspondence.

Fels, Joseph, 1854-1914--Correspondence.

Frankfurter, Felix, 1882-1965--Correspondence.

Furuseth, Andrew, 1854-1938.

Gannett, Lewis, 1891-1966--Correspondence.

Gleason family--Correspondence.

Gleason, Arthur, 1878-1923.

Gleason, Helen Hayes--Correspondence.

Grant, Percy Stickney, 1860-1927.

Hammer, Armand, 1898-1990--Correspondence.

Hapgood, Norman, 1868-1937--Correspondence.

Harcourt, Alfred, 1881-1954--Correspondence.
 Hillman, Sidney, 1887-1946--Correspondence.
 Hodges, Frank, 1887-1947.
 Jusserand, J. J. (Jean Jules), 1855-1932--Correspondence.
 Kellogg, Paul Underwood, 1879-1958--Correspondence.
 Kirkup, Thomas, 1844-1912--Correspondence.
 Krehbiel, Edward B. (Edward Benjamin), b. 1878--Correspondence.
 Laidler, Harry Wellington, 1884-1970--Correspondence.
 Laski, Harold Joseph, 1893-1950--Correspondence.
 Lewisohn, Ludwig, 1882-1955--Correspondence.
 Lippmann, Walter, 1889-1974--Correspondence.
 London, Jack, 1876-1916--Correspondence.
 Lowell, A. Lawrence (Abbott Lawrence), 1856-1943--Correspondence.
 Mack, Julian W. (Julian William), 1866-1943--Correspondence.
 More, Paul Elmer, 1864-1937--Correspondence.
 Morrow, William--Correspondence.
 Oppenheim, James, 1882-1932--Correspondence.
 Parkhurst, C. H. (Charles Henry), 1842-1933--Correspondence.
 Phelps, William Lyon, 1865-1943--Correspondence.
 Phillips, John S. (John Sanburn), 1861-1949--Correspondence.
 Robinson, Charles Mulford, 1869-1917--Correspondence.
 Ross, Edward Alsworth, 1866-1951--Correspondence.
 Scudder, Vida Dutton, 1861-1954.
 Sinclair, May--Correspondence.
 Smillie, Robert, 1857-1940.
 Spalding, William Andrew, 1852-1941--Correspondence.
 Steinmetz, Charles Proteus, 1865-1923.
 Sullivan, Mark, 1874-1952--Correspondence.
 Thomas, Norman, 1884-1968.
 Tolstoĭ, Iliĭa L'vovich, graf, 1866-1933.
 U'Ren, William Simon, 1859-1949--Correspondence.
 Van Hise, Charles Richard, 1857-1918.
 Wald, Lillian D., 1867-1940--Correspondence.
 White, Andrew Dickson, 1832-1918--Correspondence.
 Winter, William, 1836-1917--Correspondence.
 Wise, Stephen S. (Stephen Samuel), 1874-1949--Correspondence.

Organizations

Bureau of Industrial Research.
 United Mine Workers of America.

Subjects

American periodicals.
 Emigration and immigration.
 Irish question.
 Isolationism--United States.
 Labor unions--Great Britain.
 Labor unions.
 Labor--Great Britain.
 Socialism.
 World War, 1914-1918--Journalists.
 World War, 1914-1918--Medical care.

Places

California--Religion.

Titles
Collier's weekly.
Cosmopolitan.
Survey.

Occupations
Editors.
Journalists.
Reformers.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of Arthur Huntington Gleason, journalist, editor, and social reformer, were given to the Library of Congress in 1968 by his widow, Helen Hayes Gleason Johnson.

Processing History

The papers of Arthur Gleason were processed in 1977. The finding aid was revised in 2003.

Transfers

Photographs have been transferred to the Library's Prints and Photographs Division where they are identified as part of these papers.

Copyright Status

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

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Arthur Gleason 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.

Microfilm

A microfilm edition of these papers is available on eight reels. Consult reference staff in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan. To promote preservation of the originals, researchers are required to consult the microfilm edition.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container or reel number, Arthur Gleason Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1878, Dec. 14	Born, Newark, N.J.
1901	B.A., Yale University, New Haven, Conn.
1901-1903	Reporter, <i>New York Tribune</i>

1903	Manuscript editor, <i>Cosmopolitan</i>
1904-1907	Assistant editor, <i>Country Life in America</i> , <i>The Survey</i>
1908-1913	Associate editor, <i>Collier's Weekly</i>
1912	Married Helen Hayes
1914-1915	Red Cross worker, Hector Monro Ambulance Corps, Belgium
1916-1917	European correspondent, <i>New York Tribune</i> and <i>Century Magazine</i>
1917	Writer, Publicity Department, YMCA, American Expeditionary Forces
1919	English correspondent, <i>The Survey</i> Awarded Mons Star and Ribbon by the British War Office Published with Paul U. Kellogg <i>British Labor and the War</i> . New York: Boni and Liveright
1920	Returned to the United States Published <i>What the Workers Want</i> . New York: Harcourt, Brace, and Howe
1921	Published <i>Workers' Education</i> . New York: Bureau of Industrial Research
1921-1922	Staff member, Bureau of Industrial Research Collaborated with John Brophy in advancing miners' plan for nationalization of the coal industry
1923	Moved to San Diego, Calif.
1923, Dec. 30	Died, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Arthur Huntington Gleason (1878-1923) span the years 1863-1931, with the bulk of the material concentrated in the period 1900-1923. Consisting of [family correspondence](#), [general correspondence](#), [writings file](#), [subject file](#), and [miscellany](#) including clippings and printed matter, the papers chart Gleason's career from his graduation from Yale University to his death from spinal meningitis in 1923. Letters and related material document his early years as an editor with *Cosmopolitan*, *The Survey*, and *Collier's Weekly*, but the major part of the collection relates to his years in Europe, 1914-1920. Gleason and his wife Helen Hayes were among a group of youthful American writers who volunteered to perform humanitarian service on behalf of the Allies during the first years of World War I, and it is this phase and the subsequent years of reconstruction and political turmoil that are treated most prominently in the collection. By the time Gleason returned to the United States in 1920, he had become a student of the British labor movement as well as a veteran observer of combat, and his growing socialist convictions led him to a career in research and public relations work for various labor organizations.

The papers in this collection focus chiefly on World War I. As a journalist and ambulance worker for the Red Cross in Belgium, Gleason became a proponent of the Allied cause. In addition to reporting on Allied soldiers and Belgium's defeated populace, he relayed stories of German atrocities back to the United States and served as an intermediary for English writers seeking to

influence public opinion in this country in favor of the English position. Manuscripts of two of these writers, G. K. Chesterton and James Bryce, are among the articles and interview transcripts which Gleason sent to the United States from England for publication, and he retained them in his papers. Also in the collection are exchanges with Geoffrey B. Butler, J. J. Jusserand, the French ambassador to Washington, and Baron Eustace Percy of Newcastle on issues such as the Irish question, American isolationism, and the political and social ramifications of immigration to the United States. The impact of ethnicity on the American character, a frequent postwar theme of Gleason's, was a topic which he addressed in a series of articles on the status of Jews in America published by *Hearst's International*. Pertinent to this series are letters he received in 1922-1923 from Felix Frankfurter, Ludwig Lewisohn, Walter Lippmann, Julian W. Mack, and Stephen Samuel Wise.

Following his return to the United States in 1920, Gleason worked on behalf of the Bureau of Industrial Research and John Brophy of the United Mine Workers. Papers relevant to this aspect of his life are contained in the [Correspondence](#) series, in the [Subject File](#) under Bureau of Industrial Research, and the [Writings File](#). Among the individuals who appear either as correspondents or in biographical sketches are John Blankenhorn, Bruce Bliven, John Brophy, Robert W. Bruère, Herbert David Croly, Andrew Furuseth, Frank Hodges, Vida Dutton Scudder, Robert Smillie, and Norman Thomas. After 1922 Gleason turned to writing about the new civilization he believed was emerging in the Southwest and to the varieties of religious experience he saw in California. He also underwent a personal crisis as a writer which is documented in private reflections he titled "The Darker Side." These and similar holograph notes are contained in the [Writings File](#), as are transcripts of interviews he conducted with Percy Stickney Grant, Charles Proteus Steinmetz, Ilija L'vovich Tolstoï, Charles Richard Van Hise, and others.

The [family correspondence](#), although a relatively small part of the collection, is a source of biographical data. Letters Gleason sent his mother in 1906 include critical comments on Jane Addams's personality, and a file for 1915 contains descriptions of Gleason in action as a medic and reporter on the Western Front. Also in the [family correspondence](#) are letters sent and received by Helen Hayes Gleason during the war and a few exchanges which Gleason sent or wrote during boyhood. Letters of condolence to Helen Hayes Gleason after her husband's death are located in the [general correspondence](#) as are papers generated during her compilation of *The Book of Arthur Gleason* (1929). The [family correspondence](#) includes a letter of 1863 sent by a deacon of Henry Ward Beecher's Plymouth Congregational Church in Brooklyn to Gleason's maternal grandmother requesting that she accept an offer to fill Beecher's pulpit temporarily in his absence.

Correspondents include Roger N. Baldwin, Edward William Bok, Geoffrey G. Butler, Edward C. Carter, Sir Winston Churchill, Fannia M. Cohn, Joe Cook, Eugene V. Debs, George Eastman, Walter Prichard Eaton, Richard Henry Edwards, Joseph Fels, Felix Frankfurter, Lewis Gannett, Armand Hammer, Norman Hapgood, Alfred Harcourt, Sidney Hillman, J. J. Jusserand, Paul Underwood Kellogg, Thomas Kirkup, Edward B. Krehbiel, Harry Wellington Laidler, Harold Joseph Laski, Ludwig Lewisohn, Walter Lippmann, Jack London, A. Lawrence Lowell, Julian W. Mack, Paul Elmer More, William Morrow, James Oppenheim, C. H. Parkhurst, Baron Eustace Percy of Newcastle, William Lyon Phelps, John S. Phillips, Charles Mulford Robinson, Edward Alsworth Ross, May Sinclair, William Andrew Spalding, Mark Sullivan, William Simon U'Ren, Lillian D. Wald, Andrew Dickson White, William Winter, and Stephen Samuel Wise.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in five series:

- [Family Correspondence, 1863-1924](#)
- [Correspondence, 1900-1931](#)
- [Writings File](#)
- [Subject File, 1917-1929](#)
- [Miscellany, 1892-1930](#)

Description of Series

Container

Series

BOX 1
REEL 1

Family Correspondence, 1863-1924

Letters sent by Gleason to his mother, letters to and from other relatives, and correspondence written and received by his wife, Helen Hayes Gleason.

Arranged alphabetically by name of person and chronologically therein.

BOX 1-4
REEL 1-3

Correspondence, 1900-1931

Official and personal correspondence written and received by Gleason, including holograph drafts of letters composed by him. Also letters to and from Helen Hayes Gleason concerning her husband's death and the publication of a volume memorializing his writings and achievements.

Arranged chronologically.

BOX 4-9
REEL 3-6

Writings File

Typescripts of articles, poems, and interviews by Gleason as well as notes, reflections, and drafts of articles. Arranged alphabetically by title.

Holograph and typewritten manuscripts of writings by others filed at the end of the series are arranged alphabetically by name of the writer.

BOX 10
REEL 6

Subject File, 1917-1929

Minutes, reports, notes, memoranda, contracts, and testimonials.

Arranged alphabetically by subject or name of organization.

BOX 10-13
REEL 6-8

Miscellany, 1892-1930

Newspaper and periodical clippings, pamphlets, maps, calling cards, postcards, programs, and miscellaneous material.

Arranged alphabetically by type of material and topic.

Container List

Available on microfilm. Shelf no. 17,326

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1 REEL 1	Family Correspondence, 1863-1924 Letters sent by Gleason to his mother, letters to and from other relatives, and correspondence written and received by his wife, Helen Hayes Gleason. Arranged alphabetically by name of person and chronologically therein.
BOX 1 REEL 1	Gleason, Helen Hayes (wife), letters sent and received, 1914-1919 (2 folders)
BOX 1 REEL 1	Gleason, Leila Seward (mother) and Helen Hayes, copies of extracts of last letters received from Arthur Gleason, 1923
BOX 1 REEL 1	Gleason, Leila Seward and Henry (parents), 1889
BOX 1 REEL 1	Gleason, Leila Seward, 1900, 1906, 1915 (3 folders)
BOX 1 REEL 1	Seward, Will (uncle), 1886
BOX 1 REEL 1	Seward, Mrs. (?) (grandmother), 1863
BOX 1-4 REEL 1-3	Correspondence, 1900-1931 Official and personal correspondence written and received by Gleason, including holograph drafts of letters composed by him. Also letters to and from Helen Hayes Gleason concerning her husband's death and the publication of a volume memorializing his writings and achievements. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 1 REEL 1	1900-1911 (3 folders)
BOX 1 REEL 1	1912
BOX 1 REEL 1	Jan.-Sept.
BOX 2 REEL 1	Oct.-Dec.
BOX 2 REEL 2	1913 (2 folders)

Correspondence, 1900-1931

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 2 REEL 2	1914-1921
	(8 folders)
BOX 2 REEL 2	1922
BOX 2 REEL 2	Feb.-Sept.
BOX 3 REEL 2	Oct.-Dec.
BOX 3 REEL 2	1923
	(4 folders)
BOX 3 REEL 3	1924-1931
	(2 folders)
BOX 3 REEL 3	Undated and incomplete
BOX 3 REEL 3	By Gleason
BOX 3 REEL 3	Unidentified
BOX 4 REEL 3	Extracts of letters to editors concerning Gleason's writings, 1912-1923
	(3 folders)
BOX 4-9 REEL 3-6	Writings File
	Typescripts of articles, poems, and interviews by Gleason as well as notes, reflections, and drafts of articles. Arranged alphabetically by title.
	Holograph and typewritten manuscripts of writings by others filed at the end of the series are arranged alphabetically by name of the writer.
BOX 4 REEL 3	By Gleason, undated
BOX 4 REEL 3	"A-Dan"
	(40 folders)
BOX 5 REEL 3-4	"Dar-Inters"
	(47 folders)
BOX 6 REEL 4	"Interv-Plac"
	(48 folders)
BOX 7 REEL 5	"Play-Theo"
	(44 folders)
BOX 8 REEL 5	"Ther-Y"
	(41 folders)
BOX 8	Unidentified, incomplete, and miscellaneous

Writings File

Container

Contents

REEL 5

(1 folder)

BOX 9

(2 folders)

REEL 5-6

BOX 9

By others, undated

REEL 5-6

BOX 9

Bryce, Viscount James Bryce

REEL 5-6

BOX 9

Chesterton, G. K.

REEL 5-6

(2 folders)

BOX 9

Cook, Joe

REEL 5-6

BOX 9

Furuseth, Andrew

REEL 5-6

(5 folders)

BOX 9

Gleason, Helen Hayes

REEL 5-6

(4 folders)

BOX 9

Lamplough, J. S.

REEL 5-6

(4 folders)

BOX 9

Smillie, Robert

REEL 5-6

BOX 9

Steinmetz, Charles P.

REEL 5-6

BOX 9

Tolstoï, Ilia L'vovich, graf

REEL 5-6

BOX 9

Miscellaneous

REEL 5-6

BOX 10

Subject File, 1917-1929

REEL 6

Minutes, reports, notes, memoranda, contracts, and testimonials.

Arranged alphabetically by subject or name of organization.

BOX 10

The Book of Arthur Gleason, miscellaneous material used for publication,
1924-1929

REEL 6

BOX 10

Book publishing agreements, 1917-1919

REEL 6

BOX 10

Bureau of Industrial Research and United Mine Workers, 1921-1923

REEL 6

(2 folders)

BOX 10

International Labor Convention (Third Internationale?), incomplete report
of second day of labor meeting, undated

REEL 6

BOX 10

Memorials to Gleason, 1923-1925

REEL 6

Subject File, 1917-1929

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 10 REEL 6	Workers' Trust Agreement establishing organization to promote education among wage earners, 1922
BOX 10-13 REEL 6-8	Miscellany, 1892-1930 Newspaper and periodical clippings, pamphlets, maps, calling cards, postcards, programs, and miscellaneous material. Arranged alphabetically by type of material and topic.
BOX 10 REEL 6	Clippings
BOX 10 REEL 6	<i>British Labor and the War</i> , reviews and comments, 1919
BOX 10 REEL 6	<i>Golden Lads</i> , reviews and comments, 1916
BOX 10 REEL 6	<i>Inside the British Isles</i> , reviews and comments, 1917
BOX 10 REEL 6	Irish Commission (American), 1920
BOX 11 REEL 6-7	Scrapbook, 1923-1930
BOX 11 REEL 6-7	Smillie, Robert, 1919-1923
BOX 11 REEL 6-7	<i>What the Workers Want</i> , reviews and comments, 1920
BOX 11 REEL 6-7	Writings about Gleason, Arthur, circa 1912-1920 (3 folders)
BOX 11 REEL 6-7	Gleason, Helen Hayes, circa 1914-1928
BOX 11 REEL 6-7	Writings by Arthur Gleason circa 1893-1920 (3 folders)
BOX 12 REEL 7	1914-1923 (4 folders)
BOX 12 REEL 7	Writings by and about Arthur Gleason, circa 1914-1918
BOX 12 REEL 7	Writings by Helen Hayes Gleason, circa 1914-1918
BOX 12 REEL 7	Miscellaneous (2 folders)
BOX 13 REEL 8	(1 folder)
BOX 13	Printed matter

Miscellany, 1892-1930

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
REEL 8	
BOX 13	Calling cards, postcards, and miscellany, 1903-1924, undated
REEL 8	
BOX 13	Pamphlets on socialism, coal, and industrialism, 1892-1923
REEL 8	
BOX 13	Programs, 1918-1919
REEL 8	
BOX 13	<i>William Henry Gleason</i> , a memorial volume by his family, 1894
REEL 8	
BOX 13	World War I, 1914-1915
REEL 8	
BOX 13	Miscellaneous, 1916-1922, undated
REEL 8	