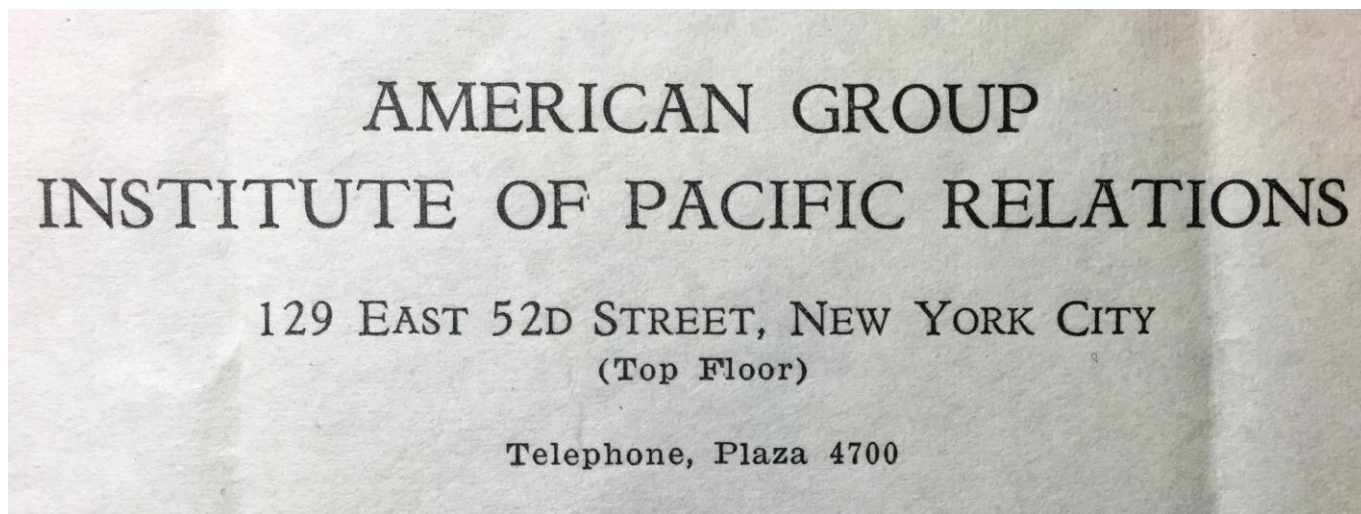


The Burke Library Archives, Columbia University Libraries,  
Union Theological Seminary, New York

Missionary Research Library Archives: Section 12

Finding Aid for

## Institute of Pacific Relations Records, 1925 – 1943



Letterhead, 1927. Credit to: MRL 12: Institute of Pacific Relations Records, box 1, folder 3, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

Finding Aid prepared by: Brigette C. Kamsler, December 2014  
With financial support from the Henry Luce Foundation

### Summary Information

Creator: Institute of Pacific Relations  
Title: Institute of Pacific Relations Records  
Inclusive dates: 1925-1943  
Bulk dates: 1925-1933  
Abstract: Institute created to bring awareness to issues between the nations of the Pacific Rim. Collection contains minutes, reports, correspondence and newspaper clippings.  
Size: 2 boxes, 0.75 linear feet  
Storage: Onsite storage  
Repository: The Burke Library  
Union Theological Seminary  
3041 Broadway  
New York, NY 10027  
Email: [burkearchives@library.columbia.edu](mailto:burkearchives@library.columbia.edu)

### Administrative Information

- Provenance:** Originally part of the independent Missionary Research Library, these records were moved with the MRL to the Brown Memorial Tower of Union Theological Seminary in 1929. In 1976 the records were accessioned to the Burke Library archives with the closure of the MRL. Many of the records were the personal records of members such as Charles Fahs and A. L. Warnshuis.
- Access:** Archival papers are available to registered readers for consultation by appointment only. Please contact archives staff by email to [burkearchives@library.columbia.edu](mailto:burkearchives@library.columbia.edu), or by postal mail to The Burke Library address on page 1, as far in advance as possible. Burke Library staff is available for inquiries or to request a consultation on archival or special collections research.
- Access Restrictions:** The collection is unrestricted to readers. Certain materials, however, are in a fragile condition, and this may necessitate restriction in handling and copying.
- Preferred Citation:** Item description, MRL 12: Institute of Pacific Relations Records, box #, and folder #, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

### History

The first meeting of the Institute of Pacific Relations (IPR) was held in 1925. The purpose of the Institute was to serve and bring awareness to the nations of the Pacific Rim. More specifically, according to the Certificate of Incorporation from December 1938, the objectives of the American Council of the IPR were to promote the study of the people and nations of the Pacific area by working with the general IPR and stimulate attention to the problem areas, as well as conduct research, hold conferences, study groups, create publications and explore other avenues to bring attention to these issues.

Various national councils were responsible for the national, regional and local programming. Much of the funding for the Institute came from philanthropies, businesses and corporations. The American Council was an active member. The IPR international headquarters were in Honolulu until the early 1930s when they were moved to New York and the American Council emerged as the dominant national council. Well-known members of the group in the beginning were Henry Robinson Luce, E. C. Carter, A. L. Warnshuis, Mrs. John D. Rockefeller Jr., Charles Harvey Fahs, and Daniel Johnson Fleming.

The IPR became embroiled in various controversies after World War II and during the Cold War. Eventually the IPR lost its tax-exempt status. Centers for various studies were also on the rise during this time, which made the IPR no longer necessary. The Institute dissolved in 1960.

### Collection Scope and Content Note

The majority of the materials in the collection are from the early years of the Institute. They were collected by Charles Fahs and A. L. Warnshuis, both active members of the American Council.

The collection is in two parts, each organized chronologically. The first generally focuses on the IPR, and the second more specifically about the American Council. The bulk of the collection consists of minutes and reports.

### Processing

Metal clips and staples were removed from materials and folded items were flattened. Materials were placed in new acid-free folders and boxes. The collection was processed and made available in 2014 and came from a large group of disorganized boxes. Order was imposed but follows chronological order within each section.

### Further Sources

The Burke Library offers many other collections related to the same area of Pacific relations. For more information, please see the [Burke Library Archives Website](#).

The Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Columbia University offers an extensive collection of records for the Institute of Pacific Relations. The finding aid is [available online](#).

### Contents list

Box	Folder	Contents
1	1	General Forum, July 13-14, 1925
1	2	Newspaper Clippings and Statements, 1925-1927
1	3-6	Correspondence, Minutes and Reports, 1925-1928
1	7	Fifth Biennial Conference of the IPR, August 1933
<b>American Council of the Institute of Pacific Relations</b>		
2	1	Minutes of Meetings, 1926-1927
2	2	Minutes of Meetings, beginning July 1927
2	3	Minutes of Meetings Vol. 2, beginning November 1928
2	4	Research Committee, 1928
2	5	Committees and Board of Trustee Minutes, 1928
2	6	Minutes of Meetings Vol. 3, beginning October 1929
2	7	Minutes of Meetings Vol. 4, beginning October 1930
2	8	Minutes of Meetings Vol. 5, beginning February 1932
2	9	Certificate of Incorporation, Constitution and Minutes, 1938
2	10	American Council and East Indies Institute, 1943