

# Thomas Watt Gregory Papers

## A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress

Prepared by David E. Kyvig



Manuscript Division, Library of  
Congress

Washington, D.C.

2011

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

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# Collection Summary

Title: Thomas Watt Gregory Papers

Span Dates: 1896-1933

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1919-1933)

ID No.: MSS24109

Creator: Gregory, Thomas Watt, 1861-1933

Extent: 8,000 items; 27 containers; 11.3 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

Abstract: United States attorney general, regent of the University of Texas, and lawyer. Chiefly legal material and correspondence from the period of Gregory's law practice in Washington, D.C. Correspondence also reflects Gregory's interest in the University of Texas, the Woodrow Wilson administration, and the presidential campaign of 1932.

## 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

Anderson, George Weston, 1861-1938--Correspondence.

Baker, Newton Diehl, 1871-1937--Correspondence.

Baker, Ray Stannard, 1870-1946--Correspondence.

Baruch, Bernard M. (Bernard Mannes), 1870-1965--Correspondence.

Batts, R. L. (Robert Lynn), 1864-1935--Correspondence.

Brandeis, Louis Dembitz, 1856-1941--Correspondence.

Bryan, William Jennings, 1860-1925--Correspondence.

Burleson, Albert Sidney, 1863-1937--Correspondence.

Catt, Carrie Chapman, 1859-1947--Correspondence.

Connally, Tom, 1877-1963--Correspondence.

Daniels, Josephus, 1862-1948--Correspondence.

Davis, John W. (John William), 1873-1955--Correspondence.

Garner, John Nance, 1868-1967--Correspondence.

Gregory, Thomas Watt, 1861-1933.

Hitz, William, 1872-1935--Correspondence.

Hoover, Herbert, 1874-1964--Correspondence.

House, Edward Mandell, 1858-1938--Correspondence.

Howe, Louis M. (Louis McHenry), 1871-1936--Correspondence.

Lansing, Robert, 1864-1928--Correspondence.

Marshall, Thomas R. (Thomas Riley), 1854-1925--Correspondence.

Mayfield, Earle Bradford, 1881-1964--Correspondence.

McAdoo, W. G. (William Gibbs), 1863-1941--Correspondence.

McReynolds, James Clark, 1862-1946--Correspondence.

Mitchell, William D. (William De Witt), b. 1874--Correspondence.

Moody, Daniel James, 1893-1966--Correspondence.

Palmer, A. Mitchell (Alexander Mitchell), 1872-1936--Correspondence.

Pittman, Key, 1872-1940--Correspondence.

Roosevelt, Franklin D. (Franklin Delano), 1882-1945--Correspondence.

Roosevelt, Franklin D. (Franklin Delano), 1882-1945.

Seymour, Charles, 1885-1963--Correspondence.

Sheppard, Morris, 1875-1941--Correspondence.

Todd, George Carroll, b. 1879--Correspondence.

Van Devanter, Willis, 1859-1941--Correspondence.  
Walsh, Thomas James, 1859-1933--Correspondence.  
White, Edward Douglass, 1845-1921--Correspondence.  
Wickersham, George W. (George Woodward), 1858-1936--Correspondence.  
Wilson, Edith Bolling Galt, 1872-1961--Correspondence.  
Wilson, Woodrow, 1856-1924--Correspondence.  
Wilson, Woodrow, 1856-1924.

#### Organizations

Industrial Conference (1919-1920 : Washington, D.C.)  
Ku Klux Klan (19th cent.)  
Stone Mountain Confederate Monumental Association.  
United States. Dept. of Justice. Office of the Attorney General.  
University of Texas.

#### Subjects

Alien property--United States.  
Aliens--United States.  
Arbitration, Industrial--United States.  
Executors and administrators.  
Labor--United States.  
Memorials--Georgia.  
Merchant marine--United States.  
Petroleum industry and trade.  
Practice of law--Texas--Houston.  
Practice of law--Washington (D.C.)  
Presidents--United States--Election--1932.  
Railroads.  
Stone Mountain Memorial (Ga.)  
World War, 1914-1918--Naval operations.  
World War, 1914-1918.

#### Places

Oklahoma--Boundaries--Texas.  
Texas--Boundaries--Oklahoma.  
Texas--Politics and government.  
United States--Claims vs. Mexico.  
United States--Politics and government--1913-1921.  
United States--Politics and government--1919-1933.

#### Occupations

Cabinet officers.  
Lawyers.

## Administrative Information

#### Provenance

The papers of Thomas Watt Gregory, United States attorney general, regent of the University of Texas, and lawyer, were given to the Library of Congress by T. W. Gregory, Jr., in 1940.

#### Processing History

The papers of Thomas Watt Gregory were processed in 1971. The finding aid was revised in 2011.

## Additional Guides

A card index to the correspondence in the Gregory Papers is available in the Manuscript Division Reading Room.

## Copyright Status

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

## Access and Restrictions

The papers of Thomas Watt Gregory 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, Thomas Watt Gregory Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1861, Nov. 6	Born, Crawfordsville, Miss.
1883	A.B., Southwestern Presbyterian University, Clarksville, Tenn.
1883-1884	Special student, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Va.
1885	LL.B., University of Texas, Austin, Tex. Admitted to Texas bar
1885-1900	Practiced law
1891-1894	Assistant city attorney, Austin, Tex.
1892	Declined appointment as assistant state attorney general
1893	Married Julia Nalle
1899-1907	Regent, University of Texas, Austin, Tex.
1900	Formed firm of Gregory & Batts; firm employed by the state of Texas as special counsel to prosecute corporations for anti-trust violations
1904	Delegate, Democratic national convention and member of committee on credentials
1908-1913	Member, firm of Gregory, Batts & Brooks
1912	Delegate and vice president, Democratic national convention

1913	Special assistant to United States attorney general in charge of investigation and prosecution of the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad Co. for violation of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act
1914-1919	Attorney general of the United States
1919	Became member of firm of Gregory & Todd, Washington, D.C.
1919-1920	Member, President Wilson's second Industrial Conference, Washington, D.C.
1933, Feb. 26	Died, New York, N.Y

## Scope and Content Note

The papers of Thomas Watt Gregory (1861-1933) contain correspondence, legal briefs, pleadings, memoranda, printed copies of speeches and writings, and other material relating to Gregory's attorney generalship and later legal career. Although the collection spans the years 1896-1933, there are only a few items before 1914 and only one container of material for the period 1914-1919. There is, however, some correspondence for Gregory's years in the cabinet and a great deal of material for his later life. The collection is organized into [General Correspondence](#), [Legal File](#), [Speeches and Writings](#), and [Miscellany](#) series.

The [General Correspondence](#) contains letters received and sent by Gregory for the years 1914-1933. These letters relate to a wide range of subjects, but chiefly personal, political, business, and legal matters. Although most of Gregory's correspondence as attorney general apparently remained in the files of the Justice Department, there is some material in the correspondence regarding politics, patronage, and the policies of the presidential administration of Woodrow Wilson. There are letters bearing on the controversy over the arming of merchant ships in the spring of 1916, procedures for dealing with enemy aliens, and other matters. There are numerous letters between Gregory and Woodrow Wilson and between Gregory and other members of the cabinet.

Additional information about the Wilson administration can be found among Gregory's correspondence for the period after he resigned from the cabinet in 1919. Gregory was a close friend of Edward Mandell House, and their letters to each other after 1919 frequently contained reminiscences of events and personages of the Wilson years. Similar material can be found in letters from Gregory to Ray Stannard Baker and others. For the years 1931-1933 there is considerable correspondence between Gregory and House, Louis McHenry Howe, and others that reflects the support given by Gregory and House to Franklin D. Roosevelt's campaign for the 1932 presidential nomination.

The [General Correspondence](#) series also reflects Gregory's interest in the affairs of the University of Texas, the Stone Mountain Confederate Monumental Association, Texas politics, and other matters. Among Gregory's many correspondents are George Weston Anderson, Newton Diehl Baker, Bernard M. Baruch, R. L. Batts, Louis Dembitz Brandeis, William Jennings Bryan, Albert Sidney Burleson, Carrie Chapman Catt, Tom Connally, Josephus Daniels, John W. Davis (1873-1955) John Nance Garner, Herbert Hoover, Robert Lansing, W. G. McAdoo (1863-1941), James Clark McReynolds, Thomas R. Marshall, Earle Bradford Mayfield, William D. Mitchell, Daniel James Moody, A. Mitchell Palmer, Key Pittman, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Charles Seymour, Morris Sheppard, Willis Van Devanter, Thomas James Walsh, Edward D. White, George W. Wickersham (1858-1936), and Edith Bolling Galt Wilson.

Following his resignation from Wilson's cabinet, Gregory resumed the practice of law with offices in Washington and, beginning in 1924, in Houston. The [Legal File](#), by far the largest series in the

collection, contains correspondence, briefs, pleadings, memoranda, and other material relating to cases in which Gregory was involved. Among these cases were corporate tax and contract involving oil companies and railroads, the settlement of estates, claims against Mexico, disputes over the wartime seizure of the property of aliens, stockholders' suits against railroads, and boundary disputes between Texas and Oklahoma.

The [Speeches and Writings file](#) contains printed transcripts of some of Gregory's addresses and articles. Topics include the University of Texas, the Ku Klux Klan, and Woodrow Wilson.

The [Miscellany](#) series contains the report, drafts of statements, and other material from the Industrial Conference, Washington, D.C., of 1919-1920 to which Wilson appointed Gregory; minutes of meetings and printed material concerning the Stone Mountain Confederate Monumental Association; and a file on fund-raising activities of the University of Texas. There is also a small file of miscellaneous clippings and articles.

## Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in four series:

- [General Correspondence, 1914-1933](#)
- [Legal File, 1917-1933](#)
- [Speeches and Writings, 1896-1926](#)
- [Miscellany, 1919-1933](#)

## Description of Series

<i>Container</i>	<i>Series</i>
BOX 1-8	<u>General Correspondence, 1914-1933</u> Originals and copies of letters received and sent relating to personal, political, business, and legal matters. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 9-25	<u>Legal File, 1917-1933</u> Correspondence, briefs, pleadings, memoranda, and other material concerning Gregory's legal practice. Arranged alphabetically by case and thereunder chronologically.
BOX 26	<u>Speeches and Writings, 1896-1926</u> Printed copies of speeches and articles. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 27	<u>Miscellany, 1919-1933</u> Articles and clippings; reports, drafts, and other matter relating to the Industrial Conference, Washington, D.C., of 1919-1920; material concerning the Stone Mountain Confederate Monumental Association; and a file on the University of Texas. Arranged by subject.

# Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1-8	General Correspondence, 1914-1933 Originals and copies of letters received and sent relating to personal, political, business, and legal matters. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 1	Jan. 1914-Dec. 1918
BOX 2	Jan. 1919-Mar. 1925
BOX 3	Apr. 1925-Apr. 1926
BOX 4	May 1926-Feb. 1928
BOX 5	Mar. 1928-Apr. 1929
BOX 6	May 1929-Dec. 1930
BOX 7	1931
BOX 8	Jan. 1932-Feb. 1933, undated
BOX 9-25	Legal File, 1917-1933 Correspondence, briefs, pleadings, memoranda, and other material concerning Gregory's legal practice. Arranged alphabetically by case and thereunder chronologically.
BOX 9	American National Bank
BOX 9	Littlefield income tax matter, 1920-1921
BOX 9	Rural delivery service account, 1921
BOX 9	American Sales Corporation v. United States
BOX 9	Mar. 1926-Apr. 1928
BOX 9	May 1928-Sept. 1929 .
BOX 9	Oct. 1929-Feb. 1930, undated
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BOX 9	Austin Cement Co
BOX 10	Bierhaus v. Bierhaus
BOX 10	Buena Fe claim
BOX 10	Chamberlain (Edmund) case
BOX 10	Correspondence 1921-1926 (2 folders)
BOX 10	Data and notes used in preparing statement for Senate committee
BOX 10	Printed matter
BOX 10	Chamberlain v. Mexico
BOX 11	Cochran estate
BOX 11	1920-1922 (2 folders)
BOX 11	Miscellany
BOX 11	Colquitt v. Roxana Petroleum Corp.



Legal File, 1917-1933

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 11	1929-1931 (2 folders)
BOX 11	Undated (1 folder)
BOX 12	(1 folder)
BOX 12	Memoranda of authorities
BOX 12	Copies of pleadings and orders
BOX 12	Constantin v. Lon Smith
BOX 12	Correspondence and briefs
BOX 12	Printed matter
BOX 12	Crawford v. Broussard
BOX 12	de Mumm case
BOX 12	Fox Co. v. Southern Pacific Terminal Co.
BOX 13	Gibraltar Savings and Building Association v. W. A. Harper
BOX 13	Graten and Knight Manufacturing Co.
BOX 13	Correspondence
BOX 13	Miscellany
BOX 13	Gulf Oil Co. v. United States
BOX 13	1917-1922 (5 folders)
BOX 14	1923-1924 (3 folders)
BOX 14	Undated (1 folder)
BOX 15	(1 folder)
BOX 15	Hamilton v. Hoover, 1926-1930, undated (2 folders)
BOX 15	Houston and Texas Central Minority Stockholders
BOX 15	1922
BOX 15	1923
BOX 15	Jan
BOX 16	Feb.-Dec. (3 folders)
BOX 16	1924
BOX 16	1925
BOX 16	Apr.-July (3 folders)
BOX 17	Aug.-Dec.
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BOX 17	Printed matter
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BOX 18	Lake Oil Co.
BOX 18	1920-1923 (3 folders)

## Legal File, 1917-1933

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
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BOX 18	1918-1926 (3 folders)
BOX 19	Briefs, pleadings, and memoranda
BOX 19	Printed matter
BOX 19	Mitchell v. Hampel
BOX 19	Correspondence
BOX 19	Briefs, pleadings, and memoranda
BOX 19	Printed matter
BOX 19	Moye, Lee R., claim of heirs
BOX 19	1919-1923 (2 folders)
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BOX 21	1920-1930, undated (2 folders)
BOX 21	Rabb claim against Mexico
BOX 21	Rives, Thomas, heirs of
BOX 21	Sugg v. Hopkins
BOX 21	1925-1926 (2 folders)
BOX 21	Briefs, pleadings, and miscellany
BOX 21	Printed matter
BOX 21	Swift and Armour
BOX 22	Tamm (William B.) case
BOX 22	Taylor Fishing Club, 1925-1932 (3 folders)
BOX 22	Texas Bitulithic Co., 1920-1921, undated (2 folders)
BOX 22	Texas-Oklahoma boundary dispute
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## Legal File, 1917-1933

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 24	1925-1929 (3 folders)
BOX 24	Documents, reports, and related material
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BOX 25	Fragments
BOX 26	Speeches and Writings, 1896-1926 Printed copies of speeches and articles. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 26	"The University and the State," 1896
BOX 26	"A University of the First Class," 1899
BOX 26	Address at the opening of the nineteenth session of the University of Texas, Austin, Tex., 1901
BOX 26	"Reconstruction and the Ku Klux Klan," 1906
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BOX 26	"How the Rear of Our Armies Was Guarded during the World War," 1919
BOX 26	"Woodrow Wilson and the League of Nations," 1926
BOX 27	Miscellany, 1919-1933 Articles and clippings; reports, drafts, and other matter relating to the Industrial Conference, Washington, D.C., of 1919-1920; material concerning the Stone Mountain Confederate Monumental Association; and a file on the University of Texas. Arranged by subject.
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