



Peace Action Committee of Missouri Collection (S0172)

Collection Number: S0172

Collection Title: Peace Action Committee of Missouri Collection

Dates: 1939-1940

Creator: Peace Action Committee of Missouri

Abstract: The collection contains newsletters, pamphlets, letters, bulletins, and circulars pertaining to the Peace Action Committee of Missouri's efforts to lobby the United States government against participating in foreign wars. The group supported political candidates in Missouri and urged Congress to pass the Ludlow War Referendum Amendment in the late 1930s.

Collection Size: .1 cubic foot
(1 folder)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri-Research Center, St. Louis](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at stlouis@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

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Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Peace Action Committee of Missouri Collection* (S0172); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-St. Louis [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-STL].

Donor Information: The papers were donated to the University of Missouri by Louise Robison on May 10, 1983 (Accession No. A-2535).

Processed by: Processed by AJ Medlock, December 2017

Historical Note:

In 1934, St. Louis area peace activists established the Peace Action Committee of Missouri to lobby United States government against participating in future foreign wars. Throughout the 1930s, the Peace Action Committee of Missouri supported congressional candidates and was instrumental in defeating Congressman James Claiborne, of the Missouri 12th Congressional District in 1936. Peace Action also lobbied for the passage of the Ludlow War Referendum Amendment, which would have required Congress to seek approval from the American public before declaring war. At the height of its influence, Peace Action established branches in Columbia, Springfield, and Kansas City, and published the *Peace Actionist* newsletter. In the latter years of its existence, the Peace Action Committee of Missouri also opposed the Neutrality Act of 1939, which lifted the arms embargo prohibiting the United States from supplying weapons to foreign nations at war, and the Selective Service and Training Act of 1940.

Arrangement:

The collection consists of one folder.

Scope and Content Note:

The Peace Action Committee of Missouri Collection contains newsletters, pamphlets, letters, bulletins, and circulars concerning the Ludlow War Referendum Amendment, the Neutrality Act of 1939, and the Selective Service and Training Act of 1940. Other topics include the group's 1940 political platform, the history of the Peace Action Committee of Missouri, and the group's political organizing activities in St. Louis. Significant individuals featured in the collection include W. Don Ellinger, executive secretary of the Peace Action Committee of Missouri; Paul Harris, of the Youth Movement for World Recovery and an early organizer of the Peace Action Committee; and Bennett Champ Clark, a United States Senator from Missouri (1933-1945).

Container List:

- f. 1 Newsletters, Brochures, and Correspondence, 1939-1940

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