Title: Thomas St. John Gaffney papers
Date (inclusive): 1887-1941
Collection Number: XX227
Contributing Institution: Hoover Institution Archives
Language of Material: English
Physical Description: 3 manuscript boxes, 2 oversize boxes (3.0 linear feet)
Abstract: Correspondence, writings, and printed matter, relating to international relations, the World War I war guilt question, reparations, Irish independence, American domestic politics and foreign policy, and Jews. Includes correspondence with Kaiser Wilhelm II in exile, Baron Hermann Speck von Sternberg (German ambassador to the United States), and Jules Cambon (French ambassador to Germany). Also available on microfilm (5 reels).
Physical Location: Hoover Institution Archives
Creator: Gaffney, Thomas St. John, 1864-1945
Access
Microfilm use only; materials must be requested at least two business days in advance of intended use.
Publication Rights
For copyright status, please contact the Hoover Institution Archives.
Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Thomas St. John Gaffney papers, [Box no., Folder no. or title], Hoover Institution Archives.
Acquisition Information
Acquired by the Hoover Institution Archives in 1942.
Accruals
Materials may have been added to the collection since this finding aid was prepared. To determine if this has occurred, find the collection in Stanford University's online catalog at http://searchworks.stanford.edu/. Materials have been added to the collection if the number of boxes listed in the catalog is larger than the number of boxes listed in this finding aid.
Alternate Forms Available
Available on microfilm (5 reels).
Related Materials
Sir Roger Casement papers, Hoover Institution Archives
1864 Born, Limerick, Ireland
1882 Came to the United States
1889 Admitted to the New York Bar
1897 President, Patriotic League of America
Circa 1900 Co-author with Joseph Smith, American in the Orient: The United States, Russia, and France and the Anglo-Japanese Treaty
1902 Named Chevalier of the Legion of Honor by French President émile Loubet
1905 Confirmed by King Leopold of Belgium with the officer's cross of the order of Leopold II
1905-1913 Consul General for Dresden, appointed by President Theodore Roosevelt
1913-1915 Consul General for Munich, appointed by President Woodrow Wilson
1915 November Forced to resign after making partisan statements in support of Germany
1930 Author, Breaking the Silence: England, Ireland, Wilson and the War
1945 Died
Scope and Content of Collection
The collection contains materials largely pertaining to the war guilt question after WWI, reparations, Irish independence, American domestic politics and foreign policy, Jews, and the activities of Kaiser Wilhelm II in exile. After his forced resignation in 1915, Gaffney returned to Germany a number of times and continued his interactions with German officials and other diplomats. Although Gaffney's relationship with Sir Roger Casement was one of the motivating factors for his resignation, the collection contains little on the Irish nationalist.
Gaffney's Correspondence provides the most information into the breadth of his political interests and activities from before his appointment as consul general to after the publication of his memoir Breaking the Silence. Of particular note in this series is a letter to Herbert Hoover in 1929 regarding war guilt and reparations, punctuated with a handwritten note by
Kaiser Wilhelm II.
The **Scrapbooks** series contains correspondence, clippings, and photographs compiled by Gaffney documenting his relationship with Kaiser Wilhelm II in exile in Doorn. Loose items filed within the scrapbook pages were left in place.

The biographical materials in the **Clippings and Collected materials** series are comprised of articles by and about Gaffney printed in American and German newspapers. Among the collected materials filed by subject in this series are German propaganda flyers from WWI published by the Fichte-Bunde and distributed in the United States.

Gaffney's **Speeches and Writings** focus mostly on his interpretations of the War Guilt Clause in the Treaty of Versailles and its implications on Germany and German-Americans. The researcher should be aware that some writings are under the pen name Arthur Fleming. Additional writings are filed by subject in the Clippings and Collected materials series.

**Arrangement**
The collection is organized into 4 series: Correspondence, Speeches and Writings, Clippings and Collected materials, and Scrapbooks

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**
Cambon, Jules Martin, 1845-1935.
Sternburg, Hermann Speck von, Freiherr, 1852-1908.
William II, German Emperor, 1859-1941.
Diplomats--United States.
Germany--Foreign relations--United States.
Great Britain--Foreign relations.
Ireland--History--20th century.
Jews.
United States--Foreign relations--Germany.
World War, 1914-1918--Reparations.

**Microfilm Reel Content Guide**

[Downloadable PDF file of the Microfilm Reel Content Guide](#)

**Correspondence 1887-1941**
Scope and Contents note
Consists of letters, invitations, and enclosures. Arranged alphabetically by last name.

**Reel 1**

**General 1890-1940**
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 1 : 1

**Unidentified 1903-1934**
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 1 : 2

**Bethmann-Hollweg, Theobald von 1917**
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 1 : 3

**Barnes, Harry Elmer 1924-1933**
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 1 : 4. Includes enclosed correspondence regarding William Dodd.
Belgian Legation 1902
   Scope and Contents note
   Box/Folder 1 : 5

Bigelow, Poulney 1930
   Scope and Contents note
   Box/Folder 1 : 6

Boehm-Tettelbach, Hans W. 1931
   Scope and Contents note
   Box/Folder 1 : 7

Borah, William E. 1928
   Scope and Contents note
   Box/Folder 1 : 8

Bothmer, Felix von Reichsgraf 1931
   Scope and Contents note
   Box/Folder 1 : 9

Cambon, Jules 1900-1903
   Scope and Contents note
   Box/Folder 1 : 9. See also Scrapbooks.

Carter, Boake 1940
   Scope and Contents note
   Box/Folder 1 : 11

Carter, Frederic 1887
   Scope and Contents note
   Box/Folder 1 : 12

Chamberlain, Neville 1938
   Scope and Contents note
   Box/Folder 1 : 13

Cohalan, Daniel F. 1931
   Scope and Contents note
   Box/Folder 1 : 14

Copeland, Royal S. 1931
   Scope and Contents note
   Box/Folder 1 : 15

Dieckhoff, Hans Heinrich 1938
   Scope and Contents note
   Box/Folder 1 : 16

Draeger, Phil H.C. Hans 1931-1936
   Scope and Contents note
   Box/Folder 1 : 17
Emerson, Edwin 1931
    Scope and Contents note
    Box/Folder 1 : 18

Epp, Franz Ritter von 1935-1936
    Scope and Contents note
    Box/Folder 1 : 19

Fein, Claus 1936
    Scope and Contents note
    Box/Folder 1 : 20

Frick, Wilhelm 1933
    Scope and Contents note
    Box/Folder 1 : 21

Gerard, James Watson 1915
    Scope and Contents note
    Box/Folder 1 : 22

Gibbons, James, Cardinal 1915
    Scope and Contents note
    Box/Folder 1 : 23

Hitler, Adolf 1931-1933
    Scope and Contents note
    Box/Folder 1 : 24. Includes responses from secretary of Wilhelm Bruckner.

Hoover, Herbert 1928-1931
    Scope and Contents note
    Box/Folder 1 : 25

Jagow, Kurt 1929
    Scope and Contents note
    Box/Folder 1 : 26

Kasenkamp, Georg 1932
    Scope and Contents note
    Box/Folder 1 : 27

Kiep, Otto Carl 1933
    Scope and Contents note
    Box/Folder 1 : 28

Lössl, Edler von and Sigmund Ritter, 1915
    Scope and Contents note
    Box/Folder 1 : 29

McDonald, J. Ramsey 1929
    Scope and Contents note
    Box/Folder 1 : 30
Papen, Franz von 1932
   Scope and Contents note
   Box/Folder 1 : 31

Reichenau, Walther von 1929
   Scope and Contents note
   Box/Folder 1 : 32

Rochambeau, René de, 1902
   Scope and Contents note
   Box/Folder 1 : 33

Roddie, Stewart undated
   Scope and Contents note
   Box/Folder 1 : 34

Rudi 1897-1898
   Scope and Contents note
   Box/Folder 1 : 35

Russell, Charles 1903
   Scope and Contents note
   Box/Folder 1 : 36

Russian Imperial embassy, Washington 1902
   Scope and Contents note
   Box/Folder 1 : 37

St. Clair, C.M. 1934-1935
   Scope and Contents note
   Box/Folder 1 : 38

Soden, G. 1925-1927
   Scope and Contents note
   Box/Folder 1 : 39

South African Republic embassy, Brussels 1900
   Scope and Contents note
   Box/Folder 1 : 40

Schnee, M. 1931
   Scope and Contents note
   Box/Folder 1 : 41

Sell, Ulrich von 1933, 1938
   Scope and Contents note
   Box/Folder 1 : 42. See also Scrapbooks--Kaiser Wilhelm II in exile.

Shipstead, Henrik 1928-1929
   Scope and Contents note
   Box/Folder 1 : 43
Sternburg, Hermann Speck von 1902-1908
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 1 : 44

Stoddard, John L. 1915-1917
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 1 : 45

Sullivan, Mark 1933
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 1 : 46

Wegerer, Alfred von 1934
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 1 : 47

William II 1929-1941
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 1 : 48

Letters of gratitude for helping English and Americans in Munich 1915-1916
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 1 : 49

Miscellaneous invitations 1891-1928
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 1 : 50

Speeches and Writings 1900-1933, undated
Scope and Contents note
Consists of typescript and handwritten drafts of writings, and some printed copies
Arrangement note
Arranged chronologically

Untitled writings on misrepresentation of Germany in the foreign press, Vatican and Dresden Courts, Irish and Italian immigrants in the United States, and Kaiser Wilhelm II undated
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 1 : 51

"American Intervention in Russia in 1918: The Lytton Report" undated
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 1 : 52

"An Appeal to the Conscience of America, handwritten and typescript drafts" undated
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 1 : 53-54

"End of the Fantastic Reparation Claims of the Allies" undated
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 1 : 55
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 1 : 56

"The League of Nations and the Reconciliation of the Peoples," draft undated
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 1 : 57

Letter to the editor, The Herald Tribune, handwritten draft undated
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 1 : 58

Letter to the editor, The New York Sun undated
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 1 : 59

"New York in Danger of Jewish Domination" undated
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 1 : 60

"Notes and comments" undated
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 1 : 61

Reel 2

"The Origin of the Guilt Clause of the Versailles Treaty the Responsibility of Secretary of State Lansing and James Brown Scott" undated
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 1

"Wilsonism Dominant in Chicago" undated
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 2

"The Alleged European Coalition, Against the United States During the Spanish-American War," printed copy 1900
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 3

"The Anglo-Japanese Treaty: A Last Work on Pauncefote--His American Champions Utterly Routed--British Duplicity During the Spanish War," printed copy 1900
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 4

Letter to the editor, New York World 1915 August 24
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 5

Reports from Munich as consul general 1915
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 6
"The Alleged Potsdam War Crown Council of July 5, 1914, Sweeping Repudiation of the Myth By the Kaiser" after 1915
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 7

"Morgenthau's Potsdam War Council Exposed as a Fake in the 'Suddeutsche Monatshefte'" circa 1918
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 8

"Terrorism' in Our Own Ranks, Instances of Unexampled Brutality Practiced on American Doughboys During and After the War by Martinets Who Criticize Conditions in German Labor Camps," Deutsche Zeitung after 1919
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 9

"The German Americans During the World War," speech at the Concord Society of America 1926 November 28
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 10

Letter to the editor, The Commonweal 1928 August 6
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 11

Letter to the editor, Herald Tribune, "Reparations and the War Guilt Problem" 1929 April 26
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 12

"The Kaiser Repudiates the Potsdam Conference 'Legend,'" Current History 1930 February
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 13

"War Guilt Commission," Current History 1930 March
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 14

Letter to the editor, North American Review 1932 August 1
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 15

"Immigration and the Crime Wave," The Commonweal 1932 September 28
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 16

Writings published in American Monthly 1932-1933
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 17
"The Siberian Adventure of Woodrow Wilson, More About the Red Cross," *American Monthly* 1933 January
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 18

Letter to the editor, *Evening Post* 1933 April 8
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 19

"An Open Letter," *Observer's Post* 1933 May 1
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 20

Letter to the editor, *The Herald Tribune* 1933 June 4
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 21

Quotations and notes undated
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 22

Clippings and Collected Materials 1897-1940
Scope and Contents note
Consists of clippings from newspapers and journals, writings, and correspondence
Arrangement note
Arranged alphabetically by subject

Africa 1929
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 23

Atrocities and war conduct 1917-1940
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 24-25

Belgium 1928
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 26

Biographical
Undated
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 27

1897-1905
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 28

1911-1915
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 29
1916-1919
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 30

1920-1924
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 31

1925-1929
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 32

1930-1932
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 33

1933
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 34

1934-1936
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 35

1939
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 36

Barnes, Harry Elmer 1933
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 37

Canada 1918, undated
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 38

Church 1915-1936
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 39

England 1914-1940
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 2 : 40-41

Reel 3

France 1917-1933
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 3 : 1-2

German-Americans 1934
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 3 : 3
German propaganda 1925-1926, undated
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 3 : 4-5

Germany 1914-1933
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 3 : 6

Hitler, Adolf 1933-1940
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 3 : 7

Ireland undated
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 3 : 8

"Jewish question" 1931-1933
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 3 : 9-10

League of Nations 1919-1930
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 3 : 11

Lloyd George, David undated
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 3 : 12

Neutrality 1918
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 3 : 13

Poems undated
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 3 : 14

"Propaganda and lies" 1914-1925
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 3 : 15

Reparations undated
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 3 : 16

Russia 1931
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 3 : 17

Shipstead, Henrik 1928-1929
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 3 : 18

Treaties
Clippings and Collected Materials 1897-1940

General 1918-1927
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 3 : 19

Revision 1930-1933
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 3 : 20

Versailles 1921-1931
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 3 : 21

United States and war 1918-1931
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 3 : 22

War guilt 1926-1931
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 3 : 23-24

Wile, Frederic William 1928
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 3 : 25

Wilson, Woodrow 1916-1932
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 3 : 26

Miscellany 1914, undated
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 3 : 27

Scrapbooks 1893-1940
Scope and Contents note
Contains clippings, correspondence, invitations, menus, postcards, and photographs.
Arranged by topic or form.

Reel 4

Correspondence and invitations (2 scrapbooks) 1893-1902
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 4 : 1-4

Personal and biographical clippings 1899-1905
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 4 : 5

Kaiser Wilhelm II in exile (A) 1927-1939
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 4 : 6-7

Reel 5

Kaiser Wilhelm II in exile (B) 1927-1937
Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 5 : 1-3
**Breaking the Silence reviews and related correspondence 1931-1940**

Scope and Contents note
Box/Folder 5 : 4-5