

# Guide to the Dorothy Stebbins Bowles Papers

MS 747



compiled by Janet Elaine Gertz

February 1982

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
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**CALL NUMBER:** MS 747

**CREATOR:** Bowles, Dorothy S. (Dorothy Stebbins)

**TITLE:** Dorothy Stebbins Bowles papers

**DATES:** 1944-1960

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 3 linear feet

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Correspondence, memoranda, notes, speeches and miscellaneous printed matter relating to Mrs. Bowles' public activities and official duties in connection with her husband's public offices. Most of the materials are for the years 1951-1953 when Chester Bowles was United States Ambassador to India.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0747>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0747>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html). The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box  
f. folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Chester and Dorothy Stebbins Bowles in connection with the Chester Bowles Papers, 1971 and succeeding years.

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## Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

Copyright status for collection materials is unknown. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owners. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.

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## Preferred Citation

Dorothy Stebbins Bowles Papers. Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Dorothy Stebbins Bowles was born in 1903. She graduated from Vassar in 1924 and from Smith College School of Social Work in 1926. She carried on a professional career in social work until 1935.

In 1934 she became Chester Bowles' second wife. They had three children: Cynthia, Sally, and Samuel. In her married life Dorothy Bowles continued her interest in social work in addition to adopting the political concerns of her husband. In 1948, when he was International Chairman of the United Nations Appeal for Children, she accompanied him on a tour of Europe. She has also been a member of the United States Committee for UNICEF, and while her husband was Ambassador to India she took the opportunity to study Indian social problems.

She died on November 29, 1989.

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## Scope and Contents

The materials which constitute the Dorothy Stebbins ("Steb") Bowles Papers cover a brief span of time and relate almost entirely to Dorothy Bowles' public activities and official duties in connection with her husband's public offices. Most of the materials cluster around the years 1948-1953, the richest material dating from 1951-1953 when Chester Bowles was United States Ambassador to India. Also of interest are seven notebooks compiled by Dorothy Bowles while accompanying her husband, then International Chairman of the United Nations Appeal for Children, on a tour of Europe (1948).

The papers are arranged in subject files containing correspondence, memoranda, printed matter, and memorabilia. There is, in addition, some general correspondence including one reel of taped letters concerning domestic arrangements in preparation for Chester Bowles' second ambassadorship to India, 1962. These include routine letters to Mrs. Robert McNamara and Mrs. Kenneth Galbraith. A brief note from Jawaharlal Nehru may be found in folder 6 (1953 Feb 8), and a more substantive letter from Norman Cousins in folder 8 (1952 Jun 30). Other materials include a folder of notes and drafts for speeches given by Dorothy Bowles and a series of engagement calendars for the years 1944-1951.

Material related to these papers may be found in the Chester Bowles Papers, Manuscript Group Number 628. The Dorothy Stebbins Bowles Papers were given to Yale University by Mr. and Mrs. Bowles in connection with the Chester Bowles papers in 1971 and succeeding years.

## Collection Contents

b. 1, f. 1 - 2	General correspondence	1950-1953, 1960
b. 1, f. 3	General correspondence (on magnetic tape; dictated by D. S. Bowles)	1961-1963
	Connecticut	
b. 1, f. 4	Conference of Democratic Women: memoranda, speech, notes	1954 April 7
b. 1, f. 5	Report of the Commission on State Government Organization: printed matter	1950
	India	
b. 1, f. 6	General correspondence	1948, 1951-1953
b. 1, f. 7	Education: correspondence and printed matter	1951-1953
b. 1, f. 8	Education: correspondence re <i>Shankar's Weekly</i>	1952
b. 1, f. 9	Embassy official business: memoranda and news releases	1950-1952, undated
b. 1, f. 10	Embassy official business: social events, invitations, etc.	1951-1953, undated
b. 1, f. 11	Gifts from America: correspondence, memoranda	1951-1953
b. 1, f. 12	Gifts from America: printed matter	1952, undated
b. 1, f. 13	Memorabilia	1951-1953, undated
b. 1, f. 14	Newspaper clippings	1951-1952
b. 2, f. 15	Newspaper clippings re Bowles family	1951-1953
b. 2, f. 16 - 17	Printed matter	1951-1953, undated
b. 2, f. 18	Social work: correspondence, memoranda, printed matter	1952-1953
b. 2, f. 19	Village development: memoranda	1951-1952, undated
b. 2, f. 20	Speech materials	1952, 1960, undated
	United Nations Trip, 1948	
b. 2, f. 21	Correspondence and memorabilia	1948-1950
b. 2, f. 22	Notebooks	1948
	UNICEF	
b. 2, f. 23	Correspondence	1950

b. 2, f. 24	Printed matter	1949-1952, undated
b. 2, f. 25	Miscellaneous	1949-1952, 1960, undated
b. 3	Engagement calendars	1944-1951

## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Diplomats  
Women

### **Geographic Names**

Asia  
India -- Foreign relations -- United States  
India -- Social conditions  
United States -- Foreign relations -- India

### **Names**

Bowles, Chester, 1901-1986  
Bowles, Dorothy S. (Dorothy Stebbins)  
Cousins, Norman, 1912-1990

### **Corporate Body**

UNICEF