William J. Ghent Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2012

Contact information: https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact

Catalog Record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mm78022699

Additional search options available at: https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms013027

Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2013
Revised 2021 November

Collection Summary

Title: William J. Ghent Papers
Inclusive Dates: 1876-1942
Bulk Dates: 1902-1942
ID No.: MSS22699
Creator: Ghent, William J. (William James), 1866-1942
Extent: 15,000 items
Extent: 48 containers
Extent: 19.2 linear feet
Language: Collection material in English
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
LC Catalog record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mm78022699
Summary: Author and journalist. Correspondence, memoranda, writings, notes, reports, subject files, photographs, clippings, and printed material relating to Ghent's writings on the West and the socialist movement in the U.S. Includes biographical sketches appearing in the *Dictionary of American Biography* and articles and book reviews appearing in trade journals. Also includes diaries of Edward Settle Godfrey and Holmes O. Paulding, participants in the Battle of the Little Bighorn.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People
Barry, J. Neilson (John Neilson), 1870-1961--Correspondence.
Bates, Charles Francis, 1862- --Correspondence.
Beard, Charles A. (Charles Austin), 1874-1948--Correspondence.
Brininstool, E. A. (Earl Alonzo), 1870-1957--Correspondence.
Byrne, P. E. (Patrick Edward), 1869- --Correspondence.
Custer, Elizabeth Bacon, 1842-1933--Correspondence.
Dellenbaugh, Frederick Samuel, 1853-1935--Correspondence.
Drumm, Stella Madeleine--Correspondence.
Dustin, Fred, 1866- --Correspondence.
Foreman, Grant, 1869-1953--Correspondence.
Ghent, William J. (William James), 1866-1942.
Godfrey, Edward Settle, 1843-1932--Correspondence.
Godfrey, Edward Settle, 1843-1932. Edward Settle Godfrey diary. 1876.
Godfrey, Mary J. Pocock, -1883--Correspondence.
Graham, W. A. (William Alexander), 1875-1954--Correspondence.
Hafen, LeRoy R. (LeRoy Reuben), 1893-1985--Correspondence.
Hebard, Grace Raymond, 1861-1936--Correspondence.
Jameson, J. Franklin (John Franklin), 1859-1937--Correspondence.
Kelly, Charles, 1889-1971--Correspondence.
Malone, Dumas, 1892-1986--Correspondence.
Myers, Gustavus, 1872-1942--Correspondence.
Neifert, William W.--Correspondence.
Nevins, Allan, 1890-1971--Correspondence.
Paulding, Holmes O. (Holmes Offley), 1853-1883. Holmes O. Paulding diary. 1876.
Russell, Don, 1899-1986--Correspondence.
Sabin, Edwin L. (Edwin Legrand), 1870-1952--Correspondence.
Sims, Frederick A. (Frederick Augustus), 1867-1947--Correspondence.
Sinclair, Upton, 1878-1968--Correspondence.
Spargo, John, 1876-1966--Correspondence.

Sullivan, Mark, 1874-1952--Correspondence.
Webb, George Washington, 1856-1938--Correspondence.
William, Maurice, 1881-1973--Correspondence.

Organizations
Longmans, Green, and Co.--Correspondence.

Subjects
Indians of North America--Wars--1866-1895.
Little Bighorn, Battle of the, Mont., 1876.
Socialism--United States.
Socialism.

Places
United States--Economic conditions--1865-1918.
United States--Economic conditions--1918-1945.
West (U.S.)--History.

Titles
Dictionary of American biography.

Occupations
Authors.
Journalists.

Acquisition Information

The papers of William J. Ghent, author and journalist, were given to the Library of Congress by Mrs. William S. Ghent in 1942.

Processing History

The Ghent Papers were processed in 1962. The finding aid was revised in 2012.

Additional Guides

A note concerning the William J. Ghent Papers appeared in the *Annual Report of the Librarian of Congress* (1943): 128.

Copyright Status

Copyright in the unpublished writings of William J. Ghent in this collection and in others of his papers in the custody of the Library of Congress has been dedicated to the public.

Access and Restrictions

The papers of William J. Ghent 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, William J. Ghent Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1866, Apr. 29	Born, Frankfort, Ind.
1894	Founder, Social Reform Club, New York, N.Y.
1897-1898	Editor, *American Fabian*
1900-1913	Regular contributor to the *Independent*
1906-1909	Secretary, Rand School of Social Science
1909	Married Amy Louise Morrison
1909-1911	President, Rand School of Social Science, New York, N.Y.
1911-1912	Secretary to Victor L. Berger
1915-1917	Editor, *California Outlook*
1917-1919	Member, Executive Committee of the American Alliance for Labor and Democracy
1919-1920	Regular contributor to the *Weekly Review*
1929	Staff member,*Dictionary of American Biography*
1942, July 12	Died, New York, N.Y.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of William James Ghent (1866-1942) span the years 1876-1942, with the bulk of the material concentrated in the period 1902-1942. The collection consists of correspondence, reports, memoranda, drafts and typescripts of articles and books, notes, subject files, photographs, clippings, and printed matter. Also included are the diaries of Edward Settle Godfrey and Holmes O. Paulding, participants in the Battle of the Little Bighorn. The Ghent Papers are organized into seven series: General Correspondence , Articles and Book Reviews , Book File , Notes , Subject File , Miscellany , and Clippings and Printed Matter .

Approximately two-thirds of the papers concern Ghent's research and writings on the West and on socialism. This material includes the drafts, typescripts, and in some instances the galley proofs of his books on the West, and the manuscripts and typescripts of his articles, book reviews, and many of the biographical entries that he contributed to the *Dictionary of American Biography.* Ghent was prominent in the socialist movement in the United States from 1900 to the 1920s, and the papers reflect his views on socialism and the economic life of the United States as well as his editorial work with various trade journals and papers during that period.

Correspondents include J. Neilson Barry, Charles Frances Bates, Charles A. Beard, E. A. Brininstool, P. E. Byrne, Elizabeth Bacon Custer, Frederick Samuel Dellenbaugh, Stella Madeleine Drumm, Fred Dustin, Grant Foreman, Edward Settle Godfrey, Mary J. Pocock Godfrey, W. A. Graham, Leroy R. Hafen, Grace Raymond Hebard, J. Franklin Jameson, Charles Kelly, Longmans, Green and Co., Dumas Malone, Gustavus Myers, William W. Neifert, Allan Nevins, Don Russell, Edwin L. Sabin, Frederick A. Sims, Upton Sinclair, John Spargo, Mark Sullivan, George Washington Webb, and Maurice William.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in seven series:

- General Correspondence, 1914-1942
- Articles and Book Reviews, 1902-1941
- Book File, 1902-1936
- Notes
- Subject File, 1876-1942
- Miscellany
- Clippings and Printed Matter

Description of Series

Container	Series
BOX 1-7	**General Correspondence, 1914-1942** Letters, telegrams, and memoranda sent and received. Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent.
BOX 8-13	**Articles and Book Reviews, 1902-1941** Manuscripts and typescripts, correspondence, notes, reports, memoranda, clippings, and printed matter. Arranged alphabetically by title of article or book review.
BOX 14-18	**Book File, 1902-1936** Manuscripts, typescripts, and galley proofs, correspondence, notes, reports, memoranda, clippings, and printed matter. Arranged alphabetically by title of book.
BOX 19-20	**Notes** Research notes, correspondence, reports, memoranda, clippings, and printed matter. Arranged by topic.
BOX 21-31	**Subject File, 1876-1942** Diaries, correspondence, articles, book reviews, notes, memoranda, clippings, and printed matter. Arranged alphabetically by subject.
BOX 32-34	**Miscellany** Correspondence, notes, reports, memoranda, galley proofs of books and pamphlets, photographs, clippings, and printed matter. Arranged by type of material.
BOX 35-48	**Clippings and Printed Matter** Newspaper clippings and other printed material. Arranged by topic.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1-7	**General Correspondence, 1914-1942** Letters, telegrams, and memoranda sent and received. Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent.
BOX 1	A-C
BOX 2	D-F
BOX 3	G-L
BOX 4	L-M
BOX 5	M-R
BOX 6	R-S
BOX 7	S-Z
BOX 8-13	**Articles and Book Reviews, 1902-1941** Manuscripts and typescripts, correspondence, notes, reports, memoranda, clippings, and printed matter. Arranged alphabetically by title of article or book review.
BOX 8	A-Be
BOX 9	Bi-C
BOX 10	D-Le
BOX 11	Le-Rus
BOX 12	S-T
BOX 13	V-W
BOX 14-18	**Book File, 1902-1936** Manuscripts, typescripts, and galley proofs, correspondence, notes, reports, memoranda, clippings, and printed matter. Arranged alphabetically by title of book.
BOX 14	"Broken Hand"
BOX 14	"Early Far West"
BOX 15	"Early Far West"
BOX 15	"Fur Trade of North America"
BOX 16	"Fur Trade of North America"
BOX 17	"Fur Trade of North America"
BOX 17	"Our Benevolent Feudalism"
BOX 17	"The Reds Bring Reaction"
BOX 17	"The Road to Oregon"
BOX 18	"The Road to Oregon"
BOX 18	"The Story of John Colter"

Container	Contents
BOX 18	"The Social Reaction"
BOX 19-20	**Notes** Research notes, correspondence, reports, memoranda, clippings, and printed matter. Arranged by topic.
BOX 19	Fur trade
BOX 19	Meriwether Lewis
BOX 19	Military
BOX 19	"Westerns"
BOX 19	Miscellany
BOX 20	Miscellany
BOX 21-31	**Subject File, 1876-1942** Diaries, correspondence, articles, book reviews, notes, memoranda, clippings, and printed matter. Arranged alphabetically by subject.
BOX 21	Duke Alexis buffalo hunt
BOX 21	Apache law
BOX 21	Author's Guild League
BOX 21	Badmen
BOX 21	W. J. Bailey
BOX 21	The Benders (Kate Bender)
BOX 21	F. W. Benteen
BOX 21	E. A. Brininstool
BOX 21	California
BOX 21	Kit Carson
BOX 21	Cavalry journal
BOX 21	Buffalo Bill
BOX 22	George A. Custer
BOX 23	George A. Custer
BOX 23	Daniel DeLeon
BOX 23	*Dictionary of American Biography*
BOX 23	Madame Dorion
BOX 24	Thomas Fitzpatrick
BOX 24	Florida Mountains, N.Mex.
BOX 24	Edward Settle Godfrey, diary, vol. I
BOX 25	Edward Settle Godfrey
BOX 25	W. A. Graham
BOX 26	Francis R. Hagner
BOX 26	Grace Harrington
BOX 26	Fort Hall, Idaho
BOX 26	Tom and S. W. Kearney
BOX 26	Labor
BOX 26	Fort Laramie, Wyo.
BOX 26	Lewis and Clark Expedition

Container	Contents
BOX 26	Lincoln, Abraham, and labor
BOX 26	Walter Lippmann
BOX 26	Little Bighorn, W. S. Edgerty account
BOX 27	Little Bighorn
BOX 27	"The Nation"
BOX 27	Oregon Trail Association
BOX 27	Fort Osage, Mo.
BOX 27	"James Pattie"
BOX 27	Paulding, Holmes O., diary
BOX 28	"Jeremy Pinch"
BOX 28	"Nathaniel Pryor"
BOX 28	"Rendezvous Period of the American fur trade"
BOX 28	Reno Court of Inquiry
BOX 29	Reno Court of Inquiry
BOX 29	Rienzi (Winchester)
BOX 29	William Henry Russell
BOX 29	William Hepburn Russell
BOX 29	Russia-Poland, 1920
BOX 30	Sacagawea
BOX 30	Constance L. Skinner
BOX 30	Upton Sinclair
BOX 30	Social Democratic Federation
BOX 31	Social Democratic Federation
BOX 31	Battle of the Washita
BOX 31	Western miscellany
BOX 31	Marcus Whitman
BOX 31	Maurice William
BOX 31	Early Wyoming and Yellowstone
BOX 31	Wyoming miscellany
BOX 32-34	**Miscellany** Correspondence, notes, reports, memoranda, galley proofs of books and pamphlets, photographs, clippings, and printed matter. Arranged by type of material.
BOX 32	Language and literature
BOX 32	League of Nations
BOX 32	Photographs and prints
BOX 33	Photographs and prints
BOX 33	Poetry
BOX 34	"Roubidoux's Ranch"
BOX 34	Sun Yat-Sen
BOX 34	General
BOX 35-48	**Clippings and Printed Matter** Newspaper clippings and other printed material. Arranged by topic.

Container	Contents
BOX 35	Baseball
BOX 35	Rock reviews
BOX 35	Kit Carson
BOX 35	League of Nations
BOX 35	Literature and language
BOX 35	Fort Phil Kearney
BOX 35	Controversy on old age pension, 1910-1911
BOX 36	Origins and ultimates
BOX 36	Montfort Stokes
BOX 36	Nutrition
BOX 36	Author and editor
BOX 36	Early cartography of the Missouri Valley
BOX 36	World history
BOX 36	Elizabeth Bacon Custer
BOX 36	George A. Custer, 50th anniversary
BOX 36	War guilt of World War I
BOX 36	Communistic intrigues
BOX 37	Communistic intrigues
BOX 37	Indians
BOX 38	Revolutionary War
BOX 38	Radicals and Russia
BOX 38	Poets and essayists
BOX 38	Touring topics
BOX 38	World War II maps
BOX 38	1940 presidential campaign
BOX 39	Socialists, liberals, radicals
BOX 39	Labor
BOX 39	Socialism
BOX 39	West
BOX 39	Powder River Expedition
BOX 39	Napoleon's letters
BOX 39	Mooney, Billings, and Vanzetti
BOX 39	Santa Fe Trail
BOX 39	Wages and prices
BOX 40	Poets and essayists
BOX 40	Historical subjects
BOX 41	Historical subjects
BOX 42	Printers
BOX 42	James Edward Kelly
BOX 42	Press criticism
BOX 42	Library of Congress and archives
BOX 42	George Washington
BOX 42	"The People," "National Socialist," "California Outlook"
BOX 42	Oregon Trail
BOX 42	Civil War Fakes and Fakers

Container	Contents
BOX 43	Pre-Civil War
BOX 43	Arizona and California
BOX 43	Abraham Lincoln
BOX 44	Abraham Lincoln
BOX 44	Literary
BOX 44	"The Spectator"
BOX 44	League of Nations
BOX 45	Science
BOX 45	Mooney
BOX 45	General
BOX 46-48	General