Guide to the Simon Julius Lubin Papers, 1912-1936

Processed by The Bancroft Library staff
The Bancroft Library.
University of California, Berkeley
Berkeley, California, 94720-6000
Phone: (510) 642-6481
Fax: (510) 642-7589
Email: bancref@library.berkeley.edu
URL: http://bancroft.berkeley.edu
© 1996
The Regents of the University of California. All rights reserved.

Note
Social Sciences --Political Science --General
History --World War I
History --History, California --General
Guide to the Simon Julius Lubin Papers, 1912-1936

Collection number: BANC MSS C-B 1059

The Bancroft Library

University of California, Berkeley
Berkeley, California

Contact Information:

The Bancroft Library.
University of California, Berkeley
Berkeley, California, 94720-6000
Phone: (510) 642-6481
Fax: (510) 642-7589
Email: bancref@library.berkeley.edu
URL: http://bancroft.berkeley.edu

Processed by:
The Bancroft Library staff
Date Completed:
ca. 1965
Encoded by:
Brooke Dykman Dockter

© 1996 The Regents of the University of California. All rights reserved.

Collection Summary

Collection Title: Simon Julius Lubin Papers,
Date (inclusive): 1912-1936
Collection Number: BANC MSS C-B 1059
Creator: Lubin, Simon Julius, 1876-1936
Extent: Number of containers: 5 boxes, 2 cartons
Repository: The Bancroft Library
Berkeley, California 94720-6000
Physical Location: For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the Library's online catalog.

Abstract: Correspondence, biographical sketches, articles and addresses, reports, clippings, etc., relating primarily to his service with the State Commission of Immigration and Housing and its investigation of IWW sabotage activities during World War I, agricultural labor camps, and the 1913 Wheatland hopfield riot. Some later material relates to the Pan American Reciprocal Trade Conference.

Languages Represented: English

Access

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights
Biographical Sketch

Simon Julius Lubin was born in Sacramento on November 27, 1876. He began his long career of social and civic service, after graduation from Harvard University in 1903, as a settlement worker in Boston's South End House. In 1904 he lived in the lower east side of New York City, studying social problems. Returning to California in 1906, he took over the management of the store his father, David Lubin, founded with Harris Weinstock in Sacramento.

He achieved state-wide recognition in 1912 when he was appointed by Governor Hiram W. Johnson a member of the State Immigration Commission which was to investigate the immigration problems anticipated with the opening of the Panama Canal. He drafted a bill to create a permanent Commission of Immigration and Housing, which was approved by the Legislature in 1913. The Governor appointed him president of the new Commission which included also, as members, Mrs. Mary Gibson, the Reverend Father Edward J. Hanna, Paul Scharrenberg and Arthur B. Fleming. The Commission was entrusted with two major problems, the welfare of the immigrant and the related problem of his housing, and also handled special assignments such as investigations of the 1913 Wheatland hop field riot; the IWW activities during World War I and the vice conditions in Sacramento in 1918; the improvement of agricultural labor camps; and the development of housing legislation. In 1923 Lubin resigned from the Commission, at the request of Governor Friend W. Richardson, after a disagreement over the Governor's dismissal of Commission member Paul Scharrenberg.

Lubin continued his career as civic leader, organizing the Sacramento Region Citizens Council in 1926 and the Pan American Reciprocal Trade Conference in 1930, and serving as director of the Department of Commerce of California, 1932-1934, and special commissioner of the National Labor Board in 1932.

He died on April 15, 1936.

Scope and Content

These papers were given to the Bancroft Library by his family, some ca. 1947, with additions in 1953. Covering the period 1912-1936, they relate primarily to his service with the Commission of Immigration and Housing, and consist of correspondence, clippings, reports, biographical sketches, and articles and addresses. There is very little material after 1923, and this is concerned primarily with the Pan American Reciprocal Trade Conference.

A Key to Arrangement and list of the more important correspondents in the collection follow.
Letters written by Lubin, 1912-1923; Apr.-May 1932

Scope and Content Note
Carbon copies of his outgoing letters, relating primarily to the progress of Legislation creating the permanent Commission; the organization and staffing of the Commission and special investigations undertaken by it; legislation sponsored by it, etc. Also included are copies of outgoing letters written by Commission secretary, Robert Newton Lynch, on behalf of the Commission. Letters written April-May 1932 are the originals of those Lubin wrote to his family while he was in Mexico to promote the formation of a Mexican Division of the Pan American Institute of Reciprocal Trade. Arranged chronologically.

Ctn. 1
Biographical sketches, obituaries, memorial tributes, etc.
Articles and addresses by Lubin (printed and manuscript)
Clippings re Lubin
Clippings re Lubin and the Sacramento Board of Education
Clippings re members of the Lubin family
Material relating to charges of un-Americanism brought against Lubin by the Sacramento Chief of Police Ira Conran in 1918
Commission of Immigration and Housing - drafts of act creating the Commission; proposed programs, reports, minutes, circulars, etc.
Physical Description: (3 folders)

Commission of Immigration and Housing - Wheatland riot investigation
Commission of Immigration and Housing - IWW investigation
Physical Description: (4 folders)

Reports from investigators, circulars, notes, expense accounts for investigators
Commission’s report, clippings, etc.
Clippings re IWW and terrorism, 1915-1917
Physical Description: (2 folders)

Clippings re incendiary fires and fires of unknown or suspicious origin. June 19-30, 1917, in California and parts of Oregon
Physical Description: (2 folders)

Commission of Immigration and Housing - Sacramento vice investigation
Speeches; chronology of recall campaign against G. C. Simmons, commissioner of Sacramento; investigators’ reports, etc.
Clippings re Sacramento vice investigation
Physical Description: (2 folders)

Commission of Immigration and Housing - dismissal of Paul Scharrenberg
Clippings re California state budget cut, 1923, and Governor’s proposed abolition of the Commission
Immigration and settlement of immigrants - material gathered by Commission member Dana W. Bartlett
Better America Federation Pamphlets and newsletters, clippings, copies of letters, etc.

Ctn. 2
Pan American Institute of Reciprocal Trade
Scope and Content Note
Releases, reports, clippings, memoranda, copies of portions of Lubin’s diary, April 11-20, 1932, covering his efforts to promote formation of Mexican Division of the Institute

Simon J. Lubin Society
Scope and Content Note
Statement of purposes, copy of bulletin no. 1 containing constitution
Printed items

Additional Note
Reports on housing and housing reform prepared by various organizations, miscellaneous reports of the Commission, etc. Several printed items have been removed for separate cataloging. Cards for these have been prepared for the Manuscripts Division shelf list.

Miscellany

Miscellany (single letters)
Abbott, Grace, 1878-1939
   Letter, Jan. 22, 1913.
American Institute of Architects. San Francisco
   Letter, June 10, 1919, from Sylvain Schnaittacher, president, concerning proposed changes in Tenement House Law.
Bankhead, John Hollis, 1842-1920
Bradford, Hugh B.
Brandeis, Louis Dembitz, 1856-1941
Brissenden, Paul F. [Special investigator for the Commission]
Browne, Maurice B.
   Letter, Mar. 27, 1915.
Caminetti, Anthony, 1854-1923
   Letter, Mar. 10, 1914.
Coffee, Rudolph Isaac, 1878-
Cole, Samuel Valentine, 1851-1925
Cunningham, F. J. [Commission investigator]
   Letter, n.d.
DeHaas, Jacob Anton, 1883-
   Letter, Mar. 21, 1915.
Elkus, Albert Israel, 1884-1962
   Letter, [Oct. 1923].
Eshleman, John Morton, 1876-1916
Gerberding, Elizabeth (Sears), 1857-
   Letter, Oct. 27, 1913.
Gompers, Samuel, 1850-1924
   Telegram, Jan. 15, 1915.
Howerth, Ira Woods, 1860-1938
   Letter, May 26, 1915. Concerning opportunities for cooperation between the University of California Extension Division and the Commission.
Hughes, Dudley Mays, 1848-1927
Hunt, George Wylie Paul, 1859-1934
International Labor Office
Kelley, Florence, 1859-1932
   Letter, Feb. 4, 1913.
Levy, Joseph Leonard, 1865-1917
   Letter, Apr. 24, 1914.
Lubin, David, 1849-1919
   Letter, Dec. 17, 1913.
National Conference of Immigration, Land and Labor Officials
Nolen, John, 1869-1937
Parker, Cornelia (Stratton), 1885-
Polsley, Harry
   Letter, Apr. 12, 1913.
Porter, Robert C.
   Letter, May 16, 1919. Concerning housing bills before the California Legislature.
   Enclosure: copy of his letter, May 16, 1919, written as director of San Francisco Housing Association, to Governor W. D. Stephens.
Richardson, Ethel
Richardson, Friend William, 1865-1943
   Letter, July 2, 1923. Form letter concerning economy budget.
Ryan, John Augustine, 1869-
   Letter, Apr. 4, 1932.
Sabine, Wallace Clement, 1868-1919
   Letter, Jan. 21, 1915.
Sacramento Bee
   Letter, July 11, 1914, from J. E. Langdon, news editor.
Sacramento Star
Sacramento Union
San Francisco. Dept. of Public Health
Shartel, A. F.
   Letter, Mar. 24, 1913.
Shenton, Herbert Newhard, 1884-1931
State Law Enforcement and Protective League
   Letter, June 24, 1918.
Straus, Nathan, 1848-1931
   Letter, Apr. 17, 1914.
Straus, Oscar Solomon, 1850-1926
   Letter, Feb. 18, 1914.
U. S. Bureau of Education
Wald, Lillian D., 1867-1940
Wallace, Albert Joseph, 1853-
   Letter, Mar. 31, 1913.
Wyllie, G. W.
   Letter, Feb. 24, 1913, with note from David Lubin on p. 2.
American Colonization League
   5 letters, 1913, from Max Binheim, secretary.
American Jewish Committee, New York
   3 letters, 1912-1913.
Antin, Mary, 1881-
   3 letters, 1915.
Arizona, Governor
See Western governors correspondence re IWW investigation.
Associated Charities of San Francisco
See Felton, Katharine C.
Partial List of Correspondents

Association Internationale pour la Lutte Contre le Chomage
2 letters, 1913. In French, with translations.

Backus, John James, 1863-

Barrows, David Prescott, 1873-1954
6 letters, 1913-1919. Written while President, University of California.

Bartlett, Dana Webster, 1860- [member of the Commission]
51 letters, 1912-1913.

Bell, George Lewis, 1888-1958 [attorney and executive officer for the Commission]
120 letters, 1914-1923. Letters and telegrams, 1917, relate to the IWW investigation.

Better America Federation of California
6 letters, 1920-1921, from H. M. Haldeman, president, and Woodworth Clum, managing director.

Birdsall, E. S.
4 letters, 1912-1913.

Blanpied, C. W.
32 letters, 1912-1914. Written while immigration secretary, Young Men's Christian Association, and secretary, Pacific Coast Immigration Congress.

Bruce, Roscoe Conkling
3 letters, 1914-1915.

California. Bureau of Labor Statistics

California. [County clerks]
7 letters, 1912. Letters from various county clerks relative to expenditures made to encourage immigration.

California. State Board of Control
3 letters, 1912-1919.
See also Neylan, John F.

California. State Board of Health
2 letters, 1912.

California Civic League
2 letters, 1913-1915.

California Conference on City Planning
3 letters, 1915, from Percy V. Long, President.

California Congress of Mothers
2 letters, 1912-1915.

California Development Board
3 letters, 1912-1913.

Carr, John Foster, 1869-1939
5 letters, 1913-1914. Written on behalf of the Immigrant Education Society.

Chambers, John Sheerer, 1867-1923
2 letters, 1919.

Cheney, Charles Henry, 1884-1943

Cheney, May L.
2 letters, 1913.

Civic Club of San Francisco
2 letters, 1915.

Cole, William Isaac, 1859-1935
2 letters, 1913-1914.

Committee for Immigrants in America
5 letters, 1915.
See also Kellor, Frances Alice.

Commonwealth Club of California
4 letters, 1913, from Beverly L. Hodghead, president, and Carl E. Grunsky, Secretary.

Clum, Woodworth
See Better America Federation of California

Daughters of the American Revolution. California
4 letters, 1912-1915.

Davis, Philip, 1878-
9 letters, 1913-1915.

Durst, R. H.

Fels, Joseph, 1854-1914
4 letters, 1912-1914.

Felton, Katharine C.
12 letters, 1912-1913. Written while secretary of Associated Charities of San Francisco and as member of the temporary Commission.

Fleming, Arthur Henry, 1856-1940
2 letters, 1914.

Gibson, Mary Simons [member of the Commission]
98 letters, 1913-1920.

Grunsky, Carl Ewald, 1855-1934
See Commonwealth Club of California.

Haldeman, Harry Marston, 1871-1930
See Better America Federation of California.

Hamilton, W. W. [investigator for the Commission]
3 letters, 1913-1914.

Hanna, Edward Joseph [member of the Commission]
15 letters, 1913-1923 & n.d.

Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society
2 letters, 1912.

Hodghead, Beverly L.
See Commonwealth Club of California

Horst, Emil Clemens, 1867-1940
2 letters, 1914. Concerning proposed inspection of agricultural labor camps.

Howe, Frederick Clemson, 1867-1940
See U. S. Immigration Service

International Immigration Congress
4 letters, 1915.

Italy. Ministero Degli Affari Esteri
6 letters, 1913-1915.

Italy. Consulate, San Francisco
4 letters, 1912-1914. One is a copy of a letter addressed to the president of Patronato Emigranti, expressing views on Italian emigration.

Johnson, Hiram Warren, 1866-1945
27 letters, 1912-1919. Some written for him by his secretaries.

Kahn, Julius
3 letters, 1912-1919.

Kellor, Frances Alice, 1873-
17 letters, 1912-1915. Some written for the North American Civic League for Immigrants; for Committee for Immigrants in America; and for New York Bureau of Industries and Immigration.

Lissner, Meyer
3 letters, 1914-1915.

Long, Percy V.
See California Conference on City Planning.
Lynch, Robert Newton
   39 letters, 1912-1914. Many of them written while serving as secretary of the
temporary Commission.

McArthur, Walter
   2 letters, 1913.

McBride, James Harvey, 1849- [member of the Commission]
   16 letters, 1915-1919.

McClatchy, Charles Kenny, 1858-1936
   7 letters, 1913-1918.

Melton, George L. [Commission employee]
   4 letters, 1915. Concerning the Commission's program for the unemployed.

Mills, Frederick Cecil, 1892- [Commission investigator]
   3 letters, 1914.

National Conference of Charities and Correction
   2 letters, 1913, from Graham Taylor, chairman of the Committee on Distribution and
Assimilation of Immigrants.

Nevada. Governor
See Western Governors' ...

Neylan, John Francis
   3 letters, 1913-1923. Two written as chairman, State Board of Control.

North American Civic League for Immigrants
   4 letters, 1912-1913.
See also Kellor, Frances A.

Norton, Henry K. [executive officer of the Commission]
   3 letters, 1919.

Oregon. Governor
See Western Governors' ...

Pacific Coast Immigration Congress
See Blanpied, C. W.

Parker, Carleton Hubbell, 1879-1918 [executive secretary for the Commission]
   46 letters, 1913-1914.

Patronato Emigranti
   3 letters, 1912-1913.

Peixotto, Jessica Blanche, 1864-1941
   2 letters, 1913-1914.

Rosenthal, J. J. [Commission investigator]
   8 letters, 1914. Concerning investigation of conditions on hop ranches.

Rothwell, Bernard Joseph, 1859-1948
   3 letters, 1914.

Sacramento, Calif. City Commission
   3 letters, 1913-1914.

Sacramento, Calif. Commissioner of Public Health and Safety
   11 letters, 1918-1919. Many refer to the 1918 Sacramento vice investigation.

Sapiro, Aaron L.
   4 letters, 1913. Some written on behalf of the Western Assembly of the Jewish
Chautauqua.

Scharrenberg, Paul [Commission member]
   32 letters, 1912-1923.

Simmons, S. E.
   3 letters, 1918-1919. Concerning Sacramento vice investigation.

Simpson, John Lowrey, 1891- [Commission investigator]
   2 letters, 1914-1915.

Solomons, Lucius L., 1863-
   2 letters, 1914.

Stephens, William Dennison, 1859-1944
   7 letters, 1917-1920. Some written by his executive secretary.

Sulzberger, Cyrus L., 1858-1932
Partial List of Correspondents

2 letters, 1912. One written for him by Leo Sulzberger.
Taylor, Graham, 1851-1938
See National Conference ...
Travelers Aid Society
3 letters, 1913-1914, from Orin C. Baker, general secretary.
U. S. Commission on Industrial Relations
See Weinstock, Harris
U. S. Dept. of Agriculture
U. S. Dept. of Labor
3 letters, 1915-1918, from William B. Wilson.
U. S. Immigration Service
6 letters, 1913-1915. Include letters from Frederic C. Howe.
U. S. War Dept.
22 letters, 1918. Primarily from the Commission on Training Camp Activities, Law Enforcement Division, concerning vice conditions in Sacramento.
Utah. Governor
See Western Governors'...
Veiller, Lawrence
6 letters, 1913-1915. Written while secretary and director of the National Housing Association.
Washington. Governor
See Western Governors ...
Watchorn, Robert [secretary of the temporary Commission]
28 letters, 1912-1913. Many written by his secretary.
Weinstock, Harris
7 letters, 1913-1915. Some written as member of the U. S. Commission on Industrial Relations. Included also are copies of two letters- Weinstock to F. R. Welsh, Sept. 10, 1920, and Welsh to Weinstock, Oct. 21, 1920- referred by Weinstock to Lubin for his information.
[Western governors correspondence re IWW investigation]
36 letters, July-Aug., 1917. Include letters and telegrams from the governors of Washington, Oregon, Arizona, Nevada, Utah and Montana.
Whitton, Frederick
5 letters, 1912-1914.
Williams, Edgar
8 letters, 1913-1914.
Wilson, William Bauchop, 1862-1934
See U. S. Dept. of Labor
Wilson, Woodrow
2 letters, 1918. Typed copies. One is a copy of a letter written by his secretary, J. P. Tumulty.
Wood, Will C.
2 letters, 1919.
Wright, Leroy A.
3 letters, 1913.
Young Men's Christian Association, San Francisco
5 letters, 1913-1914. Primarily from the Immigration Department.