

# Preliminary Guide to the Silvain van Praet Papers

MS 1241



compiled by Staff of Manuscripts and Archives

June 1982

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
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**CALL NUMBER:** MS 1241

**CREATOR:** Praet, Silvain van

**TITLE:** Silvain van Praet papers

**DATES:** 1914-1918

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 0.5 linear feet

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Principally a manuscript diary kept in English in twelve school notebooks by Silvain van Praet, a member of the Ostend (Belgium) city government, from the day of the German occupation of Ostend (1914 October 14) until its liberation (1918 October 17). It was concealed in a hole in the wall of the Maison Communal. There is also a typescript copy of the manuscript (568 p.) and several related documents.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1241>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1241>.

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

b. box  
f. folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Conditions Governing Access

The entire collection is available on microfilm. Patrons must use HM 229 instead of the originals.

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## Conditions Governing Use

Copyright status for collection materials is unknown. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owners. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.

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## Preferred Citation

Silvain van Praet Papers (MS 1241). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Existence and Location of Copies

Entire collection is also available on microfilm (989 frames on 1 reel, 35mm.) from Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library, at cost. Order no. HM229.

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## Biographical / Historical

Silvain van Praet was a member of the city government in Ostend, Belgium. He kept a diary during the 1914-1918 German occupation of the city.

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## Scope and Contents

Principally a manuscript diary kept in English in twelve school notebooks by Silvain van Praet, a member of the Ostend (Belgium) city government, from the day of the German occupation of Ostend (1914 October 14) until its liberation (1918 October 17). It was concealed in a hole in the wall of the Maison Communale. There is also a typescript copy of the manuscript (568 p.) and several related documents.

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## Collection Contents

### Diaries

b. 1, f. 1reel 1U	1914 Oct 14-Dec 25	
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b. 1, f. 2reel 1U	1914 Dec 26-1915 Mar 14	
b. 1, f. 3reel 1U	1915 Mar 14-Jul 4	
b. 1, f. 4reel 1U	1915 Jul 5-Nov 5	
b. 1, f. 5reel 1U	1915 Nov 6-Dec 7	
b. 1, f. 6reel 1U	1915 Dec 8-1916 Jan 12	
b. 1, f. 7reel 1U	1916 Jan 16-Jun 2	
b. 1, f. 8reel 1U	1916 Jun 21-Sep 24	
b. 1, f. 9reel 1U	1916 Sep 25-1917 Feb 23	
b. 1, f. 10reel 1U	1917 Feb 24-Sep 19	
b. 1, f. 11reel 1U	1917 Sep 19-1918 Apr 30	
b. 1, f. 12reel 1U	1918 May 14-Oct 17	
b. 1, f. 13 - 18reel 1U	TMS, "The Occupation of Ostend by the Germans	1914-1918
	A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access to the digital copy.	
b. 1, f. 19reel 1U	Albert I, King of the Belgians: proclamations	1914, 1915
b. 1, f. 20reel 1U	Miscellaneous documents	1914-1918, undated

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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

World War, 1914-1918 -- Belgium  
World War, 1914-1918 -- Personal narratives

### Geographic Names

Belgium -- History -- German occupation,  
1914-1918  
Ostend (Belgium)

### Genres / Formats

Diaries

### Names

Praet, Silvain van