Guide to the Charles Henry MacDowell Papers 1919-1924
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Descriptive Summary

Identifier  ICU.SPCL.MACDOWELL

Title  MacDowell, Charles Henry. Papers

Date  1919-1924

Size  2.5 linear feet (5 boxes)

Repository  Special Collections Research Center
University of Chicago Library
1100 East 57th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60637 U.S.A.

Abstract  An expert in nitrate, Charles H. MacDowell served on President Wilson’s War Industries Board as the director in the Chemical Division. Additionally, he served with the American Commission to Negotiate Peace. The papers of Charles MacDowell relate to his war efforts and his service with the American Commission to Negotiate Peace. The larger part of the papers consist of minutes of the Economic Commission, the Supreme Economic Council, and the sub-committee on Germany and other committees. The latter section of the Papers is comprised of newspaper clippings collected by MacDowell and miscellaneous letters and pamphlets.

Information on Use

Access  No restrictions.

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

Biographical Note  Charles Henry MacDowell (D. 1867) started his career as a back office stenographer for P. D. Armour. Eventually he became manager of the Fertilizer Department of Armour and Company and then president of Armour Fertilizer Works.

Upon the entrance of the United States into the World War, MacDowell was called to Washington as a dollar-a-year man on the War Industries Board, later being made director of the Chemicals Division, having personal charge of the procurement and allocation of nitrate for the United States. He served as a Technical Advisor to the American Commission to Negotiate Peace from early March to the signing of the German Peace Treaty June 28th, which he
witnessed, returning with President Wilson as a member of his private party on the S. S. George Washington.

In Washington as well as in Paris he was associated with Bernard M. Baruch. In Paris Baruch was the American representative on Reparations, Raw Materials, the Economic Commission, and a member of the Supreme Economic Council. MacDowell was a member of a number of sub-committees of the Council including the Committee on Germany, and had to do with the organization of the Inter-Allied Rhineland High Commission, and the development of the laws for the occupied territory by the military forces during the occupation. He had no direct concern with the making of political policies.

**Scope Note**

Series I of the papers of Charles MacDowell relate to his war efforts and his service with the American Commission to Negotiate Peace. Series II, the larger part of the papers consist of minutes of the Supreme Economic Council, including the sub-committee on Germany and other committees enumerated in detail on the attached list of the material. Series III is comprised of newspaper clippings collected by Mr. MacDowell, miscellaneous letters and pamphlets and several books of photographs.

**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**

- MacDowell, Charles H
- United States. American Commission to Negotiate Peace
- Allied and Associated Powers (1914-1920). Supreme Economic Council
- World War, 1914-1918 -- Peace
- World War, 1914-1918 -- Reparations
- Germany -- History -- 1918-1933
- Photographs

**INVENTORY**

**Series I: Organization, American Commission to Negotiate Peace**

**Box 1**

**Folder 1**

Organization, American Commission to Negotiate Peace
- Composition and Functions
- Signal Corp telephone directory
- Memoranda for Mr. Baruch - June 4, 1919; June 26, 1919

**Box 1**

Bulletin 322, May 30: German note of May 29, 1919, transmitting the observations of the German Delegation on the "Conditions of Peace."
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The German proposal
Box 1
Statement of Financial Commission of German Peace Delegation regarding Parts VIII and IX of Draft Conditions of Peace
Box 1
Appendix, Observations of the German Delegates on the Peace terms. (Special legal questions.)
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Folder 2
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- Report of Section on Permanent Commercial Relations
- Report of sub-committee on Ex-Enemy Aliens
- Report of sub-committee on Pre-War contracts
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- Part 2 - Revival or abrogation of economic treaties
- Part 3 - Liquidation of enemy property
- Part 4 - Pre-war contracts
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Series II: Supreme Economic Council
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- Transport in South Eastern Europe
- Austrian Trade
- Enemy Ships in Spanish Ports
- Relaxation of Blockade on Northern Neutrals
- Supplies of Foodstuffs for Italy
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• Food supplies for France and Italy
• Relaxation of blockade on neutral countries of northern Europe
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• Supplies for Austria, Hungary and Bulgaria
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• Revictualing of left bank of Rhine
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• Replacements to neutrals of food shipped to Germany
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• Finance of supplies for Austria
• Argentine cereals for Austria
• Finance for supplies of Bulgaria
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Folder 4
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• French food position
• Communication from "Council of ten" with regard to preliminaries of peace
• Report of communications committee
• Austrian trading with neutrals
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• Supplies for Italy
• Relaxation of the blockade

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Folder 4
Sixth meeting, March 7
• Supplies for Germany

Box 1
Folder 5
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• Italian supply
• French supply position
• Report of communications committee
• Supplies for Germany
• Reopening of the Rhine to Swiss traffic with Holland, Scandinavia and associated countries
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Box 1
Folder 5
Eighth meeting, March 17
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• Trade with German Austria
• European coal situation
• Italian and French supplies
• Report of Communications Committee
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Box 1
Folder 5
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• Exports to Germany
• Finance Section report regarding administration Brussels agreement
• Blockade Section report
• Report of Food Section
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Box 1
Folder 5
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• German coastal and fishing trade
• German trading with black listed firms
• Requirements of allied, liberated and enemy territories
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• Communications from Finance Section; Norwegian Herrings, Italian Situation, Austrian Finance Commission, Communication with Austria
• Relaxation of Adriatic blockade.
• Communications from Blockade Section; Trade with Poland; Estonia; Luxemburg; Rhine Provinces
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Box 1
Folder 5
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• German coastal traffic
• Ships in the Adriatic claimed by Jugo-Slavs
• Nitrates to countries contiguous to Germany
• Private remittances to Germany
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Box 1
Folder 5
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• Resumption of German trade
• Position of relief operations; (a) Austria (b) General relief
• Programme for May arrival
• Use of Enemy tonnage
• Situation in Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia
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• Relief and Reconstruction credits for liberated territories
• Black list on neutral ships
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Folder 6
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• Armistice locomotives
• Relations with Germany and derationing of northern neutrals
• Purchase of dyestuffs

**Box 1**

**Folder 6**

Fourteenth meeting, April 23
• Relations with Germany and derationing of northern neutrals
• Resumption of trade with occupied German territories
• Transport by the Danube

**Box 1**

**Folder 6**

Fifteenth meeting, April 28
• Coal production and distribution in Poland and the former Austro-Hungarian empire
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• Shipments through Germany, Hungary and Bolshevik Russia
• Transitory measures
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**Box 1**

**Folder 6**

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• Requisitioning of foreign securities on the left bank of the Rhine
• Failure by Germany to sign preliminaries of peace
• Rationing of raw materials to Germany
• Purchase by Allies of commodities available for export from Germany - Dyestuffs;
  Prohibition and pre-emption lists
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• Control of German wireless stations
• Use of enemy tonnage
• Food prices in Germany
• Control of traffic on the Danube
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• Coal for Poland and Austro-Hungarian empire
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- Prohibition and pre-emption lists
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- Heath conditions in Southern and Eastern Europe
- Organization of conferences and communications on current economic negotiations with German Economic Delegation, Versailles

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Folder 7
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- Relations with Germany

Box 1
Folder 7
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- Germany exports. Blockade Section-minute 182
- Administration of occupied territories. Report from Sub-Committee on Germany
- Payment of French food supplies to Germany
- Italian coal situation
- Coal for Serbia
- Situation in the Baltic States. Proposals put forward by the Sub-Committee to the Council of foreign ministers
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- Use of enemy tonnage - Report from Food Section (Freight Committee); Rates of freight for relief (Resolution from Food Section); Allocation of enemy ships in Central and South America ports from A.M.T.E.; Disposition of Austrian steamers under construction
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- Control of Rhine traffic
- Dispatch of supplies to Poland - Report of Communications Section; Draft telegram to German armistice commission
- Purchase of dyestuffs from Germany
- Relations with Germany - Note from Sub-committee on Germany; Organization of conferences and communications with Germany at Versailles.
- Blockade of Hungary
- Coal for Serbia
- Financial restrictions on Germany
- Administration of the occupied territories
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- Restrictions on trade with Hungary and Bolshevist Russia - Minutes of Blockade Section; Note by French delegates; Note by American delegates
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- Measures to be taken subsequent to completion of relief programs in various countries

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Box 2
Folder 2
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- Work and organization of Council
- Finance of German coal supplied to France
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Subseries 2: Sub-Committee on Germany

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Box 2
Folder 4
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Box 2
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• Consideration of steps to be taken to bring into effect the organization of economic relations with Germany approved by the Council of Five
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Box 2
Folder 5
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Box 2
Folder 6
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Box 2
Folder 6
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• Imports and exports. Memorandum by Mr. Urwick on instructions given by the sub-committee April 29

Box 2
Folder 6
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• Economic position of Germany. Letter from President of German Peace delegation.
• Payment for German coal to credit of food account
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Box 2
Folder 8
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Box 2
Folder 8
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• Diversion of coke for French blast furnaces
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Box 2
Folder 9
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• Export license for cotton yearn and import of hides and skins into occupied territories and return of manufactured goods
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• Transport of Dutch potatoes through Belgian zone
• Exorbitant prices demanded by German merchants from French and Belgian purchasers
• Negotiations arising under Luxemburg Protocol
• Purchase by Belgium of German wool in Spain and South America
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• Draft letter to German Economic Delegation.
• Food conditions in occupied territories

Box 2
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• Abrogation of German order on securities
• Protection of inhabitants against action by German authorities based upon breaches of German laws during occupation
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• Export of cotton yarn
• Communications with Versailles. Letter from Amer. Relief Comm.
• Distribution of foodstuffs to civilian population
• Export of electric machines from unoccupied Germany
• Export of dyestuffs
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• Negotiations under Luxemburg protocol
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Box 2
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Box 2
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• Purchase of sleepers from Germany by Italian Government
• Traffic to and from unoccupied Germany after ratification of Peace Treaty
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• Ratification by German Government of potash agreement
• Export of coal from North German ports
• Restitution by Germany to Belgium of industrial machinery
• Trade restrictions on Germany during the period between raising of blockade and coming into force of Peace Treaty

Subseries 3: Sub-Committee to Consider Details of Delivery of Lignite etc. from Left Bank of Rhine to Unoccupied Germany

Box 3
Folder 1
First meeting, May 12; Balance of exchange between right bank and left bank

Box 3
Folder 1
Second meeting, May 13

Box 3
Folder 1
Third meeting, May 13

Subseries 4: Raw Materials Section

Box 3
Folder 1
Meeting, March 20
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Box 3
Folder 1
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• Summary report of statistical sub-committee on supplies of raw materials available during the next three months
• Transitory measures - Consideration of what economic measures, should be taken in common during the period of reconstruction following the war with a view to ensuring - Due supply of materials and other commodities necessary for the restoration of the devastated areas; Economic restoration of countries which have suffered most from the war; Supply of neutral and ex-enemy countries without detriment to supply of needs of Allied and associated countries
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Box 3
Folder 1
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• Use of war stocks of raw materials possessed by allied and associated countries
• Transitory measures during the reconstruction period
• Question asked by Section on Blockade, provisional authorization to import raw materials into Germany

Box 3
Folder 1
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• Special questions referred to Raw Materials Section - Request transmitted by Marshal Foch for oil products required by the railways of the left bank of the Rhine; Request transmitted by Marshal Foch for various raw materials for the German navigation companies; Request transmitted by Marshal Foch for authorization of the export from Spain to Germany of 36,300 kilos of wool; Request submitted to the President of the Inter-allied Food Committee by the American and Canadian Imports and Exports Co. for disposal of certain stocks of animal oils to central powers
• Report of Special Committee on the coal situation in Europe
• Report of Statistical Sub-committee on rationing of raw materials to Germany in response to request of Blockade Section
• Relief of European countries in raw materials and semi-manufactured goods. Communicated by British delegation
• Reference from minutes of Supreme Economic Council, meeting April 7, "Agreed that a committee composed of representatives of the Blockade and Raw Materials Sections should meet immediately to fix the prices for exports from Germany to be purchased by the Allies."
• Reference from minutes of Finance Section April 9, Resolution rejecting proposal contained in paragraph 2 of note submitted by French delegation of Raw Materials Section April 1. Supply of raw materials to Germany

Box 3
Folder 2
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• Notes on Memorandum of economic situation in Poland

Box 3
Folder 2
Meeting of May 8
• Importation of stocks for coal mining industry, Germany
• Modus vivendi in respect of Luxemburg agreement

Box 3
Folder 2
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• Negotiations relative to Luxemburg protocol
• Committee on supply of raw materials and sale of war stocks - Memorandum on financing of cotton for Germany and liberated countries; Report of Committee - supply of materials for mines. List of German owned stocks to be imported by them; Serbian coal requirements
• Report on general materials situation, W.T. Layton, 5/19/19
• List of supplies sold to liberated nations to May 31

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Folder 3
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  • Report on economic steps to be taken in event of re-establishment of order in Russia

Box 3
Folder 3
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  • Allied economic policy in Russia

Subseries 5: Committee on Supply of Raw Materials and Sales of War Stocks

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  • Terms of reference of the committee.
  • Raw Materials for Germany, Poland, and other countries - Memo on rations for Germany; Memo on supply of raw materials to other European countries; Memo on supply of textile raw materials to Poland
  • War Stocks - Memo by Finance Section on prices to be asked for War Stocks; Memo on stocks to be disposed of by British government; Letter of American and Canadian Import and Export Co

Box 3
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  • Supply of Raw Materials to Germany - Memo on German requirements; Extract from minutes of Finance Section
  • Supply of raw materials to Romania, Serbia, and Czecho-Slovakia.
  • Draft letter
  • Supply of textile raw materials to Poland
  • American and Canadian Import and Export Co., offer of animal oils for Germany

Box 3
Folder 4
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  • Supplies for Germany. Statement on position of Financial Section
  • Supplies to Poland and Czecho-Slovakia. Consideration of action to be taken on minute of interviews with Polish and Czecho-Slovak representatives
  • Supplies for Czecho-Slovakia. Letter regarding import of palm kernels copra and fish oil.
  • Letter of Canadian Import and Export Co

Box 3
Folder 4
Meeting of April 30.
  • Preliminary report to raw materials section and finance section on urgent requirements of Poland and Czecho-Slovakia
  • Supplies for Germany. Further examination of German raw material requirements

Box 3
Folder 4
Meeting of May 2
• Supplies for Germany. Price of copper
• Arrangements for supply of cotton
• Note on attitude to be taken at interview with German economic delegates

Box 3
Folder 4
Meeting with German delegates May 5

Box 3
Folder 4
Meeting with German delegates May 7
• Letter of transmission
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• German owned stocks
• Urgent needs for general industry
• Offer of supplies for urgent requirements of German coal industry
• Letter Shuman/Riley, list of supplies desired and available

Box 3
Folder 4
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• Urgent needs for general industry Sales of War Stocks
• Principle of supply of particular commodities by countries which control the principal stocks
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• Supplies to Poland. Report on position with regard to supply of nitrate and textiles
• Supplies of Czecho-Slovakia. Question of transport via the Elbe
• Supplies to Serbia. Question of action to be taken on interview with Serbian representatives
• Supply of textile raw materials. Draft memorandum

Box 3
Folder 4
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• Communications to German economic delegates at Versailles - Requirements for coal mines, German owned stocks
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• Supplies for Serbia (including coal)
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Folder 4
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• Sale of timber by Germany
• Surplus stocks of the U.S. Army and Navy
• Sales of government property
• Meeting with Austrian representatives June 16
Series III: Scrapbooks, Clippings and Miscellaneous Materials

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List of Dyestuffs available in German factories 4/11/19
- Lucius and Bruning
- Chemische Fabriken vorm. Weiler-ter-meer
- Badische Anilin and Soda Fabrik
- Leopold Cassella and Co
- Kalle and Co
- Friedr. Bayer and Co
- Aktien-Ges-Fu-Anilin Fabrikation
- Chemische Fabrik Griesheim-Elektron

Box 3
Folder 5
Dyestuffs demanded by Italy and France
- Lucius and Bruning
- Chomische Fabriken vorm. Weiler-ter-Meer
- Badische Anilin and Soda Fabrik

Box 3
Folder 6
Communications and statistics concerning availability of German Potash and miscellaneous correspondence
- Galley proofs of material about dyestuffs
- Miscellaneous communication concerning German dyestuffs as payment for food from allies
- Cablegrams - dyestuffs
- Memo on chemical reparations

Box 3
Folder 7
Miscellaneous papers with index at beginning of collection

Box 4
Folder 1
Publications and reports of the International Chamber of Commerce on international cartels

Box 4
Folder 2
Report of world economic conference of International Chamber of Commerce

Box 4
Folder 3
Newspaper clippings

Box 4
Folder 4
Chemical Alliance, Inc
- Report of section chairman January 22-23, 1919; history and activities
• Correspondence and resolutions, 1919, stating trade considerations of the American
dyestuff manufacturers in the U.S. and negotiations to take over all enemy owned
patents in this country
• Confidential draft - printed of - report of German Chemical holdings in U.S

Box 4
Folder 5
Correspondence
• 1919-1920, letters of commendation for MacDowell
• 1920, letter from War Records Section of Illinois State Historical Society
• 1937-1938, Hoover War Library and Northwestern University
• 1938, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace
• MacDowell’s notes on original index for this material on American Commission to
Negotiate Peace

Box 4
Folder 6
Miscellaneous pamphlets
• American Contemporaries
• Map (1913) reciprocal rail movements of iron ore, coal, and coke in Europe
• Germany’s economic organization
• Soviet Russia A World Enigma
• The European situation by Walter Lichtenstein
• Post War monetary policies by H.G.P. Deans
• The Work of the Technical Division, Chemical Warfare Service, A.E.F., by Col. R.F.
Bacon
• Journal of the Royal Society of Arts (June 27, 1924)
• Building for Peace by W.A. Noyes (1924)

Box 4
Folder 7
Miscellaneous documents
• Strasbourg - Port du Rhin
• Chemical industries of the German Rhineland
• Potash development in S.E. New Mexico.
• Muscle Shoals
• Comparison of prices during Civil War and Present War: (1918) War Industries Board
• Hoover War Library bibliography of Paris Peace conference, (1935)
• Bulletin of the Business Historical Society, Baker Library; membership pamphlet
• Reply of the French Government to note of British Government of August 11, 1923,
relating to reparations (August 20, 1923)

Box 5
Folder 1
French reports of chemical holdings

Box 5
Folder 2
French reports of chemical holdings

Box 5
Scrap Albums