

**Records of the U.S. House of Representatives  
RG.233.65.House  
65th Congress**

**Finding aid prepared by Office of Art and Archives,  
Office of the Clerk, U.S. House of Representatives**

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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## Table of Contents

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<u>Summary Information</u> .....	3
<u>Administrative Information</u> .....	4
<u>Collection Inventory</u> .....	5
<u>Records of Legislative Proceedings</u> .....	5
<u>Records of the Office of the Clerk</u> .....	44

## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	Center for Legislative Archives, National Archives and Records Administration
<b>Title</b>	House Records of the 65th Congress
<b>Date [inclusive]</b>	1917-1919
<b>Extent</b>	182.41 Cubic feet
<b>Language</b>	English

## **Administrative Information**

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### **Publication Information**

Center for Legislative Archives, National Archives and Records Administration

### **Conditions Governing Access note**

The records are governed by Rule VII(3)b of the House Rules:

(b) (1) A record shall immediately be made available if it was previously made available for public use by the House or a committee or a subcommittee. (2) An investigative record that contains personal data relating to a specific living person (the disclosure of which would be an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy), an administrative record relating to personnel, or a record relating to a hearing that was closed under clause 2(g)(2) of rule XI shall be made available if it has been in existence for 50 years. (3) A record for which a time, schedule, or condition for availability is specified by order of the House shall be made available in accordance with that order. Except as otherwise provided by order of the House, a record of a committee for which a time, schedule, or condition for availability is specified by order of the committee (entered during the Congress in which the record is made or acquired by the committee) shall be made available in accordance with the order of the committee. (4) A record (other than a record referred to in subparagraph (1), (2), or (3)) shall be made available if it has been in existence for 30 years.

## Collection Inventory

### **Records of Legislative Proceedings 1917-1919**

#### **Minute Books and Journals 1917-1919 3.0 Cubic feet (19 volumes)**

##### **Scope and Contents note**

The minute books and journals series includes a minute book, 1st session (65A-A1); legislative journal, 1st session (65A-A2); minute book, 2d session (65A-A3); legislative journal, 2d session (65A-A4); minute book, 3d session (65A-A5); and legislative journal, 3d session (65A-A6).

#### **Bills and Resolutions Originating in the House 1917-1919 20.0 Cubic feet**

##### **Scope and Contents note**

The bills and resolutions originating in the House include fifty-two volumes of original House bills (65A-B1); one volume of original House joint resolutions (65A-B2); original House concurrent resolutions (65A-B3); House simple resolutions (65A-B4); House orders (65A-B5); desk copies of House bills passed (65A-B6); desk copies of House joint resolutions passed (65A-B7); desk copies of House concurrent resolutions agreed to (65A-B8); engrossed House bills (65A-B9); engrossed House joint resolutions (65A-B10); and engrossed House concurrent resolutions (65A-B11).

##### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged numerically within each group, except 65A-B5, which is arranged chronologically.

**Bills and Resolutions Originating in the Senate and Considered in the House****Bills and Resolutions Originating in the Senate and Considered in the House 1917-1919 1.0 Cubic feet****Scope and Contents note**

The bills and resolutions originating in the Senate and considered in the House include Senate bills passed (65A-C1); Senate joint resolutions passed (65A-C2); and attested copies of unnumbered Senate simple resolutions (65A-C3).

**Arrangement note**

The records are arranged numerically within each group, except 65A-C3, which is arranged chronologically.

**Papers Accompanying Specific Bills and Resolutions 1917-1919 45.0 Cubic feet****Scope and Contents note**

The papers accompanying specific bills and resolutions document the following committees: Committee on Agriculture (65A-D1); Committee on Banking and Currency (65A-D2); Committee on Claims (65A-D3); Committee on Education (65A-D4); Committee on Expenditures in the Treasury Department (65A-D5); Committee on Indian Affairs (65A-D6); Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce (65A-D7); Committee on Invalid Pensions (65A-D8); Committee on Irrigation of Arid Lands (65A-D9); Committee on the Judiciary (65A-D10); Committee on Labor (65A-D11); Committee on the Library (65A-D12); Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries (65A-D13); Committee on Military Affairs (65A-D14); Committee on Naval Affairs (65A-D15); Committee on Pensions (65A-D16); Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads (65A-D17); Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds (65A-D18); Committee on Public Lands (65A-D19); Committee on War Claims (65A-D20); Committee on Ways and Means (65A-D21); and Special Committee To Inquire Into the Character of a Statement Contained in a Letter From the Chairman of the Committee on Public Information and Transmitted to the House of Representatives in a Report Made by the Postmaster General. (65A-D22).

**Arrangement note**

## Committee Reports

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The records are arranged numerically by bill or resolution within each committee, except 65A–D3, 65A–D8, 65A–D14, 65A–D16, and 65A–D20, in which private bills are arranged alphabetically by person or subject.

### **Committee Reports 1917-1919 6.0 Cubic feet (23 volumes)**

#### **Scope and Contents note**

Original committee reports are from the 1st session (65A–E1), 2d session (65A–E2), and 3d session (65A–E3).

#### **Arrangement note**

The records are arranged numerically within each group.

### **Committees 1917-1919**

Committee on Agriculture 1917-1919

#### **Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee on Agriculture was created on May 3, 1820, to provide a forum for the interests of the large agricultural population of the country. The committee's jurisdiction includes adulteration of seeds, insect pests, and protection of birds and animals in forest reserves; agriculture generally; agricultural and industrial chemistry; agricultural colleges and experiment stations; agricultural economics and research; agricultural education extension services; agricultural production and marketing and stabilization of prices of agricultural products, and commodities (not including distribution outside of the United States); animal industry and diseases of animals; commodity exchanges; crop insurance and soil conservation; dairy industry; entomology and plant quarantine; extension of farm credit and farm security; inspection of livestock, poultry, meat products, and seafood and seafood products; and forestry in general and forest reserves other than those created

**Committees**

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from the public domain. The committee has oversight over the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1917-1919

**Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Agriculture document the Bureau of Animal Husbandry (65A-H1.1); the coal industry (65A-H1.2); corn prices (65A-H1.3); 8-hour day (65A-H1.4); farm labor (65A-H1.5); farm production profit guarantee (65A-H1.6); fertilizer shortage and price (65A-H1.7); food conservation (65A-H1.8); food speculation, and government control of marketing and distribution (65A-H1.9); livestock problems and profits (65A-H1.10); migratory and game bird protection (65A-H1.11); nursery-plant embargo (65A-H1.12); oleomargarine (65A-H1.13); potato grading (65A-H1.14); prohibition of alcoholic beverages (65A-H1.15); rural credits (65A-H1.16); tobacco (65A-H1.17); wheat prices and wheat substitutes (65A-H1.18); and various subjects (65A-H1.19).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committee on Appropriations 1917-1919

**Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee on Appropriations was created in 1865. The Constitution of the United States specifies that "All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives, but the Senate may propose or concur with amendments as on other bills." The earliest appropriations bills were written by select committees on instruction from the Committee of the Whole House, and later ones by the standing Committee on Ways and Means. Increased demands for revenue and appropriations as a result of the Civil War combined to produce a tremendous workload for the

**Committees**

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Ways and Means Committee. Today, the committee is tasked with the appropriation of revenue for the support of the Government; rescissions of appropriations contained in appropriation Acts; transfers of unexpended balances; and bills and joint resolutions reported by other committees that provide new entitlement authority as defined in the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

**Committee Papers 1917-1919****Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Appropriations include confidential correspondence and reports from war agencies, 1918 (65A-F1.1); correspondence arranged in numerical files, nos. 1-736 (65A-F1.2), arranged numerically; deficiency bill (65A-F1.3); District of Columbia bill (65A-F1.4); legislative, executive, and judicial bill (65A-F1.5); sundry civil expenses bill (65A-F1.6); and various subjects (65A-F1.7).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

**Committee on Banking and Currency 1917-1919****Biographical/Historical note**

The Banking and Currency Committee was created in 1865 to relieve the Ways and Means Committee of part of its workload. Its jurisdiction included the chartering and oversight of national banks; the issue of national bank loans; the issue, taxation, and redemption of national bank notes; and the authorization of bond issues. It was responsible for legislation involving the deposit of public moneys, strengthening the public credit, monetary parity, and the issuance of silver certificates as currency. The investigation of the failure of state banks and the affairs of the Freedman's Savings and Trust Company were also part of its jurisdiction.

**Committee Papers 1917-1919**

**Committees**

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**Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Banking and Currency include correspondence and data on various subjects (65A–F2.1); a volume of minutes, with separately filed drafts of proceedings (65A–F2.2); and a docket volume (65A–F2.3).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1917-1919

**Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Banking and Currency document deposit guarantee in national banks (65A–H2.1); a federal interest commission (65A–H2.2); the Federal Reserve Act (65A–H2.3); rural credit (65A–H2.4); and various subjects (65A–H2.5).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committee on Claims 1917-1919

**Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee on Claims is one of the oldest standing committees in the House of Representatives. It was established on November 13, 1794, having been preceded by Select Committees on Claims. The committee was to consider all petitions and matters or things touching on claims and demands on the United States and report appropriations of money for payment of claims it had authorized. Originally the Committee on Claims had jurisdiction over Revolutionary War and land claims as well as pensions. In the years that followed, other committees were created to handle special types

## Committees

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of claims such as war claims, pensions, and private land claims. Under the 1880 revised House Rules, subjects relating to "private and domestic claims and demands other than war claims against the United States" were to be referred to the Claims Committee. At the end of the 79th Congress the committee was abolished under the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, and jurisdiction over the subjects that had formerly been referred to it was transferred either to the Judiciary Committee or the executive departments.

### Committee Papers 1917-1919

#### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Claims include a docket volume (65A-F3.1).

#### **Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

### Committee on the District of Columbia 1917-1919

#### **Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee on the District of Columbia was established on January 27, 1808. The committee's duty was to consider all petitions and memorials relating to the affairs of the District of Columbia referred to them by the House. Jurisdiction consisted of various municipal concerns of the District of Columbia including those involving streets, schools and teachers, railroads, police and fire departments, claims against the District Government, insurance, taxes, health and safety, liquor sales, incorporation of organizations and societies, and other matters that were the normal concerns of city and State governments. Since its creation the committee has shared jurisdiction on District concerns with other committees, and in particular with the Committees on Education and Labor, Interior, Banking and Currency, Judiciary, and Public Works. The committee was known as the Committee on the District of Columbia from 1801-1995. The committee was split and absorbed by

**Committees**

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subcommittees of the Committee on Appropriations and by the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

Committee Papers 1917-1919

**Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on the District of Columbia include a docket volume, 65th to 67th Congress (65A–F4.1).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Committee on Education 1917-1919

**Biographical/Historical note**

When the Committee on Education and Labor was separated into two committees in 1883, the jurisdiction of the new Committee on Education included all legislation and documents relating to the subject of education. This included proposed legislation providing aid from the Federal Government to common schools, aid to the education of deprived or handicapped persons, the establishment of colleges for the benefit of agricultural and mechanical education, and efforts to deal with illiteracy at the national level. The committee functioned until 1946 when it was reunited with the Committee on Labor under the Legislative Reorganization Act to form the new Committee on Education and Labor.

Committee Papers 1917-1919

**Scope and Contents note**

**Committees**

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The committee papers of the Committee on Education document adult illiteracy (65A–F5.1); a kindergarten division for the Bureau of Education (65A–F5.2); vocational education (65A–F5.3); and various subjects (65A–F5.4).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1917-1919

**Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Education document various subjects (65A–H3.1).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committee on Election of President, Vice President, and Representatives in Congress 1917-1919

**Biographical/Historical note**

The standing Committee on the Election of the President, Vice President, and Representatives in Congress was established in 1893 with jurisdiction over legislation concerning the election of the officials enumerated in its title, including proposed changes to the Constitution that affected the terms of office of the named officials, the succession to the offices of the President and Vice President, the direct election of Senators, and the meeting times of Congress. The committee considered national election laws and their enforcement, including such topics as the disqualification of polygamists from election to Congress, the use of electric voting machines in congressional elections, the necessary and proper expenses related to nominations and elections, and the publication of campaign expenses. It was responsible for changes in the law regarding the

## Committees

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electoral count and resolutions regulating the actual electoral vote count by the Senate and House of Representatives. Before the establishment of the standing committee election issues were dealt with by select committees appointed to handle particular situations or legislation.

Committee Papers 1917-1919

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Election of President, Vice President, and Representatives in Congress include a volume of minutes, 65th and 66th Congresses (65A–F32.1).

Committee on Elections No. 1 1917-1919

### **Biographical/Historical note**

From 1789 until the mid-19th century the number of contested election cases remained stable at an average of three per Congress. After the 34th Congress (1855-57) the number of contested seats rose sporadically to a peak of 38 during the 54th Congress (1895-97). In 1895, due to the increase in workload, the Committee on Elections was split into three separate committees: Elections #1, Elections #2, and Elections #3. After 1935 the number of contested elections returned to an average of three per Congress, and in 1947 the three Elections Committees were abolished and their jurisdiction included in that of the new House Administration Committee.

Committee Papers 1917-1919

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Elections No. 1 include the contested election cases of Jacob Gerling v. Thomas B. Dunn, New York (65A–F6.1); Thomas J. Steele v. George C.

**Committees**

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Scott, Iowa (65A–F6.2); and James Wickersham v. Charles A. Sulzer, Territory of Alaska (65A–F6.3).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

**Controlled Access Headings****Personal Name(s)**

- Dunn, Thomas Byrne, 1853-1924
- Scott, George Cromwell, 1864-1948
- Steele, Thomas Jefferson, 1853-1920
- Sulzer, Charles August, 1879-1919
- Wickersham, James, 1857-1939

Committee on Elections No. 2 1917-1919

**Biographical/Historical note**

From 1789 until the mid-19th century the number of contested election cases remained stable at an average of three per Congress. After the 34th Congress (1855-57) the number of contested seats rose sporadically to a peak of 38 during the 54th Congress (1895-97). In 1895, due to the increase in workload, the Committee on Elections was split into three separate committees: Elections #1, Elections #2, and Elections #3. After 1935 the number of contested elections returned to an average of three per Congress, and in 1947 the three Elections Committees were abolished and their jurisdiction included in that of the new House Administration Committee.

Committee Papers 1917-1919

**Committees**

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**Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Elections No. 2 include a a volume of minutes, 62d, 65th, and 67th Congresses (62A–F8.3).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Committee on Elections No. 3 1917-1919

**Biographical/Historical note**

From 1789 until the mid-19th century the number of contested election cases remained stable at an average of three per Congress. After the 34th Congress (1855-57) the number of contested seats rose sporadically to a peak of 38 during the 54th Congress (1895-97). In 1895, due to the increase in workload, the Committee on Elections was split into three separate committees: Elections #1, Elections #2, and Elections #3. After 1935 the number of contested elections returned to an average of three per Congress, and in 1947 the three Elections Committees were abolished and their jurisdiction included in that of the new House Administration Committee.

Committee Papers 1917-1919

**Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Elections No. 3 include the contested election cases of Samuel W. Beakes v. Mark R. Bacon, Michigan (65A–F8.1); and James J. Britt v. Zebilon Weaver, North Carolina (65A–F8.2).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

**Controlled Access Headings**

**Committees**

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**Personal Name(s)**

- Bacon, Mark Reeves, 1852-1941
- Beakes, Samuel Willard, 1861-1927
- Britt, James Jefferson, 1861-1939
- Weaver, Zebulon, 1872-1948

Committee on Enrolled Bills 1917-1919

**Biographical/Historical note**

The House standing Committee on Enrolled Bills was a result of the dissolution of the old Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills. The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills was established on July 27, 1789, with the responsibility for the enrollment of engrossed bills. In 1876 the joint rules of Congress were allowed to lapse, and although the committee continued to be referred to as a "joint committee," it consisted thereafter of a separate committee in each house, each supervising the enrolling of bills originated in its own house. Under the Reorganization Act of 1946, the functions of the Committee on Enrolled Bills were incorporated into those of the House Administration Committee.

Committee Papers 1917-1919

**Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Enrolled Bills include carbon copies of White House announcements of House bills and joint resolutions approved (65A-F9.1); reports on presentation of legislation for Presidential approval (65A-F9.2); White House receipts for enrolled bills (65A-F9.3); and two volumes relating to the enrollment of bills and resolutions (65A-F9.4).

**Arrangement note**

**Committees**

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The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

**Committee on Expenditures in the Post Office Department 1917-1919**

Committee Papers 1917-1919

**Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Expenditures in the Post Office Department include a list of claims acted upon by the Postmaster General, fiscal year 1916 (65A–F10.1).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

**Committee on Expenditures in the Treasury Department 1917-1919**

Committee Papers 1917-1919

**Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Expenditures in the Treasury Department document various subjects (65A–F11.1).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

**Committee on Immigration and Naturalization 1917-1919**

**Biographical/Historical note**

The standing Committee on Immigration and Naturalization was created in the House after having been a select committee for four years. Congress did little before 1860 to regulate immigration, which had traditionally been controlled by the colonies and then the states. After the Civil War, when the issues of States rights had been clarified and the need for a uniform immigration and naturalization system had become more apparent, the federal government began to build a system to regulate these areas. The jurisdiction included regulatory measures to restrict immigration, such as literacy tests, head taxes, racial and country-of-origin quotas, money-in-pocket tests, and professional and skills criteria. The committee reported legislation restricting immigration of certain classes of persons--such as Chinese, Japanese, contract laborers, anarchists, dependents, mental defectives, illiterates, paupers, and criminals--and naturalization legislation affecting classes of persons such as aliens who had served in the military during wartime, women married to U.S. citizens, and persons of particular nationalities. The complex regulatory system that was thus constructed was the source of a large number of requests for private legislation designed to provide relief for persons who begged personal exemption from the broad categories defined in the legislation.

Committee Papers 1917-1919

**Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Immigration and Naturalization include a volume of minutes (65A-F12.1).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1917-1919

**Scope and Contents note**

## Committees

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The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Immigration and Naturalization document various subjects (65A–H4.1).

### **Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

## Committee on Indian Affairs 1917-1919

### **Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee on Indian Affairs was established on December 17, 1821, with jurisdiction over subjects pertaining to Native Americans. Select committees to consider matters of Native Americans existed for several years before the creation of the standing committee. Among the matters referred to the committee were subjects relating to the care, education, and management of Native Americans and of their lands; the adjudication and payment of Indian depredation claims; bonds and stocks that had been part of Indian trust funds; adjudication of claims of Indians against the United States; the use and management of Native American funds; and the business and government of the Native American tribes. From 1885 until 1920, the committee exercised jurisdiction over appropriations relating to Native Americans. The Committee on Indian Affairs was abolished under the provisions of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946. Its jurisdiction and responsibilities were transferred to the Committee on Public Lands.

## Committee Papers 1917-1919

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Indian Affairs document Alexander P. Powell's identity as one of the Choctaws of Mississippi (65A–F13.1). There is also a volume of minutes (65A–F13.2); and a docket volume (65A–F13.3).

### **Arrangement note**

**Committees**

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The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1917-1919

**Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs document the California Indians (65A–H5.1); Mississippi Choctaws (65A–H5.2); irrigation on the Flathead Reservation, Montana (65A–H5.3); and various subjects (65A–H5.4).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce 1917-1919

**Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce came into existence in 1892 when the name of the Committee on Commerce was changed. During most of the 19th century, there had been some inconsistency in the referral of certain customs-related matters. After 1895, however, the jurisdiction over customs districts, ports of entry and delivery, the transportation of dutiable goods, and officers and employees in the customs service passed to the Committee on Ways and Means. Similarly, for many years after the establishment of the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee in December 1887, the division of jurisdiction over various matters relating to water transportation between the new committee and the Committee on Commerce (later, the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee) was inconsistently applied, but progressively more of these issues were referred to the Merchant Marine Committee. After passage of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, the House rules defined the jurisdiction of the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee as follows: Interstate and foreign commerce generally; regulation of interstate and foreign transportation, except transportation by water not subject to the jurisdiction of the Interstate Commerce Commission;

## Committees

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regulation of interstate and foreign communications; civil aeronautics; weather bureau; interstate oil compacts; petroleum and natural gas, except on the public lands; securities and exchanges; regulation of interstate transmission of power, except the installation of connections between Government water power projects; railroad labor and railroad retirement and unemployment, except revenue measures relating thereto; public health and quarantine; inland waterways; the Bureau of Standards and the standardization of weights and measures and the metric system.

### Committee Papers 1917-1919

#### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce document high-powered radio transmitting stations (65A–F14.1); reporting by the Commissioner of Lighthouses (65A–F14.2); and various subjects (65A–F14.3). There is also a volume of minutes (65A–F14.4); and two docket volumes (65A–F14.5).

#### **Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

### Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1917-1919

#### **Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce include the bridging or damming of navigable waters (65A–H6.1); civil-service retirement (65A–H6.2); the coal industry (65A–H6.3); daylight-saving time (65A–H6.4); 8-hour day (65A–H6.5); influenza epidemic (65A–H6.6); insurance companies (65A–H6.7); government regulation of the food supply, meatpacking, and the general price level (65A–H6.8); post World War I procurement of raw materials (65A–H6.9); rail operation by the government (65A–H6.10); rail ownership and control by the government (65A–H6.11); rail rates and charges (65A–H6.12); telephone and telegraph

**Committees**

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ownership and control by the government (65A–H6.13); waterborne and overseas commerce (65A–H6.14); and various subjects (65A–H6.15).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

**Committee on Invalid Pensions 1917-1919****Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee on Invalid Pensions was created on January 10, 1831, with jurisdiction over matters relating to pensions for disabled veterans. Originally, the jurisdiction of the committee included pensions from the War of 1812. The committee had become so overburdened with pensions from the Civil War, that on March 26, 1867, jurisdiction for pensions from the War of 1812 was transferred to the Committee on Revolutionary Pensions. Subsequently, jurisdiction of the Committee on Invalid Pensions included only matters relating to pensions of the Civil War, with the committee reporting general and special bills authorizing payments of pensions and bills for relief of soldiers of that war.

**Committee Papers 1917-1919****Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Invalid Pensions include three docket volumes (65A–F15.1); as well as a docket volume of public bills of the 64th and 65th Congresses (64A–F18.2); and one volume recording the disposition of case files, 64th to 66th Congresses (64A–F18.3).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

**Committees**

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## Committee on Irrigation of Arid Lands 1917-1919

**Biographical/Historical note**

The standing Committee on Irrigation of Arid Lands was created in 1893 but select committees on that subject had existed for several years prior to that date. The committee exercised jurisdiction over irrigation projects generally, including the preemption and disposition of lands on reclaimed and irrigated projects; authorization of interstate compacts and agreements regarding irrigation projects; and disposal of drainage waters from irrigation projects. In 1924, the committee's jurisdiction was formally expanded to include subjects pertaining to the reclamation of lands and the committee's name was changed to the Committee on Irrigation and Reclamation. In 1946, the committee was abolished and its duties were transferred to the Committee on Public Lands.

## Committee Papers 1917-1919

**Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Irrigation document various subjects (65A-F16.1). There is also a volume of minutes (65A-F16.2); and a docket volume (65A-F16.3).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

## Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1917-1919

**Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Irrigation of Arid Lands document various subjects (65A-H7.1).

**Committees**

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**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committee on the Judiciary 1917-1919

**Biographical/Historical note**

The standing Committee on the Judiciary was established on June 3, 1813, to take into consideration matters touching judicial proceedings. In 1880 the rule defining its jurisdiction was revised to read "judicial proceedings, civil and criminal law," and this remained the formal definition of the jurisdiction of the committee until the reorganization of Congress in 1946. The committee's jurisdiction includes judiciary and judicial proceedings, civil and criminal; administrative practice and procedure; apportionment of Representatives; bankruptcy, mutiny, espionage, and counterfeiting; civil liberties; constitutional amendments; criminal law enforcement; Federal courts and judges, and local courts in the Territories and possessions; immigration policy and nonborder enforcement; interstate compacts generally; claims against the United States; meetings of Congress; attendance of Members, Delegates, and the Resident Commissioner; and their acceptance of incompatible offices; National penitentiaries; patents, the Patent and Trademark Office, copyrights, and trademarks; Presidential succession; protection of trade and commerce against unlawful restraints and monopolies; revision and codification of the Statutes of the United States; state and territorial boundary lines; and subversive activities affecting the internal security of the United States. The committee has oversight over the U.S. Department of Justice and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Committee Papers 1917-1919

**Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on the Judiciary include correspondence on various subjects (65A–F17.1); and bills and resolutions referred to the committee (65A–F17.2), arranged numerically. There is also a volume of minutes (65A–F17.3).

**Committees**

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**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1917-1919

**Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on the Judiciary document the acknowledgement of God by constitutional amendment (65A-H8.1); antilynching legislation (65A-H8.2); bankruptcy (65A-H8.3); banning the use of the German language (65A-H8.4); censorship of news (65A-H8.5); compulsory military training (65A-H5.6); election instead of appointment of federal judges (65A-H8.7); labor resentment at convictions in California of Thomas J. Mooney and Warren K. Billings (65A-H8.8); pledges of loyalty and support to the President and the government in the crisis with Germany (65A-H8.9); polygamy (65A-18.10); prohibition (65A-H8.11); repression of pro-German activities (65A-H8.12); respect to the national flag (65A-H8.13); woman suffrage (65A-H8.14); and various subjects (65A-H8.15).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

**Controlled Access Headings****Personal Name(s)**

- Billings, Warren K., 1893-1972
- Mooney, Thomas J., 1882-1942

Committee on Labor 1917-1919

## Committees

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### **Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee on Labor was created in 1883, when its jurisdiction was removed from the old Education and Labor Committee and two separate committees were created. Despite the establishment of a committee devoted entirely to labor issues, little significant labor legislation was passed before the depression of the 1930s. The committee's jurisdiction included the wages and hours of labor; the arbitration of labor difficulties; the use of convict labor, alien labor, contract labor, and military labor in competition with "honest labor"; and the conditions of laborers employed in Government service. The committee considered methods of directing the work of Federal employees, including the use of the Taylor System of shop management and problems relating to child and woman labor; it also investigated such labor-related subjects as conditions in city slums and conditions of blacks in America and of saleswomen in the District of Columbia.

Committee Papers 1917-1919

### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Labor document the proposal for a colonization board to encourage resettlement (65A-F18.1).

### **Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Committee on the Library 1917-1919

### **Biographical/Historical note**

The standing Committee on the Library (1806-1946) was composed of the House members of the Joint Committee on the Library of Congress. Its jurisdiction included all legislation or matters touching on the Library of Congress; and statuary, pictures or works of art on the Capitol

**Committees**

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grounds. The records of the Joint Committee for recent Congresses have been in the custody of the Committee on House Administration.

**Committee Papers 1917-1919****Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on the Library document the Commission of Fine Arts (65A–F19.1); incentive awards for scientific achievement in the public interest (65A–F19.2); memorial to John Ericsson, constructor of the Monitor (65A–F19.3); proposals of Eugene E. Prussing for preservation of archival and historical materials (65A–F19.4); and various subjects (65A–F19.5). There is also a docket volume, 65th to 68th Congresses (65A–F19.6); and a volume of minutes, 62d Congress, 1st session, to 65th Congress, 3d session (62A–F24.7).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

**Controlled Access Headings****Personal Name(s)**

- Ericsson, John, 1803-1889

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1917-1919

**Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on the Library document a day of national prayer and humility (65A–

## Committees

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H9.1); a proposed national conservatory of music and art (65A–H9.2); and various subjects (65A–H9.3).

### **Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

## Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries 1917-1919

### **Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries was established on December 21, 1887, to replace the Select Committee on American Shipbuilding and Shipowning Interests. The House Rules defined its jurisdiction as those matters concerning the merchant marine. This included all matters relating to transportation by water, the Coast Guard, life-saving service, lighthouses, lightships, ocean derelicts, the Coast and Geodetic Survey, the Panama Canal, and fisheries. Legislation referred to the committee also included matters involving seamen (their assignments, wages, treatment, and health) and officers (their titles, conduct, and licensing); the naming, measuring, licensing, and registering of vessels; navigation and related laws; pleasure yachts; collisions at sea, as well as international arrangements to prevent them; coasting districts; maritime schools; and, taxes, fines, and penalties on vessels. The committee has also regulated shipping in the Philippines and Hawaii. As did most committees of the House, the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee created subcommittees to handle portions of its jurisdiction. In 1919 the committee was given jurisdiction over wireless telegraphy (radio), and in 1932 its name was changed to the Committee on Merchant Marine, Radio, and Fisheries.

### Committee Papers 1917-1919

#### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries include various subjects (65A–F20.1).

**Committees**

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**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1917-1919

**Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries document amateur radio operators (65A-H10.1); creation of a strong merchant marine (65A-H10.2); a hospital for the Bristol Bay region of Alaska (65A-H10.3); pollution of streams and waters (65A-H10.14); and various subjects (65A-H10. 5).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committee on Military Affairs 1917-1919

**Biographical/Historical note**

A succession of House select committees considered legislation on military affairs from 1811 until 1822, when the House established a standing Committee on Military Affairs. The jurisdiction of the committee included appropriation bills covering the military establishment, the public defense, and the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York. The committee reported the military appropriation bills until 1920, when that power was transferred to the Appropriations Committee. Jurisdiction of the committee also included the establishment and care of national cemeteries and battlefields; acquisition and conveyance of lands for military reservations and improvements upon such grounds; disposition of war trophies and distribution of obsolete weapons and armament; conduct of joint operations of the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps; and promotion of military aviation and Army aeronautics. The Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 abolished the

**Committees**

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Committee on Military Affairs and transferred its jurisdiction to the newly-created Armed Services Committee.

Committee Papers 1917-1919

**Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Military Affairs include various subjects (65A–F21.1).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1917-1919

**Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Military Affairs document antagonism to fighting on foreign soil (65A–H11.1); censorship of news (65A–H11.2); compulsory universal military training (65A–H11.3); engineer troops (65A–H11.4); exemption from military service on religious grounds (65A–H11.5); personal communications to relatives in Hungary (65A–H11.6); pledge of loyalty and support to the President and the government in the crisis with Germany (65A–H11.7); prohibition (65A–H11.8); and various subjects (65A–H11.9).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committee on Mines and Mining 1917-1919

**Committees**

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**Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee on Mines and Mining was created on December 19, 1865, for consideration of subjects relating to mining interests. It exercised jurisdiction over the Geological Survey, the Bureau of Mines, the establishment of mining schools and mining experimental stations, mineral land laws, the welfare of men working in mines, mining debris, relief in cases of mineral contracts connected with the prosecution of war, the mining of radium ore, and the Government's fuel yards in the District of Columbia. In 1947, the committee was abolished and its duties were transferred to the Committee on Public Lands.

Committee Papers 1917-1919

**Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Mines and Mining include various subjects (65A–F22.1). There is also a volume of minutes, 64th and 65th Congresses (64A–F25.2); and a docket volume 64th and 65th Congresses (64A–F25.3).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1917-1919

**Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Mines and Mining document the establishment of a Department of Mines (65A–H12.1); and various subjects (65A–H12.2).

**Arrangement note**

**Committees**

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The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

**Committee on Naval Affairs 1917-1919****Biographical/Historical note**

In 1822, the standing Committee on Naval Affairs was created. The jurisdiction of the committee included consideration of all matters which concerned the naval establishment, the increase or reduction of commissioned officers and enlisted men, and their pay and allowances and the increase of ships or vessels of all classes of the Navy. Other subjects under the committee's expanded jurisdiction pertained to naval and marine aeronautics; the construction of aircraft carriers for the Navy; the acquisition of sites for naval facilities; the establishment, construction, improvement, and maintenance of such facilities; the authorization of special decorations, orders, medals, and other insignia for naval personnel; the acceptance of offices and emoluments from foreign governments; claims of personnel and civilian employees of the Navy; and legislation relating to the Coast Guard, the Marine Corps, the Marine Band, the Fleet Marine Corps Reserve, the Naval Observatory, and the Coast and Geodetic Survey. The committee was abolished under the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 and its jurisdiction transferred to the Armed Services Committee.

**Committee Papers 1917-1919****Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Naval Affairs document the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (65A–F23.1); and various subjects (65A–F32.2).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1917-1919

**Committees**

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**Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs document the the brig "Niagara," Commodore Perry's flagship in the Battle of Lake Erie (65A-H13.1) sentiment from Puerto Rico for naming a battleship for that island (65A-H13.2); too irksome efficiency imposed by premium or bonus system (65A-H13.3); and various subjects (65A-H13.4).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads 1917-1919

**Biographical/Historical note**

A Select Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads was established in 1806 and made a standing committee in 1808. The jurisdiction of the committee extended to all proposed legislation relating to the carrying of the mails, both foreign and domestic. It included the determination of the location, construction, and maintenance of post offices and post roads; the acquisition, lease, or transfer of realty or facilities for postal purposes; and certain aspects of the employment and management of postal employees, such as the pay and leave of letter carriers, and the settlement of claims brought by employees or contractors. Also included was the regulation of the Postal Service, including postal rates, the franking privilege, and the printing of stamped envelopes. At various times, the Railway Mail Service, ocean mail service, pneumatic tube service, postal savings banks, postal telegraphy, the Air Mail Service, and Rural Free Delivery were included in its jurisdiction. As part of its responsibility, the committee investigated the management of postal facilities, contracts for carrying the mail, and other subjects such as the forgery of postal money orders. In 1885 the jurisdiction of the committee was expanded to include appropriation authority and prepared Post Office appropriations bills from that time until 1920 when the authority was revoked under a rule change. The committee functioned until 1946 when its jurisdiction was included in that of the new Committee on Post Office and Civil Service.

**Committees**

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**Committee Papers 1917-1919****Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads include correspondence (65A-F24.1), unarranged; and printed congressional items (65A-F24.2), arranged numerically. There are also minutes (65A-F24.3); and a docket volume (65A-F24.4).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

**Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1917-1919****Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads include a contributory plan for the pensioning of letter carriers (65A-H14.1); federal-aid roads (65A-H14.2); the franking privilege (65A-H14.3); liquor advertisements in the mails (65A-H14.4); newspaper advertising by the government (65A-H14.5); the organizing of public employees for mutual welfare (65A-H14.6); pneumatic-tube mail service (65A-H14.7); postal pay and allowances (65A-H14.8); postal rates (65A-H14.9); and various subjects (65A-H14.10).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

**Committee on Printing 1917-1919****Biographical/Historical note**

## Committees

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The Committee on Printing was established in 1846 and its jurisdiction included all proposed legislation or orders involving printing. In practice this included the general supervision of the printing, management, and policies of the Government Printing Office (GPO). Jurisdiction also occasionally included the pay of its employees; the letting of contracts; procurement of suitable paper; control of the arrangement, style, bulk, and indexing of the "Congressional Record"; and supervision of the printing of the "Congressional Directory." The committee reported bills and resolutions regarding the printing, binding, and distribution of public documents, including the annual reports of executive agencies, bureaus, and commissions; messages of the President; special scientific studies and reports; public health reports and statements; historical documentary publications such as the "Territorial Papers of the United States"; and hearings of congressional committees. The Committee on Printing acted as a standing committee of the House until 1947 when it was incorporated into the House Administration Committee.

### Committee Papers 1917-1919

#### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Printing include a volume of minutes (65A-F25.1); and a docket volume (65A-F25.2).

#### **Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

### Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds 1917-1919

#### **Biographical/Historical note**

The standing Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds was established in 1837, replacing the Select Committee on Public Buildings which was created in 1819. The committee's jurisdiction included the construction throughout the country of public buildings, documenting customs houses, post offices, and federal court houses; the erection of monuments and memorials; the purchase of property for public use; improvements to public property; and compensation for workers erecting

**Committees**

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public buildings. During the early years of the committee, much of the legislation reported had to do with constructing and improving public buildings in Washington, D.C., and commissioning artists to create art work for those buildings. Under the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds became part of the Committee on Public Works.

**Committee Papers 1917-1919****Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds document the housing for war workers (65A–F26.1); and a new Navy Department Building (65A–F26.2).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

**Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1917-1919****Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds document various subjects (65A–H15.1).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

**Committee on Rivers and Harbors 1917-1919****Biographical/Historical note**

## Committees

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The Committee on Rivers and Harbors was authorized early in the 48th Congress in December 1883. The committee was given jurisdiction over subjects relating to the improvements of rivers and harbors and had the responsibility of reporting the river and harbor bill, which previously had been handled by the Committee on Commerce. The committee's jurisdiction changed over time. When the Committee on Levees and Improvements of the Mississippi River was terminated in 1911, its responsibilities were transferred to the Committee on Rivers and Harbors. The subject of flood control was removed from the committee's authority in 1916 and assigned to the new Committee on Flood Control. After 1920 the committee could no longer report appropriation bills for rivers and harbors and its legislative authority was limited to reporting only bills that authorized improvements to rivers and harbors. These shifts in authority still left many subjects within the jurisdiction of the committee. These included improvement of watersheds and dams thereon, construction of locks on navigable streams, construction and maintenance of equipment for river improvements, erosion of banks on navigable streams, pollution of navigable waters, intrastate inland waterways, and navigation of international boundary streams. The committee was terminated early in the 80th Congress on January 3, 1947. Its successor was the Committee on Public Works.

Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1917-1919

### **Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Rivers and Harbors document various subjects (65A–H16.1).

### **Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

Committee on Rules 1917-1919

### **Biographical/Historical note**

## Committees

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The Rules Committee was established as a select committee until 1880 when it was made a standing committee. Jurisdiction included the original establishment and revision of the rules of the House, an activity that required little attention after the first Congress because the rules of the previous Congress were usually adopted with few changes at the beginning of each new Congress. Further jurisdiction consisted of all proposed action on the rules and joint rules, control over the order of business on the floor of the House through the issuance of special orders or rules, and recesses and final adjournments of Congress.

### Committee Papers 1917-1919

#### **Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Rules include two volumes of minutes (65A–F27.1); and a docket volume (65A–F27.2).

#### **Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

### Committee on the Territories 1917-1919

#### **Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee on the Territories was established in 1825 to examine the legislative, civil, and criminal proceedings of the territories, and to devise and report to the House opinions necessary to secure the rights and privileges of residents and non-residents. The committee also reported legislation concerning the structure, status, and power of the territorial governments; statehood; powers of municipalities; boundary disputes; and on matters relating to public lands and homesteading, railroads, public works, public buildings, highways, taxation, bond issues, education, Indians, prohibition, and wildlife. The jurisdiction of the committee was later absorbed by the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

**Committees**

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**Committee Papers 1917-1919****Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on the Territories document Alaska (65A–F28.1); and Hawaii (65A–F28.2). There is also a volume of minutes (65A–F28.3); and a docket volume (65A–F28.4).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

**Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1917-1919****Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on the Territories document various subjects (65A–H17.1).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group.

**Committee on Ways and Means 1917-1919****Biographical/Historical note**

The Committee on Ways and Means is the oldest standing committee in Congress. In 1795 another Select Committee on Ways and Means was formed, and was regularly reappointed in each session until it was defined as a standing committee in 1802. The jurisdiction of the committee includes customs revenue, collection districts, and ports of entry and delivery; reciprocal trade agreements; revenue measures generally; revenue measures relating to insular possessions; bonded debt of the

**Committees**

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United States, subject to the last sentence of clause 4(f); deposit of public monies; transportation of dutiable goods; tax exempt foundations and charitable trusts; and national social security (except health care and facilities programs that are supported from general revenues as opposed to payroll deductions and except work incentive programs).

**Committee Papers 1917-1919****Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Committee on Ways and Means include correspondence (65A–F29.1), arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent; distribution of the cash holdings of the Treasury as of April 1, 1918 (65A–F29.2); and printed Congressional items (65A–F29.3), arranged numerically.

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

**Petitions and Memorials, Resolutions of State Legislatures, and Related Documents Which Were Referred to Committees 1917-1919****Scope and Contents note**

The petitions and memorials, resolutions of state legislatures, and related documents which were referred to the Committee on Ways and Means document various subjects (65A–H18.1).

**Select Committee to Investigate Conditions in Illinois and Missouri Interfering With Interstate Commerce Between These States 1917-1919****Biographical/Historical note**

**Committees**

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Agencies and citizens of East St. Louis, Illinois asked the federal government to investigate the circumstances surrounding the race riots stemming from labor unrest and characterized by indiscriminate attacks on blacks during the summer of 1917. The Illinois National Guard was called in to assist the East St. Louis Police Department, but firsthand accounts indicated that certain members of the law enforcement groups participated in, rather than suppressed, the riots. In response, the House established the select committee on September 11, 1917. The committee collected information from a wide variety of sources and interviewed a broad range of witnesses before its report was presented to the House on July 6, 1918 (H. Doc 1231, 65th Cong., 2d sess., Serial 7444).

**Committee Papers 1917-1919****Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Select Committee to Investigate Conditions in Illinois and Missouri Interfering With Interstate Commerce Between These States include original transcripts of hearings, October 18—November 17, 1917, on race rioting at East St. Louis, Illinois (65A–F30.1); and report, exhibits, and photographs (65A–F30.2).

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

**Special Committee on Waterpower 1917-1919****Biographical/Historical note**

The Special Committee on Water Power was established on January 11, 1918, and assigned jurisdiction over all bills and resolutions involving development or utilization of water power within the United States. For several years previously, Congress had failed in its attempts to pass legislation authorizing the building of dams on navigable streams. In consequence, the Secretaries of War, Interior, and Agriculture, all of whom had authority over some aspect of the issue, cooperated in drafting a water power bill. In the House, the jurisdiction was split: the Committee on Interstate

**Originals of Printed House Documents**

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and Foreign Commerce had jurisdiction over bills regarding construction of bridges and dams over navigable waters within the states, the Committee on Public Lands had jurisdiction over dams on public lands, and the Agriculture Committee had jurisdiction over those on forest reserves. To prevent the Secretaries' bill from being fragmented among committees, the special committee was created, drawing its members from the three standing committees. The committee was renewed in the 66th Congress (1919-1921).

**Committee Papers 1917-1919****Scope and Contents note**

The committee papers of the Special Committee on Waterpower (65A-F31, 66A-D33, 66A-H23.2) include petitions and memorials from clubs and individuals protesting a water power bill that was passed in 1920 and supporting H.R. 14469 (66th Congress) to exclude the national parks and monuments from the operation of the act. Four bill files relating to committee activities consist of bills, reports, memorandums, letters from Federal agencies, and a resolution of the Montana Legislative Assembly. Minutes of the committee appear in two bound volumes; there is also a docket book.

**Arrangement note**

The subjects are arranged chronologically within each group, unless otherwise indicated.

**Originals of Printed House Documents 1917-1919 30.0 Cubic feet (127 volumes)****Scope and Contents note**

The originals of printed House documents are from the 1st session (65A-G1), 2d session (65A-G2), and 3d session (65A-G3).

**Arrangement note**

**Election Records**

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The records are arranged numerically within each group.

**Election Records 1917-1919 0.66 Cubic feet****Scope and Contents note**

The election records include credentials of Representatives and Delegates (65A–J1).

**Arrangement note**

The records are arranged alphabetically by state or territory.

**Other Records 1917-1919 0.66 Cubic feet****Scope and Contents note**

Other records include notices of the ratification of the 18th amendment, for the prohibition of intoxicating liquors (65A–K1); communications addressed to the Speaker which were of special interest to the House (65A–K2); and three volumes of roll calls (65A–K3).

**Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group, except 65A–K3, which is arranged alphabetically by state.

**Records of the Office of the Clerk 1917-1919****Record Books 1917-1919 5.0 Cubic feet (20 volumes)****Scope and Contents note**

**Other Records**

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Record books include a House bill book (65C–A1); House resolution book—joint, concurrent, and simple—together with Senate joint and concurrent resolutions (65C–A2); Senate bill book (65C–A3); individual ledger (65C–A4); record of referrals of bills and resolutions to committees (65C–A5); register of papers sent to the Senate (65C–A6); register of papers received from the Senate (65C–A7); record of Senate bills referred in the House (65C–A8); register of committee reports, messages from the President, and executive communications (65C–A9); Bill Clerk’s receipt book (65C–A10); petition books (65C–A11); notices for Unanimous Consent Calendar (65C–A12); and a record of calendars, April–May, 1917 (65C–A13).

**Other Records 1917-1919 0.08 Cubic feet****Scope and Contents note**

Other records include notes from the Speaker to the Clerk (65B–B1) and reports filed with the Clerk pursuant to law (65B–B2).

**Arrangement note**

The records are arranged chronologically within each group.