
**"If you could send over your documents to the
photostat department...": Paris Peace Conference
Documentation and the Advent of Microfilm**

— Peter Binkley —
Open Ideas 2021

Hoover War Library

- Established by Herbert Hoover in 1919 to collect materials on the history of World War One
- Started with delegations' propaganda circulated at the Paris Peace Conference

The Hoover War Library

*Through the Foresight and Intellectual Enthusiasm of Herbert Hoover, Stanford University
Has Become the Repository of Rare Books and Papers Comprising a Library of Recent
World History Unequalled in Completeness Either Here or Abroad*

By Robert C. Binkley

Robert C. Binkley (1897-1940)

- Ambulance driver, US Army, 1917-18
- Assistant and translator for the Hoover War Library's collecting of Peace Conference materials, Paris and London, 1919
- Reference Librarian, Hoover War Library, 1923-27
- History professor, NYU / Smith College / Western Reserve University (Cleveland), 1927-40



MY DIARY

At the Conference of Paris

With Documents

By

DAVID HUNTER MILLER

Miller Diary

- Edited 1924-1926; 40 copies printed for the author by Appeal Printing Co. in New York (without copyright notice)
- Distributed to research libraries by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in late 1928/early 1929, to everyone's surprise
- Vol.1 (dated 1924): Miller's own diary
- Vols. 2-20: Documents
- Vol. 21 (dated 1926): Indexes
- Vol. 22: portfolio of folded maps

Parker Thomas Moon (1892-1936)

- Professor of Political Science at Columbia
- Had been in Paris in 1918-19 as a member of the Inquiry and of the American delegation
- Editor of *Political Science Quarterly*; published two articles by Binkley on Peace Conference procedure in 1931

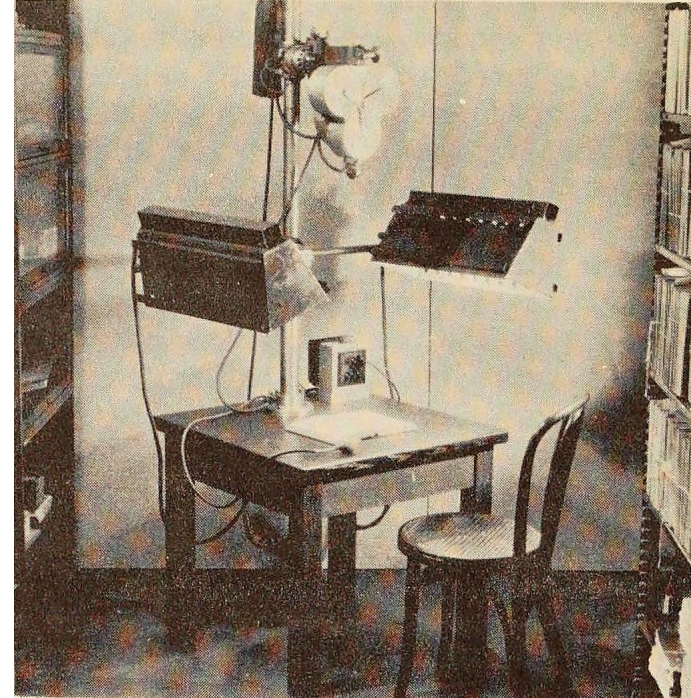
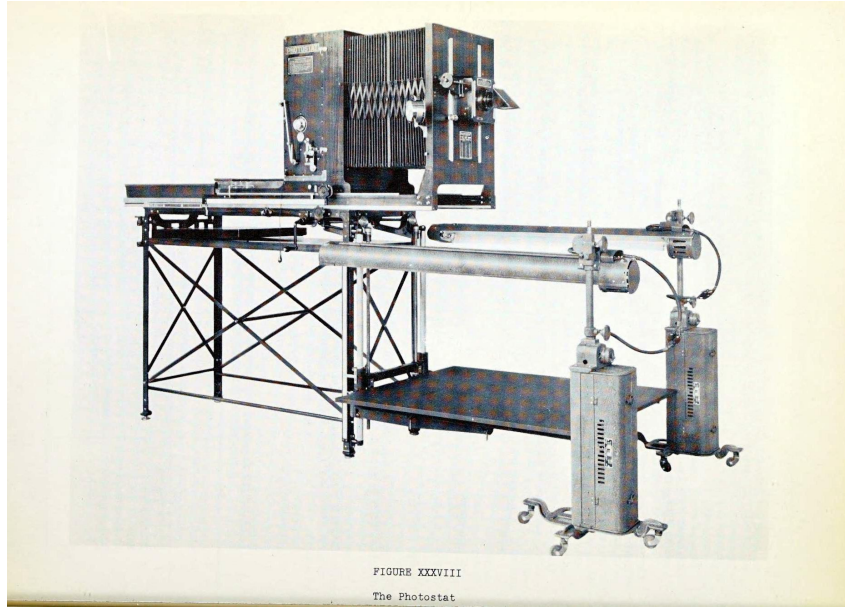
corner 117th Street and Mor-
o'clock on Monday, May 20,
he proposition over.

Faithfully yours,

Parker T. Moon

Parker Thomas Moon
Editor

Photostat and Microfilm Cameras



Joint Committee on Materials for Research

- Formed by the Social Science Research Council and the American Council of Learned Societies in 1929
- Binkley became chair in 1932
- Undertook a number of innovative projects, broadly in the field we would call scholarly communications
- Disbanded after Binkley's death in 1940

THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON MATERIALS FOR RESEARCH

—of the—
AMERICAN COUNCIL OF LEARNED SOCIETIES
AND THE SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH COUNCIL

ROBERT C. BINKLEY, *Chairman*
Western Reserve University

STUART A. RICE
Central Statistical Board

ARTHUR H. QUINN
University of Pennsylvania

NORMAN S. B. GRAS
Harvard University

Western Reserve University
Cleveland, Ohio

November 6, 1937

LAURENCE VAIL COLEMAN
American Association of Museums

H. M. LYDENBERG
New York Public Library

T. R. SCHELLENBERG, *Secretary*
National Archives

ADELINE BARRY, *Executive Secretary*
Western Reserve University

MEMORANDUM ON UNION CATALOGUES

Carol Riegelman (1909-2005)



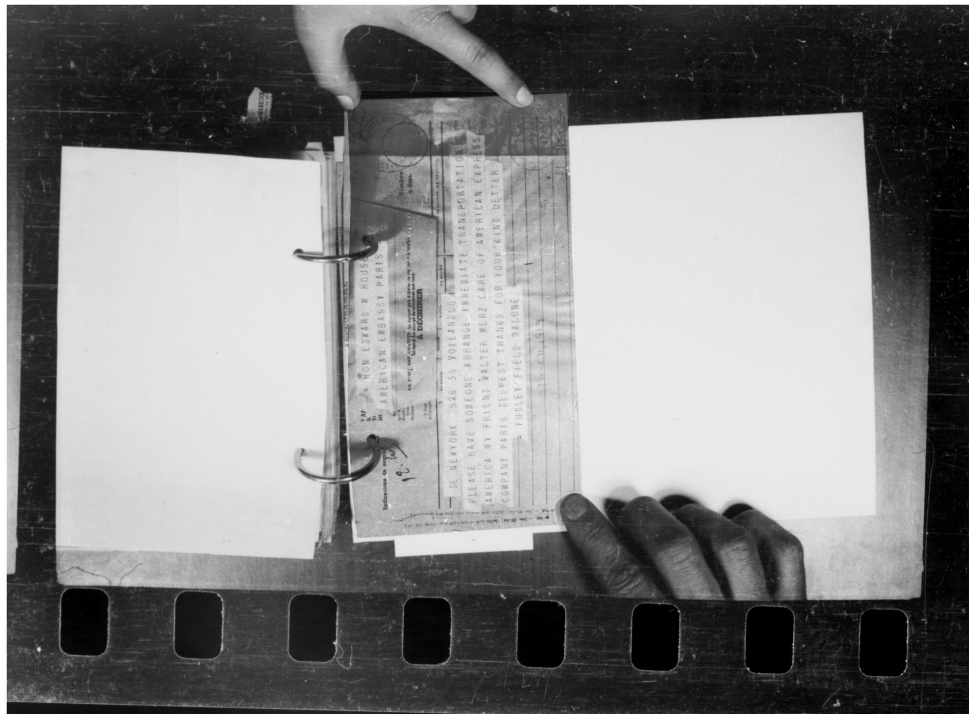
- Undergraduate thesis: *The History of the Procedure for International Labor Legislation as Evolved from the World War and the Treaty of Versailles, 1914-1929*. Smith College, 1930.
- Research assistant to James Shotwell, 1930-33.
- Edited the documents (uncredited) in *The Origins of the International Labor Organization*. The Paris Peace Conference: History and Documents. Columbia University Press, 1934.

Frances Binkley (1899-1962)

- One of “The 500” (the capped enrolment of women) at Stanford, graduated 1923
- Developed photographic expertise during microfilm experiments, 1932-33
- Studied portrait photography with Rabinovitch, New York, 1937-38
- Social Science Librarian, University of Colorado at Boulder, 1941-62

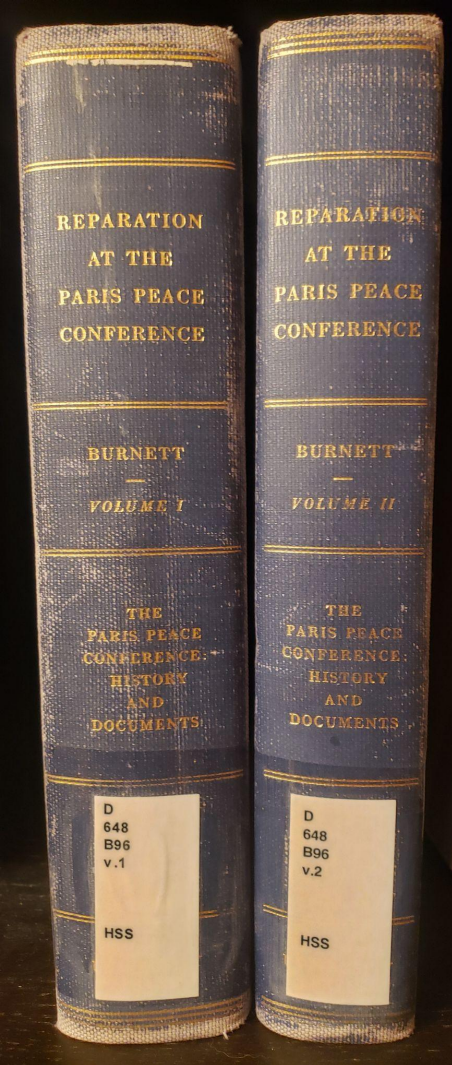
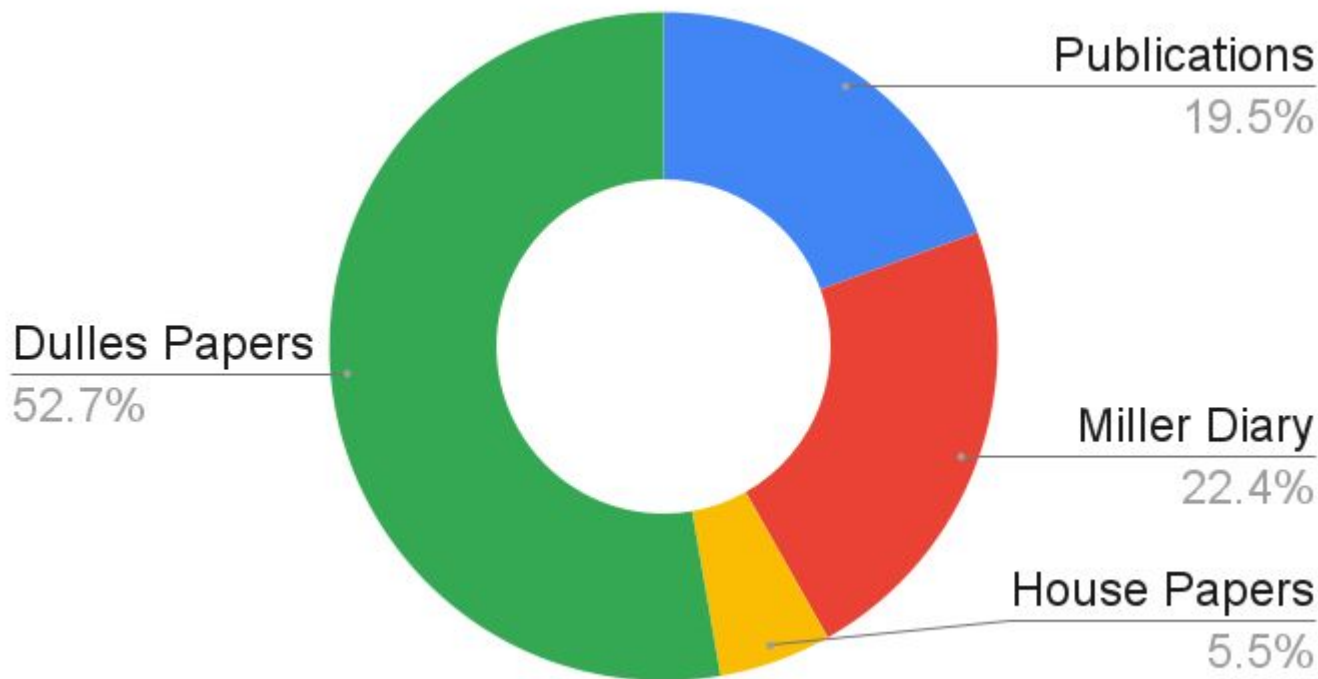


Microfilming at Yale, January 1933



- A frame of microfilm of the Papers of Col. House at Yale
- Presumably Frances Binkley's hand at top and Robert Binkley's at bottom

Sources of Burnett's Documents



The Binkleys' Microfilm of the House Papers, 1933

- One of sixteen boxes containing various microfilm projects
- Pieces of thread or string were tied into the sprocket holes as bookmarks



WPA and Microfilm as a Library Tool

- WPA worker Minnie Latina types cards for the Cleveland union catalogue from 16mm negative microfilm, Feb. 1937 (Cleveland Plain Dealer)

