

**Charles Deering McCormick Library of Special Collections
Northwestern University Library • Evanston, Illinois**

Rufus C. and Helen Palmer Dawes Collection, 1870-1941
MS84
Boxes 1-9, album

History or Biography: Rufus C. Dawes, brother of Charles G. Dawes, and his wife, Helen Palmer Dawes, both born and raised in Ohio, moved to Evanston in 1898 and remained active in community, business and social affairs until their deaths. Besides transacting business for Dawes Brothers Incorporated and joining Charles in various banking and real estate ventures, Rufus served as his brother's secretary in 1924 to help draw up the Reparation Commission's plan for German economic recovery and payments to the Allies after World War I. Helen was active in the Evanston Woman's Club, serving as chair of several committees, as well as president from 1913-1917. Rufus served as president and Helen as social chair of the Chicago 1933-1934 Century of Progress Exposition. Correspondence, newspaper clippings, photographs and ephemera reflect their involvement in this event and other community interests.

Scope and Content: The Dawes Collection contains family photographs and correspondence from 1870-1941; various diaries kept by Helen or Rufus between 1888 and 1941; scrapbooks made between 1901 and 1928; and material on the Century of Progress exposition. Topical files kept by Mrs. Dawes on her various interests and activities include material on the Woman's Club of Evanston and her war work during 1914-1918. Published books and pamphlets have been cataloged with volumes found in the Charles G. Dawes Collection as Dawes monographs and serials; they may be found in the Northwestern University online catalog and are located in the McCormick Library of Special Collections.

Provenance: All of the material in this collection was given to Northwestern University Library by members of the Dawes family, Jean Dawes (Robert T.) Sherman and Helen Dawes (Louis) Watermulder.

Restrictions: There are no restrictions on use of the materials in the department for research; all patrons must comply with federal copyright regulations.

Related materials: For additional information on the Century of Progress, see manuscript series MS60, titles in the Northwestern University Library online catalog, and a large scrapbook held by the McCormick Library of Special Collections. See also the Charles G. Dawes archive for more material on the Dawes family.

Processor: Processed by Sigrid Pohl Perry in January 1996; revised in February 2012.

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Container List:

The correspondence in the following folders is generally between Dawes family members including Rufus, Helen, their parents, siblings and children.

Box 1

- F. 1 Correspondence, 1870 - 1889; Helen Palmer's teacher's certificate, 1886; R.C. Dawes Marietta commencement program, Hop Dance card, 1886.
- F. 2 Correspondence, 1890 - 1899. HPD and RCD moved to Evanston in 1898.
- F. 3 Photos and ephemera (13 items); RCD - youth, 1887, c1899; HPD - c1882, 1890, 1892, 1893, 1899 or 1901, 1905 or 1908; wedding announcement & clips, 6/3/1893 with photo from 1893 of both; William Mills Dawes, 1898; family photo, 1896.
- F. 4 Undated correspondence, c1900 - 1920
- F. 5 Correspondence, 1900 - 1904
- F. 6 Correspondence, 1905 - 1907
- F. 7 Correspondence, 1908 - 1909; incl. "American Ballot post card" & HPD version
- F. 8 Correspondence, 1910
- F. 9 Correspondence, 1911; incl. European trip
- F. 10 Photos (11) and ephemera
Woman's Club of Evanston Builder's Certificate, 1910
Photos: HPD, 1908; RCD - 1902, 1905; 1800 Sheridan Rd. with children; photo c1910 of carriage & horses with letter from 1967 describing scene; Lake Erie Seminary reunion, 1912

Box 2

- F. 1 Correspondence, 1912
- F. 2 Correspondence, 1913
- F. 3 Correspondence, 1914
- F. 4 Correspondence, 1915; including remodeling of 1800 Sheridan by Ernest Mayo
- F. 5 Correspondence, 1916
- F. 6 Correspondence, 1917
- F. 7 Correspondence, 1918 - 1919
- F. 8 Photos, ephemera & special correspondence HPD, lock of hair, c1913; photo, 1919;
RCD, photo, 1912
Receipt for loan of binoculars to U.S. govt., 1918
Letter: E.T. Wilkes to HPD, 10/13/19, re: gift of Holland, MI home to Christopher House for summer camp; news clipping.
- F. 9 Photos, 1800 Sheridan Road, before and after remodeling in 1915 (19)

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Box 3

- F. 1 Correspondence, 1920
- F. 2 Correspondence, 1921
- F. 3 Correspondence, 1922; including RCD at Illinois Constitutional Convention
- F. 4 Photos, ephemera & special correspondence; photos, HPD - 1920, c1922, Berlin 1924
Letter, E.T. Wilkes to RCD, 10/13/21 re: Christopher House summer camp, "Ingleside"
Letter: Marie Sellers to HPD, 2/24/20, re: Evanston Community Kitchen
Recital program, 6/4/21, including Margaret Dawes
News clippings re: Evanston Community Kitchen, n.d. & 7/9/21
Constitutional Convention, 2/28/22; Adriatic ship accident, Aug. 1922; HPD on poetry, 1921.
First Presbyterian donation receipts, 1928 - 29.
- F. 5 Correspondence, 1923
- F. 6 Correspondence, January, 1924; including RCD with Reparations Commission
- F. 7 Correspondence, February, 1924; including Reparations Commission & German currency
- F. 8 Correspondence, March - October, 1924; including Reparations and Helen's trip to Europe to join Rufus
- F. 9 Correspondence, 1925 - 1926
- F. 10 Correspondence, 1927 - 1928
- F. 11 Correspondence, 1929

Box 4

- F. 1 Correspondence, 1930; including trip to Europe
- F. 2 Correspondence, 1931 - 1932
- F. 3 Ephemera & special correspondence, 1931
HPD poem, "Famous Greeters;" RCD poem, "Helen Palmer Dawes";
June, 1931, garden party for Helen Dawes, including description, news clipping,
caterer's letter, menu & bill
HPD, American National Red Cross speech for radio program; misc. news clippings
- F. 4 Correspondence, 1933 - 1936 (excluding Century of Progress)
- F. 5 Correspondence, 1937 - 1938
- F. 6 Ephemera & photographs, 1930 - 1939
Photos: 1930 family photo; 1933, Margaret Dawes Jefferson wedding;
1936, Helen Dawes Watermulder wedding; RCD - 1933 honorary degree; 1937 photos
announcement, RCD appointed to Museum of Science & Industry, 1936
news clippings
- F. 7 HPD, articles, poems, interviews, speeches
"Evolution and Women's Clothes," 1903
"Certain Rebellions in the Realm of Poetry," 1924

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- F. 8 Lake Erie College, class of 1892
HPD's class letters, 1906 - 1940; photos, commencement - 1892, reunion, 1912; May A. Archer condolence letter, 9/10/41
- F. 9 Evanston Library Board, 1913 - 1917
Correspondence: HPD, Harry P. Pearsons, H.P. Smyth
vacation reading list
- F. 10 Evanston Woman's Club, 1913; including Fly Campaign with news clippings
- F. 11 Evanston Woman's Club, 1914 - 1915
American Committee for Relief in Belgium
Belgian Relief Conference meeting, Evanston, 12/2/14
- F. 12 Evanston Woman's Club, Committee on Food Conservation, 1917 - 1918
Correspondence: HPD, Helen G. Harlan, Caroline N. Montgomery, Alice H. Wood, Caroline M. Towles
proposal & article drafts, notes; news clippings
HPD [speech on food conservation to Evanston Woman's Club, 1918]
Program for "War Work Congress for Church Women. . .," 4/19/18
- F. 13 Drama Club, Thrift House Fund, 1919 - 1926; report & correspondence
- F. 14 Federated Women's Clubs - Dept. of International Relations, 1926 - 1928
HPD, "Women and National Defense," February, 1927
HPD, "Annual Report, Dept. of International Relations," 1927
Correspondence, 1926 - 1928, including HPD, Ruth Medill McCormick, Isabel Packard, Anna Pennybacker, Mary Sherman
News clippings
- F. 15 Federation of Women's Clubs - Carrie Chapman Catt
Correspondence, 1926 - 1927, 1931, including: HPD, Carrie C. Catt
1927 Conference on the Cause and Cure of War
- F. 16 Evanston Woman's Club - Misc. and ephemera
Misc. clippings, 1913 - 1932; Home Founders' Certificate, 1928/31
HPD, "The Meddlesome Age," 40th anniversary of club, 1929
HPD notes on the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Jane Addams, president (c1921 - 1922)
HPD, draft for letter to editor of the Tribune on ambulance corps, c1917 - 1918
- F. 17 Pioneer Dinner Project - 1932
Flyer; clippings, incl. menus; menus; precinct collection reports;
Organization roster & volunteer roster; reports of the Pioneer Meal Campaign
Correspondence: HPD, Jean M. Cudahy, Louise Ayres Garnett with poem, "The Unseen Guest"
- F. 18 Dawes family, including Dawes/Gates family lullaby; Gen. R.R. Dawes clippings;
photos of Capt. William Palmer (1787 -1867), grandfather of HPD;

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- Dr. Robert Briggs (1785 - 1867), grandfather of HPD, both with genealogies written on verso; family photo c1970; Charles C. Dawes, c1947; photo of unidentified house (Sherman?)
- F. 19 Dawes Brothers; Dawes Arboretum
Dawes Brothers Inc., syndicate agreement (c1908) & clipping on liquidation (c1937)
RCD [Dawes Arboretum Address], October 19, 1930
- F. 20 William A. Shedd, 1919
William T. Ellis, "The Yankee Cadi;" Archbishop Nerces [Eulogy for Shedd];
Hugo A. Muller [Euology for Shedd]; Resolutions. . .Assyrian Central Comm.;
correspondence re: Shedd
- F. 21 S.S. Rufus C. Dawes, 1943 - 1944
Correspondence: Charles G. Dawes, Col. Charles C. Dawes, Bessie Hoyt;
photo of S.S. Rufus C. Dawes, 1944
- F. 22 Dawes Memorial Library, Marietta College: programs, brochures, clippings
- F. 23 Rufus Cutler Dawes, funeral and obituary notices, January 10, 1940; text of service
- Box 5 Century of Progress material from HPD's files
- F. 1 Balbo; General Balbo and Italian Flyers reception. Including program draft, luncheon guest list, invitation, clippings and correspondence
- F. 2 Adam Beckley, doorman for Century of Progress, correspondence and poems
- F. 3 Cartoons from news clippings
- F. 4 Clippings, general.
L.H. Robbins, "The Crowd Is the Fair's Chief Wonder"
R.L. Duffus, "The Fair: a World of Tomorrow," 5/28/33.
- F. 5 Clippings, re: final report, 1936
- F. 6 Clippings, HPD and social functions
- F. 7 Clippings, RCD
- F. 8 Committee on Social Functions; correspondence, 1932 - 1934; rosters for various women's groups; receiving line lists
- F. 9 Committee on Social Functions; invitations to HPD, programs, guest lists, correspondence, schedules
- F. 10 Letters of appreciation to HPD, including: Grace T. Davis, Mary S. Tyler, Mabel H. Herrick
- F. 11 Letters of congratulation to RCD, including honors and tributes
- F. 12 Opening Day; schedules, etc.
WMAQ script: "The Spirit of a Century of Progress," 12/10/32
- F. 13 Photographs: RCD (10), HPD (1), both (1), miscellaneous clippings, photos
- F. 14 Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt Day correspondence, schedules, press release, invitations, clippings

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- F. 15 Social functions, general, 1933, including invitations to RCD and HPD
- F. 16 Social functions, general, 1934, including invitations
- F. 17 Speeches for Century of Progress
 - HPD, [radio address], 7/21/33
 - RCD, Chicago Incorporation Day, 8/12/34
 - RCD, Balbo Reception, 7/15/33
 - RCD, Planting of a Century of Progress Tree at Dawes Arboretum, 11/4/34
- F. 18 Trustees dinner, 1936; guest list, table rosters; B.E. Sunny speech on C. G. Dawes and RCD
- F. 19 Tributes, general, including clippings
 - Mrs. Fairbanks [Tribute at dinner for RCD], 11/33/33
 - Horace Porter, "A Classmate's Tribute to Rufus Dawes"
- F. 20 Century of Progress ephemera: ads, cards, photos of exhibits, tickets and stationery
- F. 21 HPD Genealogy and Colonial Dames of America papers; application, correspondence; Buckner family genealogy

Box 6 Century of Progress material from RCD's files

- F. 1 American Federation of Investors, Hugh S. Magill
- F. 2 E.M. Barker, Sears, Roebuck & Co.
- F. 3 Century of Progress, Architectural Commission
- F. 4 Century of Progress, attendance reports
- F. 5 Century of Progress, clippings
- F. 6 RCD speeches, papers and miscellaneous correspondence
 - Closing Ceremonies of a Century of Progress 1934, 10/31/34
 - Application for permit for exhibit space (blank)
 - Miscellaneous guest lists for VIP luncheons or visit schedules
- F. 7 Photographs: RCD (1 formal picture); Century of Progress file photos (30)
- F. 8 Miscellaneous ephemera: certificates from exhibitors, programs, etc.
 - poem, Almer Pennewell, "Taps for the Fair"
- F. 9 World's Fairs, comparative financial information
- F. 10 Chicago City Management Association, L.J. Drake
- F. 11 S.W. McKnight correspondence, 1908
- F. 12 RCD correspondence, January - June, 1924 (Reparations Commission)
 - Owen D. Young [Address to Harvard Alumni Assoc.], 6/19/24
- F. 13 RCD correspondence August, 1924: Owen D. Young, Paul H. Davis
- F. 14 RCD correspondence, September, 1924
- F. 15 RCD correspondence, October, 1924
- F. 16 RCD correspondence, November, 1924

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- F. 17 RCD correspondence, misc. 1930s, mostly RCD carbons, including drafts to Eleanor Roosevelt, Richard E. Byrd, William Allen White
 - F. 18 Dawes Arboretum, brochure, miscellaneous correspondence
 - F. 19 Beman G. Dawes, obituary, May 1968
 - F. 20 Charles G. Dawes, miscellaneous correspondence and clippings, itinerary for 1924 campaign, long description of visit to Henry Ford plant in 1934; clippings on Dawes Plan; photo of Dawes and Gen. Pershing; special issue of *Finance* magazine on Dawes
 - F. 21 Mary Gates Dawes, clippings, mostly obituary notices, October, 1921
 - F. 22 Rufus C. Dawes, clippings
 - F. 23 Rufus C. Dawes, miscellaneous mentions and activities, 1900 - 1938
 - F. 24 Century of Progress certificates to RCD and HPD; Tribute dinner program in honor of RCD and HPD, 11/13/33
 - F. 25 Columbian Exposition Day, 11/11/33, special program with correspondence Larned Everett Meacham, "The Voice of '93"
 - F. 26 Obituary news clippings on RCD, January, 1940, and HPD, July, 1941
- Box 7 Century of Progress and miscellaneous RCD material
- F. 1 RCD honors and tributes
 - F. 2 RCD speeches
 - Pusey, the Citizen. Address by RCD on William Mears Dawes. Northwestern University Commencement Address, 6/15/31.
 - Draft [on culture?], December, 1929. Draft to introduce T.P. O'Connor.
 - Misc. addresses, n.d., 1918, 1928, 1932, 1939.
 - "Marietta College and its Relation to Education in the West," *International Finance*, [draft of speech on Dawes Plan, c1924?]
 - "International Obligations," to Minnesota Bankers Assoc., 7/9/25.
 - F. 3 S.S. Rufus C. Dawes, 1943 - 1944 miscellaneous correspondence & photographs
 - F. 4 Dawes family, miscellaneous news clippings; copies of songs and poems sung by Mary Gates Dawes
 - Henry F. Pringle, "Dawes Brothers Incorporated"
 - F. 5 Dawes family genealogy
 - F. 6 Invitations, both Century of Progress and miscellaneous
 - F. 7 Frank B. Jewett, correspondence 1936
 - F. 8 E.L. King, correspondence 1936
 - F. 9 Francis B. Loomis, correspondence 1936
 - F. 10 New York World's Fair, 1937 - 1939, correspondence, clippings, and RCD address
 - F. 11 Robert T. Sherman (husband of Jean Dawes Sherman)
 - Photos, including youth and family; clippings, including wedding ephemera, obituary notices; "The Pilot" from Evanston Hospital Assoc., Oct. 1948 (Sherman was president).

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F. 12 Stevens Hotel, correspondence, 1936 - 1939

Miscellaneous

"City of Promise" - score and lyrics by Vasek Niederle, Libushka Bartusek, music by J. Snabl-Antes. In memory of the official opening of the Czecho-Slovak Pavilion on June 9, 1934. Dedicated to Rufus C. Dawes.

Helen Palmer Dawes. [Journal and Photo Album, October 1916 - 1922/1928

HPD. Journal and Photo Album, 1901 - 1916 (separate large album in box)

Box 8 Journals and Diaries

HPD - 1895, 1908 (Europe), 1924, 1934, 1937, 1923-1932 "scribblings", 1937 - 1941

RCD - 1888, 1891, 1893, 1894, 1896, 1897, 1899, 1899 calendar, 1905, 1913 (England)

Box 9 Rufus Cutler Dawes - appreciations, tributes

Chicago Board of Underwriters, resolution appreciation to RCD, 11/24/34

Commercial Club of Chicago, resolution, 5/27/40 - memorial

Century of Progress, Board of Trustees, memorial resolution, 3/15/40

Chicago Recreation Commission, memorial resolution, 3/14/40

Rufus Cutler Dawes, an Appreciation - Museum of Science and Industry,
5/8/40

Brass plaque: "The Chicago Merit Awards. 1934. Rufus Cutler Dawes. Scholar
Business Executive, Citizen, Leader of Men." From the Rotary Club of Chicago. 18" x 24"