

# Thomas Watt Gregory Papers

## A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



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Washington, D.C.  
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<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms012037>

LC Online Catalog record:

<http://lcn.loc.gov/mm78024109>

Prepared by David E. Kyvig

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Thomas Watt Gregory Papers

**Span Dates:** 1896-1933

**Bulk Dates:** (bulk 1919-1933)

**ID No.:** MSS24109

**Creator:** Gregory, Thomas Watt, 1861-1933

**Extent:** 8,000 items ; 27 containers ; 11.3 linear feet

**Language:** Collection material in English

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

**Summary:** United States attorney general, regent of the University of Texas, and lawyer. Chiefly legal material and correspondence from the period of Gregory's law practice in Washington, D.C. Correspondence also reflects Gregory's interest in the University of Texas, the Woodrow Wilson administration, and the presidential campaign of 1932.

## 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

Anderson, George Weston, 1861-1938--Correspondence.  
Baker, Newton Diehl, 1871-1937--Correspondence.  
Baker, Ray Stannard, 1870-1946--Correspondence.  
Baruch, Bernard M. (Bernard Mannes), 1870-1965--Correspondence.  
Batts, R. L. (Robert Lynn), 1864-1935--Correspondence.  
Brandeis, Louis Dembitz, 1856-1941--Correspondence.  
Bryan, William Jennings, 1860-1925--Correspondence.  
Burlison, Albert Sidney, 1863-1937--Correspondence.  
Catt, Carrie Chapman, 1859-1947--Correspondence.  
Connally, Tom, 1877-1963--Correspondence.  
Daniels, Josephus, 1862-1948--Correspondence.  
Davis, John W. (John William), 1873-1955--Correspondence.  
Garner, John Nance, 1868-1967--Correspondence.  
Gregory, Thomas Watt, 1861-1933.  
Hitz, William, 1872-1935--Correspondence.  
Hoover, Herbert, 1874-1964--Correspondence.  
House, Edward Mandell, 1858-1938--Correspondence.  
Howe, Louis M. (Louis McHenry), 1871-1936--Correspondence.  
Lansing, Robert, 1864-1928--Correspondence.  
Marshall, Thomas R. (Thomas Riley), 1854-1925--Correspondence.  
Mayfield, Earle Bradford, 1881-1964--Correspondence.  
McAdoo, W. G. (William Gibbs), 1863-1941--Correspondence.  
McReynolds, James Clark, 1862-1946--Correspondence.  
Mitchell, William D. (William De Witt), 1874- --Correspondence.  
Moody, Daniel James, 1893-1966--Correspondence.  
Palmer, A. Mitchell (Alexander Mitchell), 1872-1936--Correspondence.  
Pittman, Key, 1872-1940--Correspondence.  
Roosevelt, Franklin D. (Franklin Delano), 1882-1945--Correspondence.  
Roosevelt, Franklin D. (Franklin Delano), 1882-1945.  
Seymour, Charles, 1885-1963--Correspondence.  
Sheppard, Morris, 1875-1941--Correspondence.  
Todd, George Carroll, 1879- --Correspondence.  
Van Devanter, Willis, 1859-1941--Correspondence.  
Walsh, Thomas James, 1859-1933--Correspondence.

White, Edward Douglass, 1845-1921--Correspondence.  
Wickersham, George W. (George Woodward), 1858-1936--Correspondence.  
Wilson, Edith Bolling Galt, 1872-1961--Correspondence.  
Wilson, Woodrow, 1856-1924--Correspondence.  
Wilson, Woodrow, 1856-1924.

### **Organizations**

Industrial Conference (1919-1920 : Washington, D.C.)  
Ku Klux Klan (19th century)  
Stone Mountain Confederate Monumental Association.  
United States. Department of Justice. Office of the Attorney General.  
University of Texas.

### **Subjects**

Alien property--United States.  
Aliens--United States.  
Arbitration, Industrial--United States.  
Executors and administrators.  
Labor--United States.  
Memorials--Georgia.  
Merchant marine--United States.  
Petroleum industry and trade.  
Practice of law--Texas--Houston.  
Practice of law--Washington (D.C.)  
Presidents--United States--Election--1932.  
Railroads.  
Stone Mountain Memorial (Ga.)  
World War, 1914-1918--Naval operations.  
World War, 1914-1918.

### **Places**

Oklahoma--Boundaries--Texas.  
Texas--Boundaries--Oklahoma.  
Texas--Politics and government.  
United States--Claims vs. Mexico.  
United States--Politics and government--1913-1921.  
United States--Politics and government--1919-1933.

### **Occupations**

Cabinet officers.  
Lawyers.

## **Administrative Information**

### **Provenance**

The papers of Thomas Watt Gregory, United States attorney general, regent of the University of Texas, and lawyer, were given to the Library of Congress by T. W. Gregory, Jr., in 1940.

### **Processing History**

The papers of Thomas Watt Gregory were processed in 1971. The finding aid was revised in 2011.

### **Additional Guides**

A card index to the correspondence in the Gregory Papers is available in the Manuscript Division Reading Room.

## Copyright Status

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

## Access and Restrictions

The papers of Thomas Watt Gregory 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, Thomas Watt Gregory Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1861, Nov. 6	Born, Crawfordsville, Miss.
1883	A.B., Southwestern Presbyterian University, Clarksville, Tenn.
1883-1884	Special student, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Va.
1885	LL.B., University of Texas, Austin, Tex. Admitted to Texas bar
1885-1900	Practiced law
1891-1894	Assistant city attorney, Austin, Tex.
1892	Declined appointment as assistant state attorney general
1893	Married Julia Nalle
1899-1907	Regent, University of Texas, Austin, Tex.
1900	Formed firm of Gregory & Batts; firm employed by the state of Texas as special counsel to prosecute corporations for anti-trust violations
1904	Delegate, Democratic national convention and member of committee on credentials
1908-1913	Member, firm of Gregory, Batts & Brooks
1912	Delegate and vice president, Democratic national convention
1913	Special assistant to United States attorney general in charge of investigation and prosecution of the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad Co. for violation of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act
1914-1919	Attorney general of the United States
1919	Became member of firm of Gregory & Todd, Washington, D.C.

1919-1920	Member, President Wilson's second Industrial Conference, Washington, D.C.
1933, Feb. 26	Died, New York, N.Y.

## Scope and Content Note

The papers of Thomas Watt Gregory (1861-1933) contain correspondence, legal briefs, pleadings, memoranda, printed copies of speeches and writings, and other material relating to Gregory's attorney generalship and later legal career. Although the collection spans the years 1896-1933, there are only a few items before 1914 and only one container of material for the period 1914-1919. There is, however, some correspondence for Gregory's years in the cabinet and a great deal of material for his later life. The collection is organized into [General Correspondence](#), [Legal File](#), [Speeches and Writings](#), and [Miscellany](#) series.

The [General Correspondence](#) contains letters received and sent by Gregory for the years 1914-1933. These letters relate to a wide range of subjects, but chiefly personal, political, business, and legal matters. Although most of Gregory's correspondence as attorney general apparently remained in the files of the Justice Department, there is some material in the correspondence regarding politics, patronage, and the policies of the presidential administration of Woodrow Wilson. There are letters bearing on the controversy over the arming of merchant ships in the spring of 1916, procedures for dealing with enemy aliens, and other matters. There are numerous letters between Gregory and Woodrow Wilson and between Gregory and other members of the cabinet.

Additional information about the Wilson administration can be found among Gregory's correspondence for the period after he resigned from the cabinet in 1919. Gregory was a close friend of Edward Mandell House, and their letters to each other after 1919 frequently contained reminiscences of events and personages of the Wilson years. Similar material can be found in letters from Gregory to Ray Stannard Baker and others. For the years 1931-1933 there is considerable correspondence between Gregory and House, Louis McHenry Howe, and others that reflects the support given by Gregory and House to Franklin D. Roosevelt's campaign for the 1932 presidential nomination.

The [General Correspondence](#) series also reflects Gregory's interest in the affairs of the University of Texas, the Stone Mountain Confederate Monumental Association, Texas politics, and other matters. Among Gregory's many correspondents are George Weston Anderson, Newton Diehl Baker, Bernard M. Baruch, R. L. Batts, Louis Dembitz Brandeis, William Jennings Bryan, Albert Sidney Bursleson, Carrie Chapman Catt, Tom Connally, Josephus Daniels, John W. Davis (1873-1955) John Nance Garner, Herbert Hoover, Robert Lansing, W. G. McAdoo (1863-1941), James Clark McReynolds, Thomas R. Marshall, Earle Bradford Mayfield, William D. Mitchell, Daniel James Moody, A. Mitchell Palmer, Key Pittman, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Charles Seymour, Morris Sheppard, Willis Van Devanter, Thomas James Walsh, Edward D. White, George W. Wickersham (1858-1936), and Edith Bolling Galt Wilson.

Following his resignation from Wilson's cabinet, Gregory resumed the practice of law with offices in Washington and, beginning in 1924, in Houston. The [Legal File](#), by far the largest series in the collection, contains correspondence, briefs, pleadings, memoranda, and other material relating to cases in which Gregory was involved. Among these cases were corporate tax and contract involving oil companies and railroads, the settlement of estates, claims against Mexico, disputes over the wartime seizure of the property of aliens, stockholders' suits against railroads, and boundary disputes between Texas and Oklahoma.

The [Speeches and Writings file](#) contains printed transcripts of some of Gregory's addresses and articles. Topics include the University of Texas, the Ku Klux Klan, and Woodrow Wilson.

The [Miscellany](#) series contains the report, drafts of statements, and other material from the Industrial Conference, Washington, D.C., of 1919-1920 to which Wilson appointed Gregory; minutes of meetings and printed material concerning the Stone Mountain Confederate Monumental Association; and a file on fund-raising activities of the University of Texas. There is also a small file of miscellaneous clippings and articles.

## Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in four series:

- General Correspondence, 1914-1933
- Legal File, 1917-1933
- Speeches and Writings, 1896-1926
- Miscellany, 1919-1933

## Description of Series

<i>Container</i>	<i>Series</i>
BOX 1-8	<p><b><u>General Correspondence, 1914-1933</u></b></p> <p>Originals and copies of letters received and sent relating to personal, political, business, and legal matters. Arranged chronologically.</p>
BOX 9-25	<p><b><u>Legal File, 1917-1933</u></b></p> <p>Correspondence, briefs, pleadings, memoranda, and other material concerning Gregory's legal practice. Arranged alphabetically by case and thereunder chronologically.</p>
BOX 26	<p><b><u>Speeches and Writings, 1896-1926</u></b></p> <p>Printed copies of speeches and articles. Arranged chronologically.</p>
BOX 27	<p><b><u>Miscellany, 1919-1933</u></b></p> <p>Articles and clippings; reports, drafts, and other matter relating to the Industrial Conference, Washington, D.C., of 1919-1920; material concerning the Stone Mountain Confederate Monumental Association; and a file on the University of Texas. Arranged by subject.</p>

# Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
<b>BOX 1-8</b>	<b>General Correspondence, 1914-1933</b> Originals and copies of letters received and sent relating to personal, political, business, and legal matters. Arranged chronologically.
<b>BOX 1</b>	Jan. 1914-Dec. 1918
<b>BOX 2</b>	Jan. 1919-Mar. 1925
<b>BOX 3</b>	Apr. 1925-Apr. 1926
<b>BOX 4</b>	May 1926-Feb. 1928
<b>BOX 5</b>	Mar. 1928-Apr. 1929
<b>BOX 6</b>	May 1929-Dec. 1930
<b>BOX 7</b>	1931
<b>BOX 8</b>	Jan. 1932-Feb. 1933, undated
<b>BOX 9-25</b>	<b>Legal File, 1917-1933</b> Correspondence, briefs, pleadings, memoranda, and other material concerning Gregory's legal practice. Arranged alphabetically by case and thereunder chronologically.
<b>BOX 9</b>	American National Bank
<b>BOX 9</b>	Littlefield income tax matter, 1920-1921
<b>BOX 9</b>	Rural delivery service account, 1921
<b>BOX 9</b>	American Sales Corporation v. United States
<b>BOX 9</b>	Mar. 1926-Apr. 1928
<b>BOX 9</b>	May 1928-Sept. 1929 .
<b>BOX 9</b>	Oct. 1929-Feb. 1930, undated
<b>BOX 9</b>	Printed matter
<b>BOX 9</b>	Atlas Crucible Steel Co.
<b>BOX 9</b>	Austin Cement Co
<b>BOX 10</b>	Bierhaus v. Bierhaus
<b>BOX 10</b>	Buena Fe claim
<b>BOX 10</b>	Chamberlain (Edmund) case
<b>BOX 10</b>	Correspondence 1921-1926 (2 folders)
<b>BOX 10</b>	Data and notes used in preparing statement for Senate committee
<b>BOX 10</b>	Printed matter
<b>BOX 10</b>	Chamberlain v. Mexico
<b>BOX 11</b>	Cochran estate
<b>BOX 11</b>	1920-1922 (2 folders)
<b>BOX 11</b>	Miscellany
<b>BOX 11</b>	Colquitt v. Roxana Petroleum Corp.

## Legal File, 1917-1933

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BOX 11	1929-1931 (2 folders)
BOX 11	Undated (1 folder)
BOX 12	(1 folder)
BOX 12	Memoranda of authorities
BOX 12	Copies of pleadings and orders
BOX 12	Constantin v. Lon Smith
BOX 12	Correspondence and briefs
BOX 12	Printed matter
BOX 12	Crawford v. Broussard
BOX 12	de Mumm case
BOX 12	Fox Co. v. Southern Pacific Terminal Co.
BOX 13	Gibraltar Savings and Building Association v. W. A. Harper
BOX 13	Graten and Knight Manufacturing Co.
BOX 13	Correspondence
BOX 13	Miscellany
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BOX 13	1917-1922 (5 folders)
BOX 14	1923-1924 (3 folders)
BOX 14	Undated (1 folder)
BOX 15	(1 folder)
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BOX 15	Houston and Texas Central Minority Stockholders
BOX 15	1922
BOX 15	1923
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BOX 16	Feb.-Dec. (3 folders)
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BOX 16	Apr.-July (3 folders)
BOX 17	Aug.-Dec.
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BOX 18	Lake Oil Co.
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## Legal File, 1917-1933

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BOX 18	Briefs, pleadings, memoranda, and miscellany
BOX 18	Missouri Pacific Railroad Co.
BOX 18	1918-1926 (3 folders)
BOX 19	Briefs, pleadings, and memoranda
BOX 19	Printed matter
BOX 19	Mitchell v. Hampel
BOX 19	Correspondence
BOX 19	Briefs, pleadings, and memoranda
BOX 19	Printed matter
BOX 19	Moye, Lee R., claim of heirs
BOX 19	1919-1923 (2 folders)
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BOX 21	Rabb claim against Mexico
BOX 21	Rives, Thomas, heirs of
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BOX 21	1925-1926 (2 folders)
BOX 21	Briefs, pleadings, and miscellany
BOX 21	Printed matter
BOX 21	Swift and Armour
BOX 22	Tamm (William B.) case
BOX 22	Taylor Fishing Club, 1925-1932 (3 folders)
BOX 22	Texas Bitulithic Co., 1920-1921, undated (2 folders)
BOX 22	Texas-Oklahoma boundary dispute
BOX 22	1919
BOX 22	1920
BOX 22	Jan.-Aug (2 folders)
BOX 23	Sept.-Dec.
BOX 23	1921-1923 (6 folders)
BOX 23	1924
BOX 23	Jan.-Oct. (4 folders)
BOX 24	Nov.-Dec

## Legal File, 1917-1933

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BOX 24	Documents, reports, and related material
BOX 24	Surveyors' charts and maps
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BOX 25	Fragments
BOX 26	<b>Speeches and Writings, 1896-1926</b> Printed copies of speeches and articles. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 26	"The University and the State," 1896
BOX 26	"A University of the First Class," 1899
BOX 26	Address at the opening of the nineteenth session of the University of Texas, Austin, Tex., 1901
BOX 26	"Reconstruction and the Ku Klux Klan," 1906
BOX 26	"Clarence Heath Miller: Eulogy at the Grave," 1910
BOX 26	"How the Rear of Our Armies Was Guarded during the World War," 1919
BOX 26	"Woodrow Wilson and the League of Nations," 1926
BOX 27	<b>Miscellany, 1919-1933</b> Articles and clippings; reports, drafts, and other matter relating to the Industrial Conference, Washington, D.C., of 1919-1920; material concerning the Stone Mountain Confederate Monumental Association; and a file on the University of Texas. Arranged by subject.
BOX 27	Clippings and articles
BOX 27	Industrial Conference, Washington, D.C., 1919-1920
BOX 27	Report
BOX 27	Drafts of statements
BOX 27	Statement by Woodrow Wilson
BOX 27	Adamson bill
BOX 27	Stone Mountain Confederate Monumental Association
BOX 27	University of Texas, Austin, Tex.