



The New York Public Library  
Rodgers and Hammerstein Archives of Recorded Sound

Guide to the

**A.F.R. Lawrence collection of historical spoken word [sound recording]**

1900-1970

\*L (Special) 89-21

## Summary

**Creator:** Lawrence, A. F. R

**Title:** A.F.R. Lawrence collection of historical spoken word [sound recording]

**Date:** 1900-1970

**Size:** ca; 3400 sound recordings

**Abstract:** The collection contains both commercial and noncommercial discs and tapes. The commercial recordings include the complete set of Nation's Forum discs, Benito Mussolini's personal copy, bound and numbered, of his recorded speeches, Victor long play discs from the early 1930's including Stokowski conducting the Philadelphia Orchestra in Schoenberg's Gurrelieder and Beethoven's Fifth Symphony, and the Sistine Chapel Choir recordings of the pre-electric era, at least eight or nine sides of which feature Alessandro Moreschi, last of the known castrati.

**Access:** Access to original items by permission only. Some items may be available as service copies. Other items which need preservation work may require advance notification for use. Refer to item descriptions in individual catalog records for more information.

**Conditions Governing Access:**

Access to discs restricted.

**Preferred citation:** A.F.R. Lawrence collection of historical spoken word [sound recording], Rodgers and Hammerstein Archives of Recorded Sound, The New York Public Library

## Creator History

A. F. R. Lawrence was an avid record collector and worked at Columbia Records.

## Scope and Content Note

The collection contains both commercial and noncommercial discs and tapes. The commercial

recordings include the complete set of Nation's Forum discs, Benito Mussolini's personal copy, bound and numbered, of his recorded speeches, Victor long play discs from the early 1930's including Stokowski conducting the Philadelphia Orchestra in Schoenberg's Gurrelieder and Beethoven's Fifth Symphony, and the Sistine Chapel Choir recordings of the pre-electric era, at least eight or nine sides of which feature Alessandro Moreschi, last of the known castrati. The noncommercial items offer exhaustive coverage of politics and history of the U.S., Britain, France, Italy, and the Vatican -- with particular emphasis on World Wars I and II. The collection also includes Alexander Graham Bell in a re-enactment of the invention of the telephone, Alfred Lord Tennyson and Robert Browning reading their own works, William Ewart Gladstone in a phonogram to T. A. Edison, and Shakespeare excerpts recited by Sir Henry Irving, Sir Ernest Shackleton, Edwin Booth, and Ellen Terry. Constant Coquelin recites Cyrano excerpts, and Giacomo Puccini is heard on a radio broadcast. The collection contains recordings of speeches by political figures, including unissued Nation's Forum recordings.

**Arrangement:** I. Noncommercial recordings; II. Commercial recordings arranged alphabetically

## Key Terms

### Subjects

Speeches, addresses, etc., American  
Speeches, addresses, etc., English  
Speeches, addresses, etc., French  
Speeches, addresses, etc., German  
Speeches, addresses, etc., Italian  
Speeches, addresses, etc., Japanese  
Speeches, addresses, etc., Russian  
Speeches, addresses, etc., Spanish American

### Names

Lawrence, A. F. R  
Barnum, P. T. (Phineas Taylor), 1810-1891  
Barrymore, John, 1882-1942  
Baukhage, Gerd, 1911-1998  
Bell, Alexander Graham, 1847-1922  
Berliner, Emile, 1851-1929  
Bernhardt, Sarah, 1844-1923  
Booth, Edwin, 1833-1893  
Brice, Fanny  
Browning, Robert, 1812-1889  
Bryan, William Jennings, 1860-1925  
Carol II, King of Romania, 1893-1953  
Chaliapin, Fyodor Ivanovich, 1873-1938  
Charles I, Emperor of Austria, 1887-1922  
Clark, Champ  
Coolidge, Calvin, 1872-1933  
Coquelin, Constant, 1841-1909  
Earhart, Amelia, 1897-1937  
Edison, Thomas A. (Thomas Alva), 1847-1931  
Einstein, Albert, 1879-1955  
Freud, Sigmund, 1856-1939  
Gandhi, Mahatma, 1869-1948  
Gaulle, Charles de, 1890-1970

George VI, King of Great Britain, 1895-1952  
Gladstone, W. E. (William Ewart), 1809-1898  
Goebbels, Joseph, 1897-1945  
Harding, Warren G. (Warren Gamaliel), 1865-1923  
Hirohito, Emperor of Japan, 1901-1989  
Hitler, Adolf, 1889-1945  
Hoover, Herbert, 1874-1964  
Hoover, J. Edgar (John Edgar), 1895-1972  
Irving, Henry, Sir, 1838-1905  
John XXIII, Pope, 1881-1963  
Kipling, Rudyard, 1865-1936  
Mussolini, Benito, 1883-1945  
Nightingale, Florence, 1820-1910  
Paul-Boncour, J. (Joseph), b. 1873  
Pershing, John J. (John Joseph), 1860-1948