GUIDE TO THE MICROFILM EDITION OF

THE RECORDS OF THE AMERICAN UNION AGAINST MILITARISM 1915-1922

Published in cooperation with the Swarthmore College Peace Collection Swarthmore, Pennsylvania

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Contents

Note to Researcher, iv

Introduction, v

Reel Contents, The Records of the American Union Against Militarism, 1915-1922, 1

Contents of the Collection, The Records of the American Union Against Militarism, 1915-1922, 3
Note to Researcher

Researchers citing materials in this edition of the *Records of the American Union Against Militarism, 1915-1922* should use the following format:

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**Document Group:** DG 004

**Provenance:** Donated by Oswald Garrison Villard and James Warbasse, 1940, 1941

**Size:** 1.75 linear feet

**Microfilm:** 2 reels

**Restrictions:** None
Introduction

History

In 1915 a group of New York pacifists and near-pacifists organized the Anti-Militarism Committee to combat the war spirit of the time. About January 1916 the name was changed to the Anti-Preparedness Committee, and a program of lobbying in Washington was set up. Later that year the name was changed to the American Union Against Militarism (AUAM). The group was also known for a time as the American Union for a Democratic Peace and the League for an American Peace.

Activities included lobbying, publishing, a lecture campaign, and the establishment of a Civil Liberties Bureau. Out of this latter grew the National Civil Liberties Bureau, which later became the American Civil Liberties Union (see the Peace Collection).

The AUAM’s most notable achievements were its work in the successful effort to avert war with Mexico in 1916 and the encouragement of opposition to peacetime conscription following World War I. The Union’s office was raided by the government, and AUAM publications were sometimes stopped by the postal authorities; however, the organization continued unintimidated. Among its most active members were Emily Greene Balch, Crystal Eastman, Oswald Garrison Villard, Charles Hallinan, Paul Kellogg, Amos Pinchot, Henry R. Mussey, Alice Lewisohn, Zona Gale, and Florence Kelley.

Scope and Content

All of the known surviving records are deposited in the Peace Collection. The records include minutes, secretary’s letters to the Executive Committee, fragmentary records of financial pledges, form letters, press releases, bulletins, printed publications, and some correspondence. Twenty-one AUAM posters, linen-mounted (ca. 1916), were removed to the SCPC Poster Collection.

Arrangement of the Collection

AUAM materials are arranged in four boxes. The first three boxes contain administrative records and correspondence. The fourth box holds printed literature and press releases issued by the organization. This box also includes a folder of material that arrived at the Peace Collection after the rest of the records were microfilmed. The posters are stored separately in the SCPC Poster Collection and are not microfilmed.

The microfilm consists of two reels. The material on the film is in slightly different order than the original documents. Below are two folder listings, one for the microfilm reel contents and one for the original contents of the collection.

For further information about the documents and material in this collection that were not microfilmed, please contact the staff of the Swarthmore College Peace Collection at 610-328-8557.
Reel Contents

Reel 1   Box 1

Formation and history
  Anti-Militarism Committee
  Anti-Preparedness Committee
  “Truth About Preparedness” Campaign, April 1916
  American Union for a Democratic Peace, 1917
  League for an American Peace, 1917

Programs and policies
  Philadelphia branch
  New York City branch

Meeting minutes
  1915-1916
  1917
  1918
  1919
  1920
  1921, 1922

Secretary’s reports and letters to Executive Committee
Civil Liberties Bureau
  Policy
  Material relating to Bureau activities

Box 3

Correspondence, 1917-1922
  Emily Greene Balch
  Mrs. J. Malcolm Forbes
  William I. Hull
  Oswald Garrison Villard
  James Warbasse
  also by years: 1917-1922

Box 4

Pamphlet publications

Reel 2   Box 4 (contd.)

Pamphlet publications (contd.)

Miscellaneous, including orders for “Approaches to the Great Settlement”
  by Emily Greene Balch

Peace terms proposal

Bulletin: New York office

Bulletin: Washington office
  1916-1917
  1918-1922

Press releases
Reel 2  Box 4 (contd.)
  Broadsides and leaflets
  Pamphlet publications
  Advertisements and clippings

Box 2 [out of order]
  Financial records
  Financial statements
  Form letters to contributors; copies of audit (March 1918-December 1919)
  Financial pledges
  Contribution records
Contents of the Collection

Box 1
Checklist
Formation and history
Anti-Militarism Committee
“Truth About Preparedness” Campaign, April 1916
Anti-Preparedness Committee
American Union for a Democratic Peace, 1917
League for an American Peace, 1917
Program and policies
Philadelphia branch
New York City branch
Meeting minutes, November 1915 –January 1922
Reports, etc., of Executive Secretary to Executive Committee
Civil Liberties Bureau
Letters etc., discussing direction for organization, 1917 [correspondents
include Jane Addams, Emily Greene Balch, Roger Baldwin, Zona Gale,
David Starr Jordan, Frederick Lynch, Scott Nearing, Norman Thomas,
Oswald Garrison Villard and Lillian Wald]
Material relating to Bureau activities, 1917-1918

Box 2
Financial records
Form letters to contributing members [mostly re: non-financial matters]
Audit report for March 1918-December 1919
Financial pledges from individuals
Contribution records
Financial statements
Bills/receipts, 1921 [includes cancelled checks, February 1921]- 1922

Box 3
Correspondence, 1917-1922
Emily Greene Balch
Rose M. Forbes (Mrs. J. Malcolm)
William I. Hull
Oswald Garrison Villard, 1917-1922
James Warbasse
Miscellaneous, 1918-1919
Correspondence, etc., re: congressional opinions on compulsory and/or
universal military service, 1919-1920
Finances, etc., 1920
Correspondence; miscellaneous, 1921-1922
Box 4
Printed material
Peace terms proposals
Washington office “Bulletin” [#1?] - #75 (May 17, 1916 – April 7, 1917)
New York office
Press releases
Miscellaneous
Pamphlets
Advertisements and newscippings
Miscellaneous [including orders for “Approaches to the Great Settlement”
                     by Emily Greene Balch]
Miscellaneous [from Hi Doty; not microfilmed]