

**GUIDE TO THE
MICROFILM EDITION OF**

**THE RECORDS OF THE
NEW YORK PEACE SOCIETY
1818-1843, 1906-1940**

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Note to Researcher

Researchers citing materials in this edition of the *Records of the New York Peace Society, 1818-1843, 1906-1940* should use the following format:

Records of the New York Peace Society, 1818-1843, 1906-1940,
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Document Group: DG 026

Provenance: The New York Peace Society and the World Alliance for International Friendship through Religion (after the two organizations merged)

Size: 7.25 linear feet

Microfilm: 12 reels

Restrictions: None

Introduction to the Collection

History

The New York Peace Society, organized by David Low Dodge in the summer of 1815, was the first peace society in the United States. The Society existed in four different stages, beginning in 1815 and lasting until 1940. In 1828 the first New York Peace Society became a branch of the American Peace Society. Subsequent to this merger, a second society was begun in New York City in 1837, lasting until about 1844. This group was active in advocating for arbitration in the dispute of U.S. claims against Mexico. In 1844 a third New York Peace Society was organized, but it soon disbanded (exact dates are unknown). Throughout the second half of the nineteenth century, other forms of a group with the same name existed, one of which formed a branch of the Universal Peace Union.

In 1906 the New York contingent of the Lake Mohonk Conference on International Arbitration initiated the reorganization of the NYPS, which among its foremost supporters was Andrew Carnegie. In February of that year a constitution was adopted, and Oscar S. Strauss was elected president; Charles H. Levermore was secretary of the organization from 1917 to 1924. At the time of incorporation in 1910, the name was changed from the Peace Society of the City of New York to the New York Peace Society. In October 1940 the NYPS voted to merge with the World Alliance for International Friendship Through Religion, and in November of that same year the World Alliance agreed to the merger.

Additional resources on the various incarnations of the NYPS may be found in the SCPC's records of the American Peace Society and the Universal Peace Union.

Arrangement

The SCPC has treated the various incarnations of the NYPS as one organization in the arrangement of the files. The NYPS records from the first half of the twentieth century are the most extensive. Records are arranged in three major sections: The first contains the nineteenth-century material, organized chronologically, and twentieth-century administrative records; the second section includes NYPS correspondence from the first half of the twentieth century; and the third section of files consists of material about various early twentieth-century peace congresses and conferences, sponsored or supported by the NYPS.

Four scrapbooks in Box 16 (not filmed) were removed to the Oversized Items Collection: Scrapbooks. These date from 1904-1909, 1909-1911, 1911-1912, and 1912, 1918-1919. A large white-bordered wool and muslin American flag with 48 stars (not filmed) was removed to the Oversized Items Collection: Banners.

Scope and Content

Material in the NYPS collection includes minutes and annual reports, correspondence, yearbooks, membership lists, miscellaneous forms and lists, pamphlets, and four scrapbooks, three of which relate to the National Arbitration and Peace Congress held in 1907. The material was transferred to the SCPC in 1940 when the Society was merged into the World Alliance for International Friendship Through Religion. Documents included are records of the Society's work during World War I to organize the League to Enforce Peace.

**THE RECORDS OF THE
NEW YORK PEACE SOCIETY
1818-1843, 1906-1940**

Reels 1-12

Records of the New York Peace Society, 1818-1843, 1906-1940

Reel No.	Box No.	Reel Contents
1	1	<p>New York Peace Society [I]: August 1815-1828</p> <p>New York Peace Society [II]: 1837-ca. 1843</p> <p>New York Peace Society [III]: 1844-??</p> <p>New York Peace Society [IV]: 1906-1940: History, Papers of Incorporation, etc.</p> <p>New York Peace Society [IV]: Report of Executive Committee, June 4, 1912</p> <p>New York Peace Society [IV]: Membership Lists</p> <p>New York Peace Society [IV]: By-Laws</p> <p>New York Peace Society [IV]: Meeting Minute Book, 1906-1910</p> <p>New York Peace Society [IV]: Meeting Minute Book, 1910 (<i>contd.</i>)-1916</p> <p>New York Peace Society [IV]: Meeting Minutes and Annual Reports, 1924- October 1940</p> <p>New York Peace Society [IV]: Meeting Minutes, December 20, 1916-1923</p> <p>New York Peace Society [IV]: Committees</p> <p>New York Peace Society [IV]: Rent Paid to Church Peace Union</p>
1 (<i>contd.</i>)	2	<p>New York Peace Society [IV]: Correspondence, 1907-1919</p> <p>A, 1913-1920</p> <p>Abbott, Lyman, 1913-1919</p> <p>Addams, Jane, 1919</p> <p>American Peace Society, 1913-1919</p> <p>American School Peace League, 1919</p> <p>B, 1909-1922</p>
2	2 (<i>contd.</i>)	<p>Bray, Frank Chapin, 1916-1919</p> <p>Brooksbank, James H., 1919</p> <p>Burton, Theodore, 1919</p> <p>Miscellaneous Programs, Announcements, etc., 1907-1919</p> <p>Butler, Nicholas Murray, 1908-1914</p> <p>Levermore, Charles H. and Linley V. Gordon, 1918-[1936]</p>

Records of the New York Peace Society, 1818-1843, 1906-1940

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10 (<i>contd.</i>)	13	<p>New York Peace Society [IV]: Miscellaneous Correspondence, Etc., 1914-1932</p> <p>Third Hague Conference: Correspondence, 1909-1914</p> <p>Third Hague Conference: Plans, Meeting Minutes, Miscellaneous Material, 1914</p> <p>Correspondence, Miscellaneous, Releases, 1912-1916</p> <p>Correspondence, Miscellaneous, Releases, 1917-1922</p> <p>Correspondence, Miscellaneous, Releases, 1923-1926</p> <p>Correspondence, Miscellaneous, Releases, 1930-1931 [includes Levermore Elms (Memorial)]</p> <p>Correspondence re.: Military Training, 1912-1916</p> <p>Correspondence re: Military Training; Correspondence re: Peace Exhibit, 1930-1932</p>
10 (<i>contd.</i>)	14	<p>New York Peace Society [IV]: Miscellaneous Material, 1906-1933</p> <p>Speech of Andrew Carnegie, March 24, 1909</p> <p>Membership Forms</p> <p>Letterheads</p> <p>Form Letters, 1910-1933</p>
11	14 (<i>contd.</i>)	<p>Yearbooks, 1906-1919</p> <p>Membership Cards (3"x5") [not microfilmed]</p> <p>Miscellaneous Pamphlets and Flyers</p> <p>Articles by C. H. Levermore</p> <p>"Creed of the Hun," 1919</p> <p>International Peace Festival (New York), 1909; Miscellaneous Material, 1909</p>
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12	16 (<i>contd.</i>)	National Arbitration and Peace Congress, 1907: Stenographer's Record National Arbitration and Peace Congress, 1907: Letters to Hayne Davis [not microfilmed]