

NICOLAAS STEELINK COLLECTION

4 Manuscript Boxes

Processed: 7/66

Accession No. 140

By: DE

Nicolaas Steelink was born in Amsterdam in 1890, the son of a grocer. He migrated to the United States before World War I and shortly afterwards joined the IWW as a typist. In 1920 he was convicted of Criminal Syndicalism in California and was sentenced to prison for a term of five years. He was released in 1922. Under the pseudonym of Ennaes Ellae he was a longtime contributor to the Industrial Worker.

The collection consists primarily of personal correspondence. The majority of the letters are those he wrote to his wife, Fannia, during his imprisonment in San Quentin. Other correspondents were Fanny Bixby Spencer, William T. Brown, Fred Thompson, Pat Read, Edith Cutler, and W. Westman.

Chief correspondents from 1916 to 1921:

Fannia (Mrs. Steelink)

Members of his family remaining in the Netherlands.

William Thurston Brown (a former Unitarian minister retained by Fanny Bixby Spencer to look after the interests of the IWW prisoners)

Fanny Bixby Spencer (a philanthropist, pacifist, and playwright who did a great deal for the IWW prisoners.)

Harold H. Story

Lily R. Iverson

Elsie Brown (Mrs. W. T. Brown)

Alice Chase.

Chief correspondents from 1922 to 1953:

M. P. T. Acharya (India)

Earl Anderson

Howard Baker

John Bennett

F. A. Blossom

Julius Boege

Arthur Boose

J. Bossman

W. T. Brown

Alice Chase

Pedro Coria

Helen Curry

Edith Cutler

Jim Dawson

Roma DeGuerre

E. E. Dye

John Elly

Joseph Ettor

Eva (daughter)

Harry Feinberg

Carrie Fletcher

Mrs. E. C. Freeman

A. Greenberg

Ben Greenhut

S. A. Herrington

Iva E. Hos

Joe Hunsinger

Lily R. Iverson

Thomas Judge

Carl Keller

Carl Madsen

Harry Matteson

Louis Moreau

Scott Nearing

Caroline Nelson

Lillian R. Odisho

Jacob S. Potofsky

Patrick S. Read

Conor S. dal Riada

Joseph L. Shehetoff

John W. Sherman

Eugene Snyder

W. E. Spear

Fanny Bixby Spencer

Alvin Stalcup

Cornelius Steelink

w. w. Stein

John M. Swomly

Fred Thompson  
W. Ungar  
J. W. Waddell  
Joseph Wagner  
W. Westman  
Gerald Williamson (Ireland)

DESCRIPTION

Box No. 1

September 1912 - December 1920

Folder no. 1: Correspondence

Letter from Vermont State Branch of the AFL to Ettor and Giovannitti concerning their trial. Letters to Fannia, Carrie Fletcher, Carl Keller and four letters in Dutch. Letters from Harold H. Story, Lily R. Iverson, and Fanny Bixby Spencer.

Folder no. 2: Correspondence

Letters to Fannia, letters from William Thurston Brown, Harold H. Story, Fanny Bixby Spencer, Lily Iverson, G. Hardy, and Elsie Brown.

Box No. 2

January 1921 - 1924

Folder no. 1: Correspondence

Letters to Fannia and letters from Harold H. Story and M. J. Smith.

Folder no. 2: Correspondence

Letters to Fannia and letters from Fanny Bixby Spencer, W. T. Brown, Ed Archibald and 3 in Dutch.

Folder no. 3: Correspondence

Letters to Fannia, letters from Fannia, Fanny Bixby Spencer, and several letters in Dutch. One letter from EBS mentions the poor opinion that IWW members in Leavenworth have of Haywood for deserting them.

Folder no. 4: Correspondence

Letters to Fannia, letters from Alice Chase and Brown. An official notice to Nicolaas Steel ink that his sentence has been fixed at five years.

Folder no. 5: Correspondence

Letters to Fannia (one, dated Jan. 10, 1922, refers to Henry Ford as an "intellectual giant"), letter from Alice Chase, Ben Greenhut, Carrie Fletcher, Lily Iverson, and Fanny Bixby Spencer.

Description

Box No. 2 Cond't.

Folder no. 6: Correspondence, April 1922 - December 1922

Letters from Alice Chase, W. W. Stein, Collie Lawson, Lillian Odisho, Fanny Bixby Spencer, W. Westman, Jacob S. Potofsky and others.

Folder no. 7: Correspondence, 1923

Letters from W. W. Stein, W. T. Brown, Elsie and three in Dutch.

Folder no. 8: Correspondence, 1924

Letters from Fanny Bixby Spencer and several in Dutch. Certificate of discharge and release from further confinement, Jan. 9, 1924.

Box No. 3: 1925 - 1953

Folder no. 1: Correspondence, 1925 - 1929

Letters from Fanny Bixby Spencer, Caroline Nelson, Elsie Brown, Cornelius Steel ink, and W. Carl Spencer.

Folder no. 2: Correspondence, 1930 - 1939

Letters from Mrs. E. C. Freeman, J. W. Sherman, W. T. Brown, and Joseph Ettor.

Folder no. 3: Correspondence, 1940 - 1943

Letters from Carl Keller, Iva E. Hos, W. Westman, Julius Boege, and Pat Read.

Folder no. 4: Correspondence, 1944 - 1945

Letters from Julius Boege, Edith Cutler, E. Dye, W. Westman, Conor S. dal Riada, Pat Read, Fred Thompson, Ettor and F. Blossom.

Folder no. 5: Correspondence, 1946 - 1947

Letters from Westman, Read, Fred Thompson, Pedro Coria, and John Elly.

Folder no. 6: Correspondence, 1948.

Letters from Pedro Coria, Gerald Williamson (Ireland), M. P. T. Acharya (India), Helen Curry, and others.

Description

Box No. 3 Cond't.

Folder no. 7: Correspondence, 1949 - 1953

Letters from Edith Cutler, T. Judge, S. A. Herrington, Pedro Coria, Eve (daughter), and others.

Folder no. 8: Correspondence, undated. From W. T. Brown

Box No. 4: Undated correspondence and miscellaneous materials.

Folder no. 1: Correspondence, undated. To Fannia

Folder no. 2: Correspondence, undated. To Fannia

Folder no. 3, 4, & 5: Correspondence, undated

Folder no. 4: Miscellaneous

IWW membership card, bills, sales slips, clippings, typescript of a Dutch work translated by NS, and photographs of San Quentin.

Folder no. 5: Miscellaneous

Various cards, bills, sales slips, etc.

Folder no. 6: Correspondence

Stenographic report of the 8th annual convention of the IWW, Chicago, 1913, in very poor condition.