

Robert H. Lord Papers Additions (1906-1957)

Processed by: Jordan Holt

Date Processed: Spring 2016

Repository: Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston
66 Brooks Drive
Braintree, Ma

Provenance:

Donated to the Archives of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston by Reverend J. Bryan Hehir in spring of 2016.

Introduction:

The Robert H. Lord Papers Addition span from 1906 to 1957, with the bulk occurring in the 1920s. The papers consist of one box and one oversize box. This majority of the collection is manuscript notes for a biography, author unknown. There are some correspondence letters, one from Joseph Grew, future undersecretary of state and diplomat. In addition, this collection features Patricia A. Goler's graduate thesis from Boston College, about Lord. Perhaps most interestingly is Lord's badge for the American Commission to Negotiate Peace, for which he was a specialist. Finally, the papers have certificates of membership of various clubs, diplomas from numerous degrees, and certificates of induction to various orders.

Biographical Information:

Robert Howard Lord (1885-1954) was a professor, diplomat, and priest. Lord was born in Plano, Illinois on 20 July 1885 to Dr. Frank Howard and Julia Marie Lord (née Custin), who were Episcopal Christians. He is most notable for his role during the Paris Peace Conference, where Woodrow Wilson personally appointed Lord as a delegate for the conference, as well as chief of the Department of Polish Affairs (1918). After experiencing a spiritual awakening in the Tuilleries Gardens in Paris, Robert Howard Lord converted to Catholicism and was baptized on 20 May 1920 at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross in Boston, Massachusetts, and later ordained at St. John's Seminary in Brighton, Massachusetts on 5 April 1929.

Works written by Lord include *The Second Partition of Poland* (1915), *Some Problems of the Peace Conference* (1920), *The Origins of the War of 1870* (1924), *Archibald Coolidge: Life and Letters* (1932), and *History of the Archdiocese of Boston* (1945).

Robert Howard Lord served as a faculty member of the history department at Harvard from 1910 to 1926, when he ultimately resigned in order to become a priest. He served as a member of the Boston Public Library's Board of Trustees from 18 May 1936 to 29 October 1952. Robert Howard Lord died 22 May 1954 in Boston, Massachusetts.

Biographical Sketch:

20 July 1885	Born, Plano, Illinois
1906	Received Bachelor's degree at Harvard
1908	Received Master's degree
1910	Received PhD at Universities of Vienna, Berlin, and Moscow; Became history instructor at Harvard
1915	Promoted to assistant professor in history at Harvard; <i>Wrote The Second Partition of Poland</i>
1918	Appointed by President Woodrow Wilson as advisor of American Peace Commission, chief of Department of Polish Affairs, and delegate at Paris Peace Conference
9 September 1919	Resigned from diplomatic work
1920	<i>Wrote Some Problems of the Peace Conference</i> with C. H. Haskins
29 May 1920	Received Catholic baptism at Cathedral of the Holy Cross, Boston, Massachusetts
1922	Promoted to associate professor at Harvard; Became president of American Catholic Historical Association
1924	Promoted to professor and chairperson of Harvard history department; <i>Wrote The Origin of the War of 1870</i>
1926	Resigned from Harvard to become a priest
5 April 1929	Ordained at St. John's Seminary, Brighton, Massachusetts
[1929-1930]	Parish assistant at St. Cecilia's, Boston, Massachusetts
24 September 1930	Appointed professor of history at St. John's Seminary
1932	<i>Wrote Archibald Coolidge: Life and Letters</i>
13 September 1933	Named vice rector at St. John's Seminary
18 May 1936	Became a trustee of the Boston Public Library
22 November 1944	Accepted appointment at St. Paul's, Wellesley, Massachusetts
1945	<i>Wrote History of the Archdiocese of Boston</i> with J. E. Sexton and E. T. Harrington
1950	Named domestic prelate
29 October 1952	Resigned from Boston Public Library's Board of Trustees
22 May 1954	Died, Boston, Massachusetts

Related Materials:

This collection is an addition to the Robert H. Lord Papers (#?) processed November of 2015.

Scope and Content

The Robert H. Lord Papers Addition span from 1906 to 1957, with the bulk occurring in the 1920s. The papers re arranged into two boxes. **SERIES I: ROBERT HOWARD LORD [RHL] PAPERS**, contains his **writings and correspondence**. **SERIES II: MISCELLANEOUS**, includes his temporary pass for the American Commission to Negotiate Peace, as well as newspaper articles and a photograph. Lastly, **SERIES III: CERTIFICATES/DIPLOMAS**.

Contents List:

Box 1

Series I.A: Robert Howard Lord [RHL] Papers; Writings

1. Unidentified (auto) biography Manuscripts
2. Unidentified (auto) biography Manuscripts
3. Journal from 1921-1922
 - a. RHL writings about his decision to become a Priest.

Small (3 page) clippings of typed writing

“Introduction by Professor R. H. Lord” (2 copies)

Series I.B: Robert Howard Lord [RHL] Papers; Correspondence

4. FROM: Grew, Joseph C

Joseph Grew was, at the time of this letter, working for the State department, and later became the Undersecretary of State, and the ambassador to Denmark, Switzerland, Turkey, and Japan.

FROM: Harman van Allen, Rev. William (with envelope)

FROM: Lord, F.H (Frank Howard Lord, Father) (with envelope & small family tree)

Notecard with basic information about this letter

Notecard with information about a letter not in this collection

Series II: Miscellaneous

5. American Commission to Negotiate Peace Temporary Pass

“Scripture, Tradition, Magisterium” by Pierre Conway

Newspaper Articles (2)

Photograph

“Robert Howard Lord and the Settlement of the Polish Boundaries after World War II” by Patricia A. Goler

Box 2

Series III: Certificates/Diplomas

Certificate of membership to the Delta Upsilon Fraternity at Harvard [1906]

PhD from Universitäts Quästur (Vienna University of Technology at Quästur) [1908]

PhD from Fredrick William University (Humboldt University of Berlin) [1909]

Certificate of induction to the Order of the White Rose, Commander Class Cross [1919] (2)

Certificate of induction to the Order of the Rebirth of Poland, Commander Class Cross [1923]