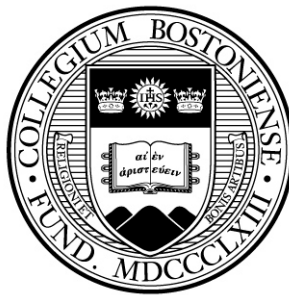


Charles W. Lyons, SJ, President's Office Records

1914-1979 (bulk 1914-1919)

BC.2000.178

<http://hdl.handle.net/2345/3097>



Archives and Manuscripts Department

John J. Burns Library
Boston College
140 Commonwealth Avenue
Chestnut Hill 02467
library.bc.edu/burns/contact
URL: <http://www.bc.edu/burns>

Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Administrative Information	4
Related Materials	4
Biographical note	5
Scope and Contents	5
Arrangement	6
PDF properties	7
Collection Inventory	7
I: Correspondence	7
II: Student military training	8
III: Writings	9

Summary Information

Creator:	Boston College. Office of the President
Title:	Charles W. Lyons, SJ, President's Office records
Collection Identifier:	BC.2000.178
Date [inclusive]:	1914-1979
Date [bulk]:	1914-1919
Physical Description	.25 Linear Feet (1 container)
Language of the Material:	Materials in this collection are primarily in English, with some Latin.
Abstract:	The President's office records of Charles W. Lyons, SJ, fourteenth president of Boston College, are composed of correspondence, memos, and writings that reflect his five year presidency as well as the wartime and post-World War I student military groups on campus during that period.

Preferred Citation

Identification of item, Box number, Folder number, Charles W. Lyons, SJ, President's Office Records, BC.2000.178, John J. Burns Library, Boston College.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Processed by unknown; revised by Stephanie Bennett in June 2013. This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace.

Restrictions on access

Collection is open for research.

Provenance

Because the current accessioning system was not used until January 1986, it is not possible to know exactly the dates of acquisition of materials received before that time. In 1993, the Archives of the New England Province donated material by Charles W. Lyons. Paul Nelligan, SJ, donated Lyons's correspondence with Edward A McLaughlin in 1998.

Restrictions on use

These materials are made available for use in research, teaching and private study, pursuant to U.S. Copyright Law. The user must assume full responsibility for any use of the materials, including but not limited to, infringement of copyright and publication rights of reproduced materials. Any materials used for academic research or otherwise should be fully credited with the source. The original authors may retain copyright to the materials.

Existence of Digital Copies

Portions of this collection are available digitally. Links are included below in the inventory.

Related Materials

Related Materials

President's Office Records, University Archives, John J. Burns Library, Boston College.

Biographical note

Charles W. Lyons, SJ, the fourteenth president of Boston College, was born on January 31, 1869, in Boston. He attended public schools in Boston, including English High School, and entered the Society of Jesus in August 1890. Lyons taught at a number of institutions before and after his ordination in 1904, including Gonzaga College, Georgetown University, and Loyola College in Maryland. After ordination, Lyons acted as the Prefect of Discipline at Georgetown University for a year. He then completed his tertianship at St. Andrew-on-Hudson, NY, and went to teach metaphysics and political economy at St. Francis Xavier College in New York City. In 1907, he taught psychology and political economy at Boston College and was the faculty moderator of the Fulton Debating Society. Lyons spent a brief time in 1909 as the president of Gonzaga College in Washington DC, followed by five years as president of St. Joseph's College in Philadelphia before becoming Boston College president in January 1914. Lyons was the last president to serve as Father Rector to both Boston College and Boston College High School.

Lyons's presidency was notable for his oversight of continued construction on the Chestnut Hill campus, started by his predecessor Thomas Ignatius Gasson, and also for his leadership of the College during World War I. From October 1916 to 1918, Boston College's enrollment dropped eighty-one percent due to conscription and voluntary enlistment. Boston College became home to a Students' Army Training Corps (SATC), one of five hundred sixty-five institutions selected to train men to become officers, engineers, scientists, and administrators in the United States Army. With the dissolution of SATC programs, the government reinstated the Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) that had been suspended during the war. Boston College was granted a ROTC unit, in which on hundred thirty-seven students enrolled.

Lyons left Boston College in July 1919, though he returned in 1922 to teach metaphysics for two years before becoming president of Georgetown University. Lyons moved back to Boston once more in 1928 and joined the Mission band for eight years before retiring to Weston College in 1936. Lyons died on January 31, 1939, on his seventy-first birthday.

Sources

Dunigan, David R. *A History of Boston College*. Milwaukee, WI: Bruce Publishing Co., 1947.

"Obituary: Father Charles W. Lyons, 1868-1939." *Woodstock Letters* 68 (1939): 346-354. Accessed April 3, 2020, <https://jesuitonlinelibrary.bc.edu/?a=d&d=wlet19391001-01.2.9&e=-----en-20--1--txt-txIN----->

Scope and Contents

The President's office records of Charles W. Lyons, SJ, are composed of correspondence, memos, and writings documenting the fourteenth president's work. The bulk of the collection dates from 1914 to 1919, the dates of Lyons's presidency.

Correspondents include Father Provincial Joseph Zwinge; lawyer Edward A. McLaughlin; and the New York State Department of Education, which approved the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Sciences, and Bachelor of Philosophy degrees. Several folders contain correspondence related to the construction of St. Mary's Hall, primarily from architecture firm Maginnis & Walsh. One letter by Sister Mary Edmond from 1979 contains remembrances of Boston College High School and Lyons.

The student military training records are split into two groups: the Student Army Training Corps (SATC) operated during wartime, while the Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps was established after the 1918 armistice. Materials in both subseries consist of memos, forms, training manuals, course and class lists, and other related material. Also included are pages of student publication *Stylus*, which contain published photographs. Many of the memos in these subseries were sent to or from the United States War Department, a precursor to the Department of the Army. The writings series is made up of an article about "home night," a precursor to homecoming, two printed copies of a Fourth of July oration by Lyons, and a typescript of his obituary, written in Latin.

Arrangement

The records are arranged in three series: I. Correspondence; II. Student military training; III. Writings. All series are arranged in alphabetical order. Series II. Student military training is divided into two subseries: A. Student Army Training Corps (SATC); B. Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC).

PDF properties

Boston College History; College buildings; Boston College Office of the President History; Catholic Church; Jesuits Massachusetts; United States Army, Students' Army Training Corps and Reserve Officers' Training Corps; Maginnis and Walsh Architects (Boston, Mass.); Catholic universities and colleges; Fourth of July orations; World War I, 1914-1918.

Collection Inventory

Series I: Correspondence, 1914-1919, 1979

Boston and Albany Railroad to Charles W. Lyons, 1915 September	box 1	folder 1
---	-------	----------

Boston and Albany Railroad to Charles W. Lyons: 1915
September

http://hdl.handle.net/2345.2/BC2000_178_15087

Edmond, Mary to William J. Leonard regarding Lyons and Boston College High School, 1979	box 1	folder 2
--	-------	----------

Edmond, Mary to William J. Leonard regarding Lyons and
Boston College High School: 1979

http://hdl.handle.net/2345.2/BC2000_178_15088

General correspondence, 1919	box 1	folder 3
------------------------------	-------	----------

General correspondence: 1919

http://hdl.handle.net/2345.2/BC2000_178_15089

Lyons, Charles W. and Thomas Ignatius Gasson to Joseph Zwinge, 1914-1918	box 1	folder 4
---	-------	----------

Lyons, Charles W. and Thomas Ignatius Gasson to Joseph
Zwinge: 1914-1918

http://hdl.handle.net/2345.2/BC2000_178_15090

McLaughlin, Edward A. to Charles W. Lyons, 1914-1915	box 1	folder 5
--	-------	----------

McLaughlin, Edward A. to Charles W. Lyons: 1914-1915

http://hdl.handle.net/2345.2/BC2000_178_15091

New York State Department of Education to Charles W. Lyons, 1915	box 1	folder 6
---	-------	----------

New York State Department of Education to Charles W.
Lyons: 1915

http://hdl.handle.net/2345.2/BC2000_178_15092

Saint Mary's Hall construction correspondence, 1914-1918	box 1	folder 7-10
--	-------	-------------

Saint Mary's Hall construction correspondence: 1914-1918

http://hdl.handle.net/2345.2/BC2000_178_15093

Saint Mary's Hall housewarming, 1916	box 1	folder 11
--------------------------------------	-------	-----------

Saint Mary's Hall housewarming: 1916

http://hdl.handle.net/2345.2/BC2000_178_15094

Series II: Student military training, 1918-1919

Subseries A: Student Army Training Corps, 1915-1919

Correspondence, memos, and telegrams, 1918	box 1	folder 12
--	-------	-----------

Correspondence, memos, and telegrams: 1918

http://hdl.handle.net/2345.2/BC2000_178_15097

Course descriptions and class lists, 1915-1919	box 1	folder 13
--	-------	-----------

Course descriptions and class lists: 1915-1919

http://hdl.handle.net/2345.2/BC2000_178_15098

Course standards and correspondence, 1918	box 1	folder 14
---	-------	-----------

Course standards and correspondence: 1918

http://hdl.handle.net/2345.2/BC2000_178_15099

<i>Stylus</i> pages and correspondence, 1918-1919	box 1	folder 15
---	-------	-----------

Stylus pages and correspondence: 1918-1919

http://hdl.handle.net/2345.2/BC2000_178_15100

Subseries B: Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps, 1919

Army Reserve Officers Training Corps materials, 1919	box 1	folder 16-18
--	-------	--------------

Army Reserve Officers Training Corps materials: 1919

http://hdl.handle.net/2345.2/BC2000_178_15102

Correspondence, memos, and forms, 1919	box 1	folder 19-20
--	-------	--------------

Correspondence, memos, and forms: 1919

http://hdl.handle.net/2345.2/BC2000_178_15103

Memos and training materials, 1919	box 1	folder 21
------------------------------------	-------	-----------

Memos and training materials: 1919

http://hdl.handle.net/2345.2/BC2000_178_15104

War department manual, 1916	box 1	folder 22
-----------------------------	-------	-----------

War department manual: 1916

http://hdl.handle.net/2345.2/BC2000_178_15105

Series III: Writings, 1914-1939

"Home Night of Boston College," <i>Boston Sunday Globe</i> , 1914 February 8	box 1	folder 23
---	-------	-----------

"Home Night of Boston College," *Boston Sunday Globe*:
1914 February 8

http://hdl.handle.net/2345.2/BC2000_178_15107

Lyons, Charles W. <i>The American Mind: Fourth of July Oration</i> , 1923	box 1	folder 24-25
--	-------	--------------

Lyons, Charles W. *The American Mind: Fourth of July
Oration*: 1923

http://hdl.handle.net/2345.2/BC2000_178_15108

Obituary, typescript, after 1939	box 1	folder 26
----------------------------------	-------	-----------

Obituary, typescript: after 1939

http://hdl.handle.net/2345.2/BC2000_178_15109