Guide to the James Laurence Laughlin Papers 1885-1914

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Descriptive Summary

Identifier  ICU.SPCL.LAUGHLIN
Title  Laughlin, James Laurence. Papers
Date  1885-1914
Size  .5 linear ft. (1 box)
Repository  Special Collections Research Center
University of Chicago Library
1100 East 57th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60637 U.S.A.

Abstract  J. Laurence Laughlin (1850-933), Professor of Political Economy, editor of
the Journal of Political Economy. The J. Laurence Laughlin Papers consist of
a small collection of writings, correspondence, lectures notes and miscellany.
The primary focus of the collection centers on two economic controversies in
which Laughlin was involved concerning U.S. silver monetary policy and the
legality and benefits of labor unions.

Information on Use

Access  No restrictions.

Citation  When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: Laughlin, James Laurence.
Papers, [Box #, Folder #], Special Collections Research Center, University of Chicago Library

Biographical Note

James Laurence Laughlin was born on April 2, 1850 in Deerfield, Ohio. In the fall of 1869 he
entered Harvard College and was graduated summa cum laude in history in 1873. He continued
the study of history under Henry Adams at Harvard. He also taught at Hopkinson’s Classical
School in Boston. In 1876 he received his Ph. D. degree for his thesis on "The Anglo-Saxon
Legal Procedure."

In the fall of 1878 Laughlin was appointed instructor of political economy at Harvard. After
receiving graduate training in economics, he was appointed an assistant professor at Harvard
(1883-1888); during this period, Laughlin organized and sponsored the Political Economy Club.
He also completed his History of Bimetallism in the United States in 1885. In 1888 Laughlin
left Harvard and became president of the Manufacturer’s Mutual Life Insurance Company of
Philadelphia. He accepted a professorship in Political Economy at Cornell University in 1890.
Two years later President Harper appointed Laughlin Head Professor of Political Economy at the new University of Chicago. At Chicago, Laughlin introduced the seminar as a method of instruction and founded the Journal of Political Economy. In 1894, Laughlin proposed that the University establish a School of Commerce and Industry. The new professional school, which began undergraduate instruction in 1898, evolved into the Graduate School of Business.

In 1916 Laughlin became Professor Emeritus. He moved to East Jaffery, New Hampshire, where he completed his Credit of Nations, published in 1918. He also wrote numerous magazine articles, largely on labor questions, including "Monopoly of Labor." He died on November 28, 1933.

Scope Note
The J. Laurence Laughlin Papers consist of a small collection of writings, correspondence, lectures notes and miscellany. The primary focus of the collection centers on two economic controversies in which Laughlin was involved concerning U. S. silver monetary policy and the legality and benefits of labor unions.

Related Resources
The following related resources are located in the Department of Special Collections:

http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/spcl/select.html

Subject Headings
• Laughlin, J. Laurence (James Laurence), 1850-1933
• Monetary policy
• Labor unions
• Silver question
• Economists

INVENTORY
Box 1
Folder 1
Correspondence 1885-1898
• J. B. Aldrich
• N. (?) B. Anderson
• C. Schurz
• James F. Colby
• S. Newcomb
• Henry E. Sawyer
• H. H. Kohlsaat
• C. A. Woods to H. H. Kohlsaat
• H. H. Kohlsaat
• H. W. Hawley
• William S. Poppleton to H.H. Kohlsaat
• Edw. A. Temple
• Horace White Stuart C. Wade
• Stuart C. Wade
• Edward Ericson
• Eugene F. Baldwin
• L. F. Houghton
• Rozel Weissinger
• J. M. Hagar
• H. W. Van Sendry (?)
• Wm. H. Fitch
• J. T. Beem
• E. A. Congdon
• C. McAuliff
• M. Fell, Jr.
• Thomas F. Byron
• Clark Conkling
• Edw. S. Elliott
• D. A. Orebaugh to Editor [of the Time Herald] to be passed on to Laughlin
• W[illiam] J. Fischer
• John Serrigan Bell
• R.E. Preston(?) (Director of the Mint, 1895)
• "S.T." to H.H. Kohlsaat
• Richard W. Knott
• Horace Rublee
• A.D. Noyes

Box 1
Folder 2
Correspondence 1903-1914
• Mathias von Holst to Carl Marr
• Carl Marr to Mathias von Holst
• Carl Marr
• Carl Marr
• E.E. Prussing
• Laughlin to John A. Cook
• A. M. Wergeland
• Nicholas Murray Butler
• Laughlin to F. Burdick
• Laughlin to Ellery Sedgewick
• Albert Farwell Bemis
• Laughlin to Albert F. Bemis
• Laughlin to H.L. Gregory
• A.C. Dutton
• Laughlin to Ellery Sedgewick
• Laughlin to A.C. Dutton
• Laughlin to Ellery Sedgewick
• Laughlin to Jerome D. Greene
• Laughlin to C. B. Spencer
• Arthur T. Lyman
• Laughlin to Arthur T. Lyman
• A. C. Kingsford
• Laughlin A.C. Kingsford
• W.R. Ingalls
• Laughlin to W. R. Ingalls
• Laughlin to Rev. John O. Grady

Box 1
Folder 3
Manuscript, "Monopoly of Labor"-holograph draft

Box 1
Folder 4
Manuscript, "Monopoly of Labor"-holograph draft and typescript draft

Box 1
Folder 5
Manuscript, "Monopoly of Labor"-holograph draft and outline

Box 1
Folder 6
Manuscript, Credit of the Nations [1918]-Preface

Box 1
Folder 7
Manuscript, Credit of the Nations [1918]-Chapter I

Box 1
Folder 8
Manuscript, Credit of the Nations [1918]-Chapter II

Box 1
Folder 9
Manuscript, Credit of the Nations [1918]-Chapter III

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Folder 10
Manuscript, Credit of the Nations [1918]-Chapter IV

Box 1
Folder 11
Manuscript, Credit of the Nations [1918]-Chapter V

Box 1
Folder 12
Manuscript, Credit of the Nations [1918]-Chapter VI

Box 1
Folder 13
Manuscript, Credit of the Nations [1918]-Appendix I

Box 1
Folder 14
Manuscript, Credit of the Nations [1918]-Miscellaneous drafts
Box 1
Folder 15
   Lecture notes from Samuel Eliot's course Nineteenth Century taken by J. Laurence Laughlin
Box 1
Folder 16
   Instructors grade book: "Railways, 1891-1892"
Box 1
Folder 17
   Miscellaneous writings