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### Interim Handlist

**Collection ref.** Coll-15

**Collection title** Papers of Charles Sarolea

**Shelfmark(s)** Gen.187-267

**About this handlist** Scan of older typescript document

THE SAROLEA PAPERS IN EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY LIBRARY.

The papers and correspondence of Professor Charles Sarolea\* were purchased for Edinburgh University Library in 1954 and are now preserved in 234 numbered files in 81 folio boxes. The papers cover the years 1897-1952 and relate to all of Professor Sarolea's various activities and interests. They may be divided for convenience of description into four main divisions: (i) Everyman papers (ii) Papers relating to Edinburgh University (iii) Writings by ~~Charles~~ Sarolea (iv) Correspondence and miscellaneous papers.

1. Everyman papers. Everyman, his life, work and books, a popular weekly literary journal, was edited by Sarolea from its first appearance in October 1912 until the end of 1917. The journal was conceived and, for the first two years, published by J. M. Dent, founder and publisher of the Everyman Library of standard texts which had been established a few years earlier. It was initially very successful, with an early circulation approaching 150,000, but it ran into difficulties during the war when circulation fell off considerably. In 1914 Dent withdrew and an independent Everyman Newspaper Co., in which Sarolea had a principal interest, was formed to carry on publication. Sarolea resigned his business interests in the journal at the same time as the editorship.

The Everyman group of papers falls into two divisions  
(i) editorial (ii) business archives.

(i) The editorial papers (files 1-41) consist principally of correspondence between Sarolea or his editorial assistants,

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\* Charles Sarolea (1870-1953) Professor of French in Edinburgh University 1918-1931, lecturer in French 1894-1918. For an outline of his career see the obituary notice published in Edinburgh University Journal, Vol. 16, 1953, p. 271.

and contributors to Everyman and others whom he was endeavouring to interest in one way or another in the journal. There are also a few manuscripts of articles offered for publication. Most of these papers date from 1912 to 1914 with some of 1915-1916. Sarolea's side of the correspondence is represented by carbon copies of typescript.

A number of letters to Sarolea not relating to Everyman, of various dates, are also found in these files. Among the correspondents are:-

Norman Angell. 2 ALS, 17 TLS, 1 p.c. 1912-14.

William Archer. 4 ALS, 4 TLS, 1913.

Maurice Baring. 2 ALS, 1 TLS, 1912-13.

H. Granville Barker. 1 TLS, 1912.

A. J. Balfour, 1st Earl of Balfour. 3 LS, 2 TLS. One dated 1902, the others, 1912. Also a faded and stained letter to Sarolea, 1896, not autograph, signature missing.

Hilaire Belloc. 41 TL signed and unsigned, 1911-15. Article War and wealth. 4° 9 pp, ts, with autograph corrections.

Arnold Bennett. 8 TLS, 1 TL (copy), 1912-14. Includes a letter (published in Everyman 1 Nov. 1912) protesting strongly against passages in an article on himself, written by Sarolea and published in the first number of Everyman.

H. L. Bergson. 3 ALS, visiting card with pencil note, 1912-14. French.

Henry Bordeaux. 10 ALS, 4 visiting cards with notes, 1910-13. French.

G. K. Chesterton. 3 ALS, 3 TLS, c. 1916. Another ALS, 1925. (Also 25 letters from G. K. C.'s secretary, 12 letters from Mrs. G. K. C. and 4 from her secretary, c. 1911-16).

Three essays, ms.,  
(i) A salute to the last Socialist. 4° 7 pp. last page only is autograph. Published 20 Dec. 1912.

(ii) The chance of the peasant. 4° 6 pp. not autograph. Published 18 Oct. 1912.

(iii) The triumph of the degenerates. 4° 5 pp. only the title is autograph.

Joseph Conrad. 1 ALS, 1912.

Sir A. Conan Doyle. 2 ALS (both brief) 1914, n.d.  
(probably 1914).

- Sir Edward Elgar. 3 ALS, 1913.
- James Elroy Flecker. 1 ALS, 3 p.c. [1913.]  
Two articles, autograph.  
(i) The new French spirit. 2° 4 pp.
- (ii) What insecurity in Turkey means. 4° 8 pp.
- John Galsworthy. 1 ALS, c. 1913; 2 LS, 1925-26.
- Sir Patrick Geddes. 4 ALS, 2 TLS, 3 p.c. 1912-14.
- Andrew Lang. 10 ALS [c. 1912].
- Sir Sidney Lee. 1 ALS, 4 p.c. 1911-13.
- Henri Lichtenberger. 12 ALS, 2 p.c. [c. 1910-13].  
French. Article La question d'Alsace. 8° 11 pp.  
autograph. (English translation published in  
Everyman 13 Dec. 1912.)
- Maurice Maeterlinck. 23 ALS, 6 p.c. 1909-12.  
French.
- T. G. Masaryk. 9 ALS, 5 p.c. 1916. Article  
Criminal antagonism of Vienna and Budapesth  
against the Croatians. 4° 9 pp. ts.
- Henri Mazel. Article Souvenirs sur Oscar Wilde.  
2° 6 pp. ts. (English translation published in  
Everyman 18 Oct. 1912.)
- Gilbert Murray. 3 TL, 1912-14.
- J. Middleton Murry. 1 ALS, 3 TLS, 1912-13.  
Three articles,  
(i) What makes a novel great. 4° 6 pp. ts. with  
autograph corrections.
- (ii) Vanity Fair [a discussion of Thackeray's  
novel]. 2° 4 pp. pp. 1-3 ts., p. 4 autograph.
- (iii) Balzac's Old Goriot. 4° 6 pp. ts. with  
autograph corrections. (Published in Everyman  
17 Jan. 1913.)
- Christabel Pankhurst. 2 TLS (one very brief), 1912.
- Hesketh Pearson. 1 TLS, 1912. Article 'Hamlet'  
- and Mr. Frank Harris. 4° 3 pp. ts.
- Sir Ernest Shackleton. 1 ALS, 1 TLS, 1912.
- G. B. Shaw. 2 ALS, 6 TLS, 9 p.c. 1909-26. They  
include an interesting letter about Joan of Arc  
(2 Jan. 1925); and a letter of vigorous protest  
in reply to a proposal that his name should be  
submitted for an honorary degree of LL.D. at  
Edinburgh University (20 Feb., 1926). Article  
The alleged collapse of Socialism. Unexpected  
rally. 4° 7 pp. ts. with numerous autograph  
corrections. (Published in Everyman in two parts,  
6 and 13 December 1912.)
- Emile Verhaeren. 4 ALS. [1914].
- Beatrice Webb. 4 TLS (3 are brief notes), 1912.

Sidney Webb. 1 ALS, 1911.  
H. G. Wells. 3 ALS, 4 p.c. [c. 1913-14].  
Rebecca West. 10 ALS, 1 TLS [c. 1912-13].

(ii) The business archives (files 102-131) comprise the correspondence of the editorial office with J. M. Dent, the first publisher of Everyman, 1912-1914; and correspondence and papers relating to financial and legal matters, advertising, printing, etc. 1914-1917. They include also (i) some 200 letters of appreciation and criticism, 1912-1916 (file 127); (ii) a number of competition essays submitted to Everyman, in particular A comparison of the Mary Magdalene of Maeterlinck and the Maria Magdalena of Hebbel, by J. R. Allardyce Nicoll, 1914. 8 pp. autograph (file 128); (iii) letters applying for employment as reviewers, 1912-1914 (file 129); (iv) applications for the post of sub-editor, 1913 (file 130).

2. University papers (files 42-49, 142-150).

File 42. Correspondence with Sir J. A. Ewing, Principal of Edinburgh University, and others relating to the six public lectures on "Problems of foreign policy" delivered by Sarolea under University auspices in the MacEwan Hall, Edinburgh, in October and November 1917.

Files 43-49. Correspondence and papers on general University administrative matters, 1919-1930. They include (i) papers relating to the fifth centenary celebrations of the University of Louvain which Sarolea attended as the representative of Edinburgh University, 1927 (file 47); (ii) report by Professor G. Connes of the University of Dijon on the thesis submitted by Sheila Macdonald for the degree of Ph.D. in Edinburgh University, 1929 (file 49).

Files 142-149. Correspondence and papers relating to the work of the French department at Edinburgh University,

c. 1911-1936. They include (i) testimonials for students, 1911-1917 (file 142/1); (ii) 14 essays by students on French literary topics, c. 1912-1919 (file 142/2); (iii) correspondence with students and French assistants, 1912-1936 (files 143-146); (iv) lectures and notes by Sarolea on French literary and linguistic subjects, c. 1920-1929 ts. (files 147-148); (v) Sarolea's commission as Professor of French, 30 Sept. 1918 (file 149).

File 150. Correspondence relating to Sarolea's retirement and pension, 1923-1952.

3. Writings by Sarolea (files 183-219). A mass of papers, mostly typescript with some autograph corrections, comprising drafts of books or parts of books, articles for journals and newspapers, university lectures, addresses at meetings, contributions to public debates, wireless talks. 1911-1950.

Files 183-184. Articles relating to Germany, ts. and printed, 1914-1917. Included are papers relating to the controversy aroused by Sarolea's introductory lecture to the French class at Edinburgh University, delivered 9 Oct. 1917, on French Calvinism, German Lutheranism and the War.

File 185. Text of six public lectures on Problems of foreign policy, delivered under university auspices in the McEwan Hall, Edinburgh, Oct.- Nov. 1917, ts. much duplication. (See also file 42 in University papers).

Files 186-187. Various articles on Napoleon, some for Everyman 1911-1913, n.d. (Perhaps not all by Sarolea).

File 188. Work on Tolstoy, ts. with some autograph corrections 2° 266 pp. July - Aug. 1911. Marked 3rd copy. (Published in 1912 as Count L. N. Tolstoy: his life and work). There is also an extract from Tolstoy's Confessions in English.  
37 pp.

~~SAROLEA~~

Files 189-202, 205-206. Essays, articles, letters to newspapers. Arranged chronologically. Largely concerned with politics and current affairs. 1917-1950.

Files 203-204. Papers relating to Sarolea's controversy with the Duchess of Atholl over Spain, 1938. With the text of Daylight on Spain; the answer to the Duchess of Atholl, ts. (several copies) with autograph corrections, Aug. - Sept. 1938. (Published in November 1938 as no. 20 in Hutchinsons Pocket Library. Slip proofs are in file 221).  
Letter of appreciation in file 60.

File 207. Articles written in 1911, including The German Kaiser as an orator: a character sketch. 2° 32 pp. ts. with autograph corrections. (Published in the Contemporary Review, Sept. 1911).

File 208. Shakespeare tercentenary oration delivered by Sarolea at Stratford on Avon, 24 April 1916. MS. notes, ts., press reports.

Files 209-219. Articles written principally for Everyman, 1912-1917. They include:-

The murder of Nurse Cavell, ts. Oct. 1915. (Published in book form Dec., 1915) (file 209).

The curse of the Hohenzollern, MS. notes, ts. with autograph corrections, some proofs. (Published in book form towards the end of 1915) (file 215).

File 212 also contains a review by Hilaire Belloc of Sarolea's book The Anglo-German problem, 6 pp. ts. with autograph corrections. Marked "Everyman 13 Jan. 1913."

4. Correspondence and miscellaneous papers.

(i) General correspondence from 1897 onwards is found in many files which have become scattered in various parts of the collection. Some sequences have been preserved:-

Files 158 - 167. Family and general correspondence with some miscellaneous papers, c. 1897-1915.

Files 135 - 138. General correspondence 1921 - 1928.

Files 225 - 234. " " 1926 - 1940.

Files 139 - 141. " " 1939 - 1952.

(ii) Correspondence with publishers, 1909 - 1943 (files 89 - 98). Includes correspondence with G. Crès & Co. of Paris, 1913 - 1923. Sarolea was concerned with the establishment of this firm and was the first chairman of its directors.

(iii) Files of correspondence with individual persons or organisations, or devoted to a single theme, 1919 - 1946 (files 50 - 69, 173 - 175).

Files 50 - 69 include:- W. Rathenau of Berlin, 1919 - 21; Adolphe Max, Burgomaster of Brussels, 1920 - 24; editors of British newspapers and journals, 1912 - 14, 1924 - 45; National Constitution Defence Movement, 1924 - 27; file relating to André Maurois' visit to Edinburgh in June 1928 (3 TLS of Maurois, 1928); Everyman, 1933 - 34; file relating to current affairs 1935 - 37, including correspondence with the Duchess of Atholl; letters of appreciation of Sarolea's Daylight on Spain, 1938; Lord Lloyd and the British Council, 1932 - 46; Lady M.L. Maxwell-Scott, 1936 - 44; Sir William Young Darling, 1940 - 46; the Duke of Buccleuch, 1940 - 45; American and Canadian correspondence relating to Sarolea's tour of America to raise funds for Belgian relief, 1915; correspondence with America 1919 - 39; correspondence about the sale of books and manuscripts belonging to Sarolea, 1929, 1946.

Files 173 - 174. Correspondence about arrangements for lectures and addresses by Sarolea to a variety of societies and organisations, 1914 - 43 (includes correspondence relating to his tour of German universities, 1937 - 38).

File 175/

File 175. Scottish-American Association, 1919 - 21.

(iv) Correspondence and papers relating to foreign countries.

(a) Belgium (files 70 - 80, 182). As noted earlier, Sarolea was born in Belgium and was consul for Belgium in Edinburgh from 1901 until his death. He was on friendly terms with the Belgian royal family. In 1920 he accompanied King Albert, Queen Elizabeth and Prince Leopold on a state visit to Brazil, West Africa and the Portuguese colonies in the capacity of political adviser.

File 70. Two letters to Sarolea from King Albert I, 1925; two letters from Prince Leopold, later King Leopold III, 1924 and 1927; two letters from Queen Elizabeth of Belgium, 1920, 1946. Also a group of letters and telegrams to Sarolea mostly written or sent on behalf of King Leopold II in 1904; they are mounted in an album labelled "Liber Regius".

Though not preserved in this file it is convenient to mention here [Phot.  
el. 5] five photographs of King Leopold III and his children taken in the gardens of the palace at Laeken by Queen Elizabeth of Belgium in 1939 and presented by her to Sarolea. Three are signed on the back by the Queen. There is also a portrait photograph of Queen Elizabeth, 1920, bearing her signature.

Files 71, 73 - 75. Belgian consular correspondence 1915 - 21, 1941 - 52, and a consular commercial file, 1923 - 44. Also (in file 71) correspondence with the Rector of the University of Louvain and others about the disposal of Sarolea's library, 1946.

File 72. Correspondence and papers relating to the actions of King Leopold III at the time of the invasion of Belgium by Germany in May 1940.

Files 76 - 80. Papers relating to the various funds for Belgian relief organised ~~or~~ supported by Sarolea during the first world war, 1914 - 18.

File 182 contains four papers written in 1915:-

Mary E. Noble, The Belgian refugee problem. 2° 38 pp. ms.

H. F. Denston Funnell, The problem of the Belgian refugees. 2° 67 pp. ts.

G. Rongy, Travail sur les réfugiés. 4° c. 150 pp. ts.

M. Houyet, La Belgique nouvelle. 4° 309 pp. ms. and ts.

(b) Other foreign countries (files 81-88, 99-101).

Files 81-82. Correspondence and papers relating to Russia.

Contents include:-

Correspondence with Russian émigrés, 1924-26.

~~Transcript~~ Sarolea's Impressions of Soviet Russia, (Published in 1924 and later translated into many languages). ts. and proofs, 1923-24 (may not be complete). With correspondence relating to this book, 1923-24, and letters of thanks and appreciation for presentation copies, 1924. Among the latter are letters from the Earl of Balfour, Eduard Beneš, Lady Violet Bonham Carter, G. Brandes, Sir J. Austen Chamberlain, Viscount Haldane, Sir W. G. Max-Muller, Neil Munro, Montagu Norman, Beatrice Webb, I. Zangwill.

Paul Olberg, Der bolschewistische Imperialismus. 4° 145 pp. carbon copy of ts. n.d.

Olga Novikoff, Russia, the discovered (a review of Stephen Graham's Undiscovered Russia). Probably 1912. 4° 5 pp. ts. signed.

Files 83-85. Correspondence relating to Germany, 1920-40.

Also a few papers on "German atrocities", 1914. The correspondence reflects Sarolea's support for Germany during the 1930's.

File 86. Correspondence relating to Spain, 1938-39, 1944-46, particularly with Lord Phillimore and the Friends of Nationalist Spain.

File 87. Correspondence relating to Czecho-Slovakia, 1919-42.

Sarolea's principal correspondent is J. V. Hyka of the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs. There is a letter from Eduard Benes, 1924, and two letters from Jan Masaryk, 1934, 1937.

File 88. Correspondence relating to Italy, 1928-40; Jugoslavia, 1921-26 (includes letters of Mrs. Fanny S. Copeland).

Files 99-100. Correspondence and papers relating to Poland, 1913-47. Includes ts. and proofs of Sarolea's Letters on Polish affairs, (Published 1922). Also correspondence relating to the candidature of I. J. Paderewski for the Rectorship of Glasgow University. There is one TLS from Paderewski to Sarolea in French, 8 Oct. 1934. 2 pp.

File 101. Correspondence relating to Central Europe, 1921-24 (chiefly Czechoslovakia, Jugoslavia, Poland). There are two letters of T. G. Masaryk, 1921. Also letters from Mrs. Fanny S. Copeland, Ljubljana, 1921-22.

(v) Among miscellaneous items the following may be noted.

File 179. E. Faguet, Petite histoire de la littérature française. 4° 287 pp. ts. with ms. corrections, some proofs. Also Notice sur Molière. 4° c.100 pp. ts. with ms. corrections.

André Maurel, La région des lacs (on the English Lake District). 4° 52 pp. ts. with ms. corrections.

File 220. G. K. Chesterton, Les crimes d'Angleterre. French translation by C. Grolleau. 2° 116 pp. ts. with ms. corrections, some proofs. (Published Paris, 1916).

Files 151-152. Personal financial, legal and medical papers of Sarolea, 1911-50.

Files 168-9. Letters of introduction to Sarolea, invitations, etc. Various dates.

File 222. Passports, visas, diplomas awarded to Sarolea.

D.E.Griffiths  
May 1960

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\* Charles Sarolea (1870-1953) K.O.L., Ph.D., D. Litt., LL.D., was born in Tongres in Belgium. He came to Edinburgh in 1894 after a brilliant career at the universities of Liège and Brussels to take up an appointment as the first lecturer in French at Edinburgh University. In 1918 when the Chair of French was established Sarolea became the first Professor of French in the University. He resigned his Chair in 1931, but continued to reside in Edinburgh. Sarolea was consul for Belgium in Edinburgh from 1901 until his death, though he had adopted British nationality before 1920. He was an excellent linguist, claiming a knowledge of eighteen to twenty one languages. He was also an ardent book-collector and built up a private library said to contain over 200,000 volumes. For thirty years before the war Sarolea was well known outside ~~the~~  
~~general public~~  
~~University circles~~ as author, editor, journalist, lecturer and public speaker. His chief interest seems always to have been in politics and current affairs; many of his publications, including those that aroused the greatest interest were devoted to these matters, and after resigning his Chair at the University <sup>he</sup> gave ~~devoted~~ most of his attention to them.

For an appreciation of his career see the obituary notice in Edinburgh University Journal, Vol. 16, 1953. p. 271.

M.B. File 223. Miscellaneous biographical and bibliographical papers relating to C.S.