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Collection of Correspondence by British Prime Ministers and Statesmen

Collection Summary

Title:	Collection of Correspondence by British Prime Ministers and Statesmen
Call Number:	MS 90-11
Size:	0.25 linear feet
Acquisition:	Purchased from Sotheby's, New York, 1989
Processed by:	MD, 3-16-1990; JEF, 3-23-1998; MN, 10-10-2011
Restrictions:	None
Notes:	None

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Content Note

The collection contains autographed letters from various British Prime Ministers and statesmen between 1880 to 1931. Correspondents include William Gladstone, Stanley Baldwin, Joseph Chamberlain and David Lloyd George. Many of the letters were sent to Sir Edmund Robbins, a journalist who was a former Secretary of the Admiralty, War Office and Press Committee. Topics include military operations, suffrage for women and domestic problems.

Series Listing

Series 1	Box 1 FF 1-9	Correspondence. Contains letters of British Prime Ministers and statesmen, many of which were sent to Sir Edmund Robbins. Arranged alphabetically. 1880-1931.
Series 2	Box 1 FF 10	Related Materials. Contains newspaper clipping and envelopes.

Box and Folder Listing

Series 1 – Correspondence

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| Box 1 | FF 1 | (1) 1903 - H. H. Asquith asks Robbins to make his report as full as possible. (2) December 15, 1905 - Cavendish Square W., Asquith asks Robbins to let it be known that the meeting at the Queens Hall will be on the 19th for the purpose of helping and hearing the liberal candidates for Marylebone and Paddington. (3) December 29, 1912 - 10 Downing Street, Asquith acknowledges letter from Sir Edward, and shall lay it without delay before my colleagues, and news clippings of January 1, 1913 from Daily Chronicle, about this letter and Irish Unionist members. (4) January 30, 1914 - 10 Downing Street, Asquith writes that Parliament is summoned to meet at Westminster on Tuesday, February 10th. (5) February 7, 1918 - Asquith informs that Parliament will meet on Tuesday the 12th. |
| Box 1 | FF 2 | (1) August 28, 1931 - Stanley Baldwin writes that the forthcoming session will be one of the most critical in history. Begs you be present to pass necessary legislation to support the government. |
| Box 1 | FF 3 | (1) March 30, 1904 - Arthur Balfour writes E. Robbins, Esq. about strong feelings concerning religion, education and art. |
| Box 1 | FF 4 | (1) November 13, 1902 - Joseph Chamberlain writes concerning arrangements for Monday. (2) May 14, 1906 - Chamberlain writes to The Press Association, London. Includes the announcement of the engagement of the Right Hon. Austen Chamberlain, M. P., eldest son of the Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, M. P. and Lady Muriel, daughter of Colonel H. L. Dundas. |
| Box 1 | FF 5 | (1) August 2, 1880 - Account of General Ponsonby's letter to express his majesty's sympathy for Mrs. Gladstone's illness. (2) August 3, 1880 - Account of his majesty's wishes to be kept informed of Mrs. Gladstone's progress. (3) February 12, 1886 - This letter is signed by five men concerning men out of employment. (4) December 29, 1886 - This is a letter from William Gladstone to "the Editor." He was probably a Foreign Secretary at the time. Asks for him to print through his columns, and thanks for the many congratulations received on his 77th birthday. |
| Box 1 | FF 6 | (1) July 17, 1910 - Andrew Bonar Law acknowledges a letter giving his view on granting suffrage to women. (2) January 31, 1912 - Law announces Parliament will meet on July 14. Trust you will be able to attend throughout the sessions. (3) July 2, 1914 - Law writes Parliament meets on the 10th relies on you to attend. |

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| Box 1 | FF 7 | <p>(1) December 11, 1916 - 10 Downing Street, Lloyd George writes the His Majesty the King, has entrusted him with the task of forming a government to carry out his commands. Finds he will not be able to make a statement on the 12th. Wish to bring a conclusion to the war.</p> <p>(2) 1917? - 10 Downing Street, Lloyd George, David writes Edmund Robbins informs him that his majesty has approved that he should receive the honor of Knight Commander to the Order of the British Empire. (3) February 11, 1918 - Lloyd George writes Lady Ashworth (?) he was impressed with the long list of signatories to your manifesto regarding his speech of January 18th. Sends deep appreciation. (4) February 1918? - Ellen Ashworth (?) sends note to Robbins (?) about publishing Lloyd George's reply (letter 3) concerning manifesto which concerns men who have been wounded should not be compelled to return to the trenches, should also conscript women if necessary and was signed by 27 wives of Lord Lieutenants and others. (4) February 5, 1919 - 10 Downing Street, Announcement from Lloyd George of the opening of Parliament.</p> |
| Box 1 | FF 8 | <p>(1) February 15, 1906 - General Arthur Ponsonby, private secretary to Campbell-Bannerman, will be pleased to see E. Robbins, Esq.</p> |
| Box 1 | FF 9 | <p>(1) December 13, 1916 - A copy of the letter describing an attack by the Germans and what the men went through. December 13, 1916 - W. Sutherland encloses a letter to Robbins. The attached note concerns the departments and the prosecution of the war. Lists how they are divided. (2) December 22, 1916 - W. Sutherland writes Robbins about circulating a letter. An attached note concerns this letter from Sutherland which says that the letter is much too partisan to be published by them.</p> |

Series 2 – Related Materials

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| Box 1 | FF 10 | <p>(1) December 30, 1912 - News clipping entitled "Irish Unionists and Home Rule." (2) Two envelopes.</p> |
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