Finding Aid for the Carroll De Wilton Scott Collection, 1909-1964 LA.2010.800

Finding aid prepared by Kathy Elliott
San Diego Natural History Museum Research Library
4/18/2012
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URL: http://sdnhm.org/science/research-library/
Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: San Diego Natural History Museum Research Library
Title: Carroll De Wilton Scott Collection, 1909-1964
creator: Scott, Carroll De Wilton, 1878-1970
Identifier/Call Number: LA.2010.800
Physical Description: 2.0 Linear feet
Date (inclusive): 1909-1964
Abstract: The Carroll De Wilton Scott Collection, ca. 1900-1964, consists primarily of nature writings of Scott, including diaries, poetry, children's stories and music, reflections, and descriptive prose. A smaller part of the collection includes articles, clippings, and illustrations collected by Scott.

Scope and Contents
Series I (approximately one-quarter of the collection) contains six volumes of nature diaries written by Scott from 1909 to 1949. The diaries are primarily manuscript. They record detailed personal observations of nature, including species lists and descriptive prose. The diaries also contain reflections on topics such as the future of humanity, historical information, and miscellaneous personal records on topics such as finances and progress on writing projects. A separate volume contains a cumulative typescript index prepared by the author. The series also includes manuscript and typescript lists of wildflowers in bloom and seeds collected at Scott's home in Pacific Beach, CA, from 1955 to 1957.

Approximately half of the collection (Series II) consists of various collections of poetry, children's stories and songs, reflections, and descriptive prose written by Scott. The documents are primarily typescript with manuscript notations by Scott. The collections were prepared, bound, and indexed by the author. This series also includes looseleaf typescript writings (e.g., "Summary of Mankind," 1945-1953), copies of publications that contain a poem or story written by Scott, lists covering topics such as Scott's literary output, and collections of source articles with notations by Scott.

Series III contains other materials collected by Scott, including miscellaneous nature articles, illustrations, and newspaper clippings. A letter of donation by his son, Robert S. (Bob) Scott, with autobiographical and biographical material, is included with this series.

Biographical/Historical
Carroll De Wilton Scott was a naturalist, educator, and prolific writer of poetry, stories, reflections, and articles about the natural world. Scott was born on December 2, 1878 in Stevenville, Texas, and moved with his parents to San Diego county in 1882. He graduated from Stanford University in 1902 and lived for one year in Nevada; he taught history briefly in San Mateo before taking up farming in Pacific Beach. In September 1910, he married Edith Mills and began teaching. He worked in the San Diego County public school system from 1914 to 1934, first as a teacher and later as Supervisor of Natural Study. He served as the first Director of Education for the San Diego Natural History Museum from 1920-1921, and for many years, he wrote weekly California nature articles for local newspapers. His publications include Manual of Nature Education for San Diego Elementary Schools (1927), Finding Real Fairies (1945), Looking for California Condors (1945), Story of Southern California Wildflowers (1955), Here's Don Coyote (1956), and California Nature Poems (1957). He died in San Diego on April 2, 1970.

Conditions Governing Access
The collection is open to researchers by appointment. Contact the Research Library Director, San Diego Natural History Museum.

Conditions Governing Use
Copyright may be reserved. Consult the San Diego Natural History Museum Research Library Director for more information.

Immediate Source of Acquisition
This collection was donated to the San Diego Natural History Research Library by Robert S. Scott in November 2003.

Preferred Citation

Subjects and Indexing Terms
Natural history literature--Study and teaching.
Natural history--California.
Nature--Poetry.
Series I: Nature Diaries 1909-1957

Nature Diary 1909-1949

Physical Description: Six nature diaries and index, November 1909 to November 1949. Wildflower lists, compiled 1955-1957.

Nature Diary v. I: Spring 1914 - Autumn 1926 1914-1926
Nature Diary v. II: Autumn 1926 - Summer 1932 1926-1932
Nature Diary v. IV: Winter 1937 - Autumn 1943 1937-1943
Nature Diary v. VI: Supplement to Volumes I-V


Series II. Nature Poetry, Stories, Songs, and Prose 362 various dates

Bird Rhythms. Collected poems and other writings by Carroll De Wilton Scott. Typescript (two copies), compiled by the author 1954
Story of the Wild Flowers of Southern California. Writings of Carroll De Wilton Scott, 1944-1955. Includes studies, observations, plant lists, photographs, and poetry. Typescript, compiled by the author, with manuscript notes, n.d.
Ballads and Ballades. Collection of poems by Carroll De Wilton Scott, 1903-1951. Typescript, compiled by the author in 1951. 1951
Summary of Mankind. Commentary by Carroll De Wilton Scott, with supporting materials, n.d.


Series III. Photographs, Collected Materials, Lists, and Donation Letter

Physical Description: Photographs, illustrations, writings, miscellaneous clippings and lists. Includes donation letter with biographical information.

Wildflower photographs, taken by Carroll De Wilton Scott.

- 4 photographs, col.
- 11 negatives, col.
- 1 photograph and 3 negatives, b/w
- 17 negatives, b/w
- 5 negatives, b/w - April 4, 1937, Ocean Beach


- v. I: Audubon plates and other images, with index
- v. II: Audubon plates and other images, with index
- Audubon Calendar of Birds, 1940

Writings. List prepared by Carroll De Wilton Scott tracking and analyzing his poems written between 1894-1951, n.d.

My Poems (Not Publications). Lists prepared by Carroll De Wilton Scott tracking his poems, songs, books given away, and feedback by the recipients, n.d.


Miscellaneous Clippings and Lists. Miscellaneous newspaper clippings collected by Carroll De Wilton Scott and lists prepared by Carroll De Wilton Scott, n.d.

Donation letter with biographical information, by Robert S. Scott