

# **National Child Labor Committee (U.S.) Records**

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

**Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff**

**Revised by Jeffery Bryson**



**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**

**Washington, D.C.**

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## Collection Summary

**Title:** National Child Labor Committee (U.S.) Records

**Span Dates:** 1904-1953

**Bulk Dates:** (bulk 1904-1934)

**ID No.:** MSS34173

**Creator:** National Child Labor Committee, U.S.

**Extent:** 7,000 items ; 66 containers plus 1 oversize ; 36.4 linear feet

**Language:** Collection material in English

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

**Abstract:** Correspondence, official records, reports, speeches, pamphlets, newspaper clippings, and scrapbooks containing form letters, press releases, and newspaper clippings relating to the committee. Includes reports on child labor conditions in various industries and minute books and proceedings of annual meetings and national conferences.

## 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

McKelway, Alexander Jeffrey, 1866-1918--Correspondence.

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

### Organizations

National Child Labor Committee (U.S.)

National Committee on Federal Aid to Education. National Committee on Federal Aid to Education records.

### Subjects

Child labor--Southern States.

Child labor--United States.

Education--United States--Finance.

Federal aid to education--United States.

### Places

United States--Social conditions--20th century.

## Administrative Information

### Provenance

The records of the National Child Labor Committee (U.S.) were received by the Library of Congress in two groups. In 1932, Mrs. Alexander J. McKelway made a deposit that was converted to gift in 1947. A larger group of material was given by Gertrude Folks Zimand in 1954.

### Processing History

The records of National Child Labor Committee (U.S.) were housed and described in 1956. The finding aid was revised in 2012.

### Additional Guides

A press release on the records was issued by the Library of Congress on Apr. 25, 1955. A note on the collection appeared in the Library's *Information Bulletin* (Mar. 28, 1955); and the material was described in the *Library of Congress Quarterly Journal of Current Acquisitions* 12, no. 3 (May 1955).

## Transfers

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

## Related Material

Related collections in the Manuscript Division include the papers of [Alexander Jeffrey McKelway](#).

## Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of the records of the National Child Labor Committee (U.S.) is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

## Access and Restrictions

The records of National Child Labor Committee (U.S.) 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, National Child Labor Committee (U.S.) Records, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

# Organizational History

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1904	National Child Labor Committee organized at a mass meeting at Carnegie Hall, New York, N.Y.
1907	Organization chartered by act of Congress
1908	Hired photographer Lewis Wickes Hine to document child labor conditions
1912	Establishment of a Children's Bureau in U.S. Department of Commerce and the U.S. Department of Labor
1910-1920	Published and disseminated the photographs of Lewis Hine in support of state and federal legislation to ban most forms of child labor and promote compulsory education in all states
1938	Passage by Congress of the Fair Labor Standards Act
1964	Passage by Congress of the Manpower Development and Training Act, the Economic Opportunity Act, and the Vocational Education Act
1975	Published "Rite of Passage: Youth's Transition from School to Work," relating to youth work issues, and "Promises to Keep," on the education of migrant children and outreach to their parents and families
1979	Contributed to the founding of the National Youth Employment Coalition
1985	Initiated the Lewis Hine Awards for Service to Children and Youth
1991	Created the KAPOW program partnering elementary schools with businesses to teach young children about work

## Scope and Content Note

The records of the National Child Labor Committee (U.S.) span the years 1904-1953, with the bulk of the material concentrated in the period 1904-1934. The collection consists of reports, speeches, pamphlets, newspaper clippings, and scrapbooks containing form letters, press releases, and newspaper clippings. Included are reports on child labor conditions in various industries and minute books of meetings of the National Child Labor Committee (U.S.) and the National Committee on Federal Aid to Education. Also in the collection are a file of general correspondence of Alexander J. McKelway, secretary for the Southern States of the National Child Labor Committee; and two letters from Franklin D. Roosevelt.

## Arrangement of the Records

This collection is arranged in five series:

- [Correspondence, Speeches, and Related Material, 1905-1943](#)
- [Reports of Investigation, 1904-1937](#)
- [Minutes, 1904-1945](#)
- [Proceedings of Annual Meetings and National Conferences of the National Child Labor Committee, 1905-1929](#)
- [Scrapbooks and Printed Matter, 1907-1953](#)

## Description of Series

<i>Container</i>	<i>Series</i>
BOX 1-1A	<p><b><u>Correspondence, Speeches, and Related Material, 1905-1943</u></b></p> <p>Correspondence, speeches, pamphlets, other printed matter, and miscellaneous material concerning child labor conditions and the child labor amendment.</p> <p>Unsorted.</p>
BOX 2-5	<p><b><u>Reports of Investigation, 1904-1937</u></b></p> <p>Reports on investigations of child labor conditions in various states and locales.</p> <p>Unsorted.</p>
BOX 6-9	<p><b><u>Minutes, 1904-1945</u></b></p> <p>Minute books and minutes of meetings of the National Child Labor Committee and the National Committee on Federal Aid to Education.</p> <p>Arranged chronologically.</p>
BOX 10-13	<p><b><u>Proceedings of Annual Meetings and National Conferences of the National Child Labor Committee, 1905-1929</u></b></p> <p>Accounts of meetings.</p> <p>Arranged chronologically.</p>
BOX 14-65	<p><b><u>Scrapbooks and Printed Matter, 1907-1953</u></b></p> <p>Form letters used by the National Child Labor Committee, press releases on special events and child labor issues and conditions, and newspaper clippings.</p> <p>Organized by topic or type of material.</p>

# Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
<b>BOX 1-1A</b>	<b>Correspondence, Speeches, and Related Material, 1905-1943</b> Correspondence, speeches, pamphlets, other printed matter, and miscellaneous material concerning child labor conditions and the child labor amendment. Unsorted.
<b>BOX 1</b>	Alexander J. McKelway File, 1905-1912, undated (2 folders)
<b>BOX 1</b>	1916, Mar. 27, Statement, Alexander J. McKelway, before Interstate Commerce Commission
<b>BOX 1</b>	1916, "Child Labor Programs and Projects," pamphlet
<b>BOX 1</b>	1931, (?) Fuller, Raymond G., Speech, Child Labor
<b>BOX 1</b>	1917, Apr. 17, Payson Smith to Massachusetts Board of Education (Copy)
<b>BOX 1</b>	1915, May 11, Oral Testimony, Alexander J. McKelway (3 folders)
<b>BOX 1</b>	1934, Jan. 27, and Nov. 8, Franklin .D. Roosevelt to Courtenay Dinwiddie, General Secretary, NCLC
<b>BOX 1</b>	1911, Roosevelt, Theodore, two addresses at Birmingham, Ala., "The Conservation of Childhood"
<b>BOX 1</b>	1938, Sept. 4, "Democracy in Danger," Nicholas Murray Butler, Printed Address
<b>BOX 1</b>	1943, Sept. 30, "International Trans-Ocean Air Transport and the Domestic Airlines, Pamphlet, W. A. Patterson
<b>BOX 1</b>	1909, Jan. 24, Boynton, M. P., Sermon on Child Labor, Chicago, Ill.
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## Correspondence, Speeches, and Related Material, 1905-1943

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BOX 2	New Jersey, 1914, Agriculture
BOX 2	Louisiana, Shrimp Canneries, 1914
BOX 2	New York, Buffalo, Cannery, School Children, 1910
BOX 2	Colorado, Sugar Beets, 1915
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BOX 2	California Canneries, 1915
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