

**GUIDE TO THE
MICROFILM EDITION OF**

**THE PAPERS OF
WILHELM SOLLMANN
1901-1991**

A Microfilm Publication by

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An Imprint of Thomson Gale

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NOTE TO RESEARCHER

Researchers citing materials in this edition of the *Papers of Wilhelm Sollmann, 1901-1991* should use the following format:

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Size: 7 linear feet (2.2 meters)

Microfilm: 13 reels

Restrictions: None

INTRODUCTION TO THE COLLECTION

History

Friedrich Wilhelm Sollmann (1881-1951), German labor leader, journalist, and Reichminister, was born in Coburg, Germany. Exiled from Germany in 1933, he sought refuge in the United States and eventually became an American citizen, adopting William F. Sollmann as his preferred form of address.

Sollmann, who is credited with cofounding the University of Cologne in 1919, became editor-in-chief of the *Rheinische Zeitung* that same year and held this post until 1933. In 1919 he was a member of the German delegation to the Versailles Peace Treaty conference, and he served as a representative to the Constitutional National Assembly at Weimar. In 1920, Sollmann was elected to the first of his eight terms in the Reichstag, where he became a prominent member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs. Sollmann was also the Secretary of the Interior in two cabinets under Chancellor Gustav Stresemann.

Attacked and nearly beaten to death by Nazi storm troopers in 1933, Sollmann, became a German exile and took up the editorship of the *Deutsche Freiheit*, a daily paper of the Saar territory. That same year he immigrated to the United States, eventually becoming an associate staff member of Pendle Hill, a Quaker study center in Wallingford, Pennsylvania. His views on then-current world tension showed his deep confidence that the only solution would be conciliation and mutual adjustments by the nations concerned. His final advice was:

Maintain an equilibrium, however precarious, for 50, if necessary for 100 years. The deep changes which are required in society today cannot be hurriedly accomplished. Insist that high officials of the opposing governments and responsible persons of wide influence from both sides confer constantly in private, outside the orbit of the newspapers. Negotiate, negotiate, negotiate.

Sollmann's career as a lecturer and adviser on Germany and international affairs commenced in 1937 and continued until the time of his death.

Scope and Content

The Wilhelm Sollmann Papers include biographical material, writings, and correspondence. The biographical material gives information about his life in Germany and afterward in the United States. Tributes and memorials are also included in this collection. Sollmann was a prolific writer, and many of his speeches, essays, pamphlets, and newspaper articles are found here. A large portion of this collection consists of Sollmann's correspondence with prominent men and women of Germany and other parts of the world. There are also numerous letters with fellow exiles who wrote of political, financial, and marital difficulties resulting from the Nazi regime.

After the death of his daughter, Elfriede Sollmann, additional material was deposited in the Swarthmore College Peace Collection. This accession included biographical material on William Sollmann and a large number of family letters. The

letters, mostly written by Sollmann to his daughter, reveal personal information about the family in Germany, their adjustment to life in the United States, family relationships, and Sollmann's thoughts about his work in the 1930s and 1940s. There is also a small amount of biographical information on Elfriede. Several photographs were included in this accession.

Arrangement

The Sollmann Papers were deposited in the SCPC in two sections. The first, and largest, part of the collection arrived in 1951 soon after Wilhelm Sollmann's death. This material was organized into biographical papers, correspondence, printed writings, typescripts, and publicity about Sollmann's work. All items are arranged chronologically within each category.

The second accession arrived in 1998 and came from the estate of Elfriede Sollmann. This material also was organized into similar categories consisting of biographical papers, writings, correspondence, and documents pertaining to Elfriede. Again, all items are arranged chronologically within each section.

The 1951 accession was microfilmed by the SCPC long before receipt of the materials was donated by Elfriede Sollmann. Thus, there was no attempt to integrate the later accession with the earlier one. The later gift was placed in a separate box. Researchers should note that Box 9, "Lecture Engagements, Correspondence, 1938-1951," was filmed out of order and comprises the last reel (No. 13) of microfilm.

Photographs, which were removed to the SCPC Photograph Collection, and memorabilia were not microfilmed. Also, Boxes 18 and 19 containing papers from Elfriede Sollmann were not filmed..

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

The Papers of Wilhellm Sollman, 1901-1991

Reel	Box	Description
1	1	Biographical Papers and Major Correspondence
		Permission to quote
		Finding list
		Biographical papers
		W. Sollmann's report on Germany, 1949, 1950
		Adenauer, Konrad, correspondence
		Brüning, H., correspondence
		Sievers, Max, correspondence
		Strasser, O., correspondence
		Letters related to the return of the ex-Crown Prince to Germany, 1932
		List of anti-Nazi leaders in Germany
2	2	General Correspondence, 1901-1924
		1901
		1903
		1909
		1910
		1911
		1912
		1913
		1914
		1915
		1916
		1917
		1918
		1919
		re: Versailles Treaty
		1920
		1921
		1922
		1923
		1924
3	3	General Correspondence, 1925-1933
		1925
		1926
		1927
		1928
		1929

The Papers of Wilhellm Sollman, 1901-1991

Reel	Box	Description
3 (cont.)	3 (cont.)	1930
		1931
		1932
		1933
	4	General Correspondence, 1934-1936
		1934
		1935
		1936 (January 3-December 30)
4	4	1936 (January 1-December 12)
	5	General Correspondence, 1937-1939
		1937
		1938
		1939
5	6	General Correspondence, 1940-1942
		1940 (January 1-December 30)
		1940 (January 1-December 31)
		1941 [re: assistance to refugees]
		1941
		1942
6	7	General Correspondence, 1943-1945
		1943
		1944
		1945
7	8	General Correspondence, 1946-1951, Undated
		1946
		1947
		1948
		1949
		1950
		1951
		Undated
	9	[filmed out of order—See Reel 13]
8	10	Printed Articles: Editorial, Magazine, Pamphlet, and Newspaper, 1908-1926
		1908
		1911
		1913

The Papers of Wilhellm Sollman, 1901-1991

Reel	Box	Description
8 (cont.)	10 (cont.)	1914
		1915
		1916
		1917
		1918
		1919
		1920
		1921
		1922
		1923
		1924
		1925
		1926
9	11	Printed Articles: Editorial, Magazine, Pamphlet, and Newspaper, 1927-1933
		1927
		1928
		1929
		1930
		1931
		1932
		1933
10	12	Printed Articles: Editorials, Magazine, Pamphlet, and Newspaper, 1934-1939
		1934
		1935
		1936
		1937
		1938
		1939
10 (cont.)	13	Printed Articles: Editorial, Magazine, Pamphlet, and Newspaper, 1940-1950, Undated
		1940
		1941
		1942
		1943
		1944

The Papers of Wilhellm Sollman, 1901-1991

Reel	Box	Description
10 (cont.)	13 (cont.)	1945
		1946
		1947
		1948
		1949
		1950
		Undated
11	14	Typescripts in English
		Folder 1
		1. Report to the American Friends Service Committee
		2. Resistance Out of Social Democratic Spirit
		3. From Marx against Hitler to Social Democracy
		4. Duplicate of typescript 3
		5. No Title [N.T.]
		6. Whither German Social Democracy?
		7. N.T. [interview or dialogue]
		8. N.T. [report, December 15, 1941]
		9. Conditions of and Obstacles to the Reconstruction of Europe
		10. The Way Out: Federation of the European States
		11. Future of Germany
		12. Findings of Commission 8: Problems of Education and Youth
		13. Plebiscite for Germany? May 31, 1945
		14. N.T. [speech about Luxembourg given at Woodbrooke College, Birmingham, England]
		15. N.T. [on the rise of Hitler]
		16. N.T.
		17. The Rise of Present Day Germany
		18. N.T. [on international politics and political philosophy]
		19. Democracy a World Issue
11 (cont.)	14 (cont.)	Folder 2
		20. N.T. [on international politics and the rise of the Third Reich]
		21. Duplicate of typescript 20
		22. Democracy in a Changing World
		23. N.T. [on Germany]
		24. The Rise of Present Day Germany
		25. Is European War Inevitable?

The Papers of Wilhellm Sollman, 1901-1991

Reel	Box	Description
11 (cont.)	14 (cont.)	26. Report No. I [from Germany, 1940]
		27. Report No. II: The "Bund fuer Buergerrechte" in Germany [Civil Liberties Union]
		28. The Rise of Present Day Germany
		29. Germany's Youth Speaks Up
		30. Duplicate of typescript 29
		31. N.T. [letter to a publisher]
		32. Germany's Youth Speaks Up
		33. Refugee
		34. Course on Education
11 (cont.)	14 (cont.)	Folder 3
		35. N.T. [on the rise of Hitler]
		36. Duplicate of typescript 35
		37. Experiences with Federation in Germany, September 1942
		38-39. Duplicates of typescript 37
		40. The German Worker
		41. N.T. [about the post-World War I occupation of Germany]
		42. N.T. [about the post-World War II occupation of Germany]
		43. Germany: Past and Future
		44. Letter, October 11, 1944
		45. Germany's Responsibility and Reform
		46. Military Occupation and German Revolution
		47. N.T. [about W. Sollmann's childhood]
		48. N.T. [about cultural and political differences between Europe and the United States]
		49. N.T. [about international affairs]
		50. N.T. [about the present situation in Germany]
		51. Revolution in German Style: "1918" and the Coming Military Revolt in Germany
		52-53. Duplicates of typescript 51
		54. First Lecture, Woodbrooke, June 22, 1935
11 (cont.)	14 (cont.)	Folder 4
		55. N.T. [about Hitler and Nazi party leaders]
		56. How to Deal with Germany
		57. High School Audiences
		58. Letter about "High School Audiences," August 26, 1940
		59. Kinship of the Spirit

The Papers of Wilhellm Sollman, 1901-1991

Reel	Box	Description
11 (cont.)	14 (cont.)	60. Justice to Germany
		61. Revolution in German Style: "1918" and the Coming Military Revolt in Germany
		62. No Chaos in Germany: Stories Behind Germany's Collapse in 1918
		63-64. Duplicates of typescript 62
		65. N.T. [about the Germans under Hitler]
		66. N.T. [about the Germans in 1918]
		67. N.T. [book review, A. Lorch, The Labor Legislation in Republican Germany and the Social Reforms in France]
		68. Revolution in German Style: "1918" and the Coming Military Revolt in Germany
		69. Educational Reconstruction in Germany
		70. German Labor—Hitler's Nemesis, June 2, 1943
		71. Duplicate of typescript 70
		72. Germany's Moral Deficiency: Warnings from the Past, Lessons for the Future
11 (cont.)	14 (cont.)	Folder 5
		73. N.T. [about German national character]
		74. Military Occupation and German Revolution
		75. Duplicate of typescript 74
		76. N.T. [about the social democrats under Hitler]
		77. Military Government Protected Democracy
		78. Germany Meets Occupation Armies: How It Was in 1918: How Will It Be This Time
		79. Kinship of the Spirit
		80. Decline and Rebirth of Germany's Press
		81. Duplicate of typescript 80
		82. Socialism Undefeated
		83. N.T. [about war and weapons]
		84. N.T. [about the causes of war]
		85. Course on Education
		86. N.T. [about the press in Germany]
		87. N.T. [speech notes and flyer]
		88. The First Task of German Hitler Foes
		89-90. Duplicates of typescript 88
		91. Religion and Politics

The Papers of Wilhellm Sollman, 1901-1991

Reel	Box	Description
11 (cont.)	14 (cont.)	92. Germany's Moral Deficiency: Learning from the Past, Lessons for the Future
		93. Duplicate of typescript 92
		94. N.T. [about German national character]
		95. Outline of a Memorandum on Germany's Political Rebirth
		96. Duplicate of typescript 95
		97. N.T. [about war and international affairs—one or more pages missing]
		98. N.T. [about the United States and international affairs]
		99. N.T. [about Germany's youth after World War II]
		100. Germany Too Is Revolutionary
		101. N.T. [book review of The Moral Conquest of Germany by Ludwig]
		102. N.T. [biographical information about W. Sollmann, written in third person]
		103. Rebirth of the German Press
11 (cont.)	14 (cont.)	Folder 6
		104. N.T. [about the U.S. Occupation of Germany]
		105. Duplicate of typescript 104
		106. First Impressions on American Military Government
		107. Duplicate of typescript 106
		108. Meet Some Germans
		109. N.T. [about Nazism and the churches]
		110. Duplicate of typescript 109
		111. The Common Man in Germany
		112. Title illegible [about a social and cultural profile of the Germans]
		113. N.T. [about religion and politics]
		114. Germans Expect Occupation in 1918 and 1942
		115-117. Fragments
		118. N.T. [about the use of alcohol and tobacco in Germany]
		119. Germany's Moral Deficiency: Warnings from the Past, Lessons for the Future [incomplete]
		120-123. Fragments
		124. Moral Powers in Politics
11 (cont.)	15	Typescripts in German
		Folder 1
		1. _____ [illegible] Du Keine [Deine?] Pflicht?

The Papers of Wilhellm Sollman, 1901-1991

Reel	Box	Description
11 (cont.)	15 (cont.)	2. No Title [N.T.]
		3. Letter
		4. Die Angst vor der freien Jugendbewegung [Anxiety about the Free Youth Movement]
		5. Freunde und Kampfgenossen! [Friends and Comrades in the Struggle!]
		6. "Ich trete aus" ["I Step Out"]
		7. Der Alkoholboykott als Steuerverweigerung [The Alcohol Boycott as Tax Resistance]
		8. Junge Garde
		9. Weihnachtsfeier der Jugend [Youth's Christmas Celebration]
		10. [notes about a book]
		11. Pfingsten [notes]
		12. Die Reichskonferenz [The National Conference], notes
		13. Jugendorganisationen [Youth Organizations], notes
		14. Wie steht der Kampf? [How Is the Struggle Going?]
		15. Organisationsform [?] überhaupt
		16-18. N.T.
		19. N.T. [miscellaneous notes]
		20. Deutsche Arbeiter Abstinenzbundes [Abstinence Organizations of German Workers], June 28, 1907
		21. Gespräch über Alkoholmissbrauch [Conversation about Alcohol Abuse]
11 (cont.)	15 (cont.)	Folder 2
		22. N.T. [about Karl Kautsky]
		23. Christentum und Sozialismus [Religion and Socialism]
		24. Duplicate of typescript 23
		25. N.T. [underground report from Germany under Hitler]
		26. Definition des Junge [?] Friedens
		27. Englisches Brief [English letter]
		28. N.T. [about English politics and the war]
		29. Deutsche Streiflichter [German Sidelights]
		30. Die Interparlamentarische Union—eine Weltparlament [The Interparliamentary Union—a World Parliament]
		31. Duplicate of typescript 30
		32. Diskussion oder Diffamierung?

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Reel	Box	Description
11 (cont.)	15 (cont.)	33. Die Staatsidee der Sozialdemokratie [The Governmental Idea of Social Democracy]
		34. Duplicate of typescript 33
		35. Entwurf [A Plan] (about civil liberties in Germany)
		36. Im Zentrum: Katholismus gegen Kapitalismus [In the Center: Catholicism against Capitalism]
		37. Arbeiterjugend und Staat [Young Workers and the State]
		38-41. Duplicates of typescript 37
		42. Entwurf: Mustersatzung eines örtlichen Ausschusses für Bürgerrechte [A Plan: Blueprint for a Local Committee on Civil Liberties]
		43. N.T.
		44. Jugend und Staat [Youth and the State]
		45. Presse und Kommunalverwaltung [The Press and Local Community Government]
11 (cont.)	15 (cont.)	Folder 3
		46. Hitler und sein stabnotorische Verbrecher [Hitler and His Notorious Criminal]
		47. Umschwung in der Aussenpolitik der Nazis [An About-face in Nazi Foreign Policy]
		48. Ausnahmegesetze gegen die Juden sind nicht nötig [Special Laws against the Jews Are Unnecessary]
		49. N.T. [letter, February 9, 1932]
		50. Zum Rundfunkgespräch über das Jugendwahlrecht [For a Radio Discussion of Youth's Right to Vote]
		51. N.T. [notes on voting rights in various European countries]
		52. Die Reichsreform [The State Reform]
		53-55. Duplicates of typescript 52
		56. Wie arbeitet der Reichstag? [How Does the Parliament Work?]
		57. N.T. [anti-Nazi political flyer]
		58. Duplicate of typescript 57
		59. Ein Wort an Alle [A Word to Everyone], flyer
		60. N.T.
		61. Im Französischen Gefängnis [In a French Prison]), incomplete
		62. Kriegsursachen und Kriegsziele [The Causes of War and the Aims of War] (address in Yorkville Casino, New York, September 15, 1933)
		63. Duplicate of typescript 62

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Reel	Box	Description
11 (cont.)	15 (cont.)	64. N.T. [letter to Henry Fischer, New York City]
		65. Von Marx gegen Hitler zur sozialen Demokratie
		66. N.T.
		67. Ein Deutschenspiegel [A German Mirror], incomplete
		68. N.T.
		69. N.T. [notes in English]
		70-71. N.T.
		72. Amerikanische Reise [American Journey]
		73. N.T. [account of W. Sollmann's seizure and beating by Nazi officials]
		74. Niemöller vor Amerikanern [Niemöller for Americans]
		75. Erklärung an Eides Staat
		76. N.T. [letter to Martin Niemöller, February 16, 1947]
		77. Stärker als der Diktator [Stronger than the Dictator]
11 (cont.)	15 (cont.)	Folder 4
		78. N.T.
		79. Deutsche Streiflichter (D.S.): Fernziele Katholischer Politik [German Sidelights: Long-range Goals of Catholic Politics]
		80. N.T.
		81. D.S.: Schauderhaftes Kapitel deutscher Geschichte [Fearsome Capital of German History]
		82. D.S.: Eigennutz vor Gemeinnutz [Self Interest before Public Interest]
		83. D.S.: Kubes Nachfolger [Kube's Successor]
		84. D.S.: Das Elendsheer [The Miserable Multitude]
		85. D.S.: Handwerke ohne goldene Boden
		86. D.S.: Und die Bischöfe? [And the Bishops?]
		87. Die 14 Jahre: Friedrich Stampfer's Bericht über die schwarzrotgoldene Republik [The 14 Years: Friedrich Stampfer's Report on the Black-gold-red Republic]
		88. D.S. Der Hauptverantwortliche
		89. Die Sittlichkeit der Antisemiten [The Mortality of the Anti-Semites]
		90. D.S.: Deutscher Arbeiterbrief [German Workers Letter]
		91. D.S.: Der ewige Kampfgeist Lebt [The Eternal Spirit of Struggled Lives]
		92. N.T.
		93. Die Furcht vor dem einen Prozent [The Fear of One Percent]
		94. Es war doch viel! [It Was Still a Lot!]

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Reel	Box	Description
11 (cont.)	15 (cont.)	95. D.S.: Auch ein deutscher Frontkämpfer [Also a German Front-line Fighter(?)]
		96. Wo der Schwindel versagt [Where the Swindle Breaks Down]
		97. D.S.: Herr Colin Ross [Mister Colin Ross]
		98. D.S.: Sind wir denn eine Hammelherde? [Are We then a Flock of Sheep?]
		99. Auf Tilly's Spuren [On Tilly's Trail]
		100. D.S.: Sozialismus der Tat [Socialism of the Deed]
		101. Diskussion oder diffamierung?
		102. N.T. [letter to the editor of the National Zeitung, Dr. Graeter, August 12, 1938, from Seattle, Washington]
		103-105. N.T.
		106. Besuch bei deutsche Kriegsgefangenen [A Visit with German Prisoners of War]
		107. N.T.
		108. 5 Jahre Illegalität in Deutschland [Five Years of Illegality in Germany]
		109. 5 Jahre Illegalität in Deutschland [Five Years of Illegality in Germany] (not exact duplicate of above by same title)
		110. Deutscher Situationsbericht II [Report on the German Situation, No. II]
		111. Rede in New York, January 1937 [Speech in New York, January 1937]
11 (cont.)	15 (cont.)	Folder 5
		112. N.T. [letter to Rinner, September 24, 1937]
		113. Lagebericht der Schwarzenfront [Situation Report on the Black Front]
		114. Österreichs letzte Stunden: Bericht eines Augenzeugen [Austria's Last Hours: Report of an Eyewitness]
		115. N.T. [fragment]
		116-118. N.T.
		119. N.T. [letter to Sievers]
		120. N.T. [fragment]
		121. Illegale Bewegung in Deutschland: Schwierigkeiten der Opposition gegen die Nazi Diktatur [The Illegal Movement in Germany: Difficulties of the Opposition against the Nazi Dictator]
		122. Von Illegalen in Deutschland [About Illegalities in Germany]

The Papers of Wilhellm Sollman, 1901-1991

Reel	Box	Description
11 (cont.)	15 (cont.)	123. Die Glorreiche Fuehrung [The Glorious Leadership]
		124-125. Duplicates of typescript 123
		126. N.T. [about Germany under Hitler; title on other copies is Zwischen Krieg und Frieden (Between War and Peace)]
11 (cont.)	15 (cont.)	Folder 6
		127. Zwischen Krieg und Frieden [Between War and Peace]
		128. N.T. [but same text as above]
		129. N.T.
		130. Deutschlands Platz nach Hitlers Niederlage [Germany's Place after Hitler's Downfall]
		131. N.T. [about becoming an American citizen]
		132. Duplicate of typescript 131
		133. Militaerische Besatzung einst und jetzt [Military Occupation, Then and Now]
		134. N.T. [letter to "Lieber junger Freund" ("Dear Young Friend")]
		135. N.T.
		136. Nehmt Hitler ernst! [Take Hitler Seriously!]
		137. N.T.
12	16	Publicity about W. F. Sollmann (Newspaper and Magazine Articles, Clippings, and Cartoons), 1911-1937, 1938-1950, Undated
		1911
		1917
		1918
		1919
		1921
		1923
		1924
		1925
		1926
		1927
		1930
		1931
		1932
		1933
		1934
		1935

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Reel	Box	Description
12 (cont.)	16 (cont.)	1937
		1938
		1939
		1940
		1941
		1942
		1943
		1944
		1945
		1946
		1947
		1948
		1949
		1950
		Undated
12 (cont.)	17	Lecture Announcements and Leaflets
		Memorials, 1951 Article: "The Hoover Institution on War, Revolution, and Peace—The Sollmann Nachlass" by Sybil Milton
		Published inventory of W. F. Sollmann materials in the Cologne, Federal Republic of Germany, Historical Archives
13	9	Lecture Engagements, Correspondence, 1938-1951
		1938
		1939
		1940
		1941
		1942
		1943
		1944-1951