"Enemy Shipping Losses in the Central Mediterranean—Over 1,250,000 tons—Up to 15th July 1942." From Picture Charts of Britain at War, MS2110, Series 2, Box 49.
A Guide to the Carnegie Peace Pamphlet and Microfilm Collection in the Special Collections Research Center

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The Carnegie Endowment for International Peace was founded in 1910 by Andrew Carnegie (1835-1919), who transferred to 28 selected trustees the sum of $10 million in bonds, the revenue of which was to be used to hasten the abolition of “international war.” Two of the trustees, Elihu Root (1845-1937) and Nicholas Murray Butler (1862-1947) were very important figures in the formation of the Endowment. Root served his country as Secretary of War, Secretary of State, and United States Senator. He is best remembered for his efforts to ensure international peace. He received the Nobel Peace prize in 1912 and was President of the Board of Trustees of the Carnegie Endowment from 1910-1925. Nicholas Murray Butler served as President of Columbia University from 1902-1945 and shared the Nobel Peace Prize with Jane Addams in 1931. He succeeded Root as President of the Endowment, a post he held until 1945. The efforts of these men established the direction of the Endowment, which works for peace through educational enterprises that promote international understanding and the codification of international law.

The Carnegie Endowment was headquartered in Washington, D.C., until it moved to New York City in 1950 where it remained until its return to Washington in 1983. Prior to its 1950 move, the Endowment sought an institution to purchase its library, to ensure that the materials would continue to be available to researchers. The library collection was sold to The George Washington University for $75,000 in the year of the Endowment’s move. This constituted a major acquisition for the University considering the fact that in fiscal year 1949/50 the University provided a total of only $15,000 for the purchase of library books. The 60,000 volume collection of books, pamphlets, and documents was at that time one of the finest assembled for the study of international relations and world peace, according to an official from the Library of Congress.

SCOPE AND CONTENT OF THE COLLECTION

The Carnegie Pamphlet Collection, totaling over 7,200 items and spanning the years 1817-1950, is divided into three sections: unbound foreign language pamphlets, unbound English-language pamphlets, and bound pamphlets. The unbound foreign-language pamphlets, totaling 700 items, are arranged alphabetically by author or issuing agency. The unbound English language pamphlets are arranged under the broad subject headings listed below, then chronologically and alphabetically by author or issuing agency. Subject headings for the unbound English language pamphlets are:

A. General Peace Pamphlets
B. World War I and League of Nations Pamphlets
There are approximately 3,650 unbound English-language pamphlets, ranging in date from 1817 to 1950. Most of these fall under the “General Peace” pamphlets heading (about 19% of the total collection), and are broken down by decades from 1900-1950. The other main headings are “World War II” and “National/Regional,” each accounting for about 13% of the total collection. “International Relations/Foreign Policy” pamphlets make up some 4% of the total collection. The remainder includes materials on political and social science, economics, foreign trade, labor, and various subjects.

The one hundred bound volumes, containing approximately 2,900 pamphlets, range in date from 1843-1946, with the bulk falling in the 1900-1935 period. Most are from English and American sources; however, eleven volumes are in foreign languages (predominantly German and French). The tables of contents of each volume have been photocopied to create an index and each volume has been given a date range. The index is located in the Special Collections Research Center and is available upon request. You can use the index to search Aladin Catalog for the location of specific pamphlets. A complete list of the bound volume titles follows (the total number of pamphlets in each title appears in parentheses).
Eighty-two reels of microfilmed monographs on various peace-related subjects, 543 titles, form part of the collection. An index exists for the reels and researchers should note that all but a few of the microfilmed titles are in foreign languages (French, German, and Spanish).

OTHER CARNEGIE MATERIAL IN SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

In addition to the pamphlet and microfilm material described here, The Gelman Library has a great deal of other, individually catalogued items from the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Many of these materials can be found in Special Collections, especially material relating to the Treaty of Versailles and the League of Nations. For more information, search the Surveyor database by doing a keyword search: “Carnegie endowment” limited by the location of GW Special Collections.