

C Barclay, Thomas Swain (1892-1993), Papers, 1912, 1915-1925, 1935
3938 3.0 cubic feet (69 folders)

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INTRODUCTION

Papers of Thomas Swain Barclay, a professor of political science, member of the American Red Cross during World War I, and member of the Beta Theta Pi fraternity at the University of Missouri. The papers consist of personal and professional correspondence, a wartime diary, overseas duty related papers, newsletters and programs, three dimensional items, photographs, oversized visual items, and miscellaneous material collected from his various associations. Also research material on Champ Clark in the form of correspondence, newspaper transcriptions and clippings, and notes. Much of the material focuses on the 1912 Presidential Election.

DONOR INFORMATION

The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by George B. D'Arcy, Barclay's nephew, on 11 September 1986 (SHS Accession No. 2613). An addition was made by George B. D'Arcy on 18 March 1994 (SHS Accession No. 3010).

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Thomas Swain Barclay was born on January 26, 1892, in St. Louis, Missouri. His parents, George Reppert Barclay (1854-) and Lillie Swain Barclay also had two other children: Julia Barclay, who married John D'Arcy, and George F. Barclay. Thomas Swain Barclay's father, a native of Sacramento, California, rose through the ranks of the Simmons Hardware Company of St. Louis, starting his career as a clerk and ending it as vice-president of the credit department. His father also helped found the St. Louis Association of Credit Men and belonged to many other organizations. Barclay's parents were active in such organizations as St. George's Episcopal Church.

Barclay attended the University of Missouri where he received both an undergraduate degree and a master's degree. He was very active in his fraternity, the Zeta Phi chapter of Beta Theta Pi. In 1918, Barclay joined the American Red Cross and served in France, helping in the administration of Base Hospital 51, at Neufchateau, France. After ending his service with the American Red Cross, he worked for a brief time with the American Commission to Negotiate Peace and met such diplomats as Henry White, Joseph Clark Grew, and General Tasker H. Bliss.

Returning to the United States in 1920, Barclay began his career as a college professor, teaching at such institutions as the University of Missouri, Stanford University, and Columbia University. He published a number of articles and books, including many on Missouri history and politics. Barclay died at the age of 101 on December 21, 1993.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Thomas Swain Barclay Papers consist of personal and professional correspondence, a wartime diary, overseas duty related papers, newsletters and programs, three dimensional items, photographs, oversized visual items, and miscellaneous material collected from his various associations. In addition there is research material consisting of correspondence,

transcriptions of newspapers, newspaper clippings and notes on Champ Clark. Much of the material focuses on the 1912 Presidential Election. The papers are arranged into five series: **Correspondence**, **World War I**, **Fraternity and University**, **Miscellaneous**, and **Champ Clark Research Material**.

The **Correspondence** series is comprised of personal and professional correspondence arranged chronologically with undated correspondence at the end of the series. The correspondence includes letters from Barclay's father, mother, and sister, letters from various fraternity brothers and university friends and colleagues, letters from officials with the American Red Cross and the American Commission to Negotiate Peace, and with faculty members of various universities when Barclay was attempting to secure teaching positions before his wartime service came to an end.

Some points of interest may be the brief opinions voiced by various letter writers about world events such as the Versailles Conference and the creation of the League of Nations. Correspondence with fraternity brothers is quite extensive and reveals much about the internal politics of a fraternal organization. Letters from Professor Isidor Loeb are peppered with information on world affairs, the politics of the Missouri General Assembly, and the University of Missouri. Many references are made to the ravages of the influenza epidemic which struck the United States during the 1910s and 1920s. The correspondence is largely complete from early 1918 to the end of 1919, and then runs again briefly through mid-1921.

The **World War I** series consists of a wartime diary which covers Barclay's journey to France during the war and the first several months of his service in the American Red Cross. Other materials present are his identity papers and travel permits, requisitions and receipts, newsletters and programs such as "The Depth Bomb," a newsletter produced on board the ship carrying Barclay to Europe, and programs which encouraged those attending the Versailles Conference to support the independence of Korea. Also present are three dimensional items such as uniform patches and two small French and American flags. A large number of photographs of wartime France are also included. Most of the photographs have "American Red Cross: This photograph not to be reproduced or published without the permission of Bureau of Photography: 4, Place de la Concorde" stamped on the back of them. There are also a number of oversized visual items. These include a hand rendered sketch of Barclay by a French caricaturist, drawn print portraits of Allied leaders, two posters of American military insignias, a French war loan poster, and many French and English newspapers and magazines from around the time of the armistice of November 11, 1918.

The **Fraternity and University** series consists of such items as fraternity newsletters and procedural guidelines, commencement exercises programs, alumni gathering announcements, undated programs and cards, chronologically arranged. Photographs of Barclay's fraternity brothers, a Stanford football game, photographs of Barclay in his middle age, and unidentified photographs complete the series.

The **Miscellaneous** series consists of wedding announcements sent to Barclay, newspaper clippings about Barclay, pages of notes on historical topics such as the Algerian Conference, and miscellaneous programs such as a promotion for the construction of the Missouri Memorial Union Building on the campus of the University of Missouri, Columbia.

The **Champ Clark Research Material** series consists of a biographical sketch, correspondence, handwritten notes, typescripts from newspaper articles, notes, and newspaper clippings pertaining to the career of House Speaker Champ Clark, and his bid for the Presidency in the 1912 Presidential Election. Please note that although the material shows earlier dates, the

actual time period of the research is sometime during the 1930s.

FOLDER LIST

Correspondence Series

- f. 1 1918 March -September
- f. 2 1918 October
- f. 3 1918 November-December 13
- f. 4 1918 December 16-1919 January
- f. 5 1919 February 1-15
- f. 6 1919 February 21-March
- f. 7 1919 April
- f. 8 1919 May-July
- f. 9 1919 September-December
- f. 10 1921 April-June 13
- f. 11 1921 June 16-July
- f. 12 n.d.

World War I Series

- f. 13 Diary, 1918 October 20-1919 January 2
- f. 14 Identification, travel permits, miscellaneous cards
- f. 15 Newsletters, programs
- f. 16 Requisitions, receipts
- f. 17 Badges, ribbons, tags
- f. 18 Photographs
- f. 19 Photographs

Fraternity and University Series

- f. 20 1912-1920
- f. 21 1921-1924 March
- f. 22 1924, 1925, 1935, n.d.
- f. 23 Photographs

Miscellaneous Series

- f. 24 Greetings and wedding announcements
- f. 25 Newspaper clippings
- f. 26 Miscellaneous

Champ Clark Research Material Series

- f. 27 Biographical Sketch
- f. 28-32 Correspondence

- f. 33-48 Research Notes
- f. 49 Research Notes, Clippings, Articles, Telegram, Remarks and Photo of Champ Clark
- f. 50 Research Notes, Letters, Clipping, Booklet: Proceedings in House of Representatives, Articles, Editorial
- f. 51 Research Material, Typescripts of Letters
- f. 52 Research Material, Typescripts of Letters, Notes, Clippings
- f. 53-59 Research Material, Typescripts of Newspaper Clippings
- f. 60 Research Material, Typescripts of Newspaper Clippings, Congressional Record
- f. 61 Research Material, Newspaper Clippings by State, Alabama-California, 1912 Election Year
- f. 62 Research Material, Newspaper Clippings by State, Colorado-Georgia, 1912 Election Year
- f. 63 Research Material, Newspaper Clippings by State, Georgia-Iowa, 1912 Election Year
- f. 64 Research Material, Newspaper Clippings by State, Iowa-Kentucky, 1912 Election Year
- f. 65 Research Material, Newspaper Clippings by State, Louisiana-Michigan, 1912 Election Year
- f. 66 Research Material, Newspaper Clippings by State, Michigan-New Hampshire, 1912 Election Year
- f. 67 Research Material, Newspaper Clippings by State, New Mexico-New York, 1912 Election Year
- f. 68 Research Material, Newspaper Clippings by State, North Carolina-Philadelphia, 1912 Election Year
- f. 69 Research Material, Newspaper Clippings by State, Philadelphia-Wisconsin, 1912 Election Year

INDEX TERMS

Index Term	Folder	Image
American Commission to Negotiate Peace, 1918-1919	4,8,9	
American Red Cross	1-8,12,13,18,19	
Barclay, George Reppert (1854-)	1-6	
Barclay, Lillie Swain	1,2,4,9,12,26	
Barclay, Thomas S.		
Barclay, Thomas Swain (1892-1993)	1-26	
Beta Theta Pi Zeta Phi Chapter, University of Missouri	4-9,12,20-24	
Christmas, 1918	4	
Clark, Champ (1850-1921)	27-69	
Clark, Champ (1850-1921)	49	Yes
Clemenceau, Georges (1841-1929)	19	
D'Arcy, Julia Barclay	1,2,4-6	
England, London, 1918	13	
Foch, Ferdinand (1851-1929)	19	
France, Neufchateau, 1910s	13	
France, Paris, 1918	13, 18, 19	

Index Term	Folder	Image
French--Attitudes toward, 1918	1, 4	
Germany--Attitudes toward, 1918	3	
Influenza	2-5, 13	
Korea--Congresses, conferences, etc., 1919	15	
League of Nations--Attitudes toward	5-7	
Lloyd George, David (1863-1945)	19	
Loeb, Isidor (1868-1954)	3, 5-11	
Michigan, Battle Creek, 1918	1	
Missouri. General Assembly, 1910s	3, 5, 6, 8	
Ocean travel, 1918	13	
Pershing, John J. (1860-1948)	18	
Submarines	13	
Thanksgiving, 1918	13	
Traffic accidents	6, 9, 19	
U.S. Army--Insignia	19	
University of Missouri	3, 5-9, 26	
Versailles Peace Conference	18	
White, Henry (1850-1927)	8, 19	
Wilson, Woodrow (1856-1924)	19	
Wilson, Woodrow (1856-1924)--Attitudes toward	4, 6	
World War, 1914-1918, Loan and Bond Drives French	19	
World War, 1914-1918--Armistice	13, 18, 19	
World War, 1914-1918--Armistice	13, 18, 19	
World War, 1914-1918--Correspondence	1	
World War, 1914-1918--Loan and bond drives--French	19	
World War, 1914-1918--Periodicals	13, 19	
World War, 1914-1918--Periodicals	13, 19	
World War, 1914-1918--Propaganda	26	
World War, 1914-1918--Propaganda	26	