

COMMITTEE ON THE HISTORY OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Register of Papers

I

Processed: MA
Date: 10/26/55

CHARLES GATES DAWES

(1865 - 1951)

The papers of Charles Dawes, lawyer, banker, Brigadier General (1918), Comptroller of the Currency, Director of the Budget, Vice President of the U.S., head of the Reparations Commission that produced the Dawes Plan after World War I, are deposited in two places. The library of Marietta College, Marietta, Ohio, has "a good deal of Dawes material," but no correspondence concerning his political or banking activities. The Deering Library at Northwestern University has a miscellaneous collection dating from 1889 to 1933.

Linear feet of shelf space occupied:

Approximate number of items:

Neither collection is adequately catalogued; the Deering Library has a 27 page outline list, unprinted, of which a photostatic copy can be obtained.

The collection is open to work by qualified students.

The papers have been studied, in part at least, by Dr. John Pixton, economist, author of a graduate thesis on "The Early Career of Charles Dawes," and now engaged in writing a longer biography.

See internal memorandum, 7/27/54, interview with Dr. Pixton about papers

Biographical Note

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| 1865, Aug. 27 | Born, Marietta, Ohio |
| 1884 | A.B., Marietta College, Ohio |
| 1886 | LL.B., Cincinnati Law School, Ohio |
| 1886 | Admitted to bar, state of Nebraska |
| 1887 | A.M., Marietta College |
| 1887-94 | Practice of law in Nebraska |
| 1889, Jan. 24 | Married Caro D. Blymyer (4 children, 1 now deceased) |
| 1896 | Active in campaign of McKinley |
| 1897-1901 | Comptroller of the Currency |
| 1902-31 | Successively President, Chairman of the Board, Honorary Chairman of the Board, Central Trust Co., Chicago, Ill. |
| 1921 | First Director of the Bureau of the Budget |
| 1923 | President, Commission to investigate possibilities of German payment of reparations following World War I, which resulted in the Dawes Plan |
| 1925-29 | Vice President of the United States |
| 1929-32 | Ambassador to Great Britain |
| 1932 | Awarded Nobel Peace Prize for 1925 jointly with Sir Austen Chamberlain |
| 1951 | Died |
| Author of: | <u>The Banking System of the United States.</u> 1892. <u>Essays and Speeches.</u> 1915. <u>A Journal of the Great War.</u> 1921. <u>The First Year of the Budget of the U.S.</u> 1923. <u>Notes as Vice President.</u> 1935. <u>How Long Prosperity.</u> 1937. <u>A Journal of Reparations.</u> 1939. <u>Journal as Ambassador to Great Britain.</u> 1939. <u>A Journal of the McKinley Years (1893-1913).</u> 1950. |

See Who's Who in America, 1952/53, vol. 27, Marquis

Description of Series

Joseph S. Komidar, Chief of Reference and Special Services at the Deering Library, Northwestern University, says,

"No statement describing the contents of the Collection exists, but there is an outline which indicates the arrangement of the collection. On the basis of this outline I can say that there are diaries, journals, letter press books, letter files, scrapbooks, business books, invoice books, clippings, invitations, reports, memos, and books from the Dawes library. Within these categories, the arrangement is almost entirely chronological, with the earliest date represented being 1889, and the latest date 1933. The substantive categories are so few as to be negligible and so general as to be practically valueless as far as indicating specific content is concerned."

For additional information, see complete correspondence on Dawes papers in the relevant correspondence folder.