

**The New York Public Library
Humanities and Social Sciences Library
Manuscripts and Archives Division**

American Fund for French Wounded

Records, 1915-1919

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Summary

- Main Entry:** American Fund for French Wounded
- Title:** American Fund for French Wounded Records, 1915-1919
- Size:** .83 linear feet (2 boxes)
- Source:** Gift of Mrs. Charles Fairchild, 1917; Mrs. Schuyler van Rensselaer and Anna Vail, 1925, 1926; State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 2000
- Abstract:** Records of the relief organization founded by American women to aid wounded soldiers in France during World War I. The collection consists of correspondence, administrative records, pamphlets, circular letters, bulletins, photographs and related materials.
- Special formats:** Photoprints

Historical Note

The American Fund for French Wounded was founded by American women living abroad, to provide relief to small hospitals in France. The organization was initially established under the auspices of a British organization, the London Committee of the French Emergency Fund, but became independent in December 1915. Committees in eighty United States municipalities raised funds for the organization, which worked closely with several similar organizations, notably the American Committee for Devasated France and the American Red Cross. The Fund's mission was to provide medical assistance for wounded French soldiers and civilians, and other forms of support for refugees.

Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of correspondence, administrative records, reports, circular letters, pamphlets, bulletins, and a few clippings and photographs. Much of the correspondence is between Mrs. Schuyler van Rensselaer, the New York president of the AFFW, and Anna Vail, the treasurer of the Paris Depot. There is additional correspondence of other members and volunteers. Most of these documents, along with circular letters, report on the delivery of supplies to French hospitals, often describing in detail the physical conditions of hospitals and other locations and the individual conditions of the wounded, and including lists of needed materials. There are some letters, mostly in French, from hospitals and French organizations thanking the AFFW for its services.

Arrangement Note

The collection is grouped according to the two major periods of accession. Material received in the period 1917-1926 is in the first box, with chronologically-arranged correspondence preceding published and related materials. The second box consists of materials transferred from the State Historical Society of Wisconsin in 2000, and consists primarily of circular letters chronologically arranged, followed by files pertaining to related organizations, and pamphlets and related materials.

Container List

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	
1	1	Correspondence, 1916
	2	Correspondence, 1917
	3	Correspondence, 1918
	4	Correspondence, 1919
	5	Letters and Reports, 1915-1919
	6	Letters and Reports, 1916 (bound)
	7	Letters and miscellaneous items, n.d.
	8	Bulletins, 1918-1919
	9	Photographs
	10	Printed items

Files received from the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 2000

2	1	Circular letters and reports from France, 1915 and n.d.
	2	Circular letters and reports from France, 1916
	3	Circular letters and reports from France, 1917
	4	Circular letters and reports from France, 1918
	5	Weekly Bulletin, 1918-1919 (incomplete)
	6	American Committee for Devastated France. Bulletins, 1918-1919
	7	French Wounded Emergency Fund. Reports, 1915-1916
	8	National Surgical Dressings Committee, 1914-1918
	9	Organizational Papers, Miscellaneous, 1916-1918
	10	Printed items