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MS-033: The Papers of H. Ralph Burton

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MS-033: The Papers of H. Ralph Burton

**Description**
H. (Hiram) Ralph Burton's obituary dated August 12, 1971 (Washington Post) states that he was a lifelong resident of Washington, D.C., aged 89 years old when he died on August 5, 1971 and a graduate of Georgetown University Law School. He served as Special Investigator for the Senate Campaign Expenditures Committee, 1938-1939 and 1940-1941, and House Appropriations Committee in charge of NYC and State, investigation of the W.P.A. 1939-1940; General Counsel to the House Military Affairs Committee, 1941-1947; Chief Investigator for the Senate Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, 1947-1948; General Counsel for the House Campaign Expenditures Committee, 1948-1949 and the House Select Committee on Current Pornographic Materials, 1952-1953. He was also a founding life member of the National Press Club and a member of the Alfalfa Club.

This collection contains his papers from the Senate Campaign Expenditures Committee, the House Appropriations Committee, the House Military Affairs Committee, and issues concerning Communism, pornography, and birth control.

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**Keywords**

**Disciplines**
American Politics | History | Policy History, Theory, and Methods | Political History | Political Science | United States History
Guide to the
The Papers of H. Ralph Burton

Gettysburg College, Musselman Library
Special Collections & College Archives

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October 2001
**MS - 033 The Papers of H. Ralph Burton**

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*October 2001*

**Provenance:**

Schmucker Memorial Library received the papers of H. Ralph Burton in 1976 as was designated in his last will and testament dated October 1968.

**Biography:**

H. (Hiram) Ralph Burton's obituary dated August 12, 1971 (Washington Post) states that he was a lifelong resident of Washington, D.C., aged 89 years old when he died on August 5, 1971 and a graduate of Georgetown University Law School. He served as Special Investigator for the Senate Campaign Expenditures Committee, 1938-1939 and 1940-1941, and House Appropriations Committee in charge of NYC and State, investigation of the W.P.A. 1939-1940; General Counsel to the House Military Affairs Committee, 1941-1947; Chief Investigator for the Senate Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, 1947-1948; General Counsel for the House Campaign Expenditures Committee, 1948-1949 and the House Select Committee on Current Pornographic Materials, 1952-1953. He was also a founding life member of the National Press Club and a member of the Alfalfa Club.

**Series Description:**


**Box 1:**  
**Series I: Special Investigator, 1938 - 1941 and 1948 - 1949**

**Sub-Series A: Senate Campaign Expenditure Committee**

1-1 Special Committee to Investigate Senatorial Campaign Expenditures and use of Governmental Funds, Report of Proceedings, United States Senate, August 2, 1938, vol.

1-2 Special Committee Investigating Campaign Expenditures, Report of Proceedings, United States Senate, September 20, 1940, vol. 1

1-3 Special Committee Investigating Campaign Expenditures, Report of Proceedings, United States Senate, October 4, 1940, vol. 2
1-4 Special Committee Investigating Campaign Expenditures, Report of Proceedings, United States Senate, (October 15, 1940)

Box 2:

2-1 Special Sub-Committee Investigating Campaign Expenditures, Report of Proceedings, United States Senate, October 25, 1940

2-2 Special Committee Investigating Campaign Expenditures, Report of Proceedings, United States Senate, October 25, 1940, vol. 3

2-3 Special Sub-Committee Investigating Campaign Expenditures, Report of Proceedings, United States Senate, October 28, 1940, vol. 7

Box 3:

3-1 Special Committee Investigating Campaign Expenditures, Report of Proceedings, United States Senate, November 4, 1940, vol. 5


3-3 Investigative Report No. 1, State of Kentucky, August 31, 1938
3-4 Investigative Report No. 2, State of Kentucky, October 25, 1938

Box 4:

4-1 Investigative Report No. 3, State of Kentucky, October 31, 1938

4-2 Hudson County, other than Jersey City, 1938 (copy of Poll Book total counts); Notes regarding Poll Books, 1938

4-3 Hudson County, other than Jersey City, 1939 (copy of Poll Book total counts); Notes regarding Poll Books, 1939

4-4 Jersey City Payroll, One half month ending October 31, 1939

4-5 New Jersey, Campaign Expenditures, Correspondence, transcripts, pamphlets and magazines, 1940 #1

Box 5:

5-1 New Jersey, Campaign Expenditures, Correspondence, transcripts, pamphlets and magazines, 1940 #2
5-2 New Jersey, Campaign Expenditures, Correspondence, transcripts, pamphlets and magazines, 1940 #3

5-3 Newspaper clippings, New Jersey, 1940 #1

5-4 Newspaper clippings, New Jersey, 1940 #2

Box 6:

6-1 Newspaper clippings, New Jersey, 1940 #3

6-2 Notebook - Campaign Expenditures, individual state reports for 1948 election

Sub-Series B: House Appropriations Committee in charge of New York City and State, investigation of W. P. A.

6-3 New York State Administration, vol. 1 (WPA)
6-4 New York State Administration, vol. 2 (WPA)

6-5 New York City Administration, Forward, Summary, Administration, vol. I

Box 7:

7-1 New York City Administration, Professional & Service, vol. IV
7-2 New York City Administration Subversive Activities, vol. V

7-3 New York City Administration, Employment & Finance Divisions, vol. II (2 copies)
7-4 New York City Administration, Radio Unit, Finance Division

7-5 New York City Administration, Operations Division, vol. IIIA
7-6 New York City Administration, North Beach Airport, vol. IIIB

Box 8:

8-1 New York City Administration, Shops, vol. IIIC

8-2 National End-Unemployment Day, New York City, March 23, 1940

8-3 State of Kentucky, Report on Works Progress Administration, Docket No. 227, Investigator H. Ralph Burton, December 5, 1938

8-4 Notebook - Reports, investigations and other material regarding WPA, labor unions, etc.
8-5 Notebook - Investigation under House Resolution No. 130, House of Representatives, Seventy-Sixth Congress, April 1939

Box 9:

9-1 House Appropriations Committee, correspondence, newspaper clippings and other material, 1939 - 1940

Box 10:

10-1 Activities - 1937-1938 WPA - NYC and Building and Construction Trades of the AFL

10-2 Photographs, Exhibits A - ZZ, (demonstration and sit-down strike) WPA Writers Project, New York City, 1935 - 1937

Series II: General Counsel, House Military Affairs Committee, 1941 - 1947

10-3 Military Defense Investigating Committee, (Special Committee No. 2), Report of Proceedings, House of Representatives, July 1, 1941, vol. 6

10-4 Military Defense Investigating Committee, (Special Committee No. 2), Report of Proceedings, House of Representatives, July 1, 1941, v. 7

10-5 Military Defense Investigating Committee, (Special Committee No. 2), Report of Proceedings, House of Representatives, July 2, 1941, v. 8


10-7 Military Defense Investigating Committee, (Special Committee No. 3), Report of Proceedings, House of Representatives, February 5, 1942, v. 38

Box 11:

11-1 Military Defense Investigating Committee, (Special Committee No. 3), Report of Proceedings, House of Representatives, February 16, 1942


11-3 Military Defense Investigating Committee, (Special Committee No. 3), Report of Proceedings, House of Representatives, June 10, 1942, vol. 68
11-4 Military Defense Investigating Committee, (Special Committee No. 3), Report of Proceedings, House of Representatives, June 11, 1942, vol. 69

11-5 Military Defense Investigating Committee, (Special Committee No. 3), Report of Proceedings, House of Representatives, June 17, 1942, vol. 70

11-6 Military Defense Investigating Committee, (Special Committee No. 3), Report of Proceedings, June 19, 1942, vol. 71

11-7 Special Committee of the Committee on Military Affairs, Report of Proceedings, House of Representatives, January 6, 1944, vol. 46

Box 12:

12-1 Draft Deferment Sub-Committee, November 1941 & January 1943 - March 31, 1943
12-2 Draft Deferment Sub-Committee, April 1, 1943 - May 31, 1943
12-3 Draft Deferment Sub-Committee, June 1, 1943 - June 30, 1943

Box 13:

13-1 Draft Deferment Sub-Committee, July 1, 1943 - September 30, 1943
13-2 Draft Deferment Sub-Committee, October 1, 1943 - December 31, 1943
13-3 Draft Deferment Sub-Committee, January 1, 1944 - March 30, 1945

Box 14:

14-1 Manual - The Selective Training and Service Act of 1940, as Amended

14-2 Notebook, marked "Confidential H. Ralph Burton" materials include Draft Classification, 4-F Classification, Psychoneurosis, Discharges, Sources of Manpower, Reclassification of Fathers, Recapitulations, Selective Service System, California Draft Boards and Pennsylvania Draft Boards, 1943, (1944)

14-3 Correspondence regarding military discharges, court martials, dependent allotments and other business, June 5, 1946 - December 31, 1946

14-4 correspondence regarding the Weldon Springs Ordnance Plant, Weldon Springs, MO, August 1940 - June 1941

14-5 Notebook of correspondence regarding the Weldon Springs Ordnance Plant, Weldon Springs, MO, March 1941 - June 1941

Box 15:
15-1 Notebook of partially completed investigations submitted to Honorable Andrew J. May regarding contracts between the U.S. Military and civilian vendors, January 1943

15-2 Reports of the Investigation of the National Defense Program, Special Committee No. 3 on Material, Procurement and Personnel

15-3 Notebook - Biographical Sketches, Personnel Engaged in Renegotiation; War Contracts Price Adjustment Board, War Department Price Adjustment Board, War Department Board Panels & Unilateral Units, January 1945 - April 1946

Box 16:

16-1 June 7, 1941 - January 31, 1942
16-2 February 1, 1942 - March 31, 1942
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17-1 June 1, 1942 - June 30, 1942
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Box 18:

18-1 October 1, 1942 - October 31, 1942
18-2 November 1, 1942 - November 30, 1942
18-3 C-Investigator Reports & Interviews, December 1, 1943 - March 31, 1944

Box 19:

19-1 C-Investigator Reports & Interviews, April 1, 1944 - September 30, 1944
19-2 Statement Presented Before the Military Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives, Washington, D.C., November 30, 1945 - The American Council of Christian Churches is in Favor of the Proposal for Universal Military Training
19-3 Miscellaneous correspondence, newspaper articles, pamphlets, etc. regarding compulsory military training
19-4 Correspondence, newspaper clippings, other material, House Military Affairs Committee, 1941 - 1946 w/gaps #1

Box 20:
20-1 Correspondence, newspaper clippings, other material, House Military Affairs Committee, 1941 - 1946 w/gaps #2

20-2 Correspondence, House Military Affairs Committee, December 1943 - March 1945

Box 21:

21-1 Hans Wilhelm Rohl - Theodore Wyman, Jr. Investigation, correspondence, cross examination transcripts, other material, 1943 - 1945 #1

21-2 Hans Wilhelm Rohl - Theodore Wyman, Jr. Investigation, correspondence, cross examination transcripts, other material, 1943 - 1945 #2

21-3 Report of Pearl Harbor Board, Chapter V, Pre-Pearl Harbor Associations of Wyman and Rohl: Scope of Investigation

21-4 Correspondence, testimonies, etc. regarding H. H. Lewis and Pearl Harbor

Box 22:

22-1 Correspondence, (copies), H. H. Lewis, 1938 and "Synopsis of a novel to be entitled, Free Passage Home"

22-2 Correspondence, newspaper clippings, Pearl Harbor/H. H. Lewis, 1944- 1946

22-3 Allied Control Authority Coordinating Committee, Preliminary Report of the Committee of Coal Experts on the Measures to increase Coal Production and the Principles of Allocation of German Coal, September 6, 1946 (2 copies)

22-4 Report based upon observations by a staff representative of the Military Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives assigned to the European Theatre, n.d.

22-5 Report - Post-War Policies, correspondence, addresses, newspaper clippings; Publication - Treaty for the Renunciation of War; Text of the Treaty, Notes exchanged instruments of ratification and of Adherence and other Papers, 1933

Box 23:


23-2 Correspondence, reports, miscellaneous material, 1941 - 1954 w/gaps

Box 24:

24-1 Organizational Charts, HQ USF in Austria, 1946 and related correspondence
24-1.5 Roster of Petroleum Industry War Council (1940-1941) 14 copies

24-2 Gazette of the Allied Commission for Austria, issues 1 - 9 (Dec. 1945/Jan. 1946 - August 1946)

**Series III: Communism, 1920 -**

**Box 25:**

25-1 Angell, Norman - Correspondence, newspaper clippings and other miscellaneous, 1929

25-2 Anti-Communist Activities - Correspondence, newspaper clippings, pamphlets, reports, resolutions and other miscellaneous, 1918 - 1941 #1

25-3 Anti-Communist Activities - Correspondence, newspaper clippings, pamphlets, reports, resolutions and other miscellaneous, 1918 - 1941 #2

25-4 Anti-Communist Activities - Correspondence, newspaper clippings, pamphlets, reports, resolutions and other miscellaneous, 1918 - 1941 #3

25-5 Anti-Communist Activities - Correspondence, newspaper clippings, pamphlets, reports, resolutions and other miscellaneous, 1918 - 1941 #4

25-6 Anti-Communist Activities - Correspondence, newspaper clippings, pamphlets, reports, resolutions and other miscellaneous, 1918 - 1941 #5

**Box 26:**

26-1 Rev. Charles E. Coughlin - Correspondence, newspaper clippings, pamphlets and other miscellaneous, (1935), 1936 #1

26-2 Rev. Charles E. Coughlin - Correspondence, newspaper clippings, pamphlets and other miscellaneous, (1935), 1936 #2

26-3 Rev. Charles E. Coughlin - Correspondence, newspaper clippings, pamphlets and other miscellaneous, (1935), 1936 #3

26-4 Rev. Charles E. Coughlin - Correspondence, newspaper clippings, pamphlets and other miscellaneous, (1935), 1936 #4

**Box 27:**

27-1 Cuba - Newspaper clippings, 1930 - 1933 #1

27-2 Cuba - Newspaper clippings, 1930 - 1933 #2
27-3 Cuba - Lectures: Cuban Students and Machado's Bloody Tyranny by Dr. Herminio Portell Villa; Persecution of Cuban Students has Reached Appalling Extremes by Dr. Carlos de la Torre; Imprisonments and Trials of Students in Cuba by Sen. William E. Borah, miscellaneous material - Cuban-American Friendship Council, Cuban Patriotic League

27-4 Detzer, Dorothy - Correspondence, newspaper clippings, pamphlets, 1929 (1944/1945)

27-5 Hays, Arthur Garfield - Correspondence, newspaper clippings, (1928), 1929 - (1932)

27-6 Karolyi, Count Michael - Correspondence, newspaper clippings, (1923), 1929 #1

Box 28:

28-1 Kohlberg, Alfred - Correspondence, newspaper clippings, pamphlets, other misc., 1944-1945, (1946-1949), 1950-1951

28-2 National Union for Social Justice - Correspondence, 1936 #1
28-3 National Union for Social Justice - Correspondence, 1936 #2
28-4 National Union for Social Justice - Correspondence, 1936 #3

Box 29:

29-1 National Union for Social Justice - Correspondence, 1936 #4

29-2 The Union Party; National Union for Social Justice - Correspondence, 1936 #1
29-3 The Union Party; National Union for Social Justice, 1936 #2
29-4 The Union Party; National Union for Social Justice, 1936 #3

Box 30:

30-1 The Union Party; National Union for Social Justice - Correspondence, newspaper clippings, pamphlets, 1936 #4

30-2 The Union Party; National Union for Social Justice - Pamphlets, bulletins, McCarthyism: The Fight for America (1952) #5

30-3 The Union Party; National Union for Social Justice - Pamphlets, literature, The Woman Patriot (1926, 1928), The Messenger (1919) #6

30-4 The Union Party; National Union for Social Justice - Pamphlets, literature #7

Box 31:
31-1 Communism - Miscellaneous files including National Patriot League, Chinese News Service bulletins, Americans for Democratic Action, Cuba, etc. #1

31-2 Communism - Miscellaneous files including National Patriot League, Chinese News Service bulletins, Americans for Democratic Action, Cuba, etc. #2

31-3 Communism - Miscellaneous files including National Patriot League, Chinese News Service bulletins, Americans for Democratic Action, Cuba, etc. #3

31-4 Communism - Miscellaneous files including National Union for Social Justice, National Patriot League, Chinese News Service bulletins, Americans for Democratic Action, Cuba, etc. #4

Box 32:

32-1 Communism - Miscellaneous files including National Union for Social Justice, National Patriot League, Chinese News Service bulletins, Americans for Democratic Action, Cuba, etc. #5

32-2 Communism - Miscellaneous files including National Union for Social Justice, National Patriot League, Chinese News Service bulletins, Americans for Democratic Action, Cuba, etc. #6

32-3 Communism - Miscellaneous files including National Union for Social Justice, National Patriot League, Chinese News Service bulletins, Americans for Democratic Action, Cuba, etc. #7

Box 33:

33-1 Communism - Miscellaneous files including National Union for Social Justice, National Patriot League, Chinese News Service bulletins, Americans for Democratic Action, Cuba, etc. #8

33-2 Communism - Newspaper clippings (Amerasia Case), 1930s - 1950s #1

33-3 Communism - Newspaper clippings, 1930s - 1950s #2

33-4 Communism - Newspaper clippings, 1930s - 1950s #3

Box 34:

34-1 Communism - Misc. correspondence, newspaper clippings, pamphlets, articles, 1930 - 1946 w/gaps


Box 35:


35-1 Magazines - Plain Talk, 1/1933-4/1933, 6/1933, 10/1933


Box 36:
Series IV: Pornography, 1952 - 1953

36-1 Investigation of Literature Allegedly Containing Objectionable Material; Hearings before the Select Committee on Current Pornographic Materials; House of Representatives…1952

36-2 Report of the Select Committee on current Pornographic Materials; House of Representatives…1952

36-3 Notebooks (4) - Contains information on publishing companies and books determined to contain pornographic material

36-4 Notebook - Contains information on publishing companies and books determined to contain pornographic material (notebook labeled Part II)

36-5 Correspondence and other miscellaneous

Series V: Birth Control, 1931 - 1934

37-1 Correspondence, newspaper articles, pamphlets