Guide to the Delos
Franklin Wilcox
Papers 1907-1928

© 2006 University of Chicago Library
**Table of Contents**

Descriptive Summary 3  
Information on Use 3  
Access 3  
Citation 3  
Biographical Note 3  
Scope Note 4  
Related Resources 4  
Subject Headings 4  
INVENTORY 4
Descriptive Summary

Identifier  ICU.SPCL.WILCOX

Title  Wilcox. Delos Franklin. Papers

Date  1907-1928

Size  24 linear ft. (46 boxes)

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

Abstract  Delos Franklin Wilcox (1873-1928), Franchise and public utility expert. Correspondence, reports, analyses, articles, pamphlets, graphs, tables, and notes. Material relates to public utility issues.

Information on Use

Access  No restrictions

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

Biographical Note

Delos F. Wilcox (1873-1928) was a franchise and public utility expert. He was born on a farm near Ida, Michigan and was educated at both the University of Michigan, where John Dewey’s work influenced him, and at Columbia University. He served as secretary of various civic organizations in Cleveland, Grand Rapids and Detroit. In 1907, he became Chief of the Bureau of Franchises of the Public Service Commission for the First District of New York (New York City). He resigned in 1913 to become Deputy Commissioner of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity of New York City, a position that he held until 1917. During this period he wrote three books, The American City (1904), Great Cities in America (1910) and Municipal Franchises in two volumes (1910-1911), in addition to numerous pamphlets and articles.

In 1917, Wilcox organized a staff of assistants and established himself as a consultant on utility problems-always on the side of the public. He was employed as an expert in special utility investigations, traction surveys, valuation and rate proceedings, arbitrations and franchise settlements. He lectured extensively and was active in many civic organizations, notably the National Municipal League.
Scope Note
The papers cover the years 1907 to 1928 and include analyses of utility problems prepared for the various municipalities which consulted Wilcox, reports and articles for periodicals, correspondence concerning the investigations, graphs, tables and handwritten notes, prepared by either Wilcox or his staff. The collection is arranged alphabetically by topic.

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
• Wilcox, Delos F. (Delos Franklin), 1873-1928
• Public utilities
• Municipal franchises

INVENTORY

Box 1
Folder 1-6
    Akron, Ohio, 1918-1925, Report on traction service and public relations of Northern Ohio Traction and Light Company.

Box 2
Folder 1-2
    Bluefield, West Virginia, 1922-1923, Investigations into proposed increase in water rates

Box 2
Folder 3
    Books by Delos F. Wilcox, Correspondence in re

Box 2
Folder 4-6
    Boston, Massachusetts, 1918, Street railway investigation

Box 3
Folder 1-2
    Bronxville, New York, 1917, Water rate case

Box 3
Folder 3-5
    Bureau of Standards, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1918, Special appointment of D.F. Wilcox

Box 3
Folder 6-7
    Business plans of D.F. Wilcox, 1920, Prospectus

Box 3
Folder 8
    Case lists of court trials, 1900-1920

Box 4
Folder 1-5
Chicago, Illinois, 1918-1920, 1925-1928, Mayor Thompson's Transportation Committee, traction ordinance investigation.

Box 5
Folder 1-2
Cincinnati, Ohio, 1920-1921, 1924-1926, Analysis of proposed street railways

Box 5
Folder 3-6
City planning and housing, 1900-1925, Articles, pamphlets, etc.

Box 6
Folder 1-6
Cleveland, Ohio, 1912-1913, 1918-1922, 1926, Street railway problems

Box 6
Folder 7-9
Committee to Inquire into the Status of Democracy, 1909-1910, Circular No. 1, "Privilege vs. Democracy"

Box 7
Folder 1-4
Committee to Inquire into the Status of Democracy, 1910-1911, Circular No. 2, "The Confusion of Property with Privilege"

Box 7
Folder 5
Denver, Colorado, 1915, Special reports to counsel for City of Denver in water rate case

Box 7
Folder 6-7
Denver, Colorado, 1919-1920, Denver Tramways Service-at-cost investigation

Box 8
Folder 1-3
Denver, Colorado, 1919-1920, Denver Tramways Service-at-cost investigation

Box 8
Folder 4-7
Depreciation study, n. d.

Box 9
Folder 1-6
Detroit, Michigan, 1919-1922, Mayor Couzens' Street railway plan

Box 10
Folder 1-4
Detroit, Michigan, 1923-1925, Street railway investigation

Box 10
Folder 5-6
Elections of 1912-1914, National Progressive Party

Box 11
Folder 1
Election of 1920, League of Nations Statement

Box 11
Folder 2-5
Election of 1924, Progressive Party literature

Box 12
Folder 1-7
Federal Electric Railways Commission, 1919-1921, Analysis of testimony submitted at public hearings and supplementary data in relation to condition of electric railway industry and solution of its problems, material in relation to the private publications of D.F. Wilcox’s report

Box 13
Folder 1-3
Federal Electric Railways Commission (continued)

Box 13
Folder 4-5
John H. Gray pamphlets, 1900-1923

Box 13
Folder 6-7
Great Cities

Box 14
Folder 1-3
Health and Social Hygiene, 1900-1920, Pamphlets and literature

Box 14
Folder 4-5
Jacksonville, Florida, 1924-1925, Street railway investigation

Box 14
Folder 6-7
Kalamazoo, Michigan, 1919-1924, Street railway investigation

Box 15
Folder 1-2
Kansas City, Missouri, 1917-1918, Street railway investigation

Box 15
Folder 3-6
Labor, 1916-1917, Documents and clippings

Box 16
Folder 1-2
Michigan Constitutional Convention, 1907-1909.

Box 16
Folder 3
Minneapolis, Minnesota, 1919-1920, Street railway investigation SEE ALSO Boxes 41-46

Box 16
Folder 4-6
Miscellaneous correspondence, 1906-1909

Box 17
Folder 1
Miscellaneous correspondence, 1906-1909

Box 17
Folder 2-3
Montreal, Canada, 1917-1921, Tramways investigation
Box 17
Folder 4-5
Motor Bus Transportation, general information

Box 17
Folder 6-7
Municipal Franchises by D.F. Wilcox, 1909-1911, Correspondence in re

Box 18
Folder 1-7
National Municipal League, 1910-1913, Franchise Committee; 1911-1913, Advisory
Editorial Committee, National Municipal Review; 1914-1916, Franchise Committee,
Home Rule Charter; 1915-1917, Municipal Encyclopaedia, Wilcox article.

Box 19
Folder 1-6
National Municipal League, 1915-1917, Municipal Encyclopaedia, Wilcox article;
1918-1919, National Municipal Review; 1918-1920, Public Utilities Committee, Street
railways investigation

Box 20
Folder 1-2
National Municipal League, 1918-1920, Public Utilities Committee, Street railways
investigation

Box 20
Folder 3-8
New Jersey, 1919-1921, Analysis of Public Service Railway valuation and preparation of
evidence for the City of Newark and Associated Municipalities in Public Service Railway
Zone Fare and Valuation Proceeding

Box 21
Folder 1-7
New Jersey, 1919-1921, Public Service Railway Zone Fare and Valuation Proceeding
(continued)

Box 22
Folder 1-6
New York City, 1907-1913, Bureau of Franchises, D.F. Wilcox, Chief of

Box 23
Folder 1-3
New York City, 1921-1922, Citizens Union, Charter Revisions Committee

Box 23
Folder 4-6
New York City, 1919-1921, City Club, Public Service Committee, Municipal Ownership
of transit lines

Box 24
Folder 1-2
New York City, 1910-1913, Committee on Municipal Needs of the Fourth New York
City Conference of Charities and Correction

Box 24
Folder 3-4
New York City, 1919-1920, Fowler Municipal Transit Ownership Bill
Box 24
Folder 5-6
New York City, circa 1910. Papers on city government, lectures

Box 25
Folder 1-7
New York City, 1919-1922, Street railway problems, Special Public Transit Committee.

Box 26
Folder 1-4
New York City, 1919-1920, "The Transit Problems of New York City," pamphlet by D.F. Wilcox

Box 26
Folder 5-8
New York City, 1913-1917, Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity, D.F. Wilcox, Deputy Commissioner

Box 27
Folder 1-6
New York City, Department of Water, etc. (continued)

Box 28
Folder 1-6
New York City, Department of Water, etc. (continued)

Box 29
Folder 1-6
New York City, Department of Water, etc. (continued)

Box 30
Folder 1-2
New York State, 1919-1921, Conference of Mayors, Traction problems

Box 30
Folder 3
Niagara Falls, New York, 1917-1918, Gas rate case

Box 30
Folder 4
"One-Man Car" data, 1920-1921

Box 30
Folder 5-6
Outremont, Quebec, Canada, 1918-1921, Analysis of actual cost of Montrea; Water and Power Company, testimony before Board of Arbitration, and report upon reproduction cost estimates submitted by company

Box 31
Folder 1
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Street railway investigation

Box 31
Folder 2-3
The Plumb Plan, 1919, "Public Ownership and Democracy in the Operation of the Railroads"
Providence, Rhode Island, 1910-1912, Franchise Problem

Box 32
Folder 1-3
Public Ownership League of America, 1918-1920, D.F. Wilcox, Executive Committee

Box 32
Folder 4-5
The Railroad Problem, 1918-1919, reports

Box 33
Folder 1-3
St. Louis, Missouri, 1917-1918, 1921, Analysis of proposed street railway resettlement franchise, transit investigation

Box 33
Folder 4-5
San Francisco-Oakland, California, 1913-1919, Street railway investigations

Box 33
Folder 6-7
Schenectady, New York, 1918, Railway rate case

Box 34
Folder 1-3
Scranton, Pennsylvania, 1918-1920, Analysis of actual cost of Scranton Ry. Co. and testimony in fare case

Box 34
Folder 4-5
Seattle, Washington, 1913-1919, 1919-1921, 1924-1927, Public Utilities investigations

Box 35
Folder 1-6
Seattle, Washington, Public Utilities investigation

Box 35
Folder 7
Service-at-Cost data, 1919-1922

Box 36
Folder 1
Service-at-Cost data

Box 36
Folder 2-6
Speeches and Papers, 1910-1921, D. F. Wilcox’s and others

Box 37
Folder 1-5
Springfield, Illinois, 1921, Gas and Electric rate arbitration

Box 37
Folder 6-7
Sturgis, Michigan, 1918-1920, Gas rate investigation

Box 38
Folder 1-4
Sturgis, Michigan, 1918-1920, Gas rate investigation

Box 38
Folder 5-6
  Taxes, 1907-1913, papers and literature
Box 39
Folder 1-2
  Taxes, 1907-1913, papers and literature
Box 39
Folder 3-5
  Toledo, Ohio, 1919-1920, Street railway investigation
Box 39
Folder 6
  Valuation memoranda
Box 40
  Valuation memoranda (5 folders).
Box 40
Box 41
Folder 1-7
  Minneapolis, Minnesota, 1921-1922. Testimony in Emergency Fare Case and valuesation of Minneapolis Street Railway property, examination of its relations with Twin City Rapid Transit Company, in preparation of City’s case in permanent fare proceedings.
Box 42
Folder 1-7
  Minneapolis, Minnesota, (continued)
Box 43
Folder 1-8
  Minneapolis, Minnesota, (continued)
Box 44
Folder 1-7
  Minneapolis, Minnesota, (continued)
Box 45
Folder 1-7
  Minneapolis, Minnesota, (continued)
Box 46
Folder 1-7
  Minneapolis, Minnesota, (continued)
Box 46
Folder 8
  Grand Island, Nebraska. City Charter