William H. Hays (1879-1954) served as the chairman of the Republican National Committee between 1918 and 1921. In 1921, President Harding appointed Hays to be his postmaster general, but he resigned the post in 1922 to become president of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America (MPPDA), more commonly known as “the Hays organization”.

This collection

• contains the papers of Will H. Hays, president of the Motion Picture Association of America from 1922-45, who oversaw the creation of its censorship office and both co-wrote and enforced the Production Code used to censor movies made in Hollywood from 1930-66

• is useful for research on moving image media, popular movies, documentaries, and animation