

Paul Schrecker collection of Austrian World War I ephemera and publications

Ms. Coll. 1337

Finding aid prepared by Holly Mengel.

Last updated on November 30, 2017.

University of Pennsylvania, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts

2017 November 28

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Summary Information

Repository	University of Pennsylvania: Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts
Creator	Schrecker, Paul, 1889-
Title	Paul Schrecker collection of Austrian World War I ephemera and publications
Call number	Ms. Coll. 1337
Date [inclusive]	1914-1922
Extent	0.8 linear foot (3 boxes)
Language	German
Language Note	The bulk of this collection is German; however, there are small amounts of material in French and Hungarian.
Abstract	Paul Schrecker (1889-1963) was a philosopher and professor. There is little information on Schrecker's life during World War I, except that he appears to have been a civilian in Vienna. This collection documents a Viennese citizen's home front experience during World War I. Shrecker saved ephemeral material relating to German propaganda, German efforts to finance the war, German war heroes and memorialization of Germany's participation in World War I, prisoner of war experiences, and rationing, as well as election material from 1919.

Cite as:

Paul Schrecker collection of Austrian World War I ephemera and publications, 1914-1922, Ms. Coll. 1337, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts, University of Pennsylvania

Biography/History

Paul Schrecker (1889-1963) was a philosopher and professor. Born in Vienna, Austria, on October 31, 1889, Schrecker was the son of businessman Theodor (1854-1921) and Berta Neurath (1861-1931) Schrecker. He obtained his education from the University of Vienna (LL.D in 1913) and the University of Berlin (Ph.D. in 1928). Following the completion of his law degree in 1913, Schrecker worked at his father's furniture manufacturing business. There is little information on Schrecker's life during World War I, except that he appears to have been a civilian in Vienna. Schrecker married Leonie Sabotka (1892-1985) in 1914 and they were the parents of Anthony Wolfgang Schrecker (1915-1993). The marriage ended sometime between 1921 and 1927, when Schrecker married Claire Bauhoff (1895-1984) in Berlin. They separated in 1932 and divorced in January 1935. Schrecker's brother, Robert (1893-1957) appears to have been a prisoner of war held at Alexandra Palace in London circa 1915 to 1917. In 1933, with the passing of the Nuremberg Laws, Schrecker was dismissed from his position at the Prussian Academy of Sciences and fled to Paris where he taught at the University of Paris from 1933 to 1940. He moved to the United States after the German occupation of France in 1940 and taught at the New School for Social Research in New York from 1941 to 1945; at the École Libre des Hautes Studies in New York from 1942 to 1945; as a professor at Bryn Mawr, Haverford, and Swarthmore Colleges (probably from 1945 to 1950); and as a professor at the University of Pennsylvania from 1950 until his retirement in 1960. His last year of teaching was spent as John Hay Whitney visiting professor at the Claremont Graduate School. He edited the works of Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz (1646-1716) from 1929 to 1933 and Nicolas Malebranche (1638-1715) from 1934 to 1940, and is the author of *Work and History: An Essay on the Structure of Civilization*, published by Princeton University Press in 1948. Paul Schrecker married Anne Martin in 1951 and his son, Theodore, now a professor at Durham University in the UK, was born in 1954.

Works consulted:

Czapla, Ralf George. *Die ungleichen Geschwister: Der Unternehmer Friedrich Baur und die Tänzerin Claire Bauhoff*. München: Piper, 2015.

Kustatscher, Erika. *"Berufsstand" oder "Stand"?: Ein politischer Schlüsselbegriff im Österreich*. Wien: Böhlau, 2016.

Scope and Contents

This collection documents a Viennese citizen's home front experience during World War I. Shrecker

saved material relating to the Central Powers's propaganda, efforts to finance the war, war heroes, prisoner of war camps, and rationing. In regards to Central Powers's propaganda, researchers will find information relating to England and Italy specifically via war bulletins, maps, newspapers, poems, postcards, and stamps; and Europe more generally via three satirical maps. In regards to the Central Powers's efforts to finance the war, the collection contains insurance records, subscriptions, war bonds, and Red Cross merchandise (including a bookmark, bookplates, and calendar) which were probably sold to raise funds. Central Powers war heroes are documented in a number of postcards; although the postcards also memorialize the dead, celebrate battles, and contain significant propagandist imagery. The prisoner of war ephemera in the collection includes several Red Cross postcards (one sent to Paul Schrecker); two holiday postcards sent to Schrecker from his brother, Robert, who was held as a civilian prisoner of war at Alexandra Palace in London from circa 1915 to 1917; a photocopy of a camp newspaper; and prisoner of war currency (Lagergeld) which was paid to prisoners who "were usually forced to work, for a derisory payment, of which only a token amount was ever given to them in worthless 'camp coupons' rather than real currency, and had little say over the tasks involved," (Jones). The envelope in which the lagergeld is contained indicates that the currency may have been sold as souvenirs rather than used in the camps. Currency for camps in Brunn am Gebirge, Freistadt, Gröditz, Hart (or Harth) bei Amstetten, and Kenyermezo are included. Ration cards reflect the shortage of milk, bread and flour, coffee, sugar, tobacco, and even shoes. Most of these appear to be from Vienna, but there are a few from Hungary; and some were issued as late as 1922, indicating the financial struggles Austria, Hungary, and Germany continued to experience following the end of the war. Researchers will note that the 1919 election is documented in this collection.

There are also a number of publications that document specific events or memorialize World War I generally. Of particular interest may be the press coverage of the death of Emperor Franz Joseph on November 21, 1916 and the days just preceding the November 11, 1918 Armistice. As some of the publications memorializing World War I were published before the end of the war, it is possible that they were intended to raise money for the war effort. Publications are arranged alphabetically by their German (or French) title and are followed by a rough translation.

At the time of gift, the entirety of this collection was placed haphazardly in a purchased scrapbook entitled "Kriegs-Erinnerungen, 1914" (War Memories). The scrapbook, with expandable folders sewed into the binding, was used as intended; however, items were folded and the expandable folders were overstuffed. For access to and preservation of the material, all items were removed from the scrapbook and foldered. The items did not appear to have been placed in the expandable folders in any intentional order. The empty scrapbook was retained for its artefactual value and can be found in box 2, folder 8.

Works consulted:

Jones, Heather. "Prisoners of War." International Encyclopedia of the First World War (accessed 2017 November 28)

Administrative Information

University of Pennsylvania, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts

2017 November 28

Finding aid prepared by Holly Mengel.

Access Restrictions

This collection is open for research use.

Use Restrictions

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Source of Acquisition

Gift of Paul Schrecker, 1953.

Related Materials

Related Archival Materials note

At the Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts at the University of Pennsylvania:
Paul Schrecker papers, 1921-1964, Ms. Coll. 987.

Controlled Access Headings

CORPORATE NAME(S)

- Deutsches Rotes Kreuz.

FORM/GENRE(S)

- Financial records

- Maps (documents)
- Newspapers
- Picture postcards
- Publications (documents)

GEOGRAPHIC NAME(S)

- Austria--Politics and government--1848-1918
- Austria--Politics and government--1918-1938

SUBJECT(S)

- Prisoner-of-war camps
- World War, 1914-1918
- World War, 1914-1918--Austria
- World War, 1914-1918--Germany
- World War, 1914-1918--Propaganda

Collection Inventory

SERIES I. EPHEMERA.

	Box	Folder
Army command reports (typescripts), 1915 April, June.	1	1
Election and political material from 1919, including ballot papers for the Democratic, Social Democratic, and Borgeois-Democratic parties; rally notices; and Christian Socialist party information, 1918 December-1919 July.	3	6
Financial documents including insurance, subscriptions, and war bonds, 1915.	1	2
German propaganda regarding England ("The Collapse of England"), 1915 February 2.	1	3
German propaganda regarding Italy including war bulletins, map, poem, and document regarding Italy revoking the Triple Alliance, 1915.	1	4
German propaganda regarding Italy including newspaper and propaganda leaflet, 1915.	2	1
	Box	Folder
Illustrated satirical map: "European Revue: Kill that Eagle," designed by J. Amschewitz, 1914.	100	
Illustrated satirical map: "Hark! Hark! The Dogs Do Bark" with note by Walter Emanuel, designed and printed by Johnson, Biddle, & Co. Ltd., 1914.	100	

Illustrated satirical map: "Gedrängte Frühjahrsübersicht von Europa im Jahre 1915," published by Lucas Gräfe, Hamburg, 1915.	100	
	Box	Folder
"Kriegs-Erinnerungen, 1914," empty scrapbook which formerly contained collection material, circa 1914.	2	8
Post cards documenting German military figures; memorials; battles; camp life; the Christmas holiday; the Red Cross; songs; poems; subscription requests; and propaganda against England, France, Italy, Poland, Russia, and Scotland, circa 1914-1918.	1	5
Poster, possibly relating to the anniversary of the Battle of Tannenberg, after 1914 August.	3	1
Prisoner of war ephemera including <i>L'Echo de Zossen</i> , <i>Journal des prisonniers du Camp de Zossen</i> (photocopy), postcards, and Lagergeld (prisoner of war currency), circa 1914-1918.	1	6
Ration cards, 1915-1922.	1	7
Receipt relating to a boy's school in Vienna, 1915 February 28.	1	8
Red cross bookmark, bookplates, and calendar, circa 1915.	1	9
Stamps ("Gott Strafe England!" and "Den fürs Vaterland Gefallenen Helden"), 1915, undated .	1	10

SERIES II. PUBLICATIONS.

	Box	Folder
<i>Arbeiter-Zeitung</i> (Arbeiter Newspaper, daily of the Social Democratic	3	5

Party), 1916 November 22.		
<i>Bruxelles et Ses Affiches de Guerre</i> , Nos. 1-16 (Brussels and its War Notices), 1914 October-1915.	1	12
<i>Bruxelles et Ses Affiches de Guerre</i> , Nos. 17-26 (Brussels and its War Notices), 1915.	1	13
<i>Bunte Kriegsbilderbogen</i> , Nos. 1, 16, 20, 23, 30, 33, and 40 (Colorful War Images), undated.	3	2
<i>Das U-Boat</i> (The U-Boat), 1915.	1	15
<i>Der Abend</i> (The Evening), 1918 November 9.	3	3
<i>Die Vierte Österreichische Kriegsanleihe</i> (The Fourth Austrian War Bond), 1916.	1	17
<i>Die Zeit</i> (The Time), 1916 November 22.	3	3
<i>Fremden-Blatt</i> (Foreign Journal), 1915 May 23.	3	4
<i>Gesammelte Kriegserklärungen zur Erinnerung an den Weltkrieg, 1914-1915</i> (Collected War Declarations to Commemorate World War, 1914-1915), circa 1915.	1	11
<i>Karnisch Julische Kriegszeitung Illustrierte Neujahrsausgabe</i> (Karnisch Julische Illustrated War Magazine, New Year's edition), 1916.	1	16
<i>Kriegs-Flugblätter</i> , Nos. 1-28 (War Files), undated.	2	2
<i>Kriegszeitung</i> (War Newspaper), 1915 September 5-6.	2	3
<i>L'Humanité</i> (Humanity), 1918 November 8.	3	3
<i>Liller Kriegszeitung</i> (Liller War Newspaper), 1915 July-September.	2	4

<i>Mittags-Zeitung</i> (Lunchtime Newspaper), 1915 May 25, 1918 February 9.	3	4
<i>Neue Freie Presse</i> (New Free Press), 1915-1916.	3	4
<i>Neues Wiener Journal</i> (New Viennese Journal), 1915 May 20, 1916 December 12.	3	5
Prime Minister proclamations regarding the coat of arms, 1915 November.	1	14
<i>Tagblatt</i> (Daily Leaflet?), 1914-1918.	2	5
<i>Welt-Blatt</i> (World Journal), 1916, 1917.	2	6
<i>Wiener Zeitung</i> , Nos. 118, 174, 175 (two copies), 240, and 269 (Vienna Newspaper), 1914-1916, 1918.	2	7
<i>Zeitgeschichtliches Dokument</i> (Contemporary History Document), undated.	3	5