

THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY
RARE BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS DIVISION
ACCESSION SHEET

Accession # 60M90; 73M19; 80M6

Location ANNEX 21-A-3/6 (L)

Title WILLIAM WALKER ROCKWELL. PAPERS.

Approximate inclusive dates 1883 - 1945 BULK 1920's - 1930's

Date of receipt 1960; 1973; 1980

Received from DOROTHY ROCKWELL CLARK

Volume on arrival 56 LETTER BOXES

Number of boxes (after reboxing) 31 AB

Condition GOOD. SOME PAPER CLIPS VERY RUSTY.

Restrictions NONE.

Description SEE ATTACHED SHEET.

Special Formats Photographs Maps Audio Tapes Films Graphics
 Artifacts Machine-readable records
 Other (list) _____

Temporary catalog card added entries

Manhattan Congregational Church; League
of Nations Non-Partisan Asso.; Committee
on the Relation of Church and State; Committee
on Religious Liberty; Near East Relief; Amer.
Ency. of Christianity; Mediaeval Academy of
America; Young Women's Christian Asso.;
Radcliffe College - Alumni; Church -
Correspondence; Dowse Family;
Genealogy - Research.

Accessioned by L.B.

Date April 1986

William Walker Rockwell (1874 - 1958) was a politically active minister who wrote numerous articles on church history, subject on which he was considered an authority. Born in Mass., Rockwell graduated from Harvard and The Andover Theological Seminary. He continued his religious studies abroad at the Universities of Berlin (Ph.D. at Goettingen in 1914) and Marburg (Doctor of Theology at Marburg in 1930). Ordained a minister of the Congregational Church in 1905, Rockwell joined the Union Theological Seminary that year. He became an assistant professor, then an associate professor of church history and was named a librarian with the rank of professor in 1925, a post he held until his retirement in 1942.

Ethel Dean Converse Rockwell (1875 - 1933), born in Mass., graduated from Radcliffe College, 1897, with a bachelor of arts degree and for many years afterwards was prominent in alumni activities. Shortly after her marriage to Dr. Rockwell, in 1906, she became a national figure in Y.W.C.A. work. From 1908 to 1910 she was treasurer of the New York City Y.W.C.A. and at the time of her death had been a member of the national board for 21 years.

The papers of William Walker Rockwell are arranged in six series: general correspondence, 1901-1911; investment papers, 1909-1943; organizational papers, 1907-1938; lecture preparation material, 1914-1921; papers of Ethel Dean Converse Rockwell, 1909-1936 and Rockwell - Dowse family genealogical papers, 1883-1929.

Mr. Rockwell's general correspondence, mostly incoming and in rough alphabetical order, contains much personal correspondence (including some letters from Ethel and a wide range of other family members); correspondence relating to The American Society of Church History and its elections (including notes for and of meetings); correspondence with E. Milton Jones of the Columbia University Press relating to The Encyclopedia Britannica, of which Rockwell was a contributor. In addition to correspondence the papers often include business and insurance material, announcements, receipts, invitations, ephemera related to research books and much misc. printed matter. There are numerous letters (incoming and outgoing) about the renting and maintenance of his summer cottage in Vermont. The series ends with material (articles, pressclippings and pamphlets) relating to Ethel Rockwell and her death; also a multitude of letters of condolence to Rockwell and his daughter Dorothy.

Within the general correspondence is a telegram sent to Rockwell by President Teddy Roosevelt in 1909.

The investment papers are arranged alphabetically. They consist of correspondence (incoming/outgoing), most of which is to and from Allan D. Converse - Rockwells investment broker and brother-in-law; company reports, circulars, pamphlets and articles on wise investing.

The organizational papers are Rockwell's files of some of the different organizations of which he was a member. There are documents relating to the Manhattan Congregational Church, to which Rockwell was appointed a trustee along with several other positions he held on different committees; The League of Nations Non-Partisan Association which wanted both the Republican and Democratic parties to favor the entrance of the U.S. into the League of Nations; the Committee of Direction on the Relation of Church and State that did an extensive study on the correlation between church and state; the Committee on Religious Liberty which did a project on religious liberty; American Committee for Armenian and Syrian Relief which became Near East Relief; correspondence dealing with the creation of the American Encyclopedia of Christianity, of which Rockwell was an editor; The Mediaeval Academy of America, a committee to encourage mediaeval studies.

Dr. Rockwell's files include correspondence (incoming/outgoing) relating to different aspects of each organization or committee, reports, minutes, clippings, pamphlets, notes of telephone conversations and much misc. printed matter.

The lecture preparation material, primarily for Sunday School, include notes, course outlines, reading lists, correspondence concerning lectures in church history and ephemera about research books.

Ethel Dean Converse Rockwell's general correspondence (mostly incoming and other than one folder, not in order) consists primarily of correspondence about Radcliffe, it's alumni and endowment fund; personal correspondence; Y.M.C.A. related reports and minutes; misc. receipts, clippings, etc.

Mrs. Rockwell's estate papers, of which William was the executor, contain correspondence with Allan Converse relating to Ethel's investments; correspondence related to taxes on her estate; bank statements; canceled checks and much correspondence between William Rockwell and William L. Rumsey (their lawyer) concerning the validity of Ethel's will.

The Rockwell - Dowse family papers are an accumulation of genealogical information for publication purposes. They include correspondence, biographical information, clippings and obituaries.

WILLIAM WALKER ROCKWELL PAPERS

BOX #

CONTENTS

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

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| 1. | 1901 - 1911 |
| 2. | 1905 - 1913 |
| 3. | 1906 - 1914 |
| 4. | 1922 - 1937 |
| 5. | 1913 - 1932 |
| 6. | 1933 - 1934 |
| 7. | 1933 - 1934 |

INVESTMENT PAPERS

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| 8. | 1909 - 1926 |
| 9. | 1924 - 1929 |
| 10. | 1930 - 1932 |
| 11. | 1933 - 1943 |

ORGANIZATIONAL PAPERS

MANHATTAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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| 12. | 1907 - 1920 |
| 13. | 1916 - 1921 |
| 14. | 1919 - 1921 |
| 15. | 1920 - 1922 |
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| 19. | 1918 - 1930 |
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ORGANIZATIONAL PAPERS cont'd.

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20. 1921 - 1936

21. 1932 - 1936

COMMITTEE ON RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

22. 1930 - 1931

AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR ARMENIAN AND SYRIAN RELIEF

23. 1915 - 1923

AMERICAN ENCYCLOPEDIA OF CHRISTIANITY

24. 1915 - 1924

MEDIAEVAL ACADEMY OF AMERICA

25. 1925 - 1928

LECTURE PREPARATION MATERIAL

26. 1914 - 1945

PAPERS OF ETHEL DEAN CONVERSE ROCKWELL

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

27. 1909 - 1933

28. 1921 - 1922

ESTATE PAPERS

29. 1927 - 1936

30. 1928 - 1936

ROCKWELL - DOWSE FAMILY GENEALOGICAL PAPERS

31. 1883 - 1929