Big Blue Book collection: Finding Aid

Finding aid prepared by Diann Benti.
The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens.
Rare Books Department
The Huntington Library
1151 Oxford Road
San Marino, California 91108
Phone: (626) 405-2191
Email: reference@huntington.org
URL: http://www.huntington.org
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Overview of the Collection
Title: Big Blue Book collection
Dates (inclusive): 1927-1951
Bulk dates: 1947-1951
Collection Number: 605986
Creator: Haldeman-Julius, E. (Emanuel), 1888-1951, editor
Extent: 81 items in 4 boxes
Repository: The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens. Rare Books Department
1151 Oxford Road
San Marino, California 91108
Phone: (626) 405-2191
Email: reference@huntington.org
URL: http://www.huntington.org
Abstract: This collection contains 81 booklets from the popular Big Blue Book series edited by American social reformer and writer E. Haldeman-Julius and published by the Haldeman-Julius Company of Girard, Kansas. The collection includes booklets dating from 1927 to 1951, with the bulk from 1947 to 1951. The titles in the collection are primarily on topics related to free thought, humanism, religion, sex, health, self-improvement, and history. More than thirty different authors are represented, including sexologist David O. Cauldwell and freethought writer Joseph McCabe.
Language: English.
Note: Finding aid last updated on January 12, 2015.
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Preferred Citation
[Identification of item]. Big Blue Book Collection, The Huntington Library, San Marino, California.
Provenance
Historical Note
Emanuel Haldeman-Julius (1889-1951) was an American social reformer, writer, and publisher. Haldeman-Julius was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1889, and became a member of the Socialist part in the early 1910s. In 1915, he moved to Girard, Kansas, to edit the socialist paper The Appeal to Reason. Four years later, Haldeman-Julius, his wife, and Louis Kopelin purchased the Appeal's printing plant and formed the Appeal Publishing Company. That year, the company began producing a small, inexpensive booklet series titled The Appeal's Pocket Series. In 1922, the company became the Haldeman-Julius Company.
The booklets expanded into multiple series in the early 1920s, including the People's Pocket Series, Ten Cent Pocket Series, Five Cent Pocket Series, and Pocket Series; the most commonly issued pocket series, the "Little Blue Books," was begun in 1923. Little Blue Books were published from 1923 until 1978 in a uniform 3.5 x 5 inch format with color paper wrappers and a 15,000-word limit. The booklets were aimed at providing inexpensive educational resources to the working class and typically included reprints of classic literary works, socialist writings, original essays, often by liberal and radical writers, and self-improvement manuals.
In 1925, the company also began publishing "Big Blue Books," which were 8.5 x 5.5 inches and more expensive than the Little Blue Books. More than 300 million copies of the Big and Little Blue Books were sold before their discontinuation in 1964.
Haldeman-Julius died in 1951. Under the management of Haldeman-Julius's son Henry J. Haldeman, the company continued to produce pamphlets until the Girard plant was destroyed by fire in 1978.
Source:

Scope and Content
This collection contains 81 booklets from the Big Blue Book series edited by American social reformer and writer E. Haldeman-Julius and published by the Haldeman-Julius Company of Girard, Kansas. The collection includes booklets dating from 1927 to 1951, with the bulk from 1947 to 1951. The titles in the collection are primarily on topics related to free thought, superstition, humanism, religion, sex, psychology, health, relationships, self-improvement, and history. More than thirty different authors are represented, including a number by sexologist Dr. David O. Cauldwell and freethought writer Joseph McCabe.

The booklets are 8.5 x 5.5 inches, with colored paper wrappers; many have the name "Leo Rosenthal" stamped on the inside front cover. Entries for each imprint in the contents list contain the following information (when known): publisher's number; title; date; and author(s).

- Little Blue Book collection
- Additional Big Blue Books acquired separately by the Huntington Library are individually cataloged in the Huntington Library Online Catalog: catalog.huntington.org

Arrangement
The books are arranged numerically according to the publisher's title number, often with a "B" prefix, printed on the front cover.

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Huntington Library's Online Catalog.

Subjects
Big blue book
Catholic Church -- Controversial literature
Free thought
Humanism
Psychology
Religion
Sex
Sex customs
Superstition
World history

Added Entries
Barrett, T. D.
Blank, Nell
Blank, Sarge
Bristol, Richard R.
Cauldwell, David O. (David Oliver), 1896-
Crapsey, Algernon Sidney, 1847-1927
Draper, William R.
Dulaure, J.-A. (Jacques-Antoine), 1755-1835
Eastman, Rex R.
Eldridge, Paul, 1888-1982
Fulks, Clay
Gould, F. J. (Floyd Jerome), 1936-
Haldeman-Julius, E. (Emanuel), 1888-1951
Haldeman-Julius, E. (Emanuel), 1888-1951, editor
Leigh, W. R.
Liber, B. (Benzion), 1875-
Big Blue Book collection: Finding Aid

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<th>No.</th>
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<th>Author(s)</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>B-37</td>
<td>Free speech and free thought in America / E. Haldeman-Julius</td>
<td>Haldeman-Julius, E. (Emanuel), 1888-1951</td>
<td>1927</td>
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<td>B-40</td>
<td>This tyranny of bunk / E. Haldeman-Julius</td>
<td>Haldeman-Julius, E. (Emanuel), 1888-1951</td>
<td>1927</td>
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<td>B-477</td>
<td>Famous dates in history : a chronological history of the world. / by Rex. R. Eastman</td>
<td>Eastman, Rex R.</td>
<td>1949</td>
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<td>B-500</td>
<td>True tales of buried treasure : famous, mysterious, and fascinating treasures / by T.D. Barrett</td>
<td>Barrett, T. D.</td>
<td>1946</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-532</td>
<td>Semen for sale : all about artificial insemination--how it's done. The $2,000 black market on babies. Test tube babies--latest facts. Husbands for hire. Fathers by proxy, and a condensation of facts everyone wants to know. / by D.O. Cauldwell, M.D., Sc.D.</td>
<td>Cauldwell, David O. (David Oliver), 1896-</td>
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<td>No.</td>
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<td>B-538</td>
<td>Perverted haters of sex: there are persons who hate sex walking among us every day—a candid study of a strange perversion</td>
<td>Cauldwell, David O. (David Oliver), 1896-1947</td>
<td>1947</td>
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<td>B-539</td>
<td>The menace of mysticisms: the place of bunk in the worlds of thought, emotion, and action—what it has done and is doing—what it would mean in terms of human progress if we outgrew it</td>
<td>McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955</td>
<td>1947</td>
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<td>B-562</td>
<td>Easy lessons in practical psychoanalysis: a workable guide for the use of amateurs who want to understand themselves and others better and thereby be happier</td>
<td>Cauldwell, David O. (David Oliver), 1896-1947</td>
<td>1947</td>
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<td>B-566</td>
<td>Bundling: its origin, progress and decline in America</td>
<td>Stiles, Henry Reed, 1832-1909</td>
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<td>B-567</td>
<td>Adventures in the realm of ideas: and other essays in the fields of philosophy, science, political economy, theology, humanism, semantics, agnosticism, immortality and related subjects.</td>
<td>Yarros, Victor S.</td>
<td>1947</td>
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<td>B-571</td>
<td>Practical psychiatry for everyone: how to be your own mind doctor and solve mental health problems for yourself and others</td>
<td>Cauldwell, David O. (David Oliver), 1896-1947</td>
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<td>B-577</td>
<td>Religion and crime: the anti-social results and debilitant influence of religious emotions and concepts</td>
<td>Swancara, Frank</td>
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<td>B-580</td>
<td>The history and meaning of the Catholic index of forbidden books</td>
<td>McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955</td>
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<td>B-582</td>
<td>The story of the world's oldest profession: prostitution in the ancient, medieval and modern worlds</td>
<td>McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955</td>
<td>1932</td>
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<td>B-595</td>
<td>Chastity safeguards: a study of the mechanical means of preventing sexual indulgence, in both men and women, employed in different times and countries</td>
<td>Niemoeller, A. F. (Adolph Fredrick), 1903-1947</td>
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<td>B-597</td>
<td>Why sex offenders act that way: psychiatry shows that sex delinquents are desperately sick people</td>
<td>Cauldwell, David O. (David Oliver), 1896-1947</td>
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<td>B-600</td>
<td>The case for voluntary euthanasia / arguments in favor of merciful release from incurable suffering / A.L. Wolbarst, M.D., New York. 1947</td>
<td>Wolbarst, A. L. (Abraham Leo), 1872-</td>
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<td>B-604</td>
<td>Universal circumcision as a hygienic measure / a complete survey of the subject from primitive days to the present / A.L. Wolbarst, M.D., New York. 1947</td>
<td>Wolbarst, A. L. (Abraham Leo), 1872-</td>
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<td>B-608</td>
<td>The lies and fallacies of the Encyclopedia Britannica / how powerful and shameless clerical forces castrated a famous work of reference / by Joseph McCabe. 1947</td>
<td>McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955</td>
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<td>B-611</td>
<td>Doubting fathers---psychological and biological paternity / can science prove who is whose father? The psychology of parenthood, with questions and answers / by D.O. Cauldwell, M.D. 1947</td>
<td>Cauldwell, David O. (David Oliver), 1896-</td>
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<td>B-613</td>
<td>Old age---its fears, its hopes / meeting the rising problems of declining years / by Estelle H. Ries. 1947</td>
<td>Ries, Estelle H.</td>
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<td>B-636</td>
<td>Eighty years a rebel / autobiography / by Joseph McCabe. 1947</td>
<td>McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955</td>
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<td>B-662</td>
<td>All in the name of God / by W.R. Leigh. 1947</td>
<td>Leigh, W. R.</td>
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<td>B-666</td>
<td>A giant's strength / a three-act drama of the atomic bomb / by Upton Sinclair. 1948</td>
<td>Sinclair, Upton, 1878-1968</td>
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<td>B-695</td>
<td>Essays in criticism and guidance / studies of current life, trends of thought, lines of action, criticisms of evils, and guidance in the direction of realistic thinking and action / by E. Haldeman-Julius. 1948</td>
<td>Haldeman-Julius, E. (Emanuel), 1888-1951</td>
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<td>B-696</td>
<td>Why I am a nudist / how an ugly duckling became an accomplished beauty / as told by Nell Blank to D.O. Cauldwell, M.D. 1948</td>
<td>Blank, Nell</td>
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<td>B-697</td>
<td>Life in a nudist camp / as told by Sarge Bank to D.O. Cauldwell, M.D. 1948</td>
<td>Blank, Sarge</td>
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<td>B-699</td>
<td>Now that you are middle aged / middle age is not a bogey sounding the death knell--it can be the prime of life / by D.O. Cauldwell, M.D., Sc.D. 1948</td>
<td>Cauldwell, David O. (David Oliver), 1896-</td>
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<td>B-711</td>
<td><em>How to Retire to the Ozarks</em>: Methods by Which Weary Laborers, Jaded Businessmen, Artists and Others Made a Go of It on Retiring to Work and Play in This Picturesque Section* / by William R. Draper. 1948</td>
<td>Draper, William R.</td>
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<td>B-728</td>
<td><em>Premature Ejaculation—What to Do about it</em>: Study of a Condition Common Among Men of All Ages, with Corrective Methods and Reasons Why They Work / by D.O. Cauldwell, M.D., Sc.D. 1948</td>
<td>Cauldwell, David O. (David Oliver), 1896-</td>
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<td>B-733</td>
<td><em>A History of the British Secular Movement</em> / by John Edwin McGee. 1948</td>
<td>McGee, John Edwin, 1893-</td>
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<td>B-750</td>
<td><em>Positive and Negative Blood</em>: The Rhesus Factor: Why So Many Women Have Abortions and Stillbirths. New Light on a Little-Understood Subject. Why So Many Mothers Are Able to Have Only One or Two Healthy Babies / by D.O. Cauldwell, M.D., Sc.D. 1948</td>
<td>Cauldwell, David O. (David Oliver), 1896-</td>
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</table>
No. B-751  The wisdom of the Chinese / selected, with an introduction, by Richard R. Bristol. 1948
    Author(s): Bristol, Richard R.

No. B-764  The life story of Auguste Comte : the dramatic career of a great teacher, profound thinker and naive character who tried to take superstitious ideas out of religion / by F. J. Gould. 1948
    Author(s): Gould, F. J. (Floyd Jerome), 1936-

No. B-766  The life-story of Ernest Renan : an estimate of the total work and personality of the thinker, scholar, historian and humorist who was the most effective French influence since Voltaire / by J. M. Robertson. 1948
    Author(s): Robertson, J. M. (John Mackinnon), 1856-1933

No. B-767  The epic of universal history : how the race became what it is / by Joseph McCabe. 1948
    Author(s): McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955

No. B-777  A guide to American spas : mineral springs and watering places : their beneficial influences in health recuperation / A. Strachstein, M.D., New York. 1948
    Author(s): Strachstein, Abraham, 1881-

No. B-780  This world of 1949 and what do about it : revised letters to a workingman on the economic and political situation / by Upton Sinclair. [1948?]
    Author(s): Sinclair, Upton, 1878-1968

No. B-782  The evolution of the virtue of chastity : an examination of the origin, development and historical operation of the law of sexual purity / by Joseph McCabe. 1948
    Author(s): McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955

No. B-789  The history of torture : a study of cruelty, the ugliest impulse in man / by Joseph McCabe. 1949
    Author(s): McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955

No. B 790  A history of Freemasonry : the story of its relations with Satan and the Popes / by Joseph McCabe. 1949
    Author(s): McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955

    Author(s): Strachstein, Abraham, 1881-

No. B-799  The amazing career of the Marquis de Sade : a study of the character and views of the man whose fantastic works gave rise to the word sadism / by Joseph McCabe. 1949
    Author(s): McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955

No. B 802  Confessions of a journalist : articles on what's wrong with the U.S. press, followed by editorials on subjects of public interest / by Victor S. Yarros (author of "Adventures in the realm of ideas."). 1949
    Author(s): Yarros, Victor S.
No. B 812  
*The Catholic Church and the sex problem: the stupidity, futility, and insolence of its ethic* / by Joseph McCabe. 1949  
Author(s): McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955

No. B-815  
Pessimism and optimism: fresh treatment of an old subject / by Victor S. Yarros. 1949  
Author(s): Yarros, Victor S.

No. B-817  
Why be a nudist?: the intelligent, delightful and uninhibited may be nudists just for fun, or the hell of it / by D.O. Cauldwell, M.D., Sc.D. 1949  
Author(s): Cauldwell, David O. (David Oliver), 1896-

No. B-822  
The art of preserving one's manhood: as virility is inherent, no man should be a sexual weakening or failure, for virile powers can be made to respond at will / by D.O. Cauldwell, M.D., Sc.D. 1949  
Author(s): Cauldwell, David O. (David Oliver), 1896-

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No. B-828  
*Why must we fight Russia?* / by Alanson E. Sessions and miscellaneous articles by Clay Fulks, Dr. B. Liber, and others. 1949  
Author(s): Sessions, Alanson E.

No. B-832  
Scientific humanism as creative morality / by Oliver L. Reiser, Ph.D., professor of philosophy, University of Pittsburgh. Comments on professor Reiser's new scientific humanism by Joseph McCabe. 1949  
Author(s): Reiser, Oliver Leslie, 1895-1974; McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955

No. B-833  
Sexual rejuvenation as a problem of science: a study of the work of scientists to extend man's capacity for sex well into old age / by Joseph McCabe. 1949  
Author(s): McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955

No. B-835  
Masochism, and how it manifests itself: a study of Sacher-Masoch, known as "the great abnormal," who gave his name to a strange form of behavior--its prevalence and psychology / by Joseph McCabe. 1949  
Author(s): McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955

No. B-841  
The inconsistencies and contradictions of Jesus: and other studies and reviews / by Victor S. Yarros. 1949  
Author(s): Yarros, Victor S.

No. B-849  
Masterpieces of erotic literature: a study of the outstanding works and sensuality in ancient, medieval and modern times / by Joseph McCabe. 1949  
Author(s): McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955

No. B-851  
Author(s): Fulks, Clay

No. B-852  
A study of American mental shortcomings: based mainly on personal experiences and other facts / by B. Liber, M.D., New York. 1950  
Author(s): Liber, B. (Ben Zion), 1875-
No. B-865  The myth of Catholic scholarship: the absurdities, falsehoods and distortions of the Catholic encyclopedia / by Joseph McCabe. 1950
Author(s): McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955

No. B-870  Questions and answers on sex and the American attitude: press reports, magazines, books, letters and other sources have been combed for the data included in this book. Reflected are attitudes toward sex in its biological, legal, economic, social and various other aspects / by D.O. Cauldwell, M.D. 1950
Author(s): Cauldwell, David O. (David Oliver), 1896-

No. B-877  Cybernetics—the new science of the electronic and the human brain / by Joseph McCabe. 1950
Author(s): McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955

No. B-878  Rome’s syllabus of condemned opinions: the last blast of the Catholic Church’s medieval trumpet / by Joseph McCabe. 1950
Author(s): McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955

No. B-883  A popular author on reviewers, publishers and reading habits: along with numerous articles on the passing show by Howard Fast, Freda Cook, C.A. Willis, Bertrand Russell, Dr. E.H.S. Burhop, John D. McInerney, B. Liber, Ruby Davis, Joseph Efries, Paul Eldridge, John W. Gunn, H.G. Hayes / by Jack Woodford. 1950
Author(s): Woodford, Jack, 1894-1971

No. 887  Priapic divinities and phallic rites: a complete account of the worship of Priapus throughout the ages / by J. A. Dulaure. 1950
Author(s): Dulaure, J.-A. (Jacques-Antoine), 1755-1835

No. 890  Michel de Montaigne, skeptic and atheist: the wisest Frenchman who was a Jew / by Paul Eldridge. 1950
Author(s): Eldridge, Paul, 1888-1982

No. 892  Socialism and superior brains: a reply to Mr. W.H. Mallock / by Bernard Shaw. [1950]
Author(s): Shaw, Bernard, 1856-1950

No. 893  Anatole France, master of irony and pity: how an unkempt loafer became a world genius because he allowed himself to be led by the nose by his rich and attractive mistress / by Paul Eldridge. 1950
Author(s): Eldridge, Paul, 1888-1982

No. 898  The Mangasarian-Crapsey debate on the question, "did Jesus ever live?" [1950]
Author(s): Crapsey, Algernon Sidney, 1847-1927; Mangasarian, M. M. (Mangasar Mugurditch), 1859-1943

No. 911  Judged! : what 500 of the world’s outstanding figures—in all forms of literary, historical, intellectual, humanitarian, artistic and political activity—have said about the Roman Catholic Church / by Joseph McCabe. 1950
Author(s): McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955

No. 918  The origin and meaning of ideas: a study of the historical sources of our major ideas in religion, science, government, education morals, economics, etc., their influences for good or bad, and the future possibilities of our thinking / by Joseph McCabe. 1951
Author(s): McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955
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<tr>
<td>B-938</td>
<td>History's greatest liars : how &quot;new historians&quot; falsified and suppressed the truth at the behest of church interests / by Joseph McCabe. 1951</td>
<td>McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955</td>
<td>1951</td>
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<td>B-939</td>
<td>The Columbia encyclopedia's crimes against the truth : how a popular reference work is being used as a weapon against free culture and twisted to fit the purposes of lying obscurantists / by Joseph McCabe. 1951</td>
<td>McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955</td>
<td>1951</td>
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