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## James Lawrence Fly papers 4078768

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Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Butler Library, 6th Floor  
Columbia University, Mail Code 1127  
535 W. 114th St.  
New York, NY 10027  
Business Number: (212) 854-5153  
Fax Number: (212) 854-1365  
[rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu](mailto:rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu)  
URL: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/rbml/index.html>

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## Table of Contents

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Summary Information .....	3
Biographical / Historical .....	3
Summary .....	3
Arrangement .....	4
Administrative Information .....	4
Controlled Access Headings .....	5
Other Finding Aids .....	6
Collection Inventory .....	6
Series I: Cataloged correspondence .....	6
Series II: Department of Justice .....	8
Series III: Tennessee Valley Authority .....	8
Series IV: Federal Communications Commission .....	9
Subject File .....	9
Allocation hearings .....	10
Cox Investigation Committee .....	10
FM hearings .....	11
Free Speech .....	11
Newspaper hearings .....	11
Wiretapping .....	11
Printed materials .....	11
Speeches & articles .....	12
Series V: Private Practice .....	12
Subject file .....	12
Printed materials: Books & magazines .....	13
Speeches & articles .....	14
Series VI: Materials assembled by Sally Fly Connell for her proposed biography of her father .....	14
Series VII: Oversize scrapbook of clippings .....	15

## Summary Information

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**Repository:** Rare Book and Manuscript Library  
**Creator:** Fly, James Lawrence, 1898-1966  
**Title:** James Lawrence Fly papers  
**ID:** 4078768  
**ID:** MS#0436  
**Date [inclusive]:** 1920-1977  
**Physical Description:** 55 boxes 55 boxes; 1 volume  
**Language of the Material:** English .

### Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); James Lawrence Fly papers; Box and Folder; Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Library.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Biographical / Historical

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James Lawrence Fly was the General Counsel of the Tennessee Valley Authority, 1934-1939; Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission (F.C.C.), 1939-1944; and later in private practice as an attorney before the F.C.C., a member of the board of the American Civil Liberties Union, and a frequent lecturer about radio, television, and freedom of speech.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Summary

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James Lawrence Fly papers consist of correspondence, manuscripts, drafts, notes, reports, legal briefs and other documents, books, clippings, and other printed materials dealing with

Fly's professional activities and relationships in all three phases of his career. Correspondents include Roger N. Baldwin, Felix Frankfurter, Cordell Hull, Elmer Rice, Franklin D. Roosevelt, and Harry Truman.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Arrangement

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Collection arranged in 7 series. Selected materials cataloged remainder listed.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

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URL: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/rbml/index.html>

### Revision Description

PDF replaced with full finding aid, YH May 2020

### Restrictions on Access

This collection is located off-site. You will need to request this material at least three business days in advance to use the collection in the Rare Book and Manuscript Library reading room.

### Restrictions on Access

This collection has no restrictions.

## **Terms Governing Use and Reproduction**

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## **Immediate Source of Acquisition**

Source of acquisition--Connell, Sally Fly. Method of acquisition--Gift; Date of acquisition--1962. Accession number--M-62.

## **Processing Information**

Cataloged Christina Hilton Fenn 06/--/89.

## **Accruals**

Materials may have been added to the collection since this finding aid was prepared. Contact rbml@columbia.edu for more information.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## **Controlled Access Headings**

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- Freedom of speech
- Radio broadcasting policy
- Radio -- Censorship
- Television -- Censorship
- Television broadcasting policy
- Civil rights
- Lawyers
- Correspondence
- Clippings (Information Artifacts)
- Reports
- Briefs (legal documents)
- Drafts (documents)
- Manuscripts (documents)
- Baldwin, Roger N (Roger Nash), 1884-1981
- Frankfurter, Felix, 1882-1965
- Hull, Cordell, 1871-1955
- Rice, Elmer, 1892-1967
- Roosevelt, Franklin D (Franklin Delano), 1882-1945
- Truman, Harry S., 1884-1972

- United States. Federal Communications Commission
  - Tennessee Valley Authority
  - American Civil Liberties Union
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## Other Finding Aids

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[Legacy Finding aid](#)

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Collection Inventory

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### Series I: Cataloged correspondence

Title/Description	Instances
Angell, James Rowland	box 1
Armstrong, Edwin Howard	box 1
Baldwin, Roger Nash	box 1
Barkley, Alben William	box 1
Baruch, Bernard Mannes	box 1
Battle, George Gordon	box 1
Benton, William	box 1
Black, Hugo La Fayette	box 1
Bliven,, Bruce	box 1
Buck, Gene	box 1
Butler, Nicholas Nuri-ay	box 1
Copeland, Royal Samuel	box 1
Corwin, Norman	box 1
Cummings, Homer Stillé	box 1
Davies, Joseph Edward	box 1
De Forest, Lee	box 1
Dulles, John Foster	box 1
Eaton, Cyrus Stephen	box 1

Ernst, Morris Leopold	box 1
Farley, James A.	box 1
Frankfurter Felix	box 1
Fox, Dixon Ryan	box 1
Hand, Learned	box 1
Handier, Milton	box 1
Holmes, John Haynes	box 1
Hoover, John Edgar	box 1
Howe, Louis McHenry	box 1
Hull, Cordell	box 1
Ickes, Harold Le Clair	box 1
Kellogg, Paul Underwood	box 1
La Guardia, Fiorello Henry	box 1
Lodge, Henry Cabot, Jr.	box 1
Luce, Henry Robinson	box 1
MacLeish, Archibald	box 1
McWilliams, Carey	box 1
Meyer, Eugene	box 1
Morgenthau, Henry, Jr.	box 1
Murrow, Edward R.	box 1
Nevins, Allan	box 1
Paley, William S.	box 1
Parsons, Geoffrey	box 1
Randolph, Asa Phiiip	box 1
Rayburn, Sam	box 1
Reed, Stanley Forman	box 1
Reid, Helen Rogers (Mrs. Ogden M.)	box 1
Rice, Elmer	box 1
Roosevelt, Eleanor	box 1
Roosevelt, Franklin Delano	box 1
Sarnoff, David	box 1
Schlesinger, Arthur Meier, Jr.	box 1

Shirer, William Lawrence	box 1
Shotwell, James Thomson	box 1
Sulzberger, Arthur Hays	box 1
Swope, Herbert Bayard	box 1
Truman, Harry S.	box 1
Wagner, Robert Ferdinand	box 1
Wallace, Henry Agard	box 1

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Series II: Department of Justice, 1933, 1938

Title/Description	Instances
Letters, 1933	box 2
<b>Scope and Contents</b>	
Letters recommending James Lawrence Fly for the position of The Assistant to the Attorney General of the U.S. (Antitrust Division) to which he was not appointed.	
Letters recommending J.L.F. as in 1933 and clippings	box 15

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Series III: Tennessee Valley Authority, 1934-1939

### Scope and Contents

J.L.F. was General Solicitor and General Counsel.

### Arrangement

Arranged by subjects.

Title/Description	Instances
Appointment & set-up of legal department	box 3
Barr, James A.	box 3
Congratulatory messages on TEP vs. TVA (Tennessee Electric Power Company)	box 3
General correspondence	box 3
Hoffman, Charles E.	box 3
Miscellaneous opinions	box 3

O'Brien, John Lord	box 3
Opinion-Circuit Court Appeals: Letters of congratulations	box 3
Personal correspondence	box 3
Phosphate	box 3
Photographs (of J.L.F.)	box 3
Relationship between Authority Comptroller General	box 3
Towsley, Frank Hathaway	box 3
Travel expenses	box 3
Digest of eases (5 Loose-leaf notebooks)	box 4
Printed materials	
Books, periodicals, articles by J.L.F.	box 5
Legal briefs	box 6
Legal briefs	box 7
Legal briefs	box 8
Legal briefs	box 9
Legal briefs	box 10
Legal briefs	box 11
Legal transcripts	box 12
Publicity - clippings	box 13
Publicity - clippings	box 14

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Series IV: Federal Communications Commission, 1939-1944

### Scope and Contents

J.L.F. was Chairman of the F.C.C.

### Subject File

Title/Description	Instances
Appointments to F.C.C. and resignation	box 15
Attorney General	box 15
Bar admissions	box 15
Baruch, Bernard M.	box 15

Board of War Communications: Orders	box 15
Collier's article re: television	box 15
Congratulations F.C.C. appointment, 1939 September 01	box 15
Congratulations on reappointment to F.C.C., 1942 July 01	box 15
Dodd & Watson vs. the U.S.	box 15
Ethridge, Mark	box 15
Friedrich. C. J.	box 15
General correspondence	box 15
Kudos to J.L.F.	box 15
Milestones in F. C.C. history since 1939	box 16
Misc.	box 16
O'Brien, John Lord	box 16
Olds, Irving	box 16
Photographs	box 16
Press conferences, 1943	box 16
F.D. Roosevelt Library, Hyde Park, N.Y.	box 17
The Saturday Evening Post article, 1940 September 28	box 17
Sulzberger, Arthur Hays	box 17
Swope, Herbert Bayard	box 17
Television	box 17
Television: J.L.F. speeches & articles	box 17
White House (including xerox copies of correspondence made by the Roosevelt Library, Hyde Park, NY)	box 17
White House Press Conferences	box 17
Whitehair, Francis P.	box 17

**Allocation hearings, 1944**

Title/Description	Instances
Allocation hearings, 1944	box 18
Allocation hearings, 1944	box 19
Allocation hearings, 1944	box 20

**Cox Investigation Committee, 1943**

Title/Description	Instances
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Cox Investigation Committee, 1943	box 21
Cox Investigation Committee, 1943	box 22
Cox Investigation Committee, 1943	box 23

## **FM hearings, 1945**

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>
FM hearings, 1945	box 24

## **Free Speech**

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>
Free Speech	box 24
Free Speech	box 25

## **Newspaper hearings**

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>
Newspaper hearings	box 26

## **Wiretapping**

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>
Wiretapping	box 27

## **Printed materials**

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>
Books	box 27
Publicity - clippings	box 28

### **Scope and Contents**

See also: Oversize scrapbook

Publicity - clippings	box 29
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### **Scope and Contents**

See also: Oversize scrapbook

Publicity - clippings	box 30
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### **Scope and Contents**

See also: Oversize scrapbook

Publicity - clippings	box 31
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## Scope and Contents

See also: Oversize scrapbook

### Speeches & articles

#### Scope and Contents

Drafts, printed copies, manuscripts, correspondence, and related materials

Title/Description	Instances
Suggested speeches & articles: correspondence	box 32
References to speeches and testimony on F.C.C. problems (extracts of speeches)	box 32
1939 - April 1940	box 32
April 1940 - May 1941	box 33
May - December 1940	box 34
January - September 1942	box 35
October 1942 - August 1943	box 36
September - December 1943	box 37
January - May 1944	box 38
June - November 1944	box 39

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

### Series V: Private Practice, 1944-1966

#### Subject file

Title/Description	Instances
American Civil Liberties Union (A.C.L.U.)	
A.B.C. - Paramount merger	box 40
Bricker Amendment	box 40
Bridges, Harry R.	box 40
Committee on Freedom of Communications (pressure group censorship)	box 40
Ernst, Morris L.	box 40
International broadcasting	box 40
Miscellaneous	box 40
Passport control	box 40

Policy on filming (courtroom proceedings)	box 40
Scott, Robert	box 40
Subscription television	box 40
Taft-Hartley Law	box 40
Wiretapping	box 41
Arbitration	box 42
Book by J. L. F. on radio - Chicago University Press	box 42
Fly, J.L. - trip abroad, 1950	box 42
Fly, J.L., Jr.	box 42
Fly, Fitts and Shubruks, Attorneys: Office papers accounts	box 43
Lawrence, Ruddick C.	box 44
Miscellaneous	box 44
Navy - Official	box 44
Outerbridge, Jospehine	box 44
Peek, Mr. & Mrs. Carson C. (sister of J. L. F.)	box 44
Photographs	box 44
Publicity - clippings, 1944-1951	box 45
Quotations, notes, etc.	box 45
Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial Foundation	box 45
Say, Miss St. John Cannon	box 45
Variety	box 45
Senate Resolution 241 - Morton Salt & Cement Institute	box 45
Westinghouse Electric Corp.; The Associated Broadcasters, Inc.; & Wesley J. Dunn: agreement and plan of reorganization	box 45
Swidler, Joseph C.	box 45
White House	box 45
Whitehair, Francis P.	box 45
F.C.C. Allocation hearings, 1945	box 46

### Printed materials: Books & magazines

Title/Description	Instances
Printed materials: Books & magazines	box 47
Printed materials: Books & magazines	box 48

**Speeches & articles**

Title/Description	Instances
1945	box 49
1946-1947	box 50
1948	box 51
1949	box 52
1950-1955	box 53

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

**Series VI: Materials assembled by Sally Fly Connell for her proposed biography of her father, 1934-1977**

Title/Description	Instances
A.C.L.U.	box 54
"Bug thy neighbor" by S.F.C.	box 54
Bridges, Harry R.	box 54
BuckneII-Rosenberg	box 54
Cohn, Marcus	box 54
Cox Investigation of F.C.C.	box 54
Correspondence	box 54
Corwin, Norman	box 54
Denny, Charles	box 54
Durr, Clifford	box 54
F.B.I.- accusations	box 54
F.C.C. censorship	box 54
Fly-biography	box 54
Friendley, Fred H.	box 54
Miscellaneous	box 54
Monopolies	box 54
"The most dangerous man" by S.F.C.	box 54
Norris, George W.	box 54
O'Brien, John Lord	box 54
Plotkin, Harry M.	box 54

Paley, William	box 54
Porter, Paul	box 54
Rauh, Joseph L., Jr.	box 55
"The red and the blue" by S.F.C.	box 55
Roosevelt, F. D. - memos	box 55
Rowe, James	box 55
Schlesinger, Arthur M., Jr.	box 55
Shubruk, Peter	box 55
Siepmann, Charles A.	box 55
Swidler, Joseph C.	box 55
"TVA: first five years" by S.F.C.	box 55
Printed materials	box 55

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

### Series VII: Oversize scrapbook of clippings

Title/Description	Instances
Federal Communications Commission, 1939-1944	box 55
Scrapbook: FCC Newspaper clippings, 1939-1944	cmibox 56
Publicity - clippings	box 55

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)