A Finding Aid to the
Horace M. Kallen Papers

Manuscript Collection No. 1
Horace M. Kallen was born in Berenstadt, Silesia, Germany, in 1882 and immigrated to Boston with his family at the age of five. He was the son of Jacob David Kallen, a Hebrew scholar and Orthodox rabbi, and the former Esther Glazier. Kallen had six sisters (Ida, Dora, Mildred, Deborah, Frances, and Miriam) and one brother (Leo).

Kallen attended Harvard University, graduating in 1903. He went to Princeton where he taught English from 1903 until 1905 at which time he was dismissed for being an avowed unbeliever. Originally interested in writing novels and poetry, he became more interested in philosophy and the philosophical implications of the arts and the social sciences. He credited George Santayana, William James, Edwin Holt, Canning Schiller, Barrett Wendell and Solomon Schechter as most influential in the development of his philosophical ideas. Although he refused to be tied to a specific philosophical school, he can be most closely identified with the broad pragmatic philosophy of John Dewey and F.C.S. Schiller.

After studying philosophy at Oxford University and the Paris-Sorbonne University, Kallen returned to Harvard and received his Ph.D. in 1908. He taught philosophy at Harvard and logic at Clark College (1910) until he received an instructorship at the University of Wisconsin in 1911. He continued in this post until 1918 at which time he was forced to resign because of his support of the rights of pacifists in the heat of World War I. This incident increased his belief in the necessity of intellectual freedom and the right to speak out on controversial issues.

Dr. Kallen's association with the New School for Social Research marks the longest and most productive period of his life. In 1919, together with James Harvey Robison, Charles A. Beard, Thorstien Veblen, Alvin Johnson and Robert Brueer, he founded the New School for Social Research in New York City. The institution was founded as a kind of refugee camp for America's intellectuals and academics in the wake of World War I amid fears concerning academic and intellectual freedom. As the last of the original founders, Dr. Kallen taught his final course in the fall of 1973. While at the New School he also taught courses at Harvard, Columbia, the University of Wisconsin, Ohio State University and Claremont College (California).

Horace Kallen was the author of more than thirty books as well as numerous pamphlets and articles. He was active in liberal, educational and Zionist movements. He wrote on consumerism and environmental control long before they became major topics. He was an outstanding leader in the adult education movement in America.

He was close to casting aside his Jewish identity when Barrett Wendell, professor of English literature at Harvard, "showed how the Old Testament had affected the Puritan mind and traced the role of Hebraic tradition in the development of the American character."[1] As a result, Kallen turned Zionist in 1902. He argued strongly for 60 years that the Jewish people needed a homeland in Palestine to protect them against persecution and to enhance their Jewish cultural heritage.

Dr. Kallen was an active member of the Jewish community working in and with such organizations as the American Jewish Congress, the American Association for Jewish Education, of which he was vice-president, and the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research. He served on many government committees, including the Presidential Commission on Higher Education, and the New York City Commission on Intergroup Relations (1961). Also, he was active in such organizations as the International League for the Rights of Man and the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion.

His philosophy has been characterized as Hebraism, aesthetic pragmatism, humanism, cultural pluralism, and cooperative individualism. A major precept of his philosophy was: "I have a right to believe what you believe is wrong. If in your eyes I am wrong, yet I have that right to be wrong, and that right is unalienable." [sic][2]

Kallen's concept of cultural pluralism affirmed that each ethnic and cultural group in the United States had a unique contribution to make to the variety and richness of American culture, and thus provided a rationale for those Jews who wish to preserve their Jewish cultural identity in the American melting pot.
Dr. Kallen’s more well-known writings include, The Book of Job as a Greek Tragedy (1918); Zionism and World Politics (1921); Judaism at Bay (1932); Individualism: An American Way of Life (1933); The Decline and Rise of the Consumer (1936); Art and Freedom (2 vol. 1942); The Education of Free Men (1949); Of Them Which Say They Are Jews (1954, edited by Judah Pilch, a collection of Kallen’s essays on the Jewish struggle for survival); Utopians at Bay (1958) on his impressions of Israel; and Liberty, Laughter and Tears (1968).

Horace Kallen was married to the former Rachel Oatman Van Arsdales. They had two children, Harriet S. Haines and David J. Kallen, and six grandchildren.

Notes:

Scope and Content
The papers of the educator and philosopher, Horace M. Kallen, contain materials relating to his long career and interest in philosophy, humanism, religion, civil rights, consumerism, education, and Zionism. The collection includes correspondence, manuscripts, newsclippings, reports, papers, speeches, printed and miscellaneous materials. The Papers span the period 1902 to 1975 with the bulk of the material occurring prior to 1921 and after 1940. The gap in the Kallen Collection for the 1920s and 1930s is a result of the donation of a large segment of his papers in 1954 to the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research.

Arrangement
Organized into five (5) series: A. Correspondence; B. Subject Material; C. Manuscript Material; D. Printed Material; E. Miscellaneous.

Access Restrictions
The file for T.S. Eliot, Box 8, Folder 26, is restricted. The Eliot family retains copyright to the writings of T.S. Eliot. Requests to see this file must be made, in writing, to the Executive Director of the American Jewish Archives. Persons mailing application should state the nature, purpose and scope of their project, as well as their intended use of the Eliot material.

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Preferred Citation
Footnotes and bibliographic references should refer to the Horace M. Kallen Papers and the American Jewish Archives. A suggestion for at least the first citation is as follows:

[Description], [Date], Horace M. Kallen Papers, MS-1, Box [#], Folder [#]. American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Provenance
The Horace M. Kallen papers were donated by Dr. Kallen, and, after his death, by his wife, Rachel Kallen. The papers were received by the American Jewish Archives in many segments over an eighteen year period from 1963 to 1980. In 1998 the Archives received an additional supplement of materials from Dr. Sarah Schmidt on behalf of Kallen's daughter, Harriet Kallen Haines. This material, consisting of letters from Dr. and Mrs. Kallen to Mrs. Haines, covers the years 1930-1978. In 1998, the Archives also received the letters and papers of Miriam Kallen [sister], donated by Kallen's son, David Kallen.

Processing Information

Index Terms

| Subjects | Adult education / Consumer education / Education / Jewish philosophers / Zionism |
| Personal Names | Kallen, Horace Meyer, 1882-1974 |
| Media | Photographs |

Series A. Correspondence, 1902-1978

Extent 17.2 linear feet (43 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note
A bracketed item following an entry indicates that this topic is also included in the same folder. Also, bracketed items are sometimes listed as regular entries elsewhere on the container list and therefore, should be checked for more information.
Subseries 1. Personal Correspondence, 1902-1975

Extent 13.2 linear feet (33 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note Consists of incoming and outgoing letters. Unidentifiable correspondence is placed at the end of this subseries. A few of the many correspondents of interest in this subseries include: Louis Brandeis, T. S. Eliot, Hannah Arendt, George Santayana, Mary Antin, William James, John Dewey, Henrietta Szold, Jacob de Haas, Rachael Brooks, Stephen S. Wise, and Van Meter Ames.

Arrangement The subseries is arranged alphabetically by correspondent and chronologically thereunder.

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Extent 0.4 linear feet (1 Hollinger box)

Scope and Content Note Of note in this subseries are the Deborah Kallen [sister] letters in which she relates to her brother, Horace, many of her experiences as a teacher in Palestine. Miriam Kallen’s [sister] correspondence includes numerous letters to Phillip Goldstein, head of the Palestine Craft Education Society and of the Deborah Kallen Junior Hadassah Group. Additional family correspondence may be found in boxes 91-95.

Arrangement The subseries is arranged alphabetically by correspondent and chronologically thereunder.

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Subseries 3. Organizational Correspondence, 1910-1974

Extent 3.6 linear feet (9 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note This subseries reflects the varied interests of Dr. Kallen in education, civil rights, religion, consumerism, and Zionist affairs. Of interest is the correspondence of the American Jewish Congress and the Provisional Executive Committee for General Zionist affairs. The latter contains correspondence with Louis Brandeis concerning Zionist activities from 1914 to 1921.

Arrangement The subseries is arranged alphabetically by correspondent and chronologically thereunder.

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Box 43. Folder 2. United Jewish Appeal, 1960-1967
Box 43. Folder 3. V, General.
Box 43. Folder 4. W, General.
Box 43. Folder 5. Who's Who (biographical data), 1953-1968
Box 43. Folder 6. Wisconsin State League of Zionist Societies, 1917
Box 43. Folder 7. Workman's Circle, 1971-1973
Box 43. Folder 8. World Conference of Jewish Organizations, 1962-1963
Box 43. Folder 9. World Jewish Congress, 1949-1965
Box 43. Folder 10. World Jewish Congress, 1966-1972
Box 43. Folder 11. World Peace Foundation, 1919
Box 43. Folder 15. Yiddish Scientific Institute-YIVO, 1948-1969
Box 43. Folder 17. Zionist Organization of America, 1913-1962

**Series B. Subject Files, 1921-1973, undated**

**Extent** 13.6 linear feet (34 Hollinger boxes)

**Scope and Content Note** Consists of organizational material (excluding most correspondence) and specific subjects assigned by Dr. Kallen and the processor which reflect Dr. Kallen's research on books, articles, and speeches. Also, included are reports and minutes from the various organizations with which he was associated. Of special interest is the material on the William Borah controversy which includes some Borah correspondence.

**Arrangement** Arranged alphabetically and covers the period from the teens to the seventies.

**Box and Folder Listing**

Box 44. Folder 1. A, General.
Box 44. Folder 2. American Board of Professional Psychologists.
Box 44. Folder 3. American Civil Liberties Union.
Box 44. Folder 4. Academic Committee on Soviet Jewry.
Box 44. Folder 5. Aging and the Aged.
Box 44. Folder 6. America-Israel Cultural Foundation.
Box 44. Folder 7. American-Asian Educational Exchange.
Box 44. Folder 8. American Association for Jewish Education.
Box 44. Folder 9. American Association of University Professors.
Box 45. Folder 3. American Friends of Religious Freedom in Israel.
Box 45. Folder 6. American Jewish Congress.
Box 45. Folder 7. American Jewish Congress.
Box 46. Folder 1. American Jewish Congress.
Box 46. Folder 2. American Jewish Congress-Commission on Jewish Communal Affairs.
Box 46. Folder 3. American Jewish Congress-Commission on Law and Social Action.
Box 46. Folder 5. American Jewish Organization.
Box 46. Folder 8. American Professors for Peace in the Middle East.
Box 46. Folder 10. Arabs.
Box 47. Folder 1. Aristotle and Plato.
Box 47. Folder 2. Aristotle and Santayana.
Box 47. Folder 3. Art.
Box 47. Folder 4. Art and Freedom.
Box 47. Folder 5. Art, Philosophy of.
Box 47. Folder 6. Art, Philosophy of, and Mass Culture.
Box 47. Folder 7. Art, Society, and Censorship.
Box 47. Folder 8. Arts and Thomas Jefferson.
Box 47. Folder 9. Association of University Evening Colleges, Proceedings-St. Louis, 1953
Box 47. Folder 10. B, General.
Box 47. Folder 11. B’nai B’rith.
Box 47. Folder 12. Black Power and Education.
Box 47. Folder 13. Black Power, White Power and Education.
Box 48. Folder 3-4. Borah, William. Controversy [correspondence relating to the controversy between Kallen and Borah over the validity of statements made by Kallen about George Washington], 1934-1936
Box 48. Folder 5. Buddhism.
Box 49. Folder 1. Censorship-Motion Pictures.
Box 49. Folder 2. Center for Advanced Study in Religion and Science [former name: Center for Advanced Study in Theology and the Sciences].
Box 49. Folder 3. Chinese.
Box 49. Folder 5. Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell.
Box 55. Folder 1. Folio, 1924
Box 55. Folder 2. Form and Formalism in Adult Education: The Adult, His School, His Teacher.
Box 55. Folder 4. Franklin, Benjamin.
Box 55. Folder 5. Freedom.
Box 55. Folder 6. Freedom.
Box 55. Folder 7. Freedom.
Box 56. Folder 1. Freedom, 1955
Box 56. Folder 3. Freedom. Student term papers.
Box 56. Folder 4. Freedom. Student term papers.
Box 56. Folder 5. Freedom and the Arts.
Box 56. Folder 6. Freedom and Western Civilization.
Box 56. Folder 7. Friends of Jewish Secular Education [Zhitlowsky Foundation for Secular Jewish Education].
Box 47. Folder 1. Guttman, Louis.
Box 57. Folder 2. Guttman material.
Box 57. Folder 3. H, General.
Box 57. Folder 4. Harvard.
Box 57. Folder 5. Hebraism and Modernity.
Box 57. Folder 6. Herrnstein Controversy.
Box 57. Folder 8. Histradut: General Federation of Jewish Labor in Israel.
Box 57. Folder 9. History, Philosophy of.
Box 58. Folder 1. Hook-Lamont Case.
Box 58. Folder 2. Humanism.
Box 58. Folder 3. Humanism.
Box 58. Folder 4. Humanism.
Box 58. Folder 5. Humanism.
Box 58. Folder 6. Humanism.
Box 59. Folder 1. Humanism.
Box 59. Folder 2. Humanism. Student term papers.
Box 59. Folder 3. Humanist Manifesto II.
Box 59. Folder 4. Humanistic Judaism.
Box 59. Folder 5. I, General.
Box 59. Folder 6. Ideals, Dominant, of Western Civilization.
Box 59. Folder 7. Ideas, Ideals, Idealism.
Box 59. Folder 8. Indian Affairs.
Box 59. Folder 10. The Individual, the Concept of, and Its Implications for Higher Continuing Education.
Box 59. Folder 11. Individuality.
Box 60. Folder 1. The Ingathered.
Box 60. Folder 2. The International Mind: Its Character and Conditions.
Box 60. Folder 3. Israel.
Box 60. Folder 4. Israel.
Box 60. Folder 5. Israel.
Box 60. Folder 6. Israel.
Box 60. Folder 7. Israel.
Box 60. Folder 8. Israel As Fact and As Ideal.
Box 60. Folder 9. Israel, The Nation's International Relations.
Box 61. Folder 1. Israel, Utopians at Bay.
Box 61. Folder 2. Israel, Utopians at Bay.
Box 61. Folder 4. James, William.
Box 62. Folder 2. Jewish Topics.
Box 62. Folder 5. Judaism.
Box 62. Folder 6. July the Fourth address, 1948
Box 63. Folder 1. L, General.
Box 63. Folder 2. League of Nations.
Box 63. Folder 3. The Liberation of the Adult.
Box 63. Folder 4. Logic and the Creative Imagination.
Box 63. Folder 5. Long Island University.
Box 63. Folder 6. Long Island University.
Box 63. Folder 7. M, General.
Box 63. Folder 8. Military Training.
Box 64. Folder 1. Modernity's Ideals.
Box 64. Folder 2. Music.
Box 64. Folder 3. Mysticism.
Box 64. Folder 4. N, General.
Box 64. Folder 5. National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.
Box 64. Folder 6. National Community Relations Advisory Council.
Box 64. Folder 7. National Council for Jewish Education.
Box 64. Folder 8. Navy League of the United States.
Box 64. Folder 9. Neurth, Otto.
Box 64. Folder 10. New School for Social Research.
Box 65. Folder 1. New School for Social Research.
Box 65. Folder 4. Oceanic Education [Gil Slonim].
Box 65. Folder 5. Oceanic Education.
Box 65. Folder 6. Oceanic Education.
Box 65. Folder 7. Oceanic Education.
Box 66. Folder 1. Oceanic Education.
Box 66. Folder 2. Oceanic Education.
Box 66. Folder 3. Old Mysticism and New Knowledge.
Box 66. Folder 5. Organization of the Arts and Sciences.
Box 66. Folder 6. Ossietzky, Carl Von. Correspondence, 1935-1937
Box 66. Folder 8. Palestine.
Box 66. Folder 10. Peirce's Philosophy of Education.
Box 67. Folder 1. Philosophical Problems.
Box 67. Folder 2. Philosophy.
Box 67. Folder 3. Philosophy.
Box 67. Folder 4. Philosophy.
Box 67. Folder 5. Philosophy, Modern.
Box 67. Folder 6. Philosophy, Modern.
Box 68. Folder 1. Philosophy. Student term paper.
Box 68. Folder 2. Philosophy of the Seas.
Box 68. Folder 3. Pluralism.
Box 68. Folder 4. Poetry.
Box 72. Folder 3. Sacco and Vanzetti.
Box 72. Folder 4. Sacco and Vanzetti.
Box 72. Folder 5. Sacco and Vanzetti.
Box 72. Folder 7. Secularism.
Box 72. Folder 8. Sheffer Festschrift.
Box 73. Folder 2. “Shockley Affair” at Staten Island Community College, 1973
Box 73. Folder 3. Smithsonian Institution.
Box 73. Folder 4. Social Sciences.
Box 73. Folder 7. Society for the Scientific Study of Religion.
Box 73. Folder 8. Soviet Jewry.
Box 73. Folder 9. Stamler, Jeremiah, M.D. Legal Aid Fund.
Box 73. Folder 10. Sterne, Maurice.
Box 73. Folder 11. T, General.
Box 74. Folder 1. Training Bureau for Jewish Community Service.
Box 74. Folder 2. Training Bureau for Jewish Community Service.
Box 74. Folder 3. U, General.
Box 74. Folder 4. United Housing Foundation [Donald Martin; Rochdale Institute].
Box 74. Folder 5. Unity in Science.
Box 74. Folder 6. Velikovsky, Immanuel.
Box 74. Folder 7. Vietnamese War.
Box 74. Folder 8. Vietnamese War.
Box 75. Folder 1. W, General.
Box 75. Folder 2. War and Peace.
Box 75. Folder 3. War and Peace.
Box 75. Folder 4. “What Pragmatism Means for the Social Sciences”.
Box 75. Folder 5. World Communist Revolution.
Box 75. Folder 6. World Jewish Congress.
Box 75. Folder 7. World Jewish Congress.
Box 75. Folder 8. Zionism.
Box 76. Folder 1-7. Miscellaneous subjects.
Box 77. Folder 1-6. Miscellaneous subjects.

**Series C. Manuscript Material, undated**

**Extent** 1.6 linear feet (4 Hollinger boxes)

**Scope and Content Note** Consists of manuscripts, notes, and related supplementary material which was used by Dr. Kallen for articles or lectures. The material has not been separated into specific subject groupings because of its varied nature.
Container List

Box 78-81. Manuscript material, undated.

Series D. Printed Material, undated

Extent 2 linear feet (5 Hollinger boxes)

Arrangement

Arranged into two (2) subseries: 1. Articles by Kallen; 2. Articles by Others.

Subseries 1. Articles by Kallen, undated

Extent 1.2 linear feet (3 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note Consists of articles written by Dr. Kallen. These articles are arranged alphabetically by title. Folder number one in Box 82 contains bibliographies by Yasusi Adachi, Milton Konvitz, and Sarah Schmidt.

Arrangement Arranged alphabetically by title.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 82. Folder 1. Bibliographies.
Box 82. Folder 2. A.
Box 82. Folder 3. B.
Box 82. Folder 4. C.
Box 82. Folder 5. D.
Box 82. Folder 6. E.
Box 83. Folder 1. F.
Box 83. Folder 2. G.
Box 83. Folder 3. H.
Box 83. Folder 4. I.
Box 83. Folder 5. J.
Box 83. Folder 6. K.
Box 83. Folder 7. L.
Box 83. Folder 8. M.
Box 83. Folder 9. N.
Box 84. Folder 1. O.
Box 84. Folder 2. P.
Box 84. Folder 3. R.
Box 84. Folder 4. S.
Box 84. Folder 5. T.
Box 84. Folder 6. V.
Box 84. Folder 7. W.
Box 84. Folder 8. Z.
Subseries 2. Articles by Others, undated

Extent 0.8 linear feet (2 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note Consists of published articles of friends and acquaintances of Dr. Kallen, many of whom also have correspondence in the collection.

Arrangement Arranged alphabetically by author.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 85. Folder 1. Abel, Reuben.
Box 85. Folder 2. Ames, Sanford Scribner.
Box 85. Folder 3. Ames, Van Meter.
Box 85. Folder 4. Arendt, Hannah.
Box 85. Folder 5. Bateson, Gregory.
Box 85. Folder 6. Baym, Max I.
Box 85. Folder 7. Ben-Horin, Meir.
Box 85. Folder 9. Bernays, Edward L.
Box 85. Folder 10. Black, Hugo L.
Box 85. Folder 11. Brill, A. A.
Box 85. Folder 12. Cahn, Edmond.
Box 85. Folder 13. Cantril, Hadley.
Box 85. Folder 14. apek, Mili.
Box 85. Folder 15. Caplan, Harry.
Box 85. Folder 16. Chu Chai.
Box 85. Folder 17. Clark, Grenville and Louis B. Sohn.
Box 85. Folder 18. Diekman, Herbert.
Box 85. Folder 19. Douglas, William O.
Box 85. Folder 20. Eisenstein, Ira.
Box 85. Folder 21. Engels, Frederick.
Box 85. Folder 22. Feuer, Lewis S.
Box 85. Folder 23. Frank, Jerome.
Box 85. Folder 24. Frank, Philipp.
Box 85. Folder 25. Frankenstein, Carl.
Box 85. Folder 27. Gideonese, Harry D.
Box 85. Folder 28. Glazer, Nathan.
Box 85. Folder 29. Gotesky, Rubin.
Box 85. Folder 30. Grollman, Earl A.
Box 85. Folder 32. Ittelson, William H. and Hadley Cantril.
Box 86. Folder 1. Jewish History-Various contributors.
Series E. Miscellaneous, 1906-1979, undated

Extent  4 linear feet (10 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note  Consists of dissertations, class notes, desk calendars, a folder of Hebrew and Yiddish material, and a transcript of Dr. Kallen's book, Creativity, Imagination, Logic. It also contains letters of sympathy following Horace Kallen's death, and Miriam Kallen's collection of family biographical material (particularly relating to Horace, Miriam and Deborah Kallen.)

Box and Folder Listing

Box 87. Folder 1. Borghi, Lamberto. "Education and Authority in Modern Italy".


Box 94. Folder 17. Kallen, Miriam, 1958
Box 94. Folder 18. Kallen, Miriam, 1959
Box 94. Folder 19. Kallen, Miriam, 1960
Box 94. Folder 20. Kallen, Miriam, 1961
Box 94. Folder 22. Kallen, Miriam, 1963
Box 94. Folder 23. Kallen, Miriam, 1964
Box 94. Folder 24. Kallen, Miriam, 1965
Box 94. Folder 25. Kallen, Miriam, 1966
Box 94. Folder 27. Kallen, Miriam, 1968
Box 94. Folder 28. Kallen, Miriam, 1969
Box 95. Folder 1. Kallen, Miriam, 1970
Box 95. Folder 2. Kallen, Miriam, 1971
Box 95. Folder 3. Kallen, Miriam, 1972
Box 95. Folder 4. Kallen, Miriam, 1973
Box 95. Folder 5. Kallen, Miriam, 1974
Box 95. Folder 6. Kallen, Miriam, undated
Box 95. Folder 7. Kallen, Dora, 1915-1957
Box 95. Folder 8. Kallen, Ida, 1926-1955
Box 95. Folder 9. Letters to Miriam Kallen from her sisters, 1923-1976
Box 95. Folder 10. Letters to Miriam Kallen to Judy Hollander, who was researching Deborah Kallen, 1976-1979
Box 95. Folder 12. Miscellaneous correspondence to Miriam Kallen, 1915-1982
Box 96. Folder 1. Palestine Craft Education Society/ Phillip Goldstein to Miriam Kallen, 1930-1968
Box 96. Folder 2. Miriam Kallen to the Deborah Kallen Junior Hadassah Group, 1936-1948
Box 96. Folder 5. Kallen, Dora. Membership cards, 1957-1963
Box 96. Folder 9. Kallen Family. Photographs, undated