

U DBN

Records of Reginald Francis Orlando Bridgeman

1921-1953

Accession number: 1981/01

Biographical Background:

Reginald Francis Orlando Bridgeman was born in London on 14 October 1884. The family was descended from Sir Orlando Bridgeman, the famous law officer, who died in 1674. Reginald was the eldest son of Colonel the Hon. Francis Bridgeman, the second son of the third earl of Bradford, and Conservative MP for Bolton, 1885-1895, and his wife Gertrude Hanbury. Reginald's unusual life saw him move from being a comfortably placed minor aristocrat, in an appropriate occupation, to a committed leftwing activist - a stance which he maintained from his 30s for the rest of his life (Bellamy and Saville, Dictionary of Labour Biography, vii, p.26).

Reginald Bridgeman was educated at Harrow, but left school at sixteen to study languages abroad. He began a diplomatic career in 1903, as honorary attache in the embassy at Madrid and in July 1908 he was posted to Paris as third secretary. He was in Paris until 1916 and counted amongst his friends Jean Cocteau and other members of the Paris avant-garde. He was promoted to Second Secretary in 1911, and became Private Secretary to Sir Francis Bertie, the Ambassador to France, in 1912. He was briefly transferred to Athens but came back to Paris in 1917 as private secretary to Lord Derby, the British Ambassador. He was promoted to first secretary in 1918 and was transferred to Vienna in 1919, where he was briefly Charge d'Affaires. In November 1920 he was promoted Counsellor of Embassy and appointed to the British Legation at Teheran. On his way to Teheran he visited India and a number of Middle Eastern countries including Iraq (Bellamy and Saville, Dictionary of Labour Biography, vii, p.27).

Thus far Bridgeman's progress appears to have been smoothly upwards and typical of someone of his background. For reasons that remain unclear, he swiftly became a leftwing Socialist during the years 1919 to 1922. It is possible that this move was prompted initially by his observations in post war Vienna, where he acquired his first view of leftwing groups in action. His arrival in Teheran coincided with the coup by Reza Khan (later the Shah). He appears to have become particularly friendly with Theodore Rothstein, the Soviet Minister there, much to the annoyance of Eyre Crow, Permanent Secretary at the Foreign Office, and Lord Curzon, the Foreign Secretary. Bridgeman's fraternisation with the enemy caused considerable alarm in London. Most significantly, in October 1921 he attended a Russian reception celebrating the October Revolution. This episode led to Bridgeman's removal from Teheran in March 1922, followed by a period of 'unemployment', and his early retirement (with a pension) from 1 July 1923. He maintained links with the Persian embassy and with exiled Persian intellectuals, most notably Syyid Zia ed-Din Tabatabai, and used the League Against Imperialism from the late 1920s to make political statements about Middle Eastern affairs (Bellamy and Saville, Dictionary of Labour Biography, vii, p.28).

Bridgeman's shift to the Left was perhaps assisted, or reinforced by, his marriage in 1923 to Olwen Elizabeth Jones, a typist, and daughter of a retired chemist and active local politician. The Bridgemans lived in Pinner where, in 1924, Reginald became a founder and then secretary of the Hendon Divisional Labour Party. He was to remain active in local politics for the rest of his life.

His first prominent role at national level came in relation to China. The interventionist and violent reaction of the foreign powers (principally Britain, America and Japan) to the spread of the Kuomintang during 1925 and 1926 led to anti-Imperialist campaigns in Britain. The Chinese Information Bureau, based in London, was established in early 1925. One of the prime movers was Colonel L'Estrange Malone, who became a close friend of Bridgeman's: he had been a Coalition Liberal, then a Communist until his defeat in 1922, and later in the 1920s was to be a Labour MP. Bridgeman also became joint secretary of the British Labour Council for Chinese

Freedom, which was established following a special meeting organised by the London Trades Council in December 1926. BLCCF members included Fenner Brockway, George Lansbury, and Bertrand Russell. The CIB concentrated on issuing statements and propaganda on behalf of the Chinese Nationalist cause. During 1926 and early 1927 the CIB provoked comment in the British and Chinese press. Interest waned after Chiang Kai-shek's counter-revolution of 1927 and Bridgeman turned his attention to the Soviet Union and the League Against Imperialism (Bellamy and Saville, Dictionary of Labour Biography, vii, pp.28-30).

Bridgeman was never officially a member of the Communist Party of Great Britain. His most important activities were connected with the League Against Imperialism, of which he was secretary. For most of its 10 year existence the LAI was an organisation proscribed by the Labour Party because it was thought to be dominated by the CPGB. Although Bridgeman repeatedly denied this, the LAI does appear to have followed the Party line on most occasions. The LAI was most active in its early years, particularly those of the Meerut Conspiracy trial between 1929 and 1933. Bridgeman produced numerous articles and pamphlets in the general area of colonialism and racism, and on particular countries, such as Cyprus, Iraq, Egypt and India. He was especially strident in his writings against Zionism, and his concern for the Palestinian Arabs. He was equally forthright in his attacks on the anti-Semitism that developed during the 1930s.

Bridgeman's LAI connections did not help his political career. He became Chairman of the Hendon Divisional Labour Party in 1927, and was adopted as parliamentary candidate for the Uxbridge Division later that same year. In the 1929 general election the Labour vote doubled to 16422, and the Tory majority fell to 1348. He was re-adopted as candidate, but the decision of the Executive Committee of the Labour Party to proscribe the LAI made him ineligible to stand (Bellamy and Saville, Dictionary of Labour Biography, vii, pp.30-32). He was then adopted as the Workers' candidate, sponsored by the Southall Branch of the LAI. His election address in 1931 included the cry: 'To win power the workers must realise the nature of the present struggle. It is no mere party struggle. It is class war.' Bridgeman, in a poor election for all left candidates (including the Labour Party), polled only 2358 votes.

He became more involved in grass-roots politics in the early 1930s and represented unemployed workers before the Court of Referees. He spent his savings on building workers' houses which he rented out at income-related rates. He also became active in the anti-war movement, in the China and Spain Relief Committee, and as a Council member of the China Campaign Committee set up by the Union of Democratic Control in 1937.

On the closure of the LAI in 1937 Bridgeman was re-admitted to the Labour Party. He had in fact maintained close links with members and officials, and was a member of the General and Municipal Workers' Union from the 1920s. He also spoke and campaigned for Labour Party candidates during elections. After his re-admission in the spring of 1937, he was quickly adopted as parliamentary candidate for the Hendon division in early 1938. However, he continued to maintain links with individuals and groups on the Left and experienced difficult relations with several key members of the local Labour Party. He eventually resigned as candidate on 17 July 1940. The final break with the Labour Party came over the demand that he should withdraw his name from the document convening the Communist-inspired People's Convention in January 1941. This led to his expulsion from the Labour Party (Bellamy and Saville, Dictionary of Labour Biography, vii, pp.31-7)

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At the time of his resignation as a Parliamentary candidate Bridgeman listed his membership of organisations, and this shows the great range of his interests:

- The Abyssinia Association
- The Anti-Slavery and Aborigines Protection Society
- The China Campaign Committee
- The Coloured Film Artistes Association
- The Committee for West Indian Affairs
- The Connolly Club
- The India League
- The National Council for Civil Liberties (he was treasurer 1949-51, and sometime chairman of its Overseas Committee)
- The Royal Institute of International Affairs
- The Society for Cultural relations with the USSR
- The Society for West Indian Affairs

During the 1940s he also gave financial and moral support to the local Pioneer Theatre Society Ltd, of which he was made President. His renewed interest in China came with the victory of the Chinese Communists in 1949. In April 1949 a committee was established in Britain to promote improved relations. This was chaired by John Platts-Mills MP; Bridgeman was a committee member. A Conference was held in London in December 1949, and Bridgeman ended up on the Management Committee and the Executive Committee of what was named the Britain-China Friendship Association. The outbreak of the Korean War some months later did not enhance the new organisation's popularity. In addition, between 1949 and 1951 he was treasurer of the National Council for Civil Liberties, for a time being the chairman of its overseas committee.

By the mid-1950s, and now in his early 70s, Bridgeman's involvement in leftwing causes began to diminish. However, he was an active supporter of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament from its foundation. His last published article, produced for Labour Monthly in October 1964, was entitled 'The National Liberation Struggle', and dealt with his usual anti-imperialist theme.

Despite spending most of his adult life as a man of the far Left, both his sons went to Harrow, and his two daughters were privately educated. He died on 11 December 1968, and was cremated at Breakspear Crematorium, Ruislip. He was survived by his wife, Olwen, and by one son (Clive, b.1946) and two daughters, Victoria and Valery. His eldest son was killed towards the end of the Second World War (Bellamy and Saville, Dictionary of Labour Biography, vii, pp.37-9).

Custodial history:

Presented by Mrs Valery Golding in Jan 1981. The papers were transferred to the Library via John Saville and Joyce Bellamy, editors of the Dictionary of Labour Biography, and some of the files contain notes and annotations by Joyce Bellamy, who worked on the papers to produce a biographical entry on Bridgeman.

Description:

The collection covers the 1921-1953 period, and is particularly important for its sections dealing with Bridgeman's political career, his relations with the Labour Party, his involvement with numerous left-wing groups, notably the Chinese Information Bureau and the Colonial Information Bureau, and his sponsorship of the Pioneer Theatre Society Limited. The files had been put into order and numbered before receipt by Hull University Archives, and this order has been basically retained. The files also contain extensive typed and handwritten notes by the editors of the Dictionary of Labour Biography, who worked on them whilst preparing their entry on Bridgeman.

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There is little on Bridgeman's early career as a diplomat. However, he maintained a strong interest in affairs in Persia, his last posting, and there are many letters from contacts in Persia and elsewhere during the 1920s. Coverage of his political career is much more extensive. There is much local Labour Party, Communist Party and Workers' Party material during the 1920s and 1930s [U DBN/2]. Correspondents include: Arthur Henderson, J. R. Clynes, Fenner Brockway, George Lansbury, Clement Attlee, Herbert Morrison, Conrad Noel, Hugh Dalton, Stanley Evans, and Harry Pollitt.

The scope of the archive is as follows:

Personal (1924-1935) including biographical notes and an obituary of Viscount Bridgeman
Election addresses (1925-1931) including for the 1929 parliamentary election for Uxbridge
Chinese Information Bureau (1925-1927) being press cuttings and printed material
Correspondence (1927-1931) being all official correspondence and including the 1929 general election, his expulsion from the Labour Party and his adoption as the Workers' candidate for Southall
Papers relating to Persia (Iran) including correspondence and publications
Press cuttings (1927-1933) mainly relating to Bridgeman's career
Correspondence (1931-1937) being correspondence and printed material especially relating to the League Against Imperialism and including letters from Conrad Noel, Tom Morris, Clement Attlee and Hugh Dalton
Correspondence (1937-1942) being largely election correspondence for Hendon
Correspondence and election addresses (1944-1951) being particularly letters related to Bridgeman's exclusion from the Labour Party and addresses for the 1945 election
Harrow Trades Council (1926-1950) including correspondence, reports, the constitution, agendas, minutes and accounts; general strike (1925-1927) including correspondence and printed pamphlets
Anti-fascism (1933-1940) being press cuttings and pamphlets from the British Union of Fascists and the British Movement against War and Fascism
German colonial demands (1933-1939) being press cuttings about German colonies
Ireland (1932-1945) being press cuttings and pamphlets about the impact of English colonialism in Ireland
Spain (1934-1948) being correspondence and printed material about the Spanish Civil War
National Council for Civil Liberties (1936-1950) being correspondence, pamphlets and minutes
Palestine and the Middle East (1939-1946) being pamphlets and press cuttings
Miscellaneous organisations (1938-1950) including the National Association of Labour Teachers, the Left Book Club, the Russia Today Society and British Soviet Society and the Middle East committee of the Communist Party
Meerut Gaol (India) conspiracy trial (1930-1931) being correspondence and pamphlets
National Unemployed Workers' Movement (1931-1936) being correspondence and printed material
China (1938-1950) being the correspondence and papers of and about the China Campaign committee, the British China Friendship Association including a letter from Bertrand Russell and the British-China Conference of 1949
Speaking and other engagements (1939-1953) being correspondence
Pioneer Theatre Society Ltd. (1946-1952) being correspondence, papers and programmes
Election addresses (1923-1939) being a variety of addresses from a range of people including Bonar Law, Oswald Mosley, Stanley Baldwin, Philip Cunliffe-Lister, Shapurji Saklatvala and Robert Lyons
League Against Imperialism (1927-1936) being reports, minutes and pamphlets, as well as correspondence and some miscellaneous papers
Colonial Information Bureau (1938-1944) being papers and publications

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Colonies (1927-1945) being correspondence and printed material about anti-imperialism and colonies, particularly India.

Arrangement:

U DBN/1 Personal, 1924-1935
U DBN/2 Election Addresses and other papers, 1925-1931
U DBN/3 Chinese Information Bureau, 1925-1927
U DBN/4 Correspondence, 1927-1931
U DBN/5 Papers relating to Persia (Iran), 1921-1946
U DBN/6 Press Cuttings, 1927-1933
U DBN/7 Correspondence, 1931-1937
U DBN/8 Correspondence, 1937-1942
U DBN/9 Correspondence and 1945 General Election, 1944-1951
U DBN/10 Harrow Trades Council, 1926-1950
U DBN/11 General Strike, 1925-1928
U DBN/12 Anti-Fascism, 1933-1940
U DBN/13 German colonial demands, 1933-1939
U DBN/14 Ireland, 1932-1945
U DBN/15 Spain, 1934-1948
U DBN/16 National Council for Civil Liberties, 1936-1950
U DBN/17 Palestine and the Middle East, 1939-1946
U DBN/18 Miscellaneous Organizations, 1938-1950
U DBN/19 Meerut Gaol Conspiracy Trial, 1930-1931
U DBN/20 National Unemployed Workers' Movement, 1931-1936
U DBN/21 China, 1938-1950
U DBN/22 Speaking and other engagements, 1939-1953
U DBN/23 Pioneer Theatre Society Ltd, 1946-1952
U DBN/24 Election addresses, 1923-1939
U DBN/25 League Against Imperialism, 1927-1937
U DBN/26 Colonial Information Bureau, 1938-1944
U DBN/27 Colonies, 1927-c.1945

Extent: 3 boxes

Related material:

Archives of the National Council for Civil Liberties [U DCL]

Finding aids: Entry in Modern political papers subject guide

Access conditions: Access will be granted to any accredited reader

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Language: English

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U DBN/1	Personal 3 items	1924-1935
U DBN/1/1	Brief biographical notes on Reginald Bridgeman 1 item	1924
U DBN/1/2	Press cutting. Letter from Guy Kindersley Regarding the left-wing activities of Reginald Bridgeman. Published in 'Morning Post'. 1 item	3 May 1929
U DBN/1/3	Press cutting. Obituary of Viscount Bridgeman Published in 'The Times'. 1 item	15 Aug 1935
U DBN/2	Election Addresses and other papers (where Reginald Bridgeman was a candidate) 3 items & 2 files	1925-1931
U DBN/2/1	Election address and other papers Regarding the election of the Rural District Councillor for Hendon RDC in Headstone (1925) and Pinner (1929) Wards of the Village of Pinner, in which Reginald Bridgeman was Labour candidate. 3 items	Nov 1925- Jan 1929
U DBN/2/2	Election address and other papers Regarding the Parliamentary election for Uxbridge. Includes circular letters from Labour Party and Southall Group of Communist Party, and photocopies of press cuttings. 1 file	Apr-May 1929
U DBN/2/3	Election address and other papers Regarding the Parliamentary election for Uxbridge, in which Reginald Bridgeman was a Workers' candidate. Includes photocopies of press cuttings. 1 file	Oct 1931
U DBN/3	Chinese Information Bureau 2 items & 1 bundle	1925-1927
U DBN/3/1	Press release Regarding Kuo Min News Agency. 1 item	Nov 1925

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U DBN/3/2	Press cuttings Relating to the Bureau; Chinese affairs; Lt. Col. Cecil L'Estrange Malone; Eugene Chen. 1 bundle	Sep 1925- Jan 1927
U DBN/3/3	'The Patriot', New Series Vol. XII, No. 260 Includes reference to British Council for Chinese Freedom. 1 item	3 Feb 1927
U DBN/4	Correspondence 4 bundles & 1 item	1927-1931
U DBN/4/1	Letters Covering possible nomination of Reginald Bridgeman as Labour candidate (Uxbridge, Farnham, Northwood). 1 bundle	Sep-Oct 1927
U DBN/4/2	Letters Correspondence including from Arthur Henderson. Covering from adoption of Reginald Bridgeman as candidate at Uxbridge until after General Election (1929). Topics include complaints of interference by Reginald Bridgeman in Limehouse (candidate C. R. Attlee) and Spen Valley constituencies; election address, from an Indian gaol, of Shaukat Usmani, Communist candidate for Spen Valley. 1 bundle	Nov 1927- Jul 1929
U DBN/4/3	Letters Correspondence, including from J. R. Clynes, Fenner Brockway, George Lansbury, Clement Attlee, Charles Trevelyan. Covering after the General Election 1929, to expulsion of Reginald Bridgeman from Labour Party on account of his involvement with the League Against Imperialism. Topics include opening of Reginald Bridgeman's mail, speaking engagements, endorsement of his passport as 'Not valid for India', Labour Party's refusal to endorse his candidature for Uxbridge Division, his expulsion. 1 bundle	Jul 1929- Jan 1930
U DBN/4/4	Letters Correspondence, including from George Lansbury and Herbert Morrison. Topics include expulsion of Reginald Bridgeman (as U DBN/4/3), his adoption as Workers' candidate, William Wilberforce and his connexion with Uxbridge, constituency matters. Also includes press cuttings. 1 bundle	1930-1931

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U DBN/4/5	Letter About applying for shares in Labour Hall Society of the Hendon Divisional Labour Party. 1 item	14 Feb 1928
U DBN/5	Persia (Iran) 3 files	1921-1946
U DBN/5/1	Letters. Correspondents in Persia to Reginald Bridgeman Regarding Persian affairs, contact with Malone, League Against Imperialism, and allegations against former Counsellor of British Embassy at Rio de Janeiro [Four letters in Persian]. 1 file	1921-1929
U DBN/5/2	Correspondence Correspondence, including letters from Persia and Switzerland and copies of letters by Bridgeman. Regarding Persian affairs. Includes a typescript report on Persia, by Seyyid Zia-ed-Din Tabatabai (12 Dec 1925), and an article on 'The Rise of Persia' by Reginald Bridgeman (Sep 1927). Correspondents include Lieutenant Colonel Cecil L'Estrange Malone. 1 file	1925-1930
U DBN/5/3	Articles on Arabia, Iran and Iraq, by Reginald Bridgeman Written for the Encyclopaedia Britannica Book of the Year. With related correspondence. 1 file	1946
U DBN/6	Press Cuttings 1 file	1927-1933
U DBN/6/1	Press cuttings Mainly relating to Reginald Bridgeman, his personal life and political career; also regarding his candidature at Uxbridge in 1929 and 1931. Also includes references to League Against Imperialism, and arrest at Ostend of British delegates (James Maxton, S. Saklavatala and Reginald Bridgeman) to a conference of the League held in Cologne, and to India. 1 file	1927-1933

U DBN/7	Correspondence 2 bundles	1931-1937
U DBN/7/1	General correspondence Includes: a) Letter to Tom Morris relating to James Maxton and the League Against Imperialism b) 'The Uxbridge Citizen', No. 2 (May 1932) c) Press cutting relating to the Metropolitan-Vickers trial in Moscow (16 Feb 1932) 1 bundle	1931-1932
U DBN/7/2	Correspondence Correspondence, including with the national Labour Party and Hendon, Pinner and Uxbridge Labour Parties, Conrad Noel, Clement Attlee and Hugh Dalton. Topics include: Parliamentary election at Hendon and Uxbridge (1935), possible re-admission of Reginald Bridgeman to Labour Party, League Against Imperialism. Includes 'People's Front for Britain', No. 1 (People's Front Propaganda Committee). 1 bundle	1934-1937
This item is currently missing from our collections		
U DBN/8	Correspondence 5 files	1937-1942
U DBN/8/1	Correspondence Correspondence, including with the national Labour Party and Pinner, Hendon and Harrow Labour Parties. Topics include: demise of League Against Imperialism and re-admission of Reginald Bridgeman to Labour Party; his nomination as Labour candidate for Hendon Division (1938); constituency affairs. Includes a letter from Hugh Dalton (27 Apr 1937). 1 file	1937-1938
U DBN/8/2	Correspondence Covering from Reginald Bridgeman's nomination as prospective Labour candidate for Hendon to his resignation as such. 3 files	1938-1940

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U DBN/8/3	Correspondence Topics include: Reginald Bridgeman's resignation as prospective Labour candidate for Hendon and subsequent expulsion from the Labour Party; the People's Convention; establishment of a Communist Party group in Yiewsley. 1 file	1940-1942
U DBN/9	Correspondence and 1945 General Election 2 files	1944-1951
U DBN/9/1	Correspondence Correspondence, including with Harry Pollitt, Lord Derby and Stanley Evans. Covering mainly his fruitless attempts to secure re-admission to the Labour Party and also the British Soviet Friendship Society. Includes a letter from the Foreign Office turning down his offer to serve (Jan 1945). 1 file	1944-1951
U DBN/9/2	Miscellaneous election addresses and leaflets. 1945 General Election Regarding Harrow West and North Hendon divisions. 1 file	1945
U DBN/10	Harrow Trades Council [originally Harrow, Wealdstone and District Trades Council] 2 files	1926-1950
U DBN/10/1	Miscellaneous correspondence and reports Includes: a) Pamphlet. 'The Militant Trades Council' (National Minority Movement) (Jul 1926) b) Speech (at a dinner?) by Reginald Bridgeman (n.d.) c) Report by Reginald Bridgeman on Harrow Housing Conference (20 May 1944) 1 file	1926-1950
U DBN/10/2	Constitution, agenda, minutes, accounts and reports Harrow Trades Council 1 file	1927-1950

U DBN/11	General Strike 1926 1 file	1925-1928
U DBN/11/1	<p>Various papers Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Correspondence between Reginald Bridgeman and J. H. Thomas. Reginald Bridgeman had offered tenancy of a house to a railway porter, and then withdrawn the offer, owing to his actions during the strike (Feb-Oct 1927) b) 'The Coal Crisis'. Statement from Miners' Federation to TUC (1925) c) 'Statement on the General Strike of May, 1926' by the Miners' Federation (1927) d) 'Coal - and the Nation', National Constitution Defence Committee (1925) e) 'What the Coal Commission proposes. A Summary of its Conclusions and Recommendations', Miners' Federation, TUC, and Labour Party (1926) f) Programme of International Labour Carnival (1 May 1926) g) 'The General Strike. How it came about'. Poster (c.1926) h) 'Daily Express' (8 May 1926) i) Statement on the General Strike and its effects on the LMS Railway (1926) j) 'Wealdstone and District Trades Council Strike Bulletin', Nos. 1-4 (12-16 May 1926) k) Pamphlets from Women's Committee for the Relief of Miners' Wives and Children (2) (1926) l) 'The Workers' Weekly'. No. 191 (15 Oct 1926) m) 'Mr J. H. Thomas's charge made at the Blackpool Labour Party Conference, Oct 1927, against the National Amalgamated Furnishing Trades Association and its General Secretary, Alex Gossip', NAFTA (Apr 1928) n) 'Havelock Wilson's Appeal on behalf of the Industrial Peace Union of the British Empire' (n.d.) <p>1 file</p>	1925-1928
U DBN/12	Anti-Fascism 14 items & 3 files	1933-1940
U DBN/12/1	File. British Anti-War Movement 5 items	1933-1936
U DBN/12/2	Press cuttings and leaflets About the British Union of Fascists. 5 items	1933-1938

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U DBN/12/3	Pamphlets Issued by the National Youth Congress against War and Fascism. 2 items	1934
U DBN/12/4	File. United Front 2 items	1935
U DBN/12/5	Published material Issued by British Movement against War and Fascism, Friends of Europe, and Anti- Fascist Relief Committee. Includes: (a) 'United against Fascism!', TUC General Council (1934) (b) 'Anti-Fascist Special', Workers' Press (1934) (c) 'A Nazi School History Text Book. 1914-1933', Friends of Europe Publication No. 11 (c.1934) (d) 'Anti-Fascist Relief Committee Bulletin', Nos. 1-2 (Nov 1939-Jan 1940) 1 file	1934-1940
U DBN/12/6	Miscellaneous pamphlets and press cuttings Includes: (a) 'Colonialisme et Fascisme', La Ligne Francaise contre l'Imperialisme et l'Oppression Coloniale ([1934]) (b) '10 Points against Fascism', Young Communist League (c.1934) (c) 'Vigilance', No. 14, Comite de Vigilance des Intellectuels Antifascistes (Jan 1935) (d) 'Behind Dictatorship' by Marcus Brutus (comment on Fascist Italy) (c.1935) (e) 'Memorandum on Fascism', Economic Advisory Bureau (c.1935) Items in English and French 1 file	c.1934-1935
U DBN/12/7	Peace Manifesto and other pamphlets Issued by the Labour Party. 1 file	c.1938
U DBN/13	Germany 1 file	1933-1939
U DBN/13/1	Press cuttings Relating to German colonies. 1 file	1933-1939

U DBN/14	Ireland 1 file	1932-1945
U DBN/14/1	<p>Miscellaneous press cuttings, reports and pamphlets Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Typescript article by [Reginald Bridgeman] 'Ireland's Oath of Allegiance to British Imperialism' (Apr 1932) b) 'Papers relating to a Conference between Representatives of the United Kingdom and of the Irish Free State, held in London: 14-15 Oct 1932' (HMSO. Cmd 4184) (1932) c) 'Ireland's Path to Freedom'. Manifesto of the Communist Party of Ireland, adopted at the Inaugural Congress, 3-4 Jun 1933. (Labour Monthly Pamphlets No.3) (1933) d) 'The Axe to the Root and New Wine in Old Bottles' by James Connolly. (pub. Irish Transport and General Workers' Union) (1934) e) 'The Irish Republican Congress' by George Gilmore. (pub. United Irish Republican Committees of United States) (1935) f) 'Report of a Commission of Inquiry appointed to examine the purpose and effect of the Civil Authorities (Special Powers) Act (Northern Ireland) 1922 and 1923. (pub. National Council for Civil Liberties) (1936) g) 'The Partition of Ireland. How Britain is Responsible' by Henry Harrison. (pub. Robert Hale Ltd.) (1939) h) 'Bombs and their reverberations' by Joseph H. Fowler. (pub. St. Giles Book Shop) (1939) i) 'Ireland: can it remain neutral?' by William Gallacher. (pub. Communist Party of Great Britain) (1941) j) 'The Irish in Britain' by Pat Dooley. A Connolly Association pamphlet ([1943]) k) 'General Election; 1943. Labour's Programme for a Better Ireland'. (pub. Irish Labour Party) (1943) l) 'The Mutilation of a Nation' by Cahir Healey. (pub. G. J. McCarthy, Clippings Publicity Bureau) (1945) m) Pamphlets of the Communist Party of Great Britain: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Colonial Information Bulletin No. 5 (Apr 1941); ii) Information Document of the Colonial Information Bureau (8 Feb 1944) iii) Statement for discussion. 'The Future of Northern Ireland' (30 Jun 1944) iv) Information Document. 'Situation in Northern Ireland' (25 Oct 1944) <p>1 file</p>	1932-1945

U DBN/15	Spain 3 files	1934-1948
U DBN/15/1	File. Correspondence and other papers relating to the Spanish Civil War and subsequent Spanish Relief Includes: a) Notes by Reginald Bridgeman b) 'These Gallant People Cannot be Defeated' by Emmanuel Shinwell. Special supplement to the Labour Press Service (26 Jan 1938) c) 'British Shipping to Spain. The Facts' (Committee of British Shipowners Trading to Spain) ([1938]) d) Notes for a deputation from the London Trades Council to the Under-secretary for Foreign Affairs ([1938]) e) Typescript of Aide Memoire, Deputation from National Council for Civil Liberties to Spanish Ambassador, civil liberties in Spain (c.1945) f) Report of the National Joint Committee for Spanish Relief and Basque Children's Trust Ltd (1947-1948) 1 file	1938-1948
U DBN/15/2	Press cuttings On the Spanish Civil War. 1 file	1934-1937

U DBN/15/3

Pamphlets

1936-1944

Includes:

- a) 'Spain', by Emile Burns (Communist Party of Great Britain) ([1936])
- b) 'The Drama of Spain, 1931-1936' by A. Ramos Oliveira (National Council of Labour) ([1936])
- c) 'Spain Pictorial' (c.1936)
- d) 'Europe and the Spanish Crisis' (reprinted from 'News Chronicle') (8 Aug 1936)
- e) 'Save Spain from Fascism' by Harry Pollitt (Communist Party of Great Britain) (Aug 1936)
- f) 'Spain and the TUC' by Harry Pollitt (Communist Party of Great Britain) (Sep 1936)
- g) 'Spain's Youth Calls To You' (Advance. No.4., (Labour) League of Youth) (Sep 1936)
- h) 'Discurso pronunciado por ... Don Julio Alvarez del Vayo en la Asamblea de la Sociedad de las Naciones' (25 Sep 1936)
- i) 'Report and Findings of Committee of Enquiry into Breaches of International Law relating to Intervention in Spain' (Oct 1936)
- j) 'The Fighting Call' Vol. 1, No.1 (Freedom Group, London, and Anti-Parliamentary Communist Federation, Glasgow) (Oct 1936)
- k) 'Ouvrez le Frontiere!' by Jean Zyromski (Le Comite Mondial Contre la Guerre et le Fascisme) (1937)
- l) 'L'Avenir de l'Espagne' by Angel Ossorio y Gallardo ([1937])
- m) 'El Camino de la Victoria' (Communist Party of Spain) (n.d.)
- n) Folder to accompany U DBN/15/3(m)
- o) 'Britain and Spain' by Capt. Liddell Hart (Liberal Publication Department) (1938)
- p) 'Spain Against the Invaders. Napoleon 1808 - Hitler and Mussolini 1936' (United Editorial Ltd.) (1938)
- q) 'Franco Bombs British Seamen' by Philip Noel-Baker (Labour Party) (1938)
- r) 'Somebody is being fooled! Who is it?' ([1938])
- s) 'A Nation in Retreat' (British Committee for Refugees from Spain) (1939)
- t) 'Sir Henry Page Croft replies to the Spanish Emergency Committee' (reprinted from 'Bournemouth Daily Echo') (Feb 1939)
- u) 'The Volunteer for Liberty. No. 10. Two Armies, Spain - Britain' (International Brigade Association) ([1941])
- v) 'Franco's 'Neutrality' and British Policy' (pub. Union of Democratic Control) (Jul 1944)

1 file

U DBN/16	National Council for Civil Liberties 1 file	1936-1950
U DBN/16/1	Correspondence, pamphlets and minutes Includes: a) 'The Incitement to Disaffection Bill' (NCCL) ([1934]) b) 'Fascism and the Jews', reprinted from 'The New Statesman' (NCCL) (10 Oct 1936) c) 'Freedom of the Press and the Challenge of the Official Secrets Act' (NCCL) (1938) d) 'The Strange Case of Major Vernon' (NCCL) (1938) e) 'The Threat to Civil Liberty' (Haldane Society) (1938) 1 file	1936-1950
U DBN/17	Palestine and the Middle East 1 file	1939-1946
U DBN/17/1	Pamphlets and press cuttings Includes: a) 'Reply of the Arab Higher Committee for Palestine to the White Paper issued by the British Government on May 17, 1939' (30 May 1939) b) 'The International Post-War Settlement' (Report by the National Executive of the Labour Party to the Annual Conference) (1944) c) 'Jews, Arabs and the Middle East' by Ephraim Broido (1944) d) 'Crisis in Lebanon' (n.d.) e) Copy of airgraph. Dr M. Biletzky, Tel-Aviv, to Ben Bradley, London: Resolutions adopted at 8th Conference of the Comparty of Palestine 26-28 May 1944 (5 Jul 1944) f) Typescript drafts and notes by [Reginald Bridgeman], France and the Levant; Middle East; Lebanon; Palestine (1943-1946) 1 file	1939-1946
U DBN/18	Miscellaneous organisations 16 files	1938-1950
U DBN/18/1	File. National Association of Labour Teachers 1 file	1938-1941
U DBN/18/2	File. Frank Ryan Release Committee 1 file	1939
U DBN/18/3	File. Left Book Club 1 file	1939-1940

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U DBN/18/4	File. Federal Union 1 file	1940
U DBN/18/5	File. Pinner Progressive Club 1 file	1940
U DBN/18/6	File. Harrow Left Discussion Club 1 file	1940-1941
U DBN/18/7	File. People's Convention 1 file	1940-1941
U DBN/18/8	File. Russia Today Society/British-Soviet Society 1 file	1941-1950
U DBN/18/9	File. Union of Democratic Control 1 file	1943
U DBN/18/10	File. National Unity for Victory Includes: a) 'Victory and Unity Campaign Organisation' (Communist Party) (Aug 1943) b) Report of Unity Conference at Stoll Theatre, London (2 Apr 1944) 1 file	1942-1944
U DBN/18/11	File. Committee for Cyprus Affairs 1 file	1944-1948
U DBN/18/12	File. Middle East Committee of the Communist Party 1 file	1947-1950
U DBN/18/13	File. British Cultural Committee for Peace 1 file	1948
U DBN/18/14	File. Abyssinia [Ethiopia] Association 1 file	1948
U DBN/18/15	File. Peace Campaign Includes War Resisters' International. 1 file	1949
U DBN/18/16	File. Association of Yugoslav Journalists in London Statement on Yugoslav situation. 1 file	28 Jun 1943

U DBN/19	Meerut Gaol Conspiracy Trial 1 file	1930-1931
U DBN/19/1	Correspondence and pamphlets Includes: a) 'The Mutiny in Meerut Jail' (League Against Imperialism) (1930) b) 'The Meerut Conspiracy Case. Open letter to the delegates to the 31st Annual Conference of the Labour Party' (5-9 Oct 1931), from Reginald Bridgeman as Honorary Secretary, British Section, League against Imperialism (29 Sep 1931) 1 file	1930-1931
U DBN/20	National Unemployed Workers' Movement 2 files	1931-1936
U DBN/20/1	Correspondence and press cuttings 1 file	1931-1936
U DBN/20/2	File. National Congress and March Council Includes 'The next steps in the fight against the new Unemployment Act' (NUWM March Council) (1934). 1 file	1934
U DBN/21	China 5 files	1938-1950
U DBN/21/1	File. China Campaign Committee. Includes correspondence and papers. 1 file	1938-1950
U DBN/21/2	File. Aid to China Includes correspondence. 1 file	1943-1950
U DBN/21/3	File. British-China Friendship Association Correspondence and papers, including: a) Letter from Bertrand Russell (27 Oct 1949) b) Typescript. Description of Peking Opera (1949) c) Typescript. 'Christianity in the New China' (Dec 1949) 1 file	1949

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U DBN/21/4	<p>File. British China Friendship Association Includes: a) Britain-China Conference, 3-4 Dec 1949, with minutes and papers of Conference Committee (Jul-Dec 1949) b) Minutes and papers of Britain-China Friendship Association (Dec 1949-Jun 1950) c) 'Britain-China Friendship News' (Nos. 1-4 & 6) (Jan-Sep 1950) d) Union Circular of the Central Union of Chinese Students in Great Britain and Ireland, No. 100 (Jun 1950) 1 file</p>	1949-1950
U DBN/21/5	<p>Pamphlets Includes: a) 'The USSR and China' by Arthur Clegg (Russia Today Society) (c.1946) b) 'China Stands Up'. Being the common programme of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, adopted at Peking [Beijing] (Trinity Trust, and reprinted from 'Labour Monthly', Dec 1949) (29 Sep 1949) c) 'Facing Facts in Formosa. A Challenge to Peace' (UDC) (Aug 1950) d) 'Armed American Intervention in Korea' (Soviet News) (1950) e) 'Soviet News', Nos. 2310-2311 (15-16 Feb 1950) f) Typescript. Articles (by Reginald Bridgeman?). 'American White Paper' and 'China' (c.1949) g) Press cuttings (1949-1950) 1 file</p>	c.1946-1950
U DBN/22	Speaking and other engagements 1 file	1939-1953
U DBN/22/1	<p>Correspondence With a list of the principal organisations concerned and the subjects on which Reginald Bridgeman spoke (1939-1949). 1 file</p>	1939-1953
U DBN/23	Pioneer Theatre Society Ltd 1 file	1946-1952
U DBN/23/1	<p>Correspondence, papers, rules and programmes With five programmes for the Unity Theatre (c.1947). 1 file</p>	1946-1952

U DBN/24	Election addresses 41 items	1923-1939
U DBN/24/1	Election Addresses. General Election Includes: a) Prime Minister (Bonar Law) b) Charles Latham (Labour, Hendon) c) Sir Philip Lloyd-Greame (Conservative and Unionist, Hendon) d) Oswald Mosley (Independent, Harrow) e) J. M. Robertson (Liberal and Free Trade, Hendon) 5 items	1923
U DBN/24/2	Election Address. General Election Kenneth Lindsay (Labour, Harrow) 1 item	1924
U DBN/24/3	Election Addresses. Northampton Bye-election Includes: a) Colonel Cecil L'Estrange Malone (Labour) b) Captain A. F. G. Renton (Conservative) 5 items	1928
U DBN/24/4	Election Addresses. General Election Includes: a) Mrs Corbett Ashby (Liberal, Hendon) b) Stanley Baldwin c) Cecil Binney (Liberal, Uxbridge) d) Sir Philip Cunliffe-Lister (Conservative and Unionist, Hendon) e) Herbert H. Elvin (Labour, Spen Valley) f) Major J. J. Llewellyn (Conservative and Unionist, Uxbridge) g) Tom Lowth (Labour, Ardwick) h) Dr Robert Lyons (Labour, Hendon) i) F. G. Temple (Labour, Aylesbury) j) Mrs Rochelle Townsend (Labour, Wycombe) k) Co-operative Party's Manifesto l) Labour Party m) Nursery School Association pamphlet 13 items	1929
U DBN/24/5	Election Addresses. Shettleston Bye-election Shapurji Saklatvala (Communist) 2 items	1930

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U DBN/24/6	<p>Election Addresses. General Election</p> <p>Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Major J. J. Llewellyn (Conservative and Unionist, Uxbridge) b) Mrs Amber Blanco White (Labour, Hendon) c) L. M. Worsnop (Labour, Uxbridge) d) Labour Party, Hendon <p>4 items</p>	1931
U DBN/24/7	<p>Election Address. Hitchin Bye-election</p> <p>William Bennett, Labour</p> <p>1 item</p>	1933
U DBN/24/8	<p>Poll card. General Election</p> <p>Sir Robert Tasker (Conservative, Holborn)</p> <p>1 item</p>	1935
U DBN/24/9	<p>Election Addresses. Wembley Borough Council Election</p> <p>Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Bernard Lewis (Labour, Roe Green Ward) b) C. H. Major (Labour, Chalk Hill Ward) <p>2 items</p>	1939
U DBN/24/10	<p>Miscellaneous election material</p> <p>Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) 'Labour's Appeal to the Nation' ([1923]) b) 'Labour's Appeal to the People' ([1924]) c) Press cuttings (1928-1931) d) 'The Citizen' No. 11 (Labour Party) (Feb 1929) e) Photograph (Labour candidate(s). Richardson/Woolhouse. Hendon Borough Council Election) (n.d.) f) 'Why you should join the Labour Party' ([1939]) g) Circular letter from Alfred Dugdale, Chairman, Hendon Division of Liberal Association (n.d.) <p>7 items</p>	c.1923-c.1939

U DBN/25	League Against Imperialism 4 bundles	1927-1937
U DBN/25/1	Reports, minutes and pamphlets Includes: a) Reports of Annual Conferences of the LAI (British Section) (1931; 1932; 1934; 1936; 1937) b) Minutes of the International Executive Committee (9 Oct 1935; 4 Dec 1935; 17 Jun 1936) c) Report of the International Secretariat (1934) d) Pamphlet. 'World Imperialism and War' (Jul 1928) e) Pamphlet. 'Ireland Under Terror' ([1931]) f) Pamphlet. 'Ireland' (8 Apr 1932) g) Pamphlet. 'What is the League Against Imperialism?' (n.d.) h) Membership application form (n.d.) i) Pamphlet. 'Cyprus'. A draft constitution (n.d.) j) Pamphlet. 'The Meaning of Imperialism' by Rev. Conrad Noel (c.1928) k) Pamphlet. 'The Colonies and Oppressed Nations in the Struggle for Freedom'. Resolutions adopted by the Executive Committee of the LAI, Berlin (2 Jun 1931) l) Pamphlet. 'Contre les Imperialismes Internationaux' (n.d.) 1 bundle	1928-1937
U DBN/25/2	Correspondence 1 bundle	1927-1937
U DBN/25/3	Press cuttings 1 bundle	1927-1930

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U DBN/25/4	Miscellaneous papers Includes: a) Documents and Discussions. Supplement for record purposes to 'International Information' (Secretariat of the Labour and Socialist International) Vol. No. 11-47 (8 Jun 1928) b) Notes and drafts by Reginald Bridgeman (1928-1936) c) List of those to be invited to a conference with a view to appointing an Advisory Council for the British Section of the LAI (n.d.) d) 'Memorandum for Mr. Gardner' (on LAI) ([1929]) e) Membership card of the LAI (Mrs Hogg) (n.d.) f) 'Questions and Answers on Imperialism' by The People's Lobby, Washington DC ([1929]) g) Dance ticket (14 Aug [1931]) h) Speech by J. R. Campbell, introducing a resolution on Imperialism and War (Nov 1934) i) 'Rations in Germany', article from 'The Financial News' (22 Dec 1936) 1 bundle	1928-1936
U DBN/26	Colonial Information Bureau 2 files	1938-1944
U DBN/26/1	Papers issued by the Bureau 1 file	1943-1944
U DBN/26/2	Papers relating to the Communist Party of Great Britain and colonies Includes: a) 'Peace and the Colonial Question' (CPGB) (May 1938) b) Draft paper on the Colonial Question, for the National Conference of CPGB (1942) c) Correspondence between Reginald Bridgeman and Harry Pollitt (May-Jun 1942) d) Speech of Comrade Adhikari introducing a resolution on Pakistan and National Unity at a meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of India (Sep 1942) e) Letter. Ben Bradley [to Reginald Bridgeman?] (31 Aug 1943) f) News letter of the National Jewish Committee of the Communist Party (28 Aug 1943) 1 file	1938-1943

U DBN/27	Colonies 7 files	1927-c.1945
U DBN/27/1	File. Emigration to Canada 1 file	1927
U DBN/27/2	File. British Empire Union 1 file	1928
U DBN/27/3	File. Conference on Peace and Empire, at Friends' House, Euston Road 1 file	15-16 Jul 1938
U DBN/27/4	File. Correspondence About mandated territories, a proposed world conference, and colonial policy. 1 file	1938-1939
U DBN/27/5	File. Miscellaneous articles, speeches, notes, reports and pamphlets Includes: a) 'Home Colonisation and the Unemployment Problem' (Land Nationalisation Federation Tract No. 131) (Oct 1930) b) 'Forced Labour and the International Labour Office' (International Trade Union Committee of Negro Workers of the RILU) (n.d.) c) 'Empire' by Stafford Cripps (India League) (1938) d) 'An Indictment of Slave Labour' by K. S. Bhat (Women's Welfare League of India) (n.d.) e) 'British Colonies, Protectorates, etc. (Local Legislatures)' (HMSO) (1939) f) 'Common Sense about Colonies' by Philip Noel- Baker (Labour Party) (May 1939) g) 'Statement of Policy on Colonial Development and Welfare' (HMSO Cmd. 6175) (1940) h) 'The Colonies'. Address by Lord Hailey to the Anti- Slavery and Aborigines Protection Society (28 May 1942) i) 'The Colonies' (Labour Party) (Mar 1943) j) 'The Colonies and the Future, by Ben Bradley (Communist Party) (c.1945) k) Typescript. 'Oppression of Balkan minorities' (c.1935) l) Typescript. Translation of speeches (at a conference of French Communist Party) on French colonialism (c.1938) m) Typescript. 'The Colonial Problem' (c.1938) n) Typescript. 'Anti-Imperialist Struggle' (c.1938) o) Typescript. 'The Situation in Cyprus and the Claims of the Cypriots' (Jun 1938) p) Typescript. 'Africa' (c.1943)	1930-c.1945

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U DBN/27/5 continued	q) Manuscript drafts of Reginald Bridgeman. 'Argentina'; 'The future of the Commonwealth'; 'Colonies. Proposed return to Germany'; 'Joint Colonial Exploitation' (c.1937-1939) 1 file	
U DBN/27/6	File. Papers relating to India, India League, All-India Trade Union Congress, and Workers' Welfare League of India 1 file	1943-1944
U DBN/27/7	File. Press cuttings on colonial matters 1 file	1927-1943