

**GUIDE TO THE  
MICROFILM EDITION OF**

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**THE RECORDS OF THE  
AMERICAN UNION  
AGAINST MILITARISM  
1915-1922**

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## 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:

*Records of the American Union Against Militarism, 1915-1922*,  
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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 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



**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)

Washington office "Bulletin" #1-40 (April 2, 1918 – January 6, 1922)

New York office

Press releases

Miscellaneous

Pamphlets

Advertisements and newsclippings

Miscellaneous [including orders for "Approaches to the Great Settlement"  
by Emily Greene Balch]Miscellaneous [from Hi Doty; **not microfilmed**]