

Collection #
M 0100,
BV 1150–1169,
BV 2546–2553,
BV 3309–3325

CHARLES WARREN FAIRBANKS PAPERS, 1876–1928

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF
COLLECTION:

Manuscript Materials: 14 manuscript boxes and 45 bound volumes.

Visual Materials: 1 document case, 3 oversize boxes (OVA,

OVB, OVC), 2 PAB album storage boxes containing 3 albums, 10 PAC album storage boxes, 2 oversize folders in flat file storage, and 1 PAB album storage box containing an empty album (PAB Box 3).

COLLECTION DATES: 1876–1928

PROVENANCE: Main body of material obtained from estate of Adelaide Fairbanks Causey by purchase from Hoosier Bookshop, 3820 East 61st Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46220, September 1962; other material from several sources, 1945–88

RESTRICTIONS:

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: Charles Fairbanks letter (SC 2640); William E. English Last Will and Testament (SC 0550); William E. English letter (SC 1654); Robert Fairbanks Papers (M 0101); Harlow Lindley Collection (M 0186)

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1945.0505, 1960.0102, 1962.0801, 1986.0777, 2001.0148

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Charles Warren Fairbanks (1852–1918), the son of Loriston M. and Mary A. (Smith) Fairbanks, was born in a log cabin near Unionville Center, Ohio. He graduated from Ohio Wesleyan University in 1872, and three years later received a master's degree from the same institution. Through the influence of his uncle William Henry Smith he obtained a position with the Associated Press, serving in its Pittsburgh and Cleveland offices from 1872 to 1874. At the same time he managed to study law and to be admitted to the bar in 1874. In that year, also, he married Cornelia “Nellie” Cole (1848–1913), a college classmate, and moved to Indianapolis. They had five children: Adelaide (1875 or 1876–1961), Warren Charles (1878–1938), Frederick C. (1881–1940), Richard M. (1883–1944) and Robert C. (ca. 1887–1951, see also: M 0101, Robert C. Fairbanks Papers).

For the next twenty years, Fairbanks specialized in railroad law, practicing in Ohio, Illinois, and Indiana. He was paid well for his work, and amassed a considerable fortune, which permitted him to give up practice when he decided to enter politics.

Fairbanks' first venture into politics was as a leader of Walter Q. Gresham's campaign for the Republican presidential nomination in 1888. When this effort failed, Fairbanks supported the successful nominee, Benjamin Harrison. In 1893, Fairbanks was the Republican candidate for U.S. Senator, but was defeated. He was an early advocate of women's suffrage. He became a good friend of William McKinley, and at his suggestion was keynote speaker at the Republican convention in 1896. From that time on, Fairbanks had considerable influence in the Indiana Republican

Party.

In 1897, Fairbanks was elected to the U.S. Senate. He served on several committees, and, as a close friend of President McKinley, he often served as the president's spokesperson in the Senate. Fairbanks was also a member of a joint commission that negotiated outstanding disputes with Great Britain.

He was elected to a second term in 1903, but resigned the next year when he began a four-year term as vice president under Theodore Roosevelt. Fairbanks was mentioned as a possible presidential candidate in 1908, but lost out to William Howard Taft. Upon leaving public office, Fairbanks took a world tour in 1909 and 1910. He was an influential Methodist layman, and served as board chairman of Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis. He took an active interest in conservation and forestry, and was president of the Indiana State Forestry Association.

Sources :

Materials in collection

Who Was Who in America, Vol. I

Dictionary of American Biography

Indiana Biographical Series, Vol. 1 pp. 132-135; Vol. 7 pp.39-42

Dunn, *Indiana and Indianans*, Vol. 3, pp. 1221-1225

U.S. Census, 1850 and 1860 < <http://www.ancestrylibrary.com/>>. Accessed 1 March 2010.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection consists principally of Fairbanks' business and political papers from the period 1876–1904. Included are his letter books from 1876–1904, containing copies of letters relating to state and national politics, the operation of his U. S. Senate office, and his legal cases involving Midwestern railroad companies. Also contained is correspondence, primarily from 1894–1904 regarding the legal affairs of railroad companies, the 1896 political campaign, patronage appointments, the U. S. and British Commission on Canada which considered the Alaska boundary question, the 1904 presidential election, and the Indiana Forestry Association, 1910–17.

Also contained in the collection are letters to Fairbanks from Indiana constituents giving opinions on state and national issues, 1897–1904. Additional items include scrapbooks of newspaper clippings and memorabilia relating to Fairbanks' political campaigns, his official trips to Alaska and Quebec, and the work of his wife, and Cornelia “Nellie” Cole Fairbanks as president-general of the Daughters of the American Revolution, 1901–05. The collection also includes Fairbanks' letters to Rev. J. Wesley Hall, 1907–17, and a diary kept by Fairbanks' daughter, Adelaide, in Vevay, Switzerland County, 1924–28.

Photographs in the collection include a document case and three oversize boxes (OVA, OVB, and OVC) that contain primarily portraits of Charles and Nellie Fairbanks, their relatives, and other associates, but also include the Fairbanks home, views of Alaska and Canada, and Charles's funeral procession. Two oversized folders in flat file storage contain portraits of DAR women and members of the U.S. Senate.

Three bound photo albums (stored in 2 PAB boxes) contain travel photos from the Fairbankses' 1899 trip to Washington logging camps and coal fields, a trip to Alaska and Canada in 1898 or 1899, and their travels in Asia in 1909.

Ten PAC boxes contain photographs from dismantled albums of the Fairbankses' 1909-1910 trip around the world. These photographs were found out of chronological and geographical order and not identified. Many locations and approximate dates have now been identified and an attempt to put the photographs in better order has been made. However, some of the still unidentified photographs may be in the wrong boxes, grouped with photographs of other locations.

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Bohemia—International League of Press Clubs,
1908 (bound volume in flat box)

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Series 6: Photographs

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Portraits of Charles and Nellie Fairbanks: two of Charles (n.d., but ca. 1890s); three of Nellie (one from 1905; two n.d.).

Charles Fairbanks with politicians and others: portrait alongside one of Theodore Roosevelt; three 1904 campaign whistle-stop tour photos (possibly in Muncie); one of Fairbanks posed with seven unidentified men (n.d.); Fairbanks posed with James Whitcomb Riley, William Howard Taft, Edith Ann Fairbanks, Meredith Nicholson, Samuel M. Ralston, Thomas R. Marshall, and Richard Fairbanks for a tree planting at Fairbanks's home, 1916 (halftone copy).

Fairbanks mansion on North Meridian Street, Indianapolis (n.d.).

Funeral of Charles Fairbanks, 1918: casket being carried through a path lined with soldiers and other mourners.

Cabinet card portraits of relatives: Loriston M. Fairbanks (5 months old, 1888); Nellie Fairbanks (1883, daughter of L.M. and M.A. Fairbanks, died December 1884); Lizzie Fairbanks (1891, daughter of George and Susie Fairbanks); Lucy Fairbanks (cousin of Charles Fairbanks; Ware, Mass.); Lucy Fairbanks (daughter of Lorenzo Fairbanks, cousin of Charles Fairbanks; Danville, Ill.); Luther Fairbanks (son of Lorenzo Fairbanks); Mrs. Bacon (cousin of Mrs. M.A. Fairbanks); Miss I.(?) L. Bacon (Attleboro, Mass.); W[illiam] D. Fairbanks (brother of Charles Fairbanks) and wife Flo on horseback; Melvin L. Milligan; Jennie Fairbanks Milligan; Nellie Fairbanks (daughter of Newton and Lucy Fairbanks) with her little cousin (ca. 1890); Mary McA. Cole (1891, wife of Nellie's brother, James B. Cole); Edward L. Sellers (4 months old, 1885, son of John L. and Dollie Cole [sister of Nellie Fairbanks] Sellers); Nellie C. Sellers (daughter of John L. and Dollie Cole Sellers).

Cabinet card portraits from Ohio (friends and possibly relatives): "my classmate Alice [unreadable] and her baby"; "Clara A. Nelson / My friend from college days"; Doctor I.N. Hamilton; Mrs. I.N.

CONTAINER

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Manuscript Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 2

Manuscript Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 3

Manuscript Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 4

Manuscript Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 5

Manuscript Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 6

Hamilton; “an early friend of C.W. Fairbanks / George O. Hamilton”; “Mrs. Aletheia Williams Pattison / A very dear friend / Died leaving four little children – 1891”; Ernestine and Aletheia Pattison; one unidentified baby from Cincinnati; four unidentified from Columbus; two unidentified from Delaware, Ohio; five unidentified from Marysville.

Cabinet card portraits from California, Massachusetts, New York, Florida, Illinois, Indiana (Indianapolis and Rushville), California, Santiago [Chile], and unknown. J.M. Prendergast; “Little Frances Anderson / daughter of Herbert L. & Lizzie Baker Anderson / Ocala, Fla.”; Mrs. Lizzie Baker Anderson; the rest are unidentified.

Personal photographs: Adelaide and Evelyn; Edith Anne Fairbanks as a baby; unidentified Vassar student, 1866; young adults at a dance; unidentified portraits; a house; postcard from Italy addressed to “Aunt Adelaide” Causey in Carmel, Indiana, in the 1950s, from Edith and others.

Alaska / Canada: five photographs of scenes of the Dalton Trail, Porcupine Creek, and the Tlehini River. One shows four miners with pickaxes, shovels, and a gold pan grouped around a sluice box on claim No. 3 above Discovery on Porcupine Creek near the Dalton Trail. (Photos by H.C. Barley [June 1899]).

“Fairbanks and Party and Officers of the Despatch [sic] Boat McCullough at the Summit of White Pass – June 28 [18]99.” Photo by H.C. Barley shows a group including Charles and Nellie Fairbanks and their son Robert (in front of his mother).

Portrait of Nellie Fairbanks, seated, wearing a big feathered hat [ca. 1890s].

William McKinley and Charles Fairbanks in automobile (ca. 1900).

Portrait of Charles W. Fairbanks, signed “To my dear Ethel ‘with a few kind words’ and very many, many kind thoughts / Charles W. Fairbanks / May 25, 1905” (photo by W.H. Potter).

Group Portrait. Written on back: “Taken in the front yard of the old [?] place on the farm near Unionville Ctr Union Co., Ohio / July 3, 1905 / Charles W. Fairbanks / Nellie / Freddie / C.C. Robinson / Mrs. John L. Sellers / Jessie Cole.”

Manuscript Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 7

Manuscript Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 8

Manuscript Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 9

OVA Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 1

OVA Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 2

OVA Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 3

OVA Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 4

OVA Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 5

Residence of J.F. Manning in Rutland, Vermont (probably August 1905, when Fairbanks was in Vermont to dedicate a memorial to Ethan Allen).	OVA Photographs: Box 1, Folder 6
Nellie Fairbanks, seated, with two unidentified women standing (photo by F.E. Chickering, 1905).	OVA Photographs: Box 1, Folder 7
Theodore Roosevelt conversing with Nellie Fairbanks, with others standing in the background on the lawn at the Fairbanks home (30 May 1907).	OVA Photographs: Box 1, Folder 8
Charles Fairbanks, clean-shaven (photo taken by Bourne & Shepherd in Calcutta, India, around 20 November 1909).	OVA Photographs: Box 1, Folder 9
Charles and Nellie Fairbanks and others at a long dinner table, Japan (1909).	OVA Photographs: Box 1, Folder 10
Annual banquet of the Indiana members of the Associated Press, Claypool Hotel, Indianapolis (18 April 1916). Charles Fairbanks is seated in front of a light sconce on the wall to the right.	OVA Photographs: Box 1, Folder 11
Charles Evans Hughes and Charles W. Fairbanks seated in Hughes's headquarters at the Hotel Astor, New York City (23 June 1916).	OVA Photographs: Box 1, Folder 12
Two men [sons Robert and Warren?] sitting at a table with books by a fireplace. [Unidentified, ca. 1920s?]	OVA Photographs: Box 1, Folder 13
Unidentified African-American man in top hat driving a carriage drawn by two horses on a street (location unknown, n.d.).	OVA Photographs: Box 1, Folder 14
Unidentified Portrait of a man in a suit, n.d. (photo by Blackstone of N.Y.).	OVA Photographs: Box 1, Folder 15
Interior: a carpeted room with bookcases, fireplace, chandelier, ornate ceiling, tables, and chairs.	OVA Photographs: Box 1, Folder 16
Charles Fairbanks, Elihu Root, and committee notifying Fairbanks of his nomination for Vice President, Indianapolis (3 August 1904).	OVB Photographs: Box 1, Folder 1
Nellie Fairbanks, full-length portrait, seated in floral dress with lace (photo by G.V. Buck, 1905).	OVB Photographs: Box 1, Folder 2
Nellie Fairbanks, full-length portrait, standing in floral dress (1906).	OVB Photographs: Box 1, Folder 3
[Nellie Fairbanks?] wearing hat with large feather, necklace, and off-the-shoulder dress (photo by the Klauber Studio, Louisville, KY, n.d. [ca. 1880s?]).	OVB Photographs: Box 1, Folder 4

Nellie Fairbanks, full-length portrait, standing in long gown and hat, holding parasol (photo by G.V. Buck, Washington, DC, [ca. late 1890s?]). This photo appears to be retouched to make her look thinner.

OVB Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 5

Charles Fairbanks (photo by Harris & Ewing, Washington, DC, n.d.), seated $\frac{3}{4}$ portrait, facing to his right.

OVB Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 6

Charles Fairbanks standing in front of a house (photo by S.O. Jenkins, Farmer City, Ill., n.d.).

OVB Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 7

Charles Fairbanks and William Howard Taft walking through foliage; Taft is holding a shovel. Planting a tree at the Fairbanks home in Indianapolis, ca. 1916.

OVB Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 8

Portrait of a woman in a formal gown standing on stairs, signed, "Most sincerely / Cornelia W. Gage / Christmas 1900" (photo by C.M. Gilbert).

OVB Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 9

Group portrait of women identified as follows: Mrs. John W. Foster, Miss Sallie Faulkner, Mrs. Charles W. Fairbanks, Mrs. Charles J. Faulkner, Lady Laurier, Mrs. Nelson Dingley, Lady Davies, Miss Dingley, Miss Cartwright, and Miss Faulkner (photo by Gilbert Photo Co., Washington, DC, 1898).

OVC Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 1

Group portrait of 12 men; nine are identified by their signatures: J. Jefferson Coolidge, John A. Kalson, Charles W. Fairbanks, Chas. J. Faulkner, Wilfrid Laurier, M.J. Cartwright, Louis Davies, J.S. Hunter, and John Charlton (photo by Gilbert's Studios [ca. 1898]).

OVC Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 2

William McKinley and unidentified men standing in front of the McKinley home in Canton, Ohio [ca. 1890s].

OVC Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 3

Seated $\frac{3}{4}$ portrait of Charles Fairbanks (photo by J.E. Purdy, Boston, 1904). Mount is very fragile and is signed, "Mr. F. Ackerman / with kind regards / Charles W. Fairbanks."

OVC Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 4

Portraits of DAR women, 1898: Mrs. Thomas B. Lomb, Mrs. John R. Walker, Cornelia C. Fairbanks, and Mrs. J. Heron Crosman.

Oversized Photographs:
Flat File 28-f, Folder 1

"United States War Senate, 1898": composite portraits of senators in the Senate Chamber of the U.S. Capitol.

Oversized Photographs:
Flat File 28-f, Folder 2

Series 7: Photograph Albums, 1898–1899, ca. 1900

CONTENTS

Bound Album Travel Photographs from Asia, including the Philippines and Malaysia, 1909.

Bound Album of Alaska Photographs. A few photographs include Charles and Nellie Fairbanks, and at least one includes their son Robert. Most are photographs taken by E.A. Hegg in 1898-1899. [According to this album, the Fairbankses travelled to Alaska in June-July 1898; according to *Madame President* by Lucy Jane King, they went there in June 1899.]

Bound Album of photographs of visit to Washington logging camps and coal fields, 10 June 1899. Includes a photo of Charles and Nellie Fairbanks with their son Robert. Photographs by Charles Bedford, Wm. Clarke, and [N?] B. Shaller[?]; album was gift from Senator and Mrs. Addison G. Foster.

From World Tour Photo Album: Box 1 – Asia, including Japan in May 1909. Shows Charles and Nellie Fairbanks being carried by sedan chair, with others, at a formal dinner; pagodas, parades (including non-Asian sailors passing a Canadian Pacific Railway Co. building), waterfall. Includes Memorial Day services. Also includes Charles and Nellie Fairbanks onboard ship.

From World Tour Photo Album: Box 2 – Asia, including Japan and China, spring and summer 1909. Shows Charles and Nellie Fairbanks being carried by sedan chair, riding on donkeys, riding in a boat, and feeding deer, with others; rural and urban areas; railroads, ruins, crops, mountains, water; Nankou [railway station(?), Beijing], the Ming Tombs, and the Great Wall of China.

From World Tour Photo Album: Box 3 – Asia, including the Philippines (including Iloilo) in October 1909 and other unidentified locations that may include Malaysia, Japan, and India. The Fairbankses are seen at these sites and in cars and on boats.

From World Tour Photo Album: Box 4 – Ceylon (Sri Lanka) and India, ca. November 1909. Ceylon photos include: Anuradhapura, ruins of the Brazen Palace (Lovamahapaya), Isurumuniya Temple, Thuparama Dagoba, the Mihintale steps, statue of Samadhi Buddha, Kandy Lake, and the Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic. India photos include the Taj Mahal at Agra and other unidentified locations.

CONTAINER

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Box 2: Album 2

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From World Tour Photo Album: Box 5 – Egypt, ca. December 1909. Shows Charles and Nellie Fairbanks being conveyed in boats and horse-drawn carriages and visiting bazaars and ancient temples and tombs. Included are: the Great Sphinx of Giza and temples at Karnak and Luxor. Some unidentified photos may or may not be of Egypt.

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From World Tour Photo Album: Box 6 – Egypt and the Holy Land, ca. December 1909. Included are: Egypt (Colossi of Memnon, Temple of Luxor, Mortuary Temple of Hatshepsut); Jerusalem (Dome of the Rock, Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Ascension Chapel, Garden of Gethsemane, Al-Aqsa Mosque); Bethlehem (Church of the Nativity). Shows Charles and Nellie Fairbanks riding on donkeys, in horse-drawn carriages, on a train, and in boats, and visiting various ancient ruins, caves, and a canyon.

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From World Tour Photo Album: Box 7 – Damascus (Syria), Lebanon, and Greece, ca. January 1910. Included are: Damascus (Umayyad Mosque); Lebanon (Baalbek, Temple of Jupiter, Temple of Bacchus); Greece (Athens, Hadrian's Arch, the Acropolis, the Erechtheion, the Parthenon, Temple of Olympian Zeus). The Fairbankses are seen traveling by horse-drawn carriages, boats, and car; visiting ruins; with villagers; in fields.

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From World Tour Photo Album: Box 8 – Italy (Pompeii, Naples, Rome), early 1910. Included are: Pompeii (Temple of Fortuna Augusta); Naples (Fontana dell'Immacolatella); Mount Vesuvius; Rome (St. Peter's Basilica and Square, Castel Sant'Angelo, Piazza della Repubblica, the Pantheon, the Colosseum, the Arch of Titus, the Arch of Septimius Severus, the Arch of Constantine, the Roman Forum, Piazza del Popolo, Piazza del Campidoglio, Piazza del Quirinale, Trajan's Column, the Trevi Fountain, Villa Borghese, Basilica of St. John Lateran, Piazza Navona, Palazzo Senatorio, Mamertine Prison [the prison of the Saints and Apostles Peter and Paul], Gateway of San Sebastian, the Pyramid of Cestius and Porta San Paolo, the Appian Way).

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From World Tour Photo Album: Box 9 – Germany (Potsdam and Berlin), early 1910. Included are: Potsdam (Stadtschloss [City Palace], Sanssouci Park [the New Palace, the Orangery, Sans Souci Palace, historic windmill], Altes Rathaus [Old City Hall], Potsdam's Brandenburg Gate); the Glienicke Bridge between Berlin and Potsdam; Berlin (Brandenburg

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Gate, statues in the Tiergarten [of Richard Wagner, Victory Column], statue of Helmuth von Moltke the Elder, Berlin City Palace, Neptune Fountain, Otto von Bismarck statue and Reichstag, Berolina statue and Grand Hotel at Alexanderplatz, Berlin Cathedral).

From World Tour Photo Album: Box 10 – Paris , London, New York, Indianapolis, early 1910. Included are: Paris (Arc de Triomphe, Dome Church at Les Invalides, Notre Dame Cathedral, the Luxembourg Palace, La Place Vendôme, Place de la Concorde, the Pantheon); London (St. Paul's Cathedral, Horse Guards Parade ground, The Old Curiosity Shop, Big Ben and the Houses of Parliament, Cleopatra's Needle); New York (Grant's Tomb, Columbia University library); Indianapolis (Welcome Home Parade with Governor Thomas Marshall [25 March 1910], Monument Circle, Theodore Roosevelt and Charles Fairbanks on balcony of the English Hotel with crowd below). Also shows the Fairbankses onboard ship.

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CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog: <http://opac.indianahistory.org/>
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