



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE  
**AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES**

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**A Finding Aid to the  
Adolph Joachim Sabath Papers**

**Manuscript Collection No. 43**



## Collection Summary

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <b>Title</b>                    | Adolph J. Sabath Papers                                       |
| <b>Dates</b>                    | 1903-1952   |
| <b>Collection Number</b>        | MS-43   |
| <b>Repository</b>               | The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives |
| <b>Creator</b>                  | Sabath, Adolph Joachim, 1866-1952                             |
| <b>Extent</b>                   | 2.8 linear feet (7 Hollinger boxes)                           |
| <b>Language of the Material</b> | English   |

## Administrative Information

### Biographical Sketch

Adolph Joachim Sabath was born in Zabori, Bohemia (now Czechoslovakia), April 4, 1866, one of eleven children born to Joachim and Barbara (Eissenschimmel) Sabath. In 1881, at the age of fifteen, Sabath left his native land and arrived in the United States with only enough money in his pocket to travel to Chicago, where a cousin lived. He initially worked at odd jobs and then advanced to the real estate business, all the while, saving enough money to bring his family to the United States and continue his education. He graduated from Bryant and Stratton Business College in 1885. He attended the Chicago College of Law and then Lake Forest University where he received his LL.B. degree in 1891.

In 1895, Sabath started his political career with the aid of the liberal governor of Illinois, Peter Altgeld, who appointed him a justice of the peace. He served until 1897, when he became a police magistrate. In 1907, he was elected the Democratic representative from the Fifth Illinois District to the Congress of the United States. Mr. Sabath served in the House of Representatives for twenty-three consecutive terms until his death, the second longest continuous service of any congressman. His other political activities included: membership in the central and executive committees of the Democratic Party (1909-1920), delegate to all the Democratic State Conventions since 1890, and delegate to all Democratic National Conventions (1894-1944).

As a representative of a reform-minded immigrant constituency, Sabath fought for passage of the Pure Food and Drug Act and recognition of small nations after World War I. He also introduced the first workmen's compensation bill and advocated federal aid for better highways. Congressman Sabath opposed prohibition and fought for its repeal. In 1931, he introduced the first Reconstruction Finance Corporation Bill and at all times supported labor and all relief legislation. He introduces the first old-age pension resolution in 1909 and urged enactment of the Social Security Act. He was a member of the Committee on Immigration and Naturalization where he opposed inhuman and harsh immigration measures but supported stringent deportation laws. He also served as chairman of the Alcohol Liquor Traffic Committee, and as a member (and later chairman) of the House Rules Committee.

He advocated United States membership in the League of Nations and was one of the first to support military preparedness against the Nazi menace. His seniority and influence were used on behalf of New Deal and Fair Deal Legislation.

In 1917, Sabath was married to Mae Ruth Fuerst. He was a member of the national Masons, Elks, Knights of Pythias, and various other social, fraternal, and civic organizations of Chicago. He died November 6, 1952 in the naval hospital at Bethesda, Maryland, two days after his reelection to Congress.

### Scope and Content

Consists of material relating to the 46-year career of Chicago Congressman, Adolph Joachim Sabath. The collection includes correspondence, legislative bills, congressional records, notes, resolutions, speeches, articles, newsclippings, and miscellaneous material.

### Arrangement

Organized into four (4) series: A. Correspondence, 1909-1948; B. Legislative Records, 1903-1952; C. Printed Material, 1911-1948; D. Miscellaneous, 1945, 1949.

### Terms of Access

The collection is open for use; no restrictions apply.

### Terms of Reproduction and Use

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## Index Terms

**Subjects** Jews -- Illinois -- Chicago / Legislators  
**Personal Names** Sabath, Adolph Joachim, 1866-1952  
**Media** Photographs

### Series A. Correspondence, 1909-1948

**Extent** 0.4 linear feet (1 Hollinger box)

**Scope and Content Note** Among the important correspondents are: Franklin D. Roosevelt, Josephus Daniels, Stephen S. Wise, Joseph P. Tumulty, Samuel Gompers, and Julius Rosenwald. Also of interest is the correspondence (1913-1916) concerning the Navy Department cases of Edward Klouser, Ralph Harley, Richard Kaminskie, and John McMahon.

**Arrangement** The series is arranged chronologically.

#### Box and Folder Listing

Box 1. Folder 1. Correspondence, 1909  
Box 1. Folder 2. Correspondence, 1910, 1911 August  
Box 1. Folder 3. Correspondence, 1912  
Box 1. Folder 4. Correspondence, 1913  
Box 1. Folder 5. Correspondence, 1914  
Box 1. Folder 6. Correspondence, 1915  
Box 1. Folder 7. Correspondence, 1916  
Box 1. Folder 8. Correspondence, 1917  
Box 1. Folder 9. Correspondence, 1918, 1921  
Box 1. Folder 10. Correspondence, 1924, 1926  
Box 1. Folder 11. Correspondence, 1929, 1932  
Box 1. Folder 12. Correspondence, 1936  
Box 1. Folder 13. Correspondence, 1937  
Box 1. Folder 14. Correspondence, 1938-1939  
Box 1. Folder 15. Correspondence, 1942 April, 1943  
Box 1. Folder 16. Correspondence, 1944  
Box 1. Folder 17. Correspondence, 1945 January-September  
Box 1. Folder 18. Correspondence, 1945 October-December  
Box 1. Folder 19. Correspondence, 1946  
Box 1. Folder 20. Correspondence, 1947  
Box 1. Folder 21. Correspondence, undated

### Series B. Legislative Records, 1903-1952

**Extent** 1.4 linear feet (3.5 Hollinger boxes)

**Scope and Content Note** Consists of legislative materials including Congressional Records, legislative bills, notes,

resolutions, and speeches arranged chronologically. Subjects include: immigration, tariffs, prohibition, workmen's compensation, the Great Depression, communism, and Palestine. This material offers a good crosssection of the events and legislation with which Sabath was involved throughout his political career.

**Arrangement**

The series is arranged chronologically.

**Box and Folder Listing**

- Box 2. Folder 1. Legislative records, 1903-1907
- Box 2. Folder 2. Legislative records, 1908
- Box 2. Folder 3. Legislative records, 1909
- Box 2. Folder 4. Legislative records, 1910
- Box 2. Folder 5. Legislative records, 1911
- Box 2. Folder 6. Legislative records, 1912
- Box 2. Folder 7. Legislative records, 1913
- Box 2. Folder 8. Legislative records, 1914
- Box 2. Folder 9. Legislative records, 1915
- Box 2. Folder 10. Legislative records, 1916
- Box 2. Folder 11. Legislative records, 1917
- Box 2. Folder 12. Legislative records, 1918
- Box 3. Folder 1. Legislative records, 1919
- Box 3. Folder 2. Legislative records, 1920
- Box 3. Folder 3. Legislative records, 1921
- Box 3. Folder 4. Legislative records, 1922
- Box 3. Folder 5. Legislative records, 1923
- Box 3. Folder 6. Legislative records, 1924
- Box 3. Folder 7. Legislative records, 1925
- Box 3. Folder 8. Legislative records, 1926
- Box 3. Folder 9. Legislative records, 1927
- Box 3. Folder 10. Legislative records, 1928
- Box 3. Folder 11. Legislative records, 1929
- Box 3. Folder 12. Legislative records, 1930
- Box 3. Folder 13. Legislative records, 1931
- Box 3. Folder 14. Legislative records, 1932
- Box 3. Folder 15. Legislative records, 1933
- Box 3. Folder 16. Legislative records, 1934
- Box 3. Folder 17. Legislative records, 1935
- Box 3. Folder 18-19. Legislative records, 1936
- Box 4. Folder 1. Legislative records, 1937
- Box 4. Folder 2. Legislative records, 1941
- Box 4. Folder 3. Legislative records, 1942

Box 4. Folder 4. Legislative records, 1943  
Box 4. Folder 5. Legislative records, 1944  
Box 4. Folder 6. Legislative records, 1944, 1945  
Box 4. Folder 7-9. Legislative records, 1946  
Box 5. Folder 1. Legislative records, 1947  
Box 5. Folder 2. Legislative records, 1948  
Box 5. Folder 3. Legislative records, 1949  
Box 5. Folder 4. Legislative records, 1950  
Box 5. Folder 5. Legislative records, 1951  
Box 5. Folder 6. Legislative records, 1952  
Box 5. Folder 7. Legislative records, undated  
Box 5. Folder 8. Miscellaneous notes and papers, undated

### **Series C. Printed Material, 1911-1948**

**Extent** 0.8 linear feet (2 Hollinger boxes)

**Scope and Content Note** The first type of printed material consists of magazines and pamphlets (1944-1946) relating primarily to Palestine. The second type consists of miscellaneous printed articles (1911-1948) which deal with many of Sabath's activities and interests, including immigration, anti-Semitism, refugees, and Nazism. The third type consists of newsclippings from 1909 to 1948 with the bulk dealing with the years 1943 to 1948. This group deals with Palestine, anti-Semitism, immigration, refugees, and Nazism.

**Arrangement** The series is arranged by type of material with a chronological internal arrangement.

#### **Box and Folder Listing**

Box 5. Folder 9. Anti-Defamation League, 1945-1946  
Box 5. Folder 10. Congress Weekly, 1945-1946  
Box 6. Folder 1. Independent Jewish Press Service, Inc, 1945-1946  
Box 6. Folder 2. Information Bulletin of the American Council for Judaism, 1945 August-1946 September  
Box 6. Folder 3. Pal-Eco News, 1945-1946  
Box 6. Folder 4. Palestine, 1944-1946  
Box 6. Folder 5. Palestine Affairs, 1946 April-August  
Box 6. Folder 6. Miscellaneous, 1911-1939  
Box 6. Folder 7. Miscellaneous, 1942-1945  
Box 6. Folder 8. Miscellaneous, 1946-1948  
Box 6. Folder 9. Miscellaneous, undated  
Box 7. Folder 1. Miscellaneous. Newsclippings, 1909-1948  
Box 7. Folder 2. Miscellaneous. Newsclippings, undated

### **Series D. Miscellaneous, 1945, 1949**

**Extent** 0.2 linear feet (0.5 Hollinger box)

**Scope and Content Note** Consists of photographs, memorial booklets, and government manuals. The photographs deal with Nazi concentration camp victims and the memorial books include those for Warren G. Harding, Franklin D. Roosevelt, and Adolph Joachim Sabath.

### **Box and Folder Listing**

Box 7. Folder 3. Photographs, circa 1945

Box 7. Folder 4. House Rules and Manual, 81st Congress; Memorial booklets on Warren G. Harding, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Martin Gorski, Ralph Edwin Church, and Adolph Joachim Sabath, 1949



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**Subject Tracings**

Note: The following list of subjects is a selective guide to many of the topics found in the ADOLPH JOACHIM SABATH PAPERS. When used in conjunction with the Box and Folder List, the Subject Tracings should help the researcher locate topics. References are to boxes and folders: e.g. 1/9=Box 1, Folder 9.

|  |  |
|--|--|
| American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee | 1/12   |
| Anti-Semitism                                | 1/12,13,17; 4/7; 6/1,6,7,9; 7/1,2,3  |
| Anti-Trust                                   | 2/1  |
| Baruch, Bernard M.                           | 1/9  |
| Civil Rights                                 | 1/19   |
| Communism                                    | 4/7; 5/3   |
| Condon, Edward U.                            | 5/2  |
| Consumer Purchase Study                      | 4/2  |
| Crime, Jewish                                | 1/12   |
| Daniels, Josephus                            | 1/6,8  |
| Dies, Martin                                 | 1/15,16  |
| Einstein, Albert                             | 1/12   |
| German Jewish Refugees                       | 1/12   |
| Gompers, Samuel                              | 1/5, 6/6   |
| Great Depression                             | 3/11,13,14,15,16   |
| Hoover, Herbert C.                           | 1/8  |
| Immigration                                  | 1/2,3,5,11; 2/1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,11,12; 3/3,4, 5,6,7,8,9,10,11;<br>6/1,6; 7/2 |
| Latin America                                | 2/12   |
| League of Nations                            | 3/1  |
| Naturalization                               | 2/2,6,12; 3/3,4,9,10   |
| Nazism                                       | 1/12,13,15; 6/6; 7/2   |
| Palestine                                    | 1/9,12,14,15,16,17,18,19,20; 4/5,6,7; 5/1; 6/1,2,3,4,5,7,8,9; 7/2            |
| Panama Canal                                 | 2/8  |



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**Subject Tracings**

|                        |                                     |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Philippine Islands     | 1/10; 2/2; 3/5,6,8,11; 3/12,15; 6/6 |
| Polish Jews            | 1/13                                |
| Prohibition            | 2/2; 3/7,10,11,12,13,14,15          |
| Puerto Rico            | 2/3; 3/8                            |
| Pure Food and Drugs    | 2/7                                 |
| Refugees               | 6/8,9; 7/3                          |
| Rosenwald, Julius      | 1/3,7                               |
| Roosevelt, Franklin D. | 1/5,7,9,11                          |
| Silver, Abba Hillel    | 1/16                                |
| Smith, Gerald LD       | 1/15                                |
| Soviet Union           | 1/18; 2/3,11; 3/14; 4/7             |
| Subversive Activities  | 1/19; 4/4; 5/1,2; 7/1               |
| Tariff                 | 1/1; 2/2,3,7,8,10; 7/1              |
| Tumulty, Joseph P.     | 1/10                                |
| United States Navy     | 4/1                                 |
| Wilson, Woodrow        | 2/10,11,12; 3/1,6                   |
| Wise, Stephen S.       | 1/12,13,14                          |
| Women's Suffrage       | 2/9,12                              |
| World War I            | 2/11,12; 3/1                        |
| World War II           | 1/15                                |