

Fairfield Osborn Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress

Prepared by Brian McGuire



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress

Washington, D.C.

2012

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2012

Finding aid URL: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms012140>

Collection Summary

Title: Fairfield Osborn Papers

Span Dates: 1924-1969

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1948-1968)

ID No.: MSS51334

Creator: Osborn, Fairfield, 1887-1969

Extent: 3,400 items ; 8 containers plus 5 oversize ; 3.6 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

Abstract: Zoologist and conservationist. General correspondence, writings, printed matter, and miscellaneous material relating to Osborn's interest in population control, soil conservation, forestry, public health, and natural resources.

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

Baruch, Bernard M. (Bernard Mannes), 1870-1965--Correspondence.
De Voto, Bernard Augustine, 1897-1955--Correspondence.
Eisenhower, Dwight D. (Dwight David), 1890-1969--Correspondence.
Huxley, Aldous, 1894-1963--Correspondence.
Huxley, Julian, 1887-1975--Correspondence.
Ickes, Harold L. (Harold LeClair), 1874-1952--Correspondence.
Lindbergh, Charles A. (Charles Augustus), 1902-1974--Correspondence.
Lindsay, John V. (John Vliet)--Correspondence.
Lippmann, Walter, 1889-1974--Correspondence.
Moore, Marianne, 1887-1972--Correspondence.
Mumford, Lewis, 1895-1990--Correspondence.
Osborn, Fairfield, 1887-1969.
Osborn, Fairfield, 1887-1969. Our plundered planet. 1948.
Roosevelt, Franklin D. (Franklin Delano), 1882-1945--Correspondence.
Stevenson, Adlai E. (Adlai Ewing), 1900-1965--Correspondence.
Stokowski, Leopold, 1882-1977--Correspondence.
Thomas, Norman, 1884-1968--Correspondence.
Truman, Harry S., 1884-1972--Correspondence.

Subjects

Forests and forestry.
Natural resources.
Population policy.
Public health.
Soil conservation.

Occupations

Authors.
Conservationists.
Zoologists.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of Fairfield Osborn, zoologist and conservationist, were given to the Library of Congress by Osborn in 1969.

Processing History

The papers of Fairfield Osborn were arranged and described in 1986. The finding aid was revised in 2012.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Fairfield Osborn is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Fairfield Osborn 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, Fairfield Osborn Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1887, Jan. 15	Born, Princeton, N.J.
1909	A.B., Princeton University, Princeton, N.J.
1915-1917	Treasurer, Union Oil Co.
1917-1919	Served in U. S. Army during World War I
1919-1935	Partner, Redmond and Co. (investment bankers)
1923-1935	Trustee and member of executive board, New York Zoological Society
1935	Retired from business
1935-1940	Secretary and board member, New York Zoological Society
1940-1969	President and board member, New York Zoological Society
1948	Helped establish Jackson Hole Wildlife Park in Wyoming
1948	Published <i>Our Plundered Planet</i> . Boston: Little, Brown
1948-1961	Cofounder and first president, Conservation Foundation
1950-1957	Member, conservation advisory committee of the Interior Department .
1953	Published <i>The Limits of the Earth</i> . Boston: Little., Brown
1969, Sept. 16	Died, New York, N.Y

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Fairfield Osborn (1887-1969) span the years 1924-1969, with the bulk of the material concentrated in the period 1948-1968. The collection consists of general correspondence, articles, speeches, book reviews, oversize scrapbooks, notes, clippings, and miscellaneous printed matter. Major subjects in the articles and speeches include population control, soil conservation, forestry, public health, and natural resources. The oversize scrapbooks contain news clippings dealing primarily with Osborn's book, *Our Plundered Planet* (1948).

Correspondents include Bernard M. Baruch, Bernard Augustine De Voto, Dwight D. Eisenhower, Aldous Huxley, Julian Huxley, Harold L. Ickes (1874-1952), Charles A. Lindbergh, John V. Lindsay, Walter Lippmann, Marianne Moore, Lewis Mumford, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Adlai Stevenson (1900-1965), Leopold Stokowski, Norman Thomas, and Harry S. Truman.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is organized by type of material and therein chronologically or alphabetically by name of subject or topic, with oversize scrapbooks filed at the end.

Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1	General correspondence, 1924-1969, undated
BOX 1	Speeches
BOX 1	Copies, drafts, and notes
BOX 1	1946-1959
	(4 folders)
BOX 2	1960-1966, undated
BOX 2	Correspondence and notes, including some copies of speeches
BOX 2	1946-1948
BOX 2	1948
BOX 2	1948-1949
BOX 2	1949, Feb. 8, Carnegie Institution lecture
BOX 2	1948-1949
BOX 3	1949
BOX 3	1949-1950
	(2 folders)
BOX 3	1950
BOX 3	1950, Oct. 30, Newcomen Society of England
BOX 3	1951
BOX 4	1951-1952
BOX 4	1952-1953
BOX 4	1951-1953
BOX 4	1953-1954
BOX 4	1954
BOX 4	1954-1955
BOX 5	1955
BOX 5	1955-1956
BOX 5	1958-1960
BOX 5	1960-1961
BOX 5	1962
BOX 5	1962-1963
BOX 5	1964-1965
	(2 folders)
BOX 6	1965-1966
BOX 6	1967
BOX 6	Undated, notes only
BOX 6	Writings
BOX 6	1946-1963
	(3 folders)
BOX 7	1964-1967
BOX 7	Subject file
BOX 7	America's Town Meeting of the Air
BOX 7	1948, Sept. 14

Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 7	1950, 1950, May 30
BOX 7	Chamber of Commerce of the United States, 1949, May 4 Conference, "The Ethical Problems of the Scientist," Windsor Great Park, United Kingdom, 1953, July 3-6
BOX 8	Eighteenth North American Wildlife Conference, 1953
BOX 8	Invitation refusal, 1966
BOX 8	Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Mid-Century Convocation, 1949, Mar. 31-Apr. 2
BOX 8	National Conference on Land Use Policy, 1948
BOX 8	National Dairy Laboratories, Inc., Dedication, 1950, June 2
BOX 8	National Sportsmen's Show, 1950
BOX 8	New York Zoological Society, 1947-1967, undated
BOX 8	Organizational material mentioning Osborn, 1948-1956
BOX 8	Thirteenth North American Wildlife Conference, 1947-1948
BOX 8	Wenner-Gren Foundation International Symposium, 1954-1955
BOX 8	Writings about Osborn, 1949-1966, undated
BOX OV 9	Oversize scrapbooks
BOX OV 9	American serials and printed matter
BOX OV 9	1948, Mar.-Oct.
BOX OV 10	1948, Oct.-1949, Apr.
BOX OV 11	1949, Mar.-Dec.
BOX OV 12	1950-1952, June
BOX OV 13	Foreign serials and printed matter, 1948, Nov.-1951, Apr.