

Gilbert A. Harrison Papers

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<http://lcn.loc.gov/mm81075932>

Prepared by Thomas Bowman

Collection Summary

Title: Gilbert A. Harrison Papers

Span Dates: 1902-1978

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1960-1975)

ID No.: MSS75932

Creator: Harrison, Gilbert A.

Extent: 4,200 items ; 12 containers ; 4.8 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Summary: Editor and publisher. Correspondence, subject files, clippings, pamphlets, articles, miscellany, and other papers relating principally to Harrison's position as editor and publisher of the *New Republic* and as president of Liveright Publishing Company.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

People

Acheson, Dean, 1893-1971.

Alsop, Joseph, 1910-1989.

Baldwin, Roger N. (Roger Nash), 1884-1981.

Bellow, Saul.

Blaine, Anita McCormick.

Carter, Jimmy, 1924-

Church, Frank.

Cowley, Malcolm, 1898-1989.

Frankfurter, Felix, 1882-1965.

Fulbright, J. William (James William), 1905-1995.

Galbraith, John Kenneth, 1908-2006.

Gruening, Ernest, 1887-1974.

Hackett, Francis, 1883-1962.

Harrison, Anne Blaine, 1918-1977. Anne Blaine Harrison papers.

Harrison, Gilbert A.

Hellman, Lillian, 1905-1984.

Howe, Irving.

Humphrey, Hubert H. (Hubert Horatio), 1911-1978.

Johnson, Lyndon B. (Lyndon Baines), 1908-1973.

Kennedy, Edward M. (Edward Moore), 1932-2009.

Kennedy, John F. (John Fitzgerald), 1917-1963.

Lewis, Anthony, 1927-2013.

Lippmann, Walter, 1889-1974.

Roosevelt, Eleanor, 1884-1962.

Russell, Bertrand, 1872-1970.

Saroyan, William, 1908-1981.

Schlesinger, Arthur M. (Arthur Meier), 1917-2007.

Stein, Gertrude, 1874-1946.

Stevenson, Adlai E. (Adlai Ewing), 1900-1965.

Udall, Morris K.

Organizations

American Civil Liberties Union.

American Veterans Committee.

Liveright Publishing Corporation.

Textile Workers Union of America.

Subjects

American periodicals.
Labor unions--North Carolina.
Periodicals--Publishing.

Places

Washington (D.C.)--Social life and customs.

Titles

New republic.

Occupations

Editors.
Publishers.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of Gilbert A. Harrison, editor and publisher, were given to the Library of Congress by Harrison in 1979.

Processing History

The papers of Gilbert A. Harrison were arranged and described in 1984. The finding aid was revised in 2010.

Transfers

Photographs and sound recordings have been transferred to the Prints and Photographs Division where they are identified as part of the Gilbert A. Harrison Papers.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Gilbert A. Harrison is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Gilbert A. Harrison 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, Gilbert A. Harrison Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1915, May 8	Born, Detroit, Mich.
1937	B.A., University of California, Berkeley, Calif.
1937-1941	Member, University Religious Conference, Los Angeles, Calif.
1941-1942	Staff member, Office for Civilian Defense

1942	Pilot in training with Royal Air Force
1942-1945	With army air corps
1948	Student, Balliol College, Oxford University, Oxford, England
1948-1949	National chairman, American Veterans Committee
1950	Assisted in founding World Veterans Federation
1951	Married Anne “Nancy” Blaine (died 1977) Representative, Foundation for Unified and Democratic Germany in United Europe
1954-1974	Editor-in-chief and publisher, <i>New Republic</i>
1965	Published <i>Gertrude Stein’s America</i> . Washington: R. B. Luce
1969-1974	President, Liveright Publishing Co.
1979	Published <i>A Timeless Affair: The Life of Anita McCormick Blaine</i> . Chicago: University of Chicago Press
1883	Published <i>The enthusiast : A Life of Thornton Wilder</i> . New Haven, Conn.: Ticknor & Fields
2008, Jan. 3	Died, Scottsdale, Ariz.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Gilbert Avery Harrison (1915-2008) span the years 1902-1978, with the bulk concentrated in 1960-1965. The collection consists of correspondence, newspaper clippings, pamphlets, and articles and is organized in [Correspondence](#) and [Subject File](#) series relating principally to Harrison’s positions as editor and publisher of the *New Republic* and president of Liveright Publishing Company.

The collection contains few personal letters concerning Harrison’s youth. However his membership in various groups, including the American Veterans Committee and the Office for Civilian Defense, sheds light on his early development. A file on the American Veterans Committee includes correspondence, financial statements, pamphlets, and newspaper clippings. Through his association with the Office for Civilian Defense, Harrison came to know Eleanor Roosevelt, as reflected in letters from her during World War II and well into the 1950s.

The collection includes correspondence from such notable political figures as Hubert Humphrey, Edward Moore Kennedy, Frank Church, Jimmy Carter, and Morris Udall, who thank Harrison for his advice and contributions. There are also many letters and political literature from Adlai E. Stevenson (1900-1965) during his presidential campaigns, as well as correspondence with Senator John F. Kennedy concerning Algeria and a perceived missile gap between the United States and the Soviet Union leading up to the presidential election of 1960. Harrison’s views on disarmament and social issues often emerge in his papers.

Files for the *New Republic* and Liveright Publishing Company include correspondence with authors, details of the sale of the *New Republic* to Martin Peretz, clippings, pamphlets, and annual reports. Also included is a manuscript by Francis Hackett entitled “American Rainbow” and background material and reviews for *Gertrude Stein’s America*, edited by Harrison in 1965. Some literary figures among Harrison’s correspondents are Saul Bellow, William Saroyan, Lillian Hellman, and Irving Howe. Material from Walter Lippmann, who once served as an editor at the *New Republic*, consists mainly of articles and clippings, with some correspondence.

The papers of Nancy Blaine Harrison, wife of Gilbert Harrison, are also contained within the collection. Personal correspondence, clippings, and printed material detail her position as a union organizer in North Carolina during the 1940s and her role as an official in the inaugural ceremonies for John Kennedy in 1961.

Other persons and topics represented in the collection include Dean Acheson, Joseph Alsop, American Civil Liberties Union, Roger N. Baldwin, Anita McCormick Blaine, Malcolm Cowley, Felix Frankfurter, J. William Fulbright, John Kenneth Galbraith, Ernest Gruening, Lyndon B. Johnson, Anthony Lewis, Bertrand Russell, Arthur M. Schlesinger (1917-2007), and Gertrude Stein.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in two series:

- [Correspondence, 1937-1978](#)
- [Subject File, 1902-1978](#)

Description of Series

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BOX 1-5

Series

Correspondence, 1937-1978

Correspondence of Harrison and his wife, Nancy Blaine Harrison.
Arranged alphabetically by writer or recipient.

BOX 5-12

Subject File, 1902-1978

Correspondence, printed matter, writings, and other papers. .
Arranged alphabetically by name of person, topic, or organization and therein chronologically

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