

ROBERT E. SNYDER PAPERS

Mss. 3836

Inventory

Compiled by
Christopher Bienvenu

Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections
Special Collections, Hill Memorial Library
Louisiana State University Libraries
Baton Rouge, Louisiana State University

2024
Revised 2025

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SUMMARY

Size	1.5 linear feet, 1 OS folder
Geographic Locations	Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Virginia, Washington, D.C.
Inclusive Dates	1919-1979, undated
Languages	English
Summary	The Robert E. Snyder Papers consist of Dr. Snyder's research files that he compiled while writing his book <i>Cotton Crisis</i> . Papers include correspondence, notes, and photocopied records from various archival institutions detailing the cotton crisis of 1931 and Huey P. Long's plan for a cotton holiday.
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Copyright	For those materials not in the public domain, copyright is retained by the descendants of the creators in accordance with U.S. Copyright law.
Related Collections	Archibald Stinson Coody Papers, Mss. 2446, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, La. J. Cleveland Frugé Papers, Mss. 2484, 2601, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, La. Huey P. Long Papers, Mss. 557, 1240, 1350, etc., Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, La.
Citation	Robert E. Snyder Papers, Mss. 3836, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries Special Collections, Baton Rouge, La.
Stack Location(s)	52:11, OS:S

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

Dr. Robert E. Snyder (1943-2019) was born in Amsterdam, New York, on March 27, 1943. He received both a B.A. in history and an M.A. in American studies from Union College in Schenectady, New York, and he completed his Ph. D. in interdisciplinary social science at Syracuse University. Dr. Snyder taught American studies in the State University System of Florida, specializing in popular culture, film, and the American South, and won several awards for excellence in teaching. He was the author of the books *Cotton Crisis* and *Pioneer Commercial Photography: The Burgert Brothers of Tampa, Florida*. The latter received the Charlton W. Tebeau and D. B. McKay Awards and a certificate of commendation from the Association of State and Local History. Dr. Snyder was a prolific scholar with many published articles over the years. He was awarded the Willie D. Halsell Award from the Mississippi Historical Society in 1978 for his article "The Cotton Holiday Movement in Mississippi, 1931." Dr. Snyder served as a humanities consultant for the Ken Burns documentary film *Huey Long*, which was nominated for an Academy Award. He died on April 26, 2019.

In 1931, the New Orleans Cotton Conference was organized by Huey P. Long and attended by members of all the cotton-producing states. While there, participants unanimously endorsed Long's suggestions that the low price and large surplus of cotton could be rectified by prohibiting the cultivation of cotton in 1932. Four days later, the Louisiana Legislature convened for a special six-day session to consider cotton relief legislation, specifically the plan Long called the "cotton holiday." After Long addressed a joint session of the House and Senate, a cotton holiday bill was introduced.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Robert E. Snyder Papers contain the research collected by Snyder while writing his book *Cotton Crisis*. Unless noted, the bulk of the research consists of photocopied records from repositories of archival collections around the South and the National Archives in Washington, D.C. The photocopied documents include correspondence, speeches, articles, and reports from the papers of various elected officials involved in the cotton debates. Snyder's correspondence with surviving Huey Long contemporaries and other cotton crisis scholars and his recorded notes on index cards are also included, and these materials are labeled as such in the container list. The repository name was added to the folder label if Snyder originally noted that information prominently in his files. The materials are arranged alphabetically by subject.

INDEX TERMS

Snyder, Robert E., 1943- .	
Long, Huey Pierce, 1893-1935.	
Cotton growing--United States.	
Cotton--Diseases and pests--Control.	
Cotton--Yields--United States.	
Cotton--United States.	
Boll weevil--United States.	
Letters (correspondence)	

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Stack</u> <u>Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents (with dates)</u>
52:11	1	1	M.C. Allgood, National Archives, 1923-1927
		2	William Anderson correspondence, 1975
		3	James B. Aswell, National Archives, 1925-1929
		4-5	Senator Alben W. Barkley, 1931-1936, 1973
		6-9	Governor Theodore Bilbo, 1931-1935, undated
		10	Governor Theodore Bilbo, notes re: 1931, circa 1973-1975
		11	Governor Ibra Charles (I.C.) Blackwood, 1931-1932
		12	Governor Ibra Charles (I.C.) Blackwood, notes re: 1931, circa 1973-1975
		13	George T. Bye, 1935, 1972
		14	Governor James F. Byrnes, 1923
		15	Governor Thomas E. Campbell, 1919-1920
		16	Xenophon Caverno, 1928-1936
		17	Senator Tom Connally, National Archives, 1924-1931
		18	Senator Tom Connally, 1931
		19	Senator Tom Connally, notes re: 1929-1931, circa 1973-1975
		20	Archibald Stinson (A.S.) Coody, 1935
		21	"Cotton Research," National Archives, 1920-1932, 1975
		22	"Crop Report," notes re: 1920-1929, National Archives, circa 1973-1975
		23	"Crop Report," National Archives, 1922-1929
		24	J. Cleveland Frugé correspondence, 1975
		25	Senator Carter Glass, correspondence and notes, 1973
		26	Dr. Charles G. Hamilton correspondence, 1975-1978
		27	Senator Pat Harrison, 1933-1934
		28	George W. Healy, Jr. correspondence, 1975
		29	G.B. Herring correspondence, 1975
		30-36	President Herbert Hoover, 1922-1937, 1974
		37	Governor George W. P. Hunt, 1927-1933
		38	C.P. Liter correspondence, 1975
		39	Senator Huey P. Long, Duke University, 1929-1945, undated
OS:S	--	OS 1	Senator Huey P. Long, Duke University, oversized, 1930-1935
52:11	1	40	Senator Huey P. Long, Louisiana State University, 1931
		41-43	Senator Kenneth D. McKellar, 1930-1931, 1975
		44	George T. Meriwether, National Archives, 1924

<u>Stack Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents (with dates)</u>
52:11	1	45	Governor Benjamin M. (B.M.) Miller, 1931
		46	Governor Benjamin M. (B.M.) Miller, notes re: 1931, circa 1973-1975
		47	Cecil Morgan correspondence, 1975-1979
		48	Governor John M. Parker, 1932-1935, undated
		49-53	Governor Harvey Parnell, notes re: 1931, circa 1973-1975
		54	William R. (W.R.) Poage correspondence, 1975
		55	Senator J.E. Rankin, National Archives, 1924-1927
		56	Senator Joseph E. Ransdell, National Archives, 1924-1930
		57	W.D. Robinson, 1929-1937
		58	President Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1933-1935
	2	1	John C. Satterfield correspondence and research re: 1928-1932, 1975
		2-4	Governor Ross Sterling, 1931, undated
		5-9	Governor Ross Sterling, notes re: 1931 and undated, circa 1973-1975
		10	Senator Herman E. Talmadge correspondence, 1975
		12-13	Texas Cotton Association, 1930-1931
		14	Martha G. Westfeldt, 1933-1938
		15	Claude C. Williams correspondence, 1975-1976