
The creation of this finding aid was made possible by the generous support of the Princeton University Class of 1927.

Summary Information

Call number: MC012
Repository: Princeton University. Library. Dept. of Rare Books and Special Collections
Seeley G. Mudd Manuscript Library.
Public Policy Papers.
65 Olden Street Princeton, New Jersey 08540 USA
Size: 9.64 linear feet
19 archival boxes, 4 medium photo boxes, and 1 large photo box
Language(s) of Material: English
Abstract: This collection contains correspondence, speeches, lecture notes, writings, and photographs of Edward S. Corwin, a noted constitutional scholar who taught at Princeton University for much of his academic career. Nationally-known and widely published, Corwin consulted with many other academics as well as politicians involved with constitutional issues, most notably when he publicly supported Franklin D. Roosevelt's Supreme Court reorganization ("court packing") plan.
Location: This collection is stored onsite at the Mudd Manuscript Library.
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Biography/History

Edward S. Corwin was born to Frank Adelbert and Dora Lyndon Corwin in Plymouth, Michigan on January 19, 1878. He was president of his class and a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Michigan in 1900. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1905. He married Mildred Sutcliffe Smith on June 28, 1909.

Corwin was a renowned authority on United States constitutional law and theory, administrative law, international law, and jurisprudence. One of the original group of preceptors hired at Princeton University by Woodrow Wilson in 1905, Corwin became a full professor in 1911 and assumed Wilson's McCormick Professorship in Jurisprudence in 1918. Corwin was also the first chairman of Princeton's Department of Politics, which he headed from 1924 to 1935.

A prolific author, Corwin wrote more than 20 books, including The Constitution and What It Means Today (1928). His other books include John Marshall and the Constitution (1919); The Twilight of The Supreme Court (1935); The Commerce Power Versus States Rights--Back to the Constitution (1936); Court Over Constitution (1938); The President--Office and Powers (1940); Constitutional Revolution (1941); The Constitution and World Organization (1944); Total War and the Constitution (1947); Liberty Against Government (1948); and A Constitution of Powers in a Secular State (1951). Corwin was also co-editor of The War Cyclopedia (1917).

In addition to teaching and writing, Corwin was an advisor to the Public Works Administration in 1935, and in 1936 and 1937 he served under the U.S. Attorney General as a special assistant and consultant on constitutional questions. In 1937 he gave full support to President Roosevelt's Supreme Court reorganization plan. In 1954 he served as chairman of a national committee which opposed the Bricker Amendment to restrict the treaty-making powers of the President.

Corwin was a president of the American Political Science Association and a member of the American Philosophical Society. He was also a member of the American Historical Association, the Southern Political Science Association and the Institut International de Droit Public.

Corwin retired from Princeton in 1946 as McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence Emeritus. Following his retirement, he taught at Columbia University, the University of Virginia, New York University School of Law, Emory University, the University of Minnesota, and the University of Washington though he continued to live in Princeton. He died on April 29, 1963.

Description

These papers document Edward Corwin's personal and professional life, including his time as chair of the Politics Department at Princeton University. The collection includes files on subjects such as church-state relations, the commerce clause, civil rights, due process of law, the Presidency, the Bricker Amendment, and American foreign policy.

Arrangement

Organized into the following series:
Series 1 and 7 are arranged topically. Series 2 and 3 are arranged alphabetically by last name of correspondent. Series 4, 5, and 6 are arranged alphabetically by subject or title.

Series 1, Biographical Material, 1865-1961  
Series 2, Personal Correspondence, 1899-1961  
Series 3, Professional Correspondence, 1907-1961  
Series 4, Subject Files, 1910-1958  
Series 5, Manuscripts and Publications, 1906-1957  
Series 6, Notes and Class Materials, circa 1930-1951  
Series 7, Photographs, circa 1880-1960

Access and Use

Access
Collection is open for research use.

Restrictions on Use and Copyright Information
Single photocopies may be made for research purposes. For quotations that are fair use as defined under U. S. Copyright Law, no permission to cite or publish is required. For those few instances beyond fair use, researchers are responsible for determining who may hold the copyright and obtaining approval from them. Researchers do not need anything further from the Mudd Library to move forward with their use.

Acquisition and Appraisal

Provenance and Acquisition
Papers were sent from Corwin's home to Princeton University on July 31, 1963.

Appraisal
Records were pre-sorted and some were removed by Gerald Garvey before transfer to Princeton in 1963. No information is available about whether records have been separated from this collection while at Princeton.

Related Materials

Location of Copies or Alternate Formats
Digital images created in 2008 of Series 3, Professional Correspondence, 1907-1961, are available in PDF format on DVD and are also accessible in the contents list.

Processing and Other Information
Preferred Citation
Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Edward S. Corwin Papers, Box and Folder Number; Public Policy Papers, Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, Princeton University Library.

Processing Information
This collection was processed by Edward Jaramillo (Class of 1996), Theresa Marchitto, and Monica Ruscil from 1993-1996 with support from the Class of 1927 and from Alan Gettner and Henriette Herman Gettner, son and widow of Victor S. Gettner, Class of 1927. Finding aid written by Edward Jaramillo in 1996.

Encoding

Descriptive Rules Used
Finding aid content adheres to that prescribed by Describing Archives: A Content Standard.

Subject Headings

• Roosevelt, Franklin D. (Franklin Delano), 1882-1945 -- Views on judicial process.
• Wilson, Woodrow, 1856-1924.
• Princeton University -- Faculty -- 20th century -- Correspondence.
• Princeton University. Dept. of Politics -- 20th century.
• United States. Supreme Court.
• Civil rights -- United States -- 20th century.
• Due process of law -- United States -- 20th century.
• Executive power -- United States -- 20th century.
• Political scientists -- United States -- 20th century -- Correspondence.
• Political science -- Study and teaching -- New Jersey -- Princeton -- 20th century.
• United States -- Constitution -- History.
• United States -- Constitutional law.
• United States -- Foreign relations -- Law and legislation.
• Correspondence.
• Faculty papers.
• Manuscripts.
• Photographs.
• American history/20th century
• American history/Gilded Age, Populism, Progressivism
· American politics and government
· Legal history
· Princeton University
· Public policy/20th century
Series 1, Biographical Material, 1865-1961

Description: Series 1, Biographical Data, 1865-1961, contains personal information regarding Corwin's retirement, finances, and appointments, honors and awards. This series also contains bibliographies listing Corwin's works.

Arrangement: This series is arranged alphabetically by subject.

- American Philosophic Society, 1936  
  Box: 1 Folder: 1
- Appointment Calendar, 1937  
  Box: 1 Folder: 2
- Biographical Information, Bibliographies, Etc, 1935, 1963  
  Box: 1 Folder: 3
- Cosmos Club, 1927  
  Box: 1 Folder: 4
- Democratic National Committee, 1912  
  Box: 1 Folder: 5
- Financial Holdings: Parents/Grandparents, 1865-1873  
  Box: 1 Folder: 6
- Financial Information, 1918-1930  
  Box: 1 Folder: 7
- Historical Society of Pennsylvania, 1912, 1937  
  Box: 1 Folder: 8
- Invitations to Princeton Dinners and Activities, 1913, 1960  
  Box: 1 Folder: 9
- Invitations to U.S. Presidential Inaugural, 1933  
  Box: 1 Folder: 10
- Man of the Week, Trenton, 1961  
  Box: 1 Folder: 11
- Outlines of Personal Life, undated  
  Box: 1 Folder: 12
- Retirement, 1946-1947  
  Box: 1 Folder: 13
- Rodrigues, Lieda Boechat (Translated article), 1959  
  Box: 1 Folder: 14
- University of Michigan: Honors and Awards, 1900, 1909  
  Box: 1 Folder: 15
- Who's Who File (British Edition), circa 1950  
  Box: 1 Folder: 16
- Miscellaneous, undated  
  Box: 1 Folder: 17

Series 2, Personal Correspondence, 1899-1961

Description: Series 2, Personal Correspondence, 1899-1961, contains personal correspondence between Corwin and family members, including his mother, sister, and stepfather. There are also personal letters from his wife.

Arrangement: Materials in this series are arranged alphabetically by correspondent.

- Bellows, Willis A. (brother-in-law), 1940-1956  
  Box: 1 Folder: 18
- Carmody, Francis, 1902-1924  
  Box: 1 Folder: 19
Series 3, Professional Correspondence, 1907-1961

Description: Series 3, Professional Correspondence, 1907-1961, is the largest series in this collection, and contains correspondence to and from colleagues at Princeton, other educators, political leaders, and Supreme Court justices. Most of this correspondence pertains to constitutional issues facing the nation, his teaching, and his writings. Correspondents include U.S. Presidents from Woodrow Wilson through John F. Kennedy, and noted jurists Hugo Black, Benjamin Cordozo, Felix Frankfurter, John Marshall Harlan, Harlan F. Stone, and Earl Warren.

Arrangement: Correspondence is in alphabetical order. Some files are designated by correspondents' alphabetical ranges by last name; files with a greater volume of material are identified by name.

A, 1931-1958
Ba-Bi, 1918-1957
Bl-By, 1918-1959
Ca-Cl, 1920-1959
Coa-Cou, 1922-1958
Committee for Defense of the Constitution, 1954-1957
Cow-Cu, 1913-1957
Da-Di, 1922-1956
Di-Du, 1919-1959
E, 1920-1957

ESC to Corwin, Dora Lyndon (mother), 1907-1938
Corwin, Mildred to ESC, 1901-1954
ESC to Cole, F. A. (stepfather), 1902-1904
ESC to Corwin, Jane (sister), 1907-1941
Corwin, Jane to ESC, 1905-1961
Corwin, Mildred (wife) to ESC, 1911-1954
Corwin, Mildred (wife) to Jane Corwin, 1909-1939
Corwin, Mildred (wife) to Dora Corwin Cole, 1909-1939
Father to Mildred Corwin, 1909
Miscellaneous, 1899-1906, 1954
Miscellaneous to Mildred Corwin, 1909-1954
Series 3, Professional Correspondence ... (Continued)

F, 1911-1959
Box: 4 Folder: 5

G, 1923-1958
Box: 4 Folder: 6

Ha-He, 1920-1957
Box: 4 Folder: 7

Hi-Hu, 1917-1958
Box: 5 Folder: 1

I, 1909-1948
Box: 5 Folder: 2

J, 1922-1957
Box: 5 Folder: 3

K, 1909-1958
Box: 5 Folder: 4

L, 1911-1957
Box: 5 Folder: 5

Ma-Max, 1934-1959
Box: 5 Folder: 6

Me-My, 1913-1957
Box: 5 Folder: 7

N, 1937-1956
Box: 6 Folder: 1

O, 1936-1958
Box: 6 Folder: 2

Pa-Po, 1911-1959
Box: 6 Folder: 3

Permanent Committee for the Oliver Wendell Holmes Devise, 1957
Box: 6 Folder: 4

Po-Pu, 1915-1956
Box: 6 Folder: 5

Q, 1954
Box: 6 Folder: 6

R, 1924-1961
Box: 6 Folder: 7

S-SI, 1939-1961
Box: 6 Folder: 8

Sm-Sp, 1931-1958
Box: 6 Folder: 9

St-Sz, 1919-1957
Box: 7 Folder: 1

T, 1914-1959
Box: 7 Folder: 2

U, 1911-1960
Box: 7 Folder: 3

V, 1937-1959
Box: 7 Folder: 4

Wa-Wh, 1924-1959
Box: 7 Folder: 5

Wi-Wu, 1933-1958
Box: 7 Folder: 6

Wilson, Woodrow, 1907-1918
Box: 7 Folder: 7

Y, 1919-1955
Box: 7 Folder: 8

Yenching University, 1928-1930
Box: 7 Folder: 9

Z, 1936-1959
Box: 7 Folder: 10

Series 3, Professional Correspondence Digital Files, 1907-1961
Box: 7 Folder: 11

Physical Characteristics: DVD
Series 4, Subject Files, 1910-1958

Description: Series 4, Subject Files, 1910-1958, contains primarily articles and academic papers authored by others on subjects such as the First Amendment, the Fourth Amendment, legislation, liberty, police power, poll tax, the Presidency, and segregation collected by Corwin for his research.

Arrangement: Subject files are in alphabetical order.

- Miscellaneous, 1931-1958
  - Box: 8 Folder: 1
- Air Force, Constitutional Status of, circa 1947
  - Box: 8 Folder: 2
- Alaska, 1945, 1948
  - Box: 8 Folder: 3
- Amending Power, 1920
  - Box: 8 Folder: 4
- American Thought, History of, 1946
  - Box: 8 Folder: 5
- Anti-Trust Acts, undated
  - Box: 8 Folder: 6
  - Box: 8 Folder: 7
- Book Reviews written by Corwin, 1939-1952, undated
  - Box: 8 Folder: 8
- Book Reviews of works by Corwin, 1935, undated
  - Box: 8 Folder: 9
- Business Cards, undated
  - Box: 8 Folder: 10
- Church and State, 1952, 1954
  - Box: 8 Folder: 11
- Commerce Clause (Congressional Powers), 1939, undated
  - Box: 8 Folder: 12
- Compact Clause, 1926
  - Box: 8 Folder: 13
- Congressional Procedure, undated
  - Box: 8 Folder: 14
- Conspiracy, Doctrine of, undated
  - Box: 8 Folder: 15
- Constitution, 1917-1945
  - Box: 8 Folder: 16
- Constitutional Law, 1931-1957
  - Box: 8 Folder: 17
- Declaratory Judgments, 1934
  - Box: 8 Folder: 18
- Democracy, 1949, undated
  - Box: 8 Folder: 19
- Double Jeopardy, undated
  - Box: 8 Folder: 20
- Due Process, undated
  - Box: 8 Folder: 21
- Elections, Congressional, control of, 1926
  - Box: 8 Folder: 22
- Emergency War Powers, undated
  - Box: 8 Folder: 23
- Federal Government, 1936-1937
  - Box: 8 Folder: 24
- First Amendment, 1920
  - Box: 8 Folder: 25
- Fourteenth Amendment, undated
  - Box: 9 Folder: 1
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Box: 9 Folder:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Holmes, Oliver Wendell, 1956-1957</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judges (Famous), undated</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judicial Notice, undated</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judicial Review, undated</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor and the Court, undated</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor Law, 1940, undated</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyers (Famous), 1919</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislation, undated</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislative Power to the Executive, Delegation of, undated</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberty, undated</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marshall, John, undated</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Power, undated</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Recovery Act (NRA), circa 1934</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Power, undated</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poll Tax/Right to Vote, 1942, undated</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presidency, 1941-1944</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Officers Liability, undated</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revolution, undated</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Segregation in the schools, circa 1954</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Separation of powers, undated</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sir Blackstone (Abe Glasser), undated</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Theory, 1940</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Government, undated</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Power, undated</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statement on Supreme Court Reorganization, 1937</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steel Seizure, 1948-1953</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supreme Court, 1936, 1958, undated</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxation, National, undated</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treason, 1930</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treaty-Making Powers, 1953</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truman, Harry, 1950</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilson, Woodrow, 1910, 1924</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Series 5, Manuscripts and Publications, 1906-1957

Description: Series 5, Manuscripts and Publications, 1906-1957, contains manuscripts for a few of Corwin's books, including Court Over Constitution and The Doctrine of Judicial Review: Its Legal and Historical Basis and Other Essays. This series also contains publications with articles written by Corwin as well as book reviews and letters to editors.

Arrangement: Information about archivists' interventions in this series is not available. Materials do not appear to be in any particular order, and may reflect the order in which materials were sent to Princeton.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Box: 10 Folder:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Comity Clause, 1929</td>
<td>1-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Constitution and What it Means Today, undated</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Court over Constitution, 1953</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edwin Stanton and Reconstruction, 1953</td>
<td>9-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Marshall, circa 1919</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judicial Review, circa 1914</td>
<td>1-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Powers of Congress, undated</td>
<td>3-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Powers of Congress, undated</td>
<td>1-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>War Powers, undated</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Untitled, undated</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letters to the Editors, Writings, 1944-1957, undated</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publications with Corwin articles, 1906-1915</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publications with Corwin articles, 1917-1956, undated</td>
<td>1-6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Series 6, Notes and Class Materials, circa 1930-1951

Description: Series 6, Notes and Class Materials, circa 1930-1951, contains note papers and note cards with class lecture notes and historical information. There are also class exams and syllabi in this series.

Arrangement: Information about archivists' interventions in this series is not available. Materials do not appear to be in any particular order, and may reflect the order in which materials were sent to Princeton.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Box: 14 Folder:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lecture notes, undated</td>
<td>1-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lecture notes, undated</td>
<td>1-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lecture notes, undated</td>
<td>1-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Box:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lecture notes, undated</td>
<td>17 Folder: 1-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes, undated</td>
<td>17 Folder: 5-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Note Cards: American &amp; European History, Civil War, The Colonies.</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes for &quot;Oregon Question&quot;, undated</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lecture Notes, undated</td>
<td>19 Folder: 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class materials: examinations, syllabi, undated</td>
<td>19 Folder: 2-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speeches, circa 1930-1945</td>
<td>19 Folder: 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guest lectures at Emory University, 1951</td>
<td>19 Folder: 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Notes, undated</td>
<td>19 Folder: 8-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous, undated</td>
<td>19 Folder: 10-12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Series 7, Photographs, circa 1880-1960

Description: Series 7, Photographs, circa 1880- circa 1960, contains black and white photographs of Corwin, including some in his college days, but most taken in mid- to late-life. This series also contains photographs of his wife, children, family members, and friends, though many early photographs are unidentified.

Arrangement: Photographs in this series are arranged by subject.

- Photographs with E.S. Corwin, circa 1900-1960                               Box: 20
- Photographs with Mildred Corwin, circa 1900-1960                           Box: 21
- Photographs of Corwin family children, circa 1930-1960                     Box: 22
- Miscellaneous family photographs, circa 1880-1950                          Box: 23
- Oversize: Two photos and four certificates, circa 1900-1961                Box: 24