Marvin Sanford Papers: Finding Aid

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Manuscripts Department
1151 Oxford Road
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Phone: (626) 405-2129
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Overview of the Collection

Title: Marvin Sanford Papers
Dates (inclusive): 1896-1970
Collection Number: mssSanford papers
Creator: Sanford, Marvin.
Extent: 213 items in 2 boxes
Repository: The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens. Manuscripts Department
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Abstract: This collection contains correspondence, manuscripts, and ephemera related to American labor supporter and socialist Marvin Sanford (1897-1974) and his work in socialism, labor unions, and communism. The following topics and people are referenced in the collection: Edward Bellamy, cooperative societies including the Llano Colony, Eugene V. Debs, DeForest Sanford, Ricardo Flores Magón, the Industrial Workers of the World, Jack London, and Thomas Mooney.

Language: English.

Access
Open to qualified researchers by prior application through the Reader Services Department. For more information, contact Reader Services.

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Preferred Citation
[Identification of item]. Marvin Sanford Papers, The Huntington Library, San Marino, California.

Provenance
Purchased from George M. Sarris, July 30, 1975.

Biographical Note
Marvin Sanford (1897-1974), labor supporter and socialist, was the son of DeForest Sanford, another notable socialist. In the 1890s, the Sanford family moved to Washington State where DeForest Sanford established the “Peoples Advocate,” a newspaper for the Social Democratic party; he also edited the official paper of the Knights of the Labor Advocate. The Sanfords later moved to Santa Cruz, California. The Sanford family also spent many years living at the Llano del Rio Colony in Antelope Valley, California. Marvin Sanford, like his father, also published socialist newspapers including “Free Society,” “The Searchlight,” and “The Voice of the Militant Labor.” Marvin Sanford wrote many articles for the International Socialist Review and was a teacher at the Commonwealth College in Mena, Arkansas.

Scope and Content
The majority of the collection is related to Marvin Sanford and his work in socialism, labor unions, and communism. The collection is comprised of 72 manuscripts, most of which are typescripts of articles by various socialist writers including Daniel De Leon, Samuel A. DeWitt, Edward Keating, Gustavus Myers, Emil Seidel, and Norman Thomas. Also included are articles and research notes written by Marvin Sanford. There are 88 pieces of correspondence, most of which are written to Marvin Sanford and chiefly deal with socialism and politics in California. Authors of correspondence include Charles Pierce LeWarne and the World Socialist Party of the United States. The correspondence also includes 44 letters from DeForest Sanford to his son Marvin; these letters, which are written from the Union Printers Home in Colorado Springs, Colorado, where DeForest spent the last years of his life, include some of DeForest’s memories of his involvement with the socialist movement, labor unions, and the Llano Colony. The ephemera is comprised of newspaper clippings, and copies of Sanford’s publications “Free Society,” “The Searchlight,” and “The Voice of Militant Labor.” The entire collection covers socialism, communism, and union and labor issues, but more specifically the following topics and people are discussed: Edward Bellamy, cooperative societies including the Llano Colony, Eugene V. Debs, Ricardo Flores Magón, the Industrial Workers of the World, Jack London, and Thomas Mooney.

Arrangement
Arranged in the following order:
Box 1: Manuscripts
Box 2: Correspondence and Ephemera

Indexing: Added Entries
Secretary of the Young Socialist League (U.S.)
• Addressee of Carl B. Beals letter (1915, Feb. 26). Box 2 (3).

Indexing: Subjects
Bellamy, Edward, 1850-1898
• Subject in Newton Van Dalsem speech, “The Bellamy Movement in Southern California” (1950, Mar. 27). Box 1 (31).
• Subject in Newton Van Dalsem letter [1950] to Marvin Sanford. Box 2 (27).

Cooperative societies
• Subject in Nevada Colony Corporation “By-Laws of the Nevada Colony Corporation” (1915-1916). Box 1 (7).
• Subject in Marvin Sanford Manuscript regarding Co-operative Colonies [c.1913]. Box 1 (19).
• Subject in Charles Pierce LeWarne, 1930-. letters (1968-1970) to Marvin Sanford. Box 2 (10).
• Subject in Walter E. Reynolds letter (1933, Oct. 16) to Marvin Sanford. Box 2 (12).

Debs, Eugene V.
• Subject in Carl B. Beals letter (1915, Feb. 26) to Secretary of the Young Socialist League (U.S.). Box 2 (3).
• Subject in Luella Twining letter [c.1939] to “Editor, People’s World.” Box 2 (26).

Flores Magón, Ricardo, 1873-1922
• Subject in article “Socialists and the Mexican Liberals” (1911, June 24). Box 1 (39).

Industrial Workers of the World
• Subject in Ephemera: Newspaper Clippings (1936-1965). Box 2 (38).

Llano Colony (secular community)
• Subject in Marvin Sanford Manuscript regarding Co-operative Colonies [c.1913]. Box 1 (19).
• Subject in Walter E. Reynolds letter (1933, Oct. 16) to Marvin Sanford. Box 2 (12).
• Subject in DeForest Sanford letters (1952-1956) to Marvin Sanford. Box 2 (16).
• Subject in Bernie Stevens letter (1969, June 27) to Marvin Sanford. Box 2 (24).

London, Jack
• Subject in Marvin Sanford Article regarding Jack London, 1876-1916 [after 1916]. Box 1 (10).
• Subject in Luella Twining letter [c.1939] to “Editor, People’s World.” Box 2 (26).
• Subject in Hensley Charles Woodbridge, 1923-., letter (1961, Aug. 4) to Marvin Sanford. Box 2 (29).
• Subject in Robert Hanson Woodward, 1925-., letter (1969, June 25) to Marvin Sanford. Box 2 (30).

Mooney, Thomas J., 1882-1942
• Subject in Luella Twining letter [c.1939] to “Editor, People’s World.” Box 2 (26).

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Huntington Library's Online Catalog.

Subjects
Bellamy, Edward, 1850-1898.
Debs, Eugene V. (Eugene Victor), 1855-1926.
Flores Magón, Ricardo, 1873-1922.
Mooney, Thomas J., 1882-1942.
Sanford, Marvin.
Industrial Workers of the World.
Llano Colony (Secular community)
Amateur journalism -- California.
Communism -- United States.
Cooperative societies -- United States.
Labor movement -- California -- Periodicals.
Labor unions -- United States -- History -- Sources.
Socialism -- California -- History -- Sources.
Socialism -- California -- Periodicals.
Socialism -- United States.
Socialists -- United States -- Correspondence.
Communism -- California.
California -- Politics and government.

Forms/Genres
Articles -- 20th century.
Letters (correspondence) -- 20th century.
Newsletters -- California -- 20th century.
Newspapers -- California -- 20th century.
Typescripts -- 20th century.

Additional Contributors
De Leon, Daniel, 1852-1914.
De Witt, Samuel A.
Myers, Gustavus, 1872-1942.
LeWarne, Charles Pierce, 1930-.
Sanford, DeForest.
Seidel, Emil.
Thomas, Norman, 1884-1968.
World Socialist Party of the United States.
Young Socialist League (U.S.), correspondent.
Searchlight (San Francisco, Calif.)

Box 1

Manuscripts

Folder 1

Folder 2

Folder 3

Folder 4

Folder 5

Folder 6
Merrick, Fred H. “Justice in Pittsburg [sic]:” [article] (1911, Sep.). Two copies.

Folder 7

Folder 8

Folder 9
Sanford, Marvin. Article regarding Elections in Oakland (Calif.) [c.1914].

Folder 10

Folder 11
Sanford, Marvin. “The Awakening of Science:” [essay] [c.1906].

Folder 12
Sanford, Marvin. Check List of Periodicals: Socialist, Communist and Populist, United States [after 1935]. Two incomplete copies; one with handwritten edits.

Folder 13
Sanford, Marvin. “The Death Drama:” [short story] [c.1914].

Folder 14
Sanford, Marvin. “Economics in the Schools:” [essay] [c.1906].

Folder 15
Folder 16: Sanford, Marvin. Essay regarding his History Class [c.1914].
Folder 17: Sanford, Marvin. Essay regarding Socialism in California [c.1914].
Folder 18: Sanford, Marvin. List of Papers regarding Herman Titus [after 1910].
Folder 19: Sanford, Marvin. Manuscript regarding Co-operative Colonies [c.1913]. Three copies.
Folder 22: Sanford, Marvin. Notebook regarding the History of May Day [1940].
Folder 23: Sanford, Marvin. “Please Communicate:” [article] (1938, Nov.).
Folder 26: Sanford, Marvin. Speech regarding the Socialist Movement [after 1914].
Folder 27: Sanford, Marvin. “Tuck’s Speech to the Court:” [article] (1911, Feb. 18).
Folder 34: ------. Bound Typescripts of Various Articles from Socialist Periodicals [c.1912]. Authors include: Marvin Sanford and Gustavus Myers, 1872-1942.
Folder 35: ------. Bound Typescripts of Various Articles from Socialist Periodicals (1912-1935). Authors include: Clay Fulks, O. M. Harris, Gustavus Myers, 1872-1942, Nils H. Hanson, and Walter E. Reynolds.
Folder 37: ------. Bound Typescripts of Various Articles from Socialist Periodicals [after 1931]. Authors include: Marvin Sanford?

Box 2

Correspondence and Ephemera

Folder 1: Alexander Morton. 1 letter ([1950], Sep. 26) to Marvin Sanford.
Folder 2: Ault, Harry E. B. 3 letters (1951-1960) to Marvin Sanford.
Folder 3: Beals, Carl B. 1 letter (1915, Feb. 26) to Secretary of the Young Socialist League (U.S.).
Folder 4: Burgess, D----. 1 letter (1916, Apr. 5) to Marvin Sanford.
Folder 5: Deadrich, J. A. 1 letter (1936, Aug. 18) to DeForest Sanford.
Folder 6: Diamond, Julian J. 1 letter (1952, Oct. 5) to Marvin Sanford.
Folder 7: Georgian, Stella Campbell. 2 letters (1917-1918) to Marvin Sanford.
Folder 8: Hagglund, Ben. 1 letter (1952, Jan. 20) to DeForest Sanford.
Folder 9: Koch, -----.. 1 letter (1966) to “Dear friends and relations.”
Folder 12: Reynolds, Walter E. 1 letter (1933, Oct. 16) to Marvin Sanford.
Folder 13: Reynolds, Walter E., Mrs. 1 letter (1934, Nov. 14) to Marvin Sanford.
Folder 14: Ridgeway, Richard. 1 letter [c.1920] to Marvin Sanford.
Folder 15: Ridgeway, Richard and Emily Ridgeway. 1 letter [c.1920] to Marvin Sanford.
Folder 16: Samico, Jose. 1 letter (1969, Dec. 20) to Marvin Sanford.
Folder 17: Sanford, DeForest. 44 letters (1952-1956) to Marvin Sanford.
Folder 18: Sanford, Helen. 1 letter [c.1920] to Marius Hansome, 1887-, and Ione Hansome.
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<tr>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Sanford, Marvin. 1 letter (1937, June 11) to “General Manager, Ingersoll-Waterbury Company.”</td>
<td>Sanford, Marvin. 2 letters (1969) to Jose Samico.</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Sanford, Marvin. 2 letters (1969) to Jose Samico.</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Seidel, Edmund. 1 letter (1914, Apr. 17) to Marvin Sanford.</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>Shideler, L. P. 1 letter (1914, July 20) to Marvin Sanford.</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Stevens, Bernie. 1 letter (1969, June 27) to Marvin Sanford.</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Stevens, H---- Le Roy. 1 letter (1924, June 30) to Marvin Sanford.</td>
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<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Twining, Luella. 1 letter [c.1939] to “Editor, People’s World.”</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>Van Dalsem, Newton. 1 letter [1950] to Marvin Sanford.</td>
<td>Van Dalsem, Newton. Includes an item regarding the Edward Bellamy Centenary.</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>Walker, Bodie M., Mrs. 1 letter (1970, July 24) to Marvin Sanford.</td>
<td>Walker, Bodie M., Mrs.</td>
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<td>29</td>
<td>Woodbridge, Hensley Charles, 1923-. 1 letter (1961, Aug. 4) to Marvin Sanford.</td>
<td>Woodbridge, Hensley Charles, 1923-</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>Woodward, Robert Hanson, 1925-. 1 letter (1969, June 25) to Marvin Sanford.</td>
<td>Woodward, Robert Hanson, 1925-</td>
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<td>32</td>
<td>-----, Brent. 1 letter [n.d.] to Marvin Sanford.</td>
<td>-----, Brent.</td>
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<td>33</td>
<td>-----, Cecile. 1 letter (1929, Jan. 14) to Marvin Sanford.</td>
<td>-----, Cecile.</td>
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<td>34</td>
<td>-----, Grace. 1 letter (1931, Jan. 31) to Marvin Sanford.</td>
<td>-----, Grace.</td>
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<td>35</td>
<td>-----. 1 letter [1923] to Marvin Sanford. Incomplete.</td>
<td>-----. 1 letter [1923]</td>
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<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>-----. 1 letter (1958, Nov. 4) to [Marvin Sanford].</td>
<td>-----. 1 letter (1958, Nov. 4)</td>
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