

# Guide to the Henry Stauffer Papers

RG 125



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1998

409 Prospect Street  
New Haven, CT 06511  
(203) 432-5301

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<http://web.library.yale.edu/divinity/special-collections>

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Yale Divinity Library  
409 Prospect Street  
New Haven, CT 06511  
(203) 432-5301  
divinity.library@yale.edu  
<http://web.library.yale.edu/divinity/special-collections>

**CALL NUMBER:** RG 125

**CREATOR:** Stauffer, Henry, 1858-1949

**TITLE:** Henry Stauffer Papers

**DATES:** 1874-1948

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 1 linear foot (2 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Sermons, writings, and scrapbooks document Stauffer's work as a Congregational minister. Henry Stauffer (1858-1949) was a graduate of the Yale Divinity School who served Congregational churches in Ohio, Wisconsin, and California, and was active in promoting social reforms.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/divinity.125>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use on site, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/divinity.125>.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box  
f. folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Norma Stauffer.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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### Preferred Citation

Henry Stauffer Papers (RG 125), Special Collections, Yale Divinity School Library.

## Biographical / Historical

| Date         | Event   |
|--------------|---|
| 1858 Jan 29  | ○ Born in Canton, Ohio  |
| 1882-1885    | ○ Attended Otterbein University   |
| 1885 Jul 5   | ○ Ordained as United Brethren minister, Denver  |
| 1889         | ○ B.D., Yale Divinity School  |
| 1889-1895    | ○ Served under Washington Gladden as assistant minister of First Congregational Church, Columbus, Ohio; became first minister of Mayflower Congregational Church, formerly a mission chapel of Gladden's church.  |
| 1895-1903    | ○ Minister: First Congregational Church, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio   |
| 1903-1909    | ○ Minister: Hanover Street Congregational Church, Milwaukee, Wisconsin  |
| 1909-1914    | ○ Minister: First Congregational Church, Menasha, Wisconsin   |
| 1914-1916    | ○ Superintendent: - Fox River Efficiency League   |
| 1916-1918    | ○ Superintendent - Industrial League, Wisconsin Anti-Saloon League  |
| 1918-1922    | ○ Minister: Park Congregational Church, Los Angeles, California   |
| 1922-1927    | ○ Minister: First Congregational Church, Petaluma, California   |
| 1927         | ○ Moved to Berkeley, California, joined First Congregational Church; served church in Antioch, California; had interim pastorates and speaking engagements throughout Bay area. Was instrumental in organization of South Berkeley Community Church, first integrated church in Berkeley. |
| 1949 October | ○ Died  |

## Scope and Contents

This collection provides documentation of a Yale Divinity School graduate who served Congregational churches in Ohio, Wisconsin and California and was active in promoting social reforms. Stauffer was an associate of Washington Gladden in Columbus, Ohio from 1889 to 1895 and was active in the 1895 "Great Awakening" in Columbus, an evangelistic campaign led by the Rev. B. Fay Mills. Stauffer's sermons, his numerous contributions to local newspapers, and other printed material in this collection reflect his concern with the relation of Christianity to social problems, especially labor issues and alcohol.

The four scrapbooks of Series I contain correspondence, newspaper clippings, newspaper transcriptions of sermons and other published writings of Stauffer, and other printed material. Series II contains a sampling of 24 sermons, all but one in manuscript form, as well as other representative writings by Stauffer.

The following items received with the Stauffer Papers have been transferred Record Group No. 53, Yale Divinity School Memorabilia at the Yale Divinity Library: Rules of the Divinity School of Yale University (n.d.); Yale Divinity School Annual Circular, 1889; Yale Theological School '89 (class poem). A hymnbook received with the collection A Collection of Spiritual Hymns ... for the Use of the Brethren in Christ, known as "River Brethren", 1876, has been cataloged. An unpublished manuscript by Stauffer, "Those Queer Mennonites", was deposited by his daughter, Norma Stauffer, in the Bancroft Library of the University of California.

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## Arrangement

- I. Scrapbooks, 1883-1930
- II. Sermons and Writings, 1889-1948, n.d.
- III. Biographical Documentation, 1874-1938, n.d.

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**Collection Contents**  
**Series I: Scrapbooks, 1883-1930**

|      |            |           |
|------|------------|-----------|
| b. 1 | Volume I   | 1883-1899 |
| b. 1 | Volume II  | 1899-1908 |
| b. 1 | Volume III | 1909-1916 |
| b. 1 | Volume IV  | 1916-1930 |

**Series II: Sermons and Writings, 1889-1948, n.d.**

|              |  |           |
|--------------|--|-----------|
| b. 2, f. 2-7 | Sermons  | 1900-1946 |
| b. 2, f. 8   | "A Thesis on the Teaching of Jesus Concerning his Person, According to Mark" | 1889(?)   |
| b. 2, f. 8   | "Our Heritage" (written for Stauffer family reunion)                         | 1901      |
| b. 2, f. 9   | "Truth and Duty - A Manual of Christian Teaching"                            | 1909      |
| b. 2, f. 9   | "Present Crisis in the Christian Movement"                                   | 1928(?)   |
| b. 2, f. 9   | Letter to YDS Class of '89   | 1938      |
| b. 2, f. 9   | "The Call of the Ideal" (verse)  | 1948      |
| b. 2, f. 10  | "The New Note in the Anti-Alcohol Movement"                                  | n.d.      |
| b. 2, f. 10  | "What Should Germany's Punishment Be?"                                       | n.d.      |
| b. 2, f. 10  | "The German Contribution to American Progress"                               | n.d.      |
| b. 2, f. 10  | "Our Venerable Ancestors" (written for Stauffer reunion)                     | n.d.      |
| b. 2, f. 10  | "How to Make Democracy Work"   | n.d.      |
| b. 2, f. 10  | Autobiographical notes   | n.d.      |

**Series III: Biographical Documentation, 1874-1938, n.d.**

|             |   |                 |
|-------------|---|-----------------|
| b. 2, f. 11 | Including letter from Washington Gladden inviting Stauffer to become his assistant and a bound volume edited by Stauffer entitled, "The Great Awakening in Columbus, Ohio under the Labors of Rev. B. Fay Mills", 1895, with an introduction by Washington Gladden. | 1883-1895       |
| b. 2, f. 12 | Including clippings, material re. churches served by Stauffer   | 1902-1938, n.d. |
| b. 2, f. 13 | Eight photographic portraits of Stauffer  | ca. 1874-1914   |



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## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Clergy  
Congregationalists  
Sermons, American

### **Names**

Stauffer, Henry, 1858-1949