

**The New York Public Library  
Humanities and Social Sciences Library  
Manuscripts and Archives Division**

**Emma Goldman  
Papers, 1903 – 1940**

**Valerie Wingfield  
June 2001**

**Main Entry:** Goldman, Emma (1869-1940)

**Title:** Emma Goldman Papers, 1903-1940, bulk dates (1919-1940)

**Size:** 1.6 linear ft. (4 boxes)

**Restrictions:** Microfilm must be used in lieu of originals; box 4 contains additions

**Source:** Gift of Roger Baldwin, Stella Ballantine, Hjalmar Boyensen, Harry Kelly, Ethel Mennin, Black (purchase), Sweet (purchase) 1940 - 1982. Additions purchased, 1985, from Paul Richards, Swann Galleries and George Patterson

**Abstract:** Correspondence; legal papers, writings, printed matter and photoprints

**Access:** Master negative microfilm includes Goldman material in Rose Pesotta Papers, and the Records of the International Committee for Political Prisoners. The Division holds only the microfilm of the original scrapbook (1909-1936).

**The General Research Division**, Room 315, holds the microfilm of The Emma Goldman Papers Project at the University of California, Berkeley. \*Z-5732 & \*Z5732+, Reels 1-69. Full description available on CATNYP

*Mother Earth Bulletin* \*ZAN-T1862 Library has: v.1, no 1-7; Oct. 1917-Apr. 1918

**Special format:** Photoprints

**Finding aid:** Revised finding aid by Valerie Wingfield, June 2001

## **Biographical Note**

Emma Goldman (1869-1940) was an anarchist, feminist, author, editor, and lecturer on politics, literature and the arts. She was born in Lithuania and died in Canada. Her lectures and publications attracted attention throughout the U.S. and Europe. She was associated with the anarchist journal *Mother Earth* from 1906 to 1917 and was imprisoned for publicly advocating birth control in 1916 and pacifism in 1917. In 1919 she was deported to the Soviet Union. She was allowed to reenter the U.S. for a lecture tour in 1934.

## **Scope and Content Note**

This small collection is rich in information documenting the activities of Emma Goldman, anarchist and political activist. Collection contains correspondence, typescripts, address books, photographs, clippings, and printed matter. Correspondence, 1906-1940, of Goldman, Alexander Berkman and Stella Ballantine concerns Goldman's experiences in Russia, Germany and England following World War I, and Spain during the civil war of 1936-1939; letters, 1927-1928, written on Goldman's behalf soliciting funds to subsidize the writing of her memoirs; and letters, 1917-1927, from Goldman to Bayard Boyesen. Typescripts consist of a few chapters of "My Further Disillusionment in Russia" and other writings by Goldman and typescripts of some of Berkman's writings. Also, address books compiled by Goldman and Berkman; studio photographs of Goldman by noted photographer Carl Van Vechten; clippings and other printed material.

## Organization

The collection is organized in five series: Series I. General Correspondence, 1906-1940; Series II. Solicitation of funds, 1927-1928; Series III. Writings, c1920-1930's; Series IV. Printed Matter; Series V. Photoprints

## Series Descriptions

Series I. General Correspondence, 1906-1940  
Box 1-2

This series is mainly letters between Emma Goldman and others. The correspondence for the most part, reflects Goldman's role as an anarchist, feminist and co-editor of *Mother Earth*. There is also some correspondence of Alexander Berkman as co-editor of *Mother Earth*. Correspondents include Roger Baldwin, Stella Ballantine with Harry Kelly and John Haynes Holmes. Letters dated 1940 are telegrams expressing sympathy upon the death of Goldman.

Series II. Solicitation of Funds, 1927-1928; Legal Papers  
Box 2

The focus of this series is the solicitation of funds for Emma Goldman for the years 1927-1928. The correspondence indicates that the original purpose of the fund was to secure enough money so that Goldman would be able to enter the United States under bond. Having failed in this endeavor, her friends refocused their efforts to raise money so that Goldman would have material to write her autobiography. By December 1927, the fund was officially named "The Emma Goldman Memoirs Fund," with Howard Irving Young, Chairman, and Bolton Hall, Treasurer. The founders included Theodore Dreiser, William P. Hapgood, and Peggy Guggenheim Vail. Goldman at this date remarried and was living in Toronto, Canada under the name Emma Goldman Colton. This series consists mainly of form letters soliciting funds. The remaining material in this series is a legal document that is the last will and testament of Goldman accompanied by instructions.

Series III. Writings, c1920-1930's  
Box 2-3

The writings for the most part reflect Goldman's political interest or those topics, which were of concern to her. Due to the uncertainty of the authorship some of the writings, all of the writings are not credited to her. Some of the writings mistakenly attributed to Goldman were in fact transcripts typed by a secretary as reading notes for her lectures. The writings include a typescript of the monograph *Exploiting the famine* (chapter X) and Goldman's article *The spectators in starvation* typed on the back of *Mother Earth* letterhead paper. There are also writings attributed to other individuals including "The Bolshevik Myth" by Alexander Berkman. The remaining material is a daybook and a telephone book.

Series IV. Printed Matter  
Box 3

The printed matter is a miscellaneous mixture of newspaper clippings, magazine articles relating to Goldman. Included in the printed matter is an article entitled *Red Emma on Spain* dated March 6, 1937. The publication is not cited.

Series V. Photoprints  
Box 3

The photoprints contain eleven photographs of Emma Goldman taken by photographer and author Carl Van Vechten. Goldman's portraits were studio poses printed in black and white on half-tone. The series also contains a photograph of Emma Goldman in Barcelona, Spain speaking at a memorial meeting, and a family photograph of the Goldman family taken in St. Petersburg, Russia, 1883.

## CONTAINER LIST

- | Box | F. |  |
|-----|----|--|
|     |    | <b>Series I. General Correspondence 1906-1940</b>  |
| 1   | 1  | 1906 – 1924  |
|     | 2  | 1925   |
|     | 3  | 1926 – 1932  |
|     | 4  | 1933   |
|     | 5  | 1934   |
|     | 6  | 1935   |
|     | 7  | 1936   |
|     | 8  | 1937 Jan – Feb   |
|     | 9  | 1937 Mar – May   |
|     | 10 | 1937 June – JY   |
|     | 11 | 1937 Aug – Dec   |
|     | 12 | 1938   |
|     | 13 | 1939   |
|     | 14 | 1940   |
| 2   | 1  | n.d.   |
|     | 2  | Letters and postcards, 1917-1918, from Emma Goldman to Bayard Boyesen of Athol, Mass., principally from Berlin and other points in Europe on war and militarism, post war conditions in Germany and Russia....                     |
|     |    | <b>Series II. Solicitation of Funds 1927-1928</b>  |
|     | 3  | 1927 May – July  |
|     | 4  | 1927 Aug – Nov   |
|     | 5  | 1927 Dec -1928   |
|     | 6  | Legal Papers: Last will and testament of Emma Goldman with instructions, 1936; 1940-1941   |
|     |    | <b>Series III. Writings</b>  |
|     |    | The index in the Goldman writings series include some verbatim transcripts of material published by authors other than Emma Goldman, typed by a secretary as reading notes for her lectures, but mistakenly attributed to Goldman. |
|     | 7  | Address to the Delegates at the Extraordinary Congress of Paris of the I.W.B.A., [Dec. 1937] 2 copies  |
|     | 8  | Address in England, n.d. Incomplete draft  |
|     | 9  | Anthon Tchekoff, n.d.  |
|     |    | The Credo of Professor Camilo Berneri, n.d.  |
|     |    | Buenaventur Durranti, n.d. [Nov. 1936]   |
|     |    | Causes and Possible Cures of Jealousy [c. 1912]  |
|     |    | Dupes of Politics, n.d.  |

- The Hypocrisy of Charity. n.d.
- 10 Heroic Women of the Russian Revolution [1925?]
- 11 The Mistakes of God. n.d.
- The Social Importance of the Modern School. n.d.
- Social[ism] Caught in the Political Trap. n.d.
- 12 My further disillusionment (in Russian) incomplete
- 13 Persecution of anarchists (incomplete)
- 14 Exploiting the famine. Chapter X
- 15 The Speculators in Starvation. n.d. [typed on the back of *Mother Earth* letterhead paper]
- The Trotsky-Fascist ‘Putch’ in Barcelona. pp. 2-6, incomplete
- Vice and the Rosenthal Case. n.d.
- Walt Whitman. n.d.
- Mary Wollstonecraft, her tragic life, and her passionate struggle for freedom.
- A new declaration of independence by Emma Goldman published in *Mother Earth, IV 1909-1910*
- Solidaridad internacional antifascista. open letter, n.d.
- Re: Fascism in Spain, n.d. (no title)
- Answers to questions put during the interview with the T.U. delegation from London, that visited Spain
- Typescript of letter dated June 1937

**Writings of Others:**

- 16 Berkman, Alexander. Bat’ko Voilno (incomplete)
- 17- Berkman, Alexander. The Bolshevik myth Diary, chapters 1-3; 4-13
- 20 (chapters 6 & 7 not received); 14-21; chpts. 35-40 (incomplete)
- 21 Fragment, incomplete
- 3 1 An Impression of Anotola by S.C.
- 2 Speech by Rose Pesotta at the memorial meeting for Emma Goldman at Town Hall, NYC
- 3 Emma Goldman by Curtis W. Reese
- 4 Camillo Berneri. The tragic end of an anarchist fighter. Translated by Doris Zhook
- 5 Telephone book, and day book. 2 vols.

**Series IV. Printed Matter**

- 6 Assorted printed matter relating to Emma Goldman
- 7 Newspaper clipping “Red Emma on Spain,” March 6, 1937
- 8 Magazine articles
- 9 Newspaper clippings
- 10 Assorted printed matter

### Series V. Photoprints

- Goldman family taken in St. Petersburg, 1883. Original photograph was mounted on cardboard
- Emma Goldman speaking at the memorial meeting in Barcelona, Spain
- Studio portraits of Emma Goldman by Carl Van Vechten (half-tone)

### Additions not microfilmed

4 Goldman, Emma. Oct. 22, 1903. {To} Sec. of League of Political Education. West 47 [ ] City Dear Mr. Ely. ALS 4 pp.

Libertarian and Freedom Groups. A dinner will be held on Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup> 1933, at 7.30 for 8 p.m. at Capella's restaurant. Invitation card

"Has my life been worth while" by Red Emma Goldman. Published in *The Daily Express*, January 30<sup>th</sup>, 1933.

Goldman, Emma. April 18, 1933. 59A Warrington Crescent[] Maida Vale, W.9 Chere Amie. TLS 1 p.

Copy of cable sent to *world New York*

G[oldman], E[mma]. Berlin. May 14, 1924. "My dear friend" TLS 2 pp.

G[oldman], E[mma]. 3. Titchfield Terrace. St. John's Wood. London, N.W. 6. Dec. 3, 1925. "Dear, dear Frank. TLS 1 p.

G[oldman], E[mma] Select Hotel. Place de la Sorbonne. Paris (5). Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1926. Dear Frank. TLS 1 p.

Goldman, Emma. b/Kreklow Soor Str. 87 Berlin-Charlottenburg. My dear Mr. Harris. TLS 1 p.