GUIDE TO THE
MICROFILM EDITION OF

THE RECORDS OF
THE COMMITTEE ON
MILITARISM IN EDUCATION
1925-1940

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NOTE TO RESEARCHER

Researchers citing materials in this edition of the *Records of the Committee on Militarism in Education, 1925-1940* should use the following format:

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**Microfilm:** 67 reels

**Restrictions:** None
INTRODUCTION TO COLLECTION

History

The Committee on Militarism in Education (CME) was established in 1925 by John Nevin Sayre, Norman Thomas, and E. Raymond Wilson to combat military training requirements at public schools and universities. The CME fought to remove military training, in the form of Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC), from high schools and to eliminate compulsory ROTC service at state universities. Throughout its fifteen-year existence, the CME endeavored to oppose militarism in all institutions dealing with youth, including such New Deal agencies as the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). Instead of military drill the CME proposed the substitution of physical education courses and the institution of courses in world citizenship. The Committee worked from its New York City headquarters, in cooperation with local groups, to educate the public about ROTC practices and attitudes. To this end the CME kept detailed information files on the ROTC, offered speakers, and circulated pamphlets. Through political channels the CME supported appropriate state and federal legislation. It also assisted students opposed to military training in gaining legal exemption through judicial processes.

Over the course of its existence the CME had two Executive Committee chairmen: John Nevin Sayre and George A. Coe, who succeeded Sayre in the late 1920s; and it had four executive secretaries: E. Raymond Wilson, succeeded in 1926 by Roswell P. Barnes, who resigned in 1928; Tucker P. Smith; and, five years later, Edwin C. Johnson. Both Wilson and Sayre continued their affiliation with the CME after leaving their key executive posts, with Sayre remaining on the Executive Committee until the CME disbanded in 1940 due to the pro-war sentiment then pervading public opinion.

The CME sent all its files to the SCPC in December 1940. The last secretary of CME made nine copies of a detailed finding list; two of these were sent to the SCPC and the others to the board members.

In September 1950 a complete examination of CME files and final sorting resulted in the elimination of duplicate, surplus and irrelevant material, and a condensation of important CME organization files, for which a new finding list was made. At this point, CME material was filed in 27 drawers. In March 1967, CME files were transferred to 113 document boxes and, in June 1968, a checklist was compiled for materials as they were arranged in the boxes. When CME records were prepared for microfilming in 1978, minor changes were made in the arrangement of materials within the boxes. In March 1984 an updated checklist was prepared to reflect these changes and is accurate for the 67 reels of microfilm that cover all of the CME files, except for six boxes of newspaper clippings. Old checklists have been retained for reference and are located in the collection folder.

Scope and Content

The CME files hold administrative records from 1925 to 1940, including Executive Committee minutes, executive secretary’s reports, financial records and statements, fund-raising letters, and address lists of donors and sympathizers.

There are files of correspondence (1925-1940) with persons, organizations, and by year. Correspondents include Devere Allen, Eunice B. Armstrong, Henry A. Atkinson, Roger N. Baldwin, Charles F. Boss Jr., Ellen Starr Brinton, Dorothy Dunbar Bromley, Carrie Chapman Catt, George A. Coe, Dorothy Detzer, Rose Dabney Forbes, Edwin C. Johnson, William Heard Kilpatrick, Winthrop D. Lane, Frederick J. Libby, Alfred D. Moore, Laura Puffer Morgan, Ray Newton, Mildred Scott Olmsted, Kirby Page,
The CME information files cover military training and the ROTC in detail, including clippings, quotations, studies, and state-by-state files of ROTC status at universities and high schools. There are records of political campaigns that the CME undertook, such as support of the Nye-Kvale Bill and the 1940 Anti-Conscription Campaign, and records of trials in which the CME assisted. There is a large collection of anti-military training pamphlets (many published by the CME), along with some rough drafts thereof and CME periodicals; the newspaper clippings on ROTC and CME activities were not microfilmed. A small quantity of papers from Roswell P. Barnes, John Nevin Sayre, and Tucker P. Smith are also present in this collection.

For further information about the documents and material in this collection that were not microfilmed, please contact the staff of the Swarthmore College Peace Collection at 610-328-8557.
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Reel 38  Connecticut (contd.)
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Additional California material

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        District of Columbia
        Florida
        University of Florida

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Illinois
        University of Illinois
        Northwestern University
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Box 62  Illinois (contd.)
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        Indiana University

Box 63  Indiana (contd.)
        DePauw University

Iowa
        Articles, reports, statistics: 1929-1931, 1938-1940, 1931-1932

Reel 40  Iowa (contd.)
        Lane Statement
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        Perry Case
        Council Bluffs High School Drill Case
        Articles, reports, statistics: 1932-1936

Box 64  Iowa (contd.)
        General
        Iowa C.M.E.
        Correspondence of E. Raymond Wilson, 1930-1932
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Finances and organizing files
Statement by Stoddard Lane (House Committee on State Educational Institutions), 1931
Mailing Lists, 1930-1931

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Box 65  Kansas
        Kansas State College
        University of Kansas
        Iowa (again)
        State Legislature Bill, 1931
        Statistics, 1930-1931
        General, before 1930
        Correspondence and articles

Reel 42
Iowa (again)-contd.
        Three articles on R.O.T.C.

Box 66  Kentucky
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        Louisiana State University
        Tulane University
        Maine
        Bangor High School
        Maryland
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Box 67  Maryland (contd.)
        Coale (and Lees) Case:
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        Official papers
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Reel 43  Maryland—Coale (and Lees) Case (contd.):
        Correspondence with lawyers
        Court papers
        Financing
        State Legislative Campaign
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Box 68  Massachusetts
        Bang Case
        Harvard University
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Box 69
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Box 70
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University of Missouri

Box 71
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Montana
Montana Report
Nebraska
University of Nebraska
Nevada
New Hampshire
University of New Hampshire
General

Box 72
New Jersey
Rutgers University
Princeton University
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New York
General

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New York (contd.)
College of the City of New York
City College of New York (C.C.N.Y.)
New York University, 1932-1934
C.C.N.Y. controversies
New York University, 1937

Box 73
New York (contd.)
Syracuse University
State report extracts
State Legislative Drive
New York City
Correspondence and articles, 1935-1936
55c Units
High schools: Regulations
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Box 74  New York (contd.)
       New York City (contd.)
             N.Y.C. United Committee
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Reel 48  New York (contd.)
         New York City (contd.)
             N.Y.C. Yeomanettes, Inc.
         Address lists for support in Jamaica, New York
         Jamaica High School controversy, 1929

Box 75  New York (contd.)
        Articles on high school military training in Jamaica and
        Queens, New York
        Jamaica Board of Education
        Jamaica and other city schools:
             Board of Education, 1929-1930

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Box 77  North Carolina
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        Charles Hart Case
        University of Cincinnati
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             and correspondence
        Court action (O.S.U.)

Reel 51  Ohio (contd.)
        O.S.U., 1937
        E.C. Johnson work
Box 79  Ohio (contd.)
Correspondence
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Dr. Herbert
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   University of Oklahoma
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Box 80  Oklahoma (contd.)
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Reel 52  Oregon
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Box 81  Oregon (contd.)
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   Bucknell University
   Correspondence with William Harvey about Harrisburg meeting, January 31, 1928
   Pennsylvania State College
   Carnegie Institute of Technology
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   Name lists

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      Recruiting, 1929-1931
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Box 82  Pennsylvania (contd.)
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Box 84  Rhode Island  South Carolina  South Dakota  Tennessee  Texas  Utah  Vermont  Virginia

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Box 85  Washington (contd.)  Petition drive  West Virginia  Wisconsin  Wyoming

TUCKER P. SMITH PAPERS

Box 86  Smith, Tucker P.  Articles, correspondence  Speeches and articles by Tucker P. Smith

Reel 56  Speech outlines  Research on military training: other articles, reports, statistics, quotations, etc.

Box 87  Smith, Tucker P.  Research military training (5 folders)

Reel 57  Research (contd.): study outline material  C.M.E. sample packet

Box 88  Outlines, drafts  Current writings  “Breaking the War Habit” work  Arms industry legislation  Non-cooperation [economic, i.e., boycott]  R.O.T.C.—military training  Pamphlet drafts  Leaders and speakers: name and address lists  More pamphlet drafts

Box 89  R.O.T.C. debates

Reel 58  Quotes from addresses and pamphlets  World Economic Conference  Arms embargo
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Correspondence about Dr. Goddard
R.O.T.C. debate
Conferences: literature orders, correspondence, articles

Box 90   Tucker P. Smith speeches

Reel 59   Tucker P. Smith speeches (*contd.*)

NYE-KVALE CONGRESSIONAL CAMPAIGN

Report on Nye-Kvale issue
General
Military aspects
Herling statistical studies

Box 91   Nye-Kvale Drive, 1937
School survey extracts
Minnesota (on Nye-Kvale Bill)
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Requests to C.M.E. relating to Nye-Kvale Bill
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Box 92   Official correspondence (*contd.*)
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Reel 60   Data on Nye-Kvale Bill (*contd.*)
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Box 93   Nye-Kvale Bill promotion
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Box 94   Editorials submitted
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Sheppard and Copeland correspondence
R.O.T.C. extension, 1934

Reel 61   R.O.T.C. expansion plans
Expansion program, 1935-1936

Box 95   Expansion program, 1937-1938
C.M.E. correspondence with high schools on applications for
R.O.T.C. units
STATUS OF R.O.T.C. AT HIGH SCHOOLS

Arkansas: Little Rock
California: Redwood City, Ventura, and Monterey

Box 96  Florida: Jacksonville, Miami, Orlando, and St. Petersburg
Illinois: Carbondale, Decatur, Downers Grove, East St. Louis, Peoria, Quincy, and Winnetka
Indiana: East Chicago

Reel 62  Kansas: Kansas City and Topeka
Kentucky: Murray
Louisiana: New Orleans
Maine: Waterville
Massachusetts: Medford, Woburn, Belmont, Salem, Fall River, Chelsea, Revere, Newburyport, Melrose, Stoneham, and Beverly

Box 97  Massachusetts (contd.): Haverhill, Lynn, Lowell, and Springfield
Michigan: Flint
Minnesota: St. Louis Park
Missouri: Springfield
Montana: Great Falls
Nebraska: Omaha
New Jersey: Elizabeth and Rutherford, etc.
North Carolina: Charlotte, Raleigh, and Wilmington
Pennsylvania: Easton and Harrisburg
South Carolina: Columbia

Box 98  Virginia: Norfolk
Wisconsin: Green Bay, State Teacher’s College, and Kenosha

OPPOSING R.O.T.C. EXPANSION

Reel 63  Ohio University expansion
Wayne University
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Temple University
Tulsa University

Box 99  Rose Polytechnic Institute
University of Texas
Brooklyn College
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E. C. Johnson replies to Senator Dern
Publicity: Name and address lists
Petition against military training, 1930
Tactics in anti-drill fight
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PUBLICITY

Box 100  Student opposition to military training
         Student live contacts, Summer 1932
         Address lists:
             General
             Religious and farm press
             More general
             Contributors, 1929
         Original quotations
         R.O.T.C. publicity
             inquiries for printing permission

Reel 64  Requests for “Renounce”

Box 101  “So This Is War?” distribution
         Professor Coe’s article
         Original Coe pamphlet
         Coe correspondence

Box 102  Peace House program
         O. G. Villard luncheon
         Boston meeting, 1940
         C.M.E. luncheon meetings, 1927-1930

JOHN NEVIN SAYRE AND ROSWELL P. BARNES PAPERS

Box 103  John Nevin Sayre, 1928-1940
         Correspondence, papers

Reel 65  Official documents (old), 1925-1926
         C.M.E. State Committees
         C.M.E. financial statements, 1926
         Articles
         Miscellaneous
         C.M.E. pamphlets
         Pennsylvania State Committee: addresses
         Magazine articles on military training
         C.M.E. plans and objectives
         C.M.E. minutes, Executive Board (in reverse order), 1929-1926
         C.M.E. National Committee: names, lists, correspondence
         C.M.E. pamphlets
         C.M.E. publicity ideas

         “Rebuttal: Why Is There Agitation Against Military Training in
          American Schools?” (John Nevin Sayre): drafts
         C.M.E. names and correspondence

Box 104  C.M.E. statistics, 1931
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Articles and pamphlets
C.M.E. address lists and calling cards of sympathetic persons, 1928-1929
General (by state):
  Alabama
  Colorado
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“Altars of Freedom” (pamphlet): source material
American Legion’s use of post office for libelous propaganda
Contestation of required military training
Educators’ letter
C.M.E. financial appeal: lists of previous contributors 1929
C.M.E. financial records, 1928-1926 (in reverse order)
Correspondence and article
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Incidents of propaganda and interference with free speech
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Writings illustrating military training
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Box 105
Disarmament articles and posters
Congressional speeches and bills
C.M.E. report on work done, 1930-1931
C.M.E. correspondence, 1930
C.M.E. Executive Committee minutes, 1931
C.M.E. publicity
C.M.E. Executive Committee minutes (in reverse order), 1931-1929
C.M.E. finances, 1930-1929
Compulsory vs. optional drill articles
Welsh Bill
  Information
  Draft
  Correspondence
C.M.E. Literature
John Nevin Sayre articles

Expert opinion on military training
  Conference report
Outlines for C.M.E. publications
Statistics, 1926-1927
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  Notes and articles
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  Press clippings and quotations

Box 106
Copies of C.M.E. correspondence
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Lane pamphlet material:
- Signers and rejecters
- Draft, articles, comments, and corrections
- Tentative signers
- Correspondence, re: rejection
- Original notes and letters
- Signers list
- Drafts
- Distribution
- Press payments and pamphlet expenses
- Bills paid
- Correspondence, Winthrop D. Lane

Box 107
C.M.E. news release on Lane pamphlet
Various articles and pamphlets
Roswell P. Barnes pamphlet
“Military Taking Root in Education,” manuscript and drafts