

**COX, HARVEY WARREN, 1875-1944.**  
**Harvey Warren Cox papers, 1865-1961 (bulk 1920-1942)**

Emory University  
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### **Descriptive Summary**

**Creator:** Cox, Harvey Warren, 1875-1944.  
**Title:** Harvey Warren Cox papers, 1865-1961 (bulk 1920-1942)  
**Call Number:** Manuscript Collection No. 38  
**Extent:** 2.5 linear feet (5 boxes) and 1 oversized papers box and 1 oversized papers folder (OP)  
**Abstract:** Papers of Harvey Warren Cox, president and chancellor of Emory University.  
**Language:** Materials entirely in English.

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### **Administrative Information**

#### **Restrictions on access**

Unrestricted access.

#### **Terms Governing Use and Reproduction**

All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

#### **Related Materials in This Repository**

Related materials in this department include official university and student publications cataloged in the Emory University Archives; the papers of Cox's predecessors, Warren Akin Candler and James Edward Dickey; the papers of his successor, Goodrich Cook White, and the papers of Robert Fleming Whitaker and Robert Cotter Mizell, members of Cox's staff.

#### **Source**

Gift, 1973, with subsequent additions.

#### **Citation**

[after identification of item(s)], Harvey Warren Cox papers, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

#### **Processing**

Processed by VJHC, 1983.

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## Collection Description

### Biographical Note

Harvey Warren Cox (February 19, 1875-July 27, 1944) president and chancellor of Emory University was born in Birmingham, Illinois. His parents were Salisa Richardson Cox and Christopher Columbus Cox (b. 1847 in Schuyler County, Illinois), who served the Union Army in the Illinois Infantry, 34th Regiment, Company H. Cox married Daisy Esther Frisbie (d. September 5, 1960) of Red Cloud, Nebraska, on August 26, 1903. Their children were Warren Edward Cox, Ruth Esther Cox (Mrs. John Edward Lantz), and Albert Frisbie Cox.

Cox received the B.Ph. at Nebraska Wesleyan University (1902), the M.A. at the University of Nebraska (1906), and a second M.A. (1910) and the Ph.D. (1911) at Harvard University. His dissertation was entitled, "The Rise of the Motor Theory of Consciousness." Later in his career, honorary degrees were awarded to Cox from Emory University, the University of Florida, Birmingham Southern College, and Boston University.

From 1902 to 1909, Cox was professor of philosophy at Nebraska Wesleyan University. Accepting a position as professor of philosophy at the University of Florida in 1911, Cox served in that capacity until 1920 and also acted as dean of the University of Florida's Teachers College from 1916 to 1920. During World War I, Cox was District Supervisor of the Student Army Training Corps in the southeast.

Cox was elected president of Emory University in 1920. He was the thirteenth president of Emory College and the first president of the new Emory University, which had been organized in 1915 after a dispute concerning control of Vanderbilt University by the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. The new university had been governed since 1915 by Chancellor Warren Akin Candler and by Acting President and Acting Chancellor Franklin Nutting Parker. After the retirement of Chancellor Candler in 1922, President Cox also held briefly the title of Acting Chancellor.

During Cox's presidency, substantial increases were made in the University's enrollment, physical facilities, and financial resources. Cox led Emory through the Depression years and into an era of even greater changes during and after World War II. Outside grants to support Emory's educational program were received, Emory was recognized by the American Association of University Professors, the Gamma Chapter of Georgia of Phi Beta Kappa was installed at Emory in 1929, and the idea of the University Center in Georgia was born. The graduate school and business school (both established in 1919) grew rapidly, two junior college programs were established (Valdosta, 1928, and Oxford, 1929) and a library school (established in 1905, independent of college or university affiliation, as the Carnegie Library School) was incorporated into the University. Cox presided over the celebration in December, 1936 of the centennial of the founding of Emory College in December, 1836.

Cox retired as president in 1942, and was then named Chancellor of the University. He was succeeded as president by Goodrich Cook White, former student, professor, dean, and vice-president of Emory. Cox and White were inaugurated as chancellor and president respectively in 1942.

In addition to his activities in the field of education, Cox was a leader in the Methodist Church. He served as a deacon; as a lay leader of the North Georgia Conference; as a delegate to

four quadrennial conferences of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and to the Uniting Conference of the Methodist Church in 1939; and as a member of the General Board of Education of the Methodist Church. In addition, he was vice-chairman of the Atlanta Regional Labor Board (operating under the auspices of the National Labor Board in conjunction with the National Recovery Administration) in 1934 and 1935.

Harvey Warren Cox continued as chancellor of Emory University until his death in 1944. Memorial services for him were held in Glenn Memorial Methodist Church on the Emory campus, and he was buried in the Decatur Cemetery, Decatur, Georgia. Biographical information about Harvey Warren Cox may be found in these papers, primarily in Series 2, and in the two histories of Emory University: Bullock, Henry Morton. *A History of Emory University*, Nashville: Parthenon Press, 1936 (XE109 B8) -and English, Thomas Hopkins. *Emory University, 1915-1965: A Semicentennial History*. Atlanta: Emory University, 1966.

### **Scope and Content Note**

The Harvey Warren Cox papers contain correspondence, reports, speeches, printed materials, clippings, and photographs gathered from a variety of sources. The earliest items in the collection (1865-1880) relate to the Civil War service of Cox's father, while the heaviest concentration of material centers around Cox's presidency of Emory University (1920-1942). A few items in the collection date from after Cox's death in 1944 and concern the launching of the *Emory Victory*, sponsored by Cox's daughter-in-law (1945, 1952), and the dedication of Cox Hall, the food services building on the Emory University campus (1961).

These papers do not represent the archival records of the administration of Cox as president of Emory, nor do they present a complete picture of Cox's life. The very early family items were donated by descendants of Harvey Warren Cox. Much of the Emory-related material and some of the personal and Labor Board papers were gathered in the library during and after Cox's presidency; the details of the provenance of most of these items before their accumulation in the library is unclear. Thirteen items of correspondence (1931-1935) exchanged between Georgia author Corra Harris on her companion and Cox or members of his Emory staff were removed from the Warren Akin Candler Papers in this department and interfiled in Cox's Emory correspondence. Other items of correspondence exchanged between Cox and officials of the Methodist Church were removed from an artificial Methodist Leaders Collection in this department and interfiled into the Emory correspondence in this collection. Photographs, clippings, and news releases from the files of the Emory University News Bureau have also been made a part of this collection.

Correspondents include: Martha McChesney Berry, Corra May (White) Harris, Herbert Clark Hoover, John M. McCandless, Arthur James Moore, Raymond Blalock Nixon, Franklin Nutting Parke , Richard Brevard Russell, and Robert Fleming Whitaker.

### **Arrangement Note**

Organized into three series: (1) Personal and family papers, (2) Emory University records and papers, and (3) National Labor Board papers.

## **Description of Series**

[Series 1: Personal and family papers, 1865-1942](#)

[Series 2: Emory University records and papers, 1919-1961](#)

[Series 3: National Labor Board papers, 1933-1934](#)

**Series 1**  
**Personal and family papers, 1865-1942**  
**Box 1, OP1**

**Scope and Content Note**

This series contains certificates, documents and printed material concerning Harvey Warren Cox and his family. The earliest materials are papers relating to Christopher Columbus Cox's Civil War service and to the family of Daisy Esther Frisbie Cox. Other materials tell something of Cox's life prior to his coming to Emory and of his private life outside of his duties as president and chancellor of the University. Such items include an article by Cox (1902), his Harvard Ph.D. thesis (1911), and various certificates. Materials in this series are arranged in chronological order.

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
1	1	Cox family papers, 1865-1906, 1955
1	2	Article: "The Crowd Mind," 1902
1	3	Ph.D. thesis: "The Rise of the Motor Theory of Consciousness," Harvard University, 1911
1	4	Press release, 1910; correspondence 1918
1	5	Deacon's certificate, Methodist Episcopal Church, South, 1925
1	6	Ecumenical Methodist Conference program, 1931
1	7	Kiwanis certificate, 1934; Freemason's certificate, 1939
1	8	Legal agreement for water service, 1942
OP1	1	Degrees and educational certificates (12), 1896-1930

**Series 2****Emory University records and papers, 1919-1961****Boxes 1 - 2****Scope and Content Note**

Among the Emory University records and papers contained in this series are correspondence, reports, printed material, clippings, and photographs. While not the archival records of his presidency, these materials do document to some extent Cox's role as president and chancellor of Emory University.

Correspondence (4 folders, arranged chronologically, 1920-1941) begins the series. Cox exchanged a number of letters during these years with John M. McCandless, former state chemist of Georgia, who made regular gifts to a scholarship fund established in memory of his mother, Frances Augusta Coleman McCandless. Correspondence in late 1936 and early 1937 concerns the celebration of the centennial of the founding of Emory College, while other items throughout the entire time period are routine university business letters or invitations and responses.

Correspondents represented in this series include: William Newman Ainsworth, Martha McChesney Berry, Hiram Abiff Boaz, James Cannon, Urban Valentine William Darlington, John Lloyd Decell, Collins Denny, Hoyt McWhorter Dobbs, Horace Mellard Dubose, William Preston Few, Charles Wesley Flint, Corra May (White) Harris, Samuel Ross Hay, Herbert Clark Hoover, Paul Bentley Kern, Frederick DeLand Leete, Adna Wright Leonard, John M. McCandless, Arthur James Moore, John Monroe Moore, Edwin DuBose Mouzon, Louis DeVotie Newton, Raymond Blalock Nixon, Garfield Bromley Oxnam, Franklin Nutting Parker, William Walter Peele, Clare Purcell, Richard Brevard Russell, and Robert Fleming Whitaker.

Much of this correspondence is individually indexed on cards in the manuscripts card catalog in this department.

Sequences of reports and statements, each arranged chronologically, give statistical and other information about the University. The remainder of the items in this series follow, arranged generally in a single chronological sequence. These include materials about the portrait of Cox presented to the University (1935), articles, the program for his inauguration as chancellor (1942), obituaries (1944), photographs, clippings, and materials about the *Emory Victory* (1945, 1952) and Cox Hall (1961).

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
1	9-12	Correspondence, 1920-1941
1	13	"Registration of a College," University of the State of New York, 192-
1	14	Reports: President's annual report, 1920-1921
1	15	Reports: President's annual report, 1921-1922
1	16	Reports: President's annual report, 1922-1923
1	17	Reports: President's annual report, 1940-1941
1	18	Statistical reports to the Board of Education of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, 1920
1	19	Registrar's Office, 1919-1920

1	20	Financial statements, 1919-1921
1	21	Dean of School of Liberal Arts, 1920
1	22	Headmaster of Emory University Academy, 1920
1	23	Athletic Committee, 1920
1	24	"A Report from the President to the Alumni of Emory University," 1939
1	25	Advertisements: "Higher Education in the South," nos. 1-10, 1925
1	26	Statements: "Protest Against 'Suppression and Terrorism,'" 1934
1	27	"Emory's Part in the War" [1942?]
1	28	Invitations and greeting cards, 1929-1931
1	29	Portrait, 1935: Photographs, prints
1	30	Remarks, by William D. Thomson and Goodrich C. White
1	31	Articles, 1935-1936 and undated
1	32	Pension agreement, 1937
2	1	Inauguration as Chancellor, 1942
2	2	Speeches, 1942 and undated
2	3	News releases: Obituaries, 1944
2	4	Memorials: Dr. Cox, 1944; Mrs. Cox, 1960
2	5	Photographs
2	6	Clippings, 1933-1961
2	7	Clippings, 1945 and 1952
OP2	-	Clippings, 1938
2	8	Cox Hall dedication, 1961
2	9	Memorabilia: signature stamp

**Series 3**  
**National Labor Board papers, 1933-1934**  
**Box 2**

**Scope and Content Note**

Series 3 contains correspondence and printed material concerning both the National Labor Board in conjunction with the National Recovery Administration (established Aug. 5, 1933 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt; superseded by the first National Labor Relations Board, June 29, 1934, Executive Order 6763) and the Atlanta Regional Labor Board. Cox served as vice-chairman of the Atlanta Board in 1934 and 1935, and these files represent some of the material received and reviewed by him in that official capacity.

Correspondence (1 folder, arranged chronologically, 1934) and case materials (1 folder, arranged in case number order) from the Atlanta Board begin the series. Printed material distributed by the National Labor Board (4 folders, arranged chronologically, 1933-1934) follows.

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
2	10	Atlanta Regional Labor Board - Correspondence, 1934
2	11	Cases, nos. 1-60
2	12-15	National Labor [Relations] Board - Printed material, 1933-1934

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