

# Guide to the Harriot Stanton Blatch Papers, 1807-1936 (bulk 1908-1920)

## Biographical Note

Harriot Stanton Blatch was born Harriot Eaton Stanton on January 20, 1856 in Seneca Falls, New York. Her father, Henry Brewster Stanton was a lawyer, New York state senator, and abolitionist. Her mother, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, was a leader in the women's rights movement. Harriot graduated from Vassar College in 1878. She met William Henry Blatch, an English businessman, in 1881. They married in 1882 and lived in England until 1902, when she and her family moved to the United States.

Blatch was active in women's groups and social reform organizations in England, and is credited with revitalizing the American woman suffrage movement upon her return to New York. She established the Equality League of Self-Supporting Women, later renamed the Women's Political Union (WPU). The WPU stressed the involvement of working women in the suffrage movement and connected women's rights with trade unionism. Under her leadership the WPU held many outside forums and organized the first of many suffrage parades in 1910. They also testified at legislative hearings, lobbied, and oversaw polling activities.

Harriot Stanton Blatch was also active in other peace and social justice movements and was a strong advocate for legislation regarding workers' and children's rights

[Top](#)

## Scope and Content Note

The Harriot Stanton Blatch collection consists of correspondence, clippings, reports, speeches, notes, and ephemera that document the suffrage movement. Much of the collection relates to the activities of Blatch and the Women's Political Union (formerly the League of Self-Supporting Women) in New York State. These activities include lobbying, campaigning, organizing parades, and poll watching. The collection also contains some material pertaining to suffrage activities at the national level, specifically during the 1916 presidential campaign. A significant portion of correspondence contained in the collection is between Blatch and Caroline Lexow. This collection of materials was assembled and used by Blatch to prepare her books on women's suffrage, and both hand-written and typed portions of her manuscripts are scattered throughout the collection.

Also included in the collection is material pertaining to Blatch's later work on factory legislation, the minimum wage, and other labor issues.

[Top](#)

## Arrangement

This collection is arranged chronologically. The original order of the materials

within the folders was not altered, however the folders were rearranged by date. The dates reflect materials about that time period, not necessarily materials created during that time. Dates in quotation marks were transcribed from the original folders.[Top](#)

## **Administrative Information**

### **Preferred Citation**

Harriot Stanton Blatch Papers, Archives and Special Collections, Vassar College Libraries.

### **Processing Information**

Collection processed by Jennifer Palmentiero, 2006

### **Acquisition Information**

On deposit from Coline Jenkins-Sahlin.

[Top](#)

Folder 1.1 "Before 1907" — Includes account of time at Vassar Folder 1.2 "1907-1908" — Includes Hoffman House lawsuit, League of Self-Supporting Women, New York legislative work Folder 1.3 "1908" — Includes Women's Political Union Folder 1.4 1908 — Text of speech "The Event We Celebrate, Nov. 12, 1908" Folder 1.5 1908 — Text of speech about Elizabeth Cady Stanton Folder 1.6 1908 — Text of speech presented on Oct. 16, 1908 Folder 1.7 1909 — Miscellaneous Folder 1.8 1909-1914 — Miscellaneous Folder 1.9 1910 — Includes first suffrage parade, campaign activities, and legislative activities Folder 1.10 1910 — Includes National American Women's Suffrage Association, Equal Franchise Society, and Women's Political Union Folder 1.11 1910 — Correspondence from Blatch to Caroline Lexow Folder 1.12 "1912 Clippings" — Clippings dated 1910-1912 Folder 1.13 "1911 Pankhurst Parade, March in Albany, Legislature" Folder 1.14 "1911 Clippings" Folder 1.15 1911-1912 — Miscellaneous Folder 1.16 1911-1913 — Miscellaneous Folder 1.17 "1912" — Includes manuscript and related research materials Folder 1.18 "1913" — Includes suffrage parade Folder 1.19 1913 — Miscellaneous Folder 1.20 1913 — Caroline Lexow correspondence Folder 1.21 1913 — Includes parade on Wall Street Folder 1.22 "1913" — Manuscripts Folder 1.23 1914 — Includes Republican Convention and Constitutional Convention Folder 1.24 "1914" — Manuscripts Folder 1.25 "1914 material" — Includes Caroline Lexow correspondence Folder 1.26 1914 — Includes Caroline Lexow Correspondence Folder 1.27 1914 — Miscellaneous Folder 1.28 1914 — Includes Caroline Lexow correspondence and reports Folder 1.29 1914 — Miscellaneous Folder 1.30 1915 — Includes text of speech Folder 1.31 1915 — Manuscripts Folder 1.32 "1916" — Federal election Folder 1.33 1916 — Federal election Folder 1.34 1916 — "Presidential Suffrage" Folder 1.35 "1917" — Miscellaneous Folder 1.36 1919 — Includes correspondence from Blatch to Nora Blatch De Forest Folder 1.37 1923-1933 — "Protective Legislation" — factory legislation, minimum wage, Equal Rights Amendment, child labor Folder 1.38 1929 — Correspondence from Blatch to Nora Blatch De Forest Folder 1.39 1929-1936 — Includes materials about Elizabeth Cady Stanton Folder 1.40 1933 — Includes National Council of Women Folder 1.41 1933 — Rollins College memorial to

Elizabeth Cady Stanton Folder 1.42 1934 "Partial contents of first black letter box" — includes Equal Rights Amendment Folder 2.1 1936 "Press Clippings" Folder 2.2 1936 — Blatch's "80th Birthday Jan. 20, 1936" Folder 2.3 1920s, 1930s — Miscellaneous Folder 2.4 1920s, 1930s — Miscellaneous Folder 2.5 1920s, 1930s — "After Suffrage" Folder 2.6 1930s — "Miscellaneous" Folder 2.7 1930s correspondence — Letters worth notice: Mary Beard, Adelaede Johnson, Carrie Chapman Catt Folder 2.8 1930s — "Beard Correspondence" Folder 2.9 "Partial contents of first black letter box" — Journals Folder 2.10 "Demonstrations, Torch, Fairs, Van, Art Exhibit" — Manuscripts Folder 2.11 "War, Mobilizing Women Power" — Includes research materials Folder 2.12 "Blatch Notes" — Research materials Folder 2.13 "Outlines" — Research materials Folder 2.14 Clippings — Harriot Stanton Blatch denied U.S. citizenship Folder 2.15 Elizabeth Cady Stanton's death; women in Nazi Germany Folder 2.16 Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Harriot Stanton Blatch — Includes brochures, clippings, correspondence Folder 2.17 "Book" — Includes "Katy did" by Elizabeth Cady Stanton 11 March 1893, Seneca Falls tablet, Woman's Journal 60th anniversary Folder 2.18 Encyclopedia of Social Sciences entries for Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony Folder 2.19 Pamphlets — 1807-1911 Folder 2.20 "Rare Pamphlets" — 1892-1908 Folder 2.21 "Partial contents of third letter box" — booklets and pamphlets 1891-1934 Folder 2.22 Miscellaneous — includes copy of "Communist Manifesto" Folder 2.23 Miscellaneous — contents of "second black letter box" Folder 2.24 "Suffrage Cartoons" Folder 2.25 New York State legislative debates, 1910, 1912 Folder 2.26 New York State legislative debates, 1910-1914 Folder 2.27 New York State legislative resolutions, 1910-1915 Folder 2.28 Maps of New York senate districts Folder 2.29 Miscellaneous correspondence — 1912-1918, 1930-1936, n.d. Folders 2.30 - 2.33 Miscellaneous Folder 2.34 Photograph of Susan B. Anthony