

Guide to the Fred Rogers Fairchild Papers

MS 202



compiled by Diane E. Kaplan and William E. Brown, Jr.

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Collection Overview

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CALL NUMBER: MS 202

CREATOR: Fairchild, Fred Rogers, 1877-1966

TITLE: Fred Rogers Fairchild papers

DATES: 1901-1965

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 10.25 linear feet (25 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The papers consist of correspondence, writings, notes, research files, and printed material which document Fred Rogers Fairchild's career as an economist, consultant, and author. Fairchild's work as a tax adviser to Connecticut, the territory of Hawaii, and Santo Domingo are represented, along with his studies of finance and taxation in the Northeastern states, the insurance and forestry industries, and post-World War I Europe. Fairchild's activities as a teacher of economics and a member of the Yale faculty are less fully illustrated. Many files concern Fairchild's activities after retirement from Yale, including his authorship of a textbook for high school students entitled *Understanding Our Free Economy*, and his interests in conservative causes.

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Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gifts of Fred R. Fairchild, 1956; Mrs. Fred R. Fairchild, 1966; and anonymous gift, 1969.

Conditions Governing Access

Gradebooks in Box 11 are restricted until January 1, 2021 as established by [Yale Corporation regulations](#).

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Preferred Citation

Fred Rogers Fairchild Papers. Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

Biographical / Historical

Fred Rogers Fairchild was born in Crete, Nebraska, on August 5, 1877. He graduated from Doane College in 1898 and received a Ph.D. from Yale University in 1904, where he taught political economy and economics until his retirement in 1945. Fairchild was an expert in international finance and taxation and served as a consultant to business and to state, federal, and foreign governments. He also authored several textbooks on economics. Fairchild died in Bridgeport, Connecticut, on April 13, 1966.

Scope and Contents

The Fred Rogers Fairchild Papers consist of correspondence, writings, notes, research files, and printed material which document Fairchild's career as an economist, consultant, and author. The papers document Fairchild's work as a tax adviser to the state of Connecticut, the territory of Hawaii, and Santo Domingo. Studies of finance and taxation in the Northeastern states, the insurance and forestry industries, and post World War I Europe are also included. Fairchild's activities as a teacher of economics and member of the Yale faculty are less fully illustrated. Many files concern Fairchild's activities after his retirement from Yale (1945), including his authorship of a textbook for high school students, *Understanding Our Free Economy*, and his interests in conservative causes.

Fred Fairchild and his wife donated the papers to the Yale University Library between 1956 and 1966. The gradebooks (1912-1945) in boxes 10 and 11 are an anonymous gift received in 1969. They are restricted for seventy-five years from the date of the student's graduation. The papers are arranged in files by topic or record type and they are listed alphabetically by folder title. For any particular topic the files may include correspondence, speeches, articles, interviews, press releases, printed matter, brochures, pamphlets, charts, notes, memoranda, and reports.

The most voluminous files are those relating to Fairchild's textbook, *Understanding Our Free Economy*. The book, which Fairchild first contemplated writing in the late 1940s, was to be directed to high school students with the intent to teach economic principles without socialistic bias. The files include correspondence with Fairchild's collaborator Thomas Shelly; with officials of the Foundation for Economic

Education such as Richard Cornuelle, Dean Russell, and Leonard E. Read; and with E.M. Crane and Stanton Whitney at D. Van Nostrand Company. The files contain discussions of the book's reception among school book selection committees and proposals for revisions based on criticisms ranging from biased treatment of the Tennessee Valley Authority to accusations that the text advocated birth control. Topical files for J.W. Clise; Lucille Craine, who edited *The Educational Reviewer*; America's Future Inc.; and the Mel Gablers also relate to efforts to review and in some cases denounce textbooks intended for public school students.

Fairchild's interests in conservative causes are documented in the files for Americans for Constitutional Action, the Committee for Constitutional Government, Congress of Freedom, Inc., Intercollegiate Society for Individualists, National Committee for Economic Freedom, and National Committee to Preserve the Integrity of the Constitution. Fairchild's views on domestic and foreign policy issues are also included in correspondence with Connecticut Senator Thomas J. Dodd.

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Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Conservatism
Economics
Economists
Educators
Insurance -- Taxation -- Connecticut
Taxation -- Research
Textbooks -- Censorship

Geographic Names

Connecticut -- Economic policy
Hawaii -- Economic conditions -- 1918-1959
New England -- Economic conditions

Names

Cornuelle, Richard C., 1927-2011
Dodd, Thomas J. (Thomas Joseph), 1907-1971
Fairchild, Fred Rogers, 1877-1966
Read, Leonard E. (Leonard Edward), 1898-1983
Shelly, Thomas J.

Corporate Bodies

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