
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

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San Marino, California 91108

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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

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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.

Access

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Preferred Citation

[Identification of item]. Big Blue Book Collection, The Huntington Library, San Marino, California.

Provenance

Gift of Merle R. Bobzien, January 2014.

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:

Bushnell, Judith. "Haldeman-Julius Company," in *The Dictionary of Literary Biography: Volume 46: American Literary Publishing Houses, 1900-1980* (Detroit, Michigan: Gale Research Company, 1986).

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-

Mangasarian, M. M. (Mangasar Mugurditch), 1859-1943
McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955
McGee, John Edwin, 1893-
Niemoeller, A. F. (Adolph Fredrick), 1903-
Reiser, Oliver Leslie, 1895-1974
Ries, Estelle H.
Robertson, J. M. (John Mackinnon), 1856-1933
Sessions, Alanson E.
Shaw, Bernard, 1856-1950
Sinclair, Upton, 1878-1968
Stiles, Henry Reed, 1832-1909
Strachstein, Abraham, 1881-
Swancara, Frank
Weaver, George Russell
Wolbarst, A. L. (Abraham Leo), 1872-
Woodford, Jack, 1894-1971
Yarros, Victor S.
Haldeman-Julius Company, publisher

Big Blue Books

Box 1	Big Blue Books Nos. B-37 to B-599
No. B-37	<i>Free speech and free thought in America / E. Haldeman-Julius. 1927</i> Author(s): Haldeman-Julius, E. (Emanuel), 1888-1951
No. B-40	<i>This tyranny of bunk / E. Haldeman-Julius. 1927</i> Author(s): Haldeman-Julius, E. (Emanuel), 1888-1951
No. B-461	<i>The return of humanism : sketches of Rabelais, Montaigne, Cervantes, Bruno, Shakespeare and Galileo / Joseph McCabe.</i> Author(s): McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955 Note: Volume III of <i>One hundred men who moved the world : character sketches of the greatest creative forces of history.</i>
No. B-477	<i>Famous dates in history : a chronological history of the world. / by Rex. R. Eastman. 1949</i> Author(s): Eastman, Rex R.
No. B-500	<i>True tales of buried treasure : famous, mysterious, and fascinating treasures / by T.D. Barrett. 1946</i> Author(s): Barrett, T. D.
No. B-532	<i>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. 1947</i> Author(s): Cauldwell, David O. (David Oliver), 1896-

- No. B-533 ***A book of popular superstitions : a study of humanity's capacity for wrong beliefs / Joseph McCabe. [© 1932]***
 Author(s): McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955
- No. B-538 ***Perverted haters of sex : there are persons who hate sex walking among us every day--a candid study of a strange perversion / by D.O. Cauldwell, M.D., Sc.D. 1947***
 Author(s): Cauldwell, David O. (David Oliver), 1896-
- No. B-539 ***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 / by Joseph McCabe. 1947***
 Author(s): McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955
- No. B-562 ***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 / by D.O. Cauldwell, M.D., Sc.D. 1947***
 Author(s): Cauldwell, David O. (David Oliver), 1896-
- No. B-566 ***Bundling : its origin, progress and decline in America / by Henry Reed Stiles, M.D. Introduction by A. F. Niemoeller. 1947***
 Author(s): Stiles, Henry Reed, 1832-1909
- No. B-567 ***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. / by Victor S. Yarros. 1947***
 Author(s): Yarros, Victor S.
- No. B-571 ***Practical psychiatry for everyone : how to be your own mind doctor and solve mental health problems for yourself and others / by D.O. Cauldwell, M.D., Sc.D. 1947***
 Author(s): Cauldwell, David O. (David Oliver), 1896-
- No. B-577 ***Religion and crime : the anti-social results and debilitating influence of religious emotions and concepts / by Frank Swancara, LL.B. 1947***
 Author(s): Swancara, Frank
- No. B-580 ***The history and meaning of the Catholic index of forbidden books / Joseph McCabe. [November 1931]***
 Author(s): McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955
- No. B-582 ***The story of the world's oldest profession : prostitution in the ancient, medieval and modern worlds / Joseph McCabe. 1932***
 Author(s): McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955
- No. B-595 ***Chastity safeguards : a study of the mechanical means of preventing sexual indulgence, in both men and women, employed in different times and countries / by A.F. Niemoeller. 1947***
 Author(s): Niemoeller, A. F. (Adolph Fredrick), 1903-
- No. B-597 ***Why sex offenders act that way : psychiatry shows that sex delinquents are desperately sick people / by D.O. Cauldwell, M.D., Sc.D. 1947***
 Author(s): Cauldwell, David O. (David Oliver), 1896-
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No. B-599 ***The case for voluntary euthanasia : arguments in favor of merciful release from incurable suffering / A.L. Wolbarst, M.D., New York. 1947***
 Author(s): Wolbarst, A. L. (Abraham Leo), 1872-

Box 2 **Big Blue Books Nos. B-600 to B-728**

No. B-600 ***The problem of unwed fathers : a psychiatric study of a difficult situation, with sidelights on unmarried mothers and so-called illegitimate children / By D.O. Cauldwell, M.D. 1947***
 Author(s): Cauldwell, David O. (David Oliver), 1896-

No. B-604 ***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***
 Author(s): Wolbarst, A. L. (Abraham Leo), 1872-

No. B-608 ***The lies and fallacies of the Encyclopedia Britannica : how powerful and shameless clerical forces castrated a famous work of reference / by Joseph McCabe. 1947***
 Author(s): McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955

No. B-611 ***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***
 Author(s): Cauldwell, David O. (David Oliver), 1896-

No. B-613 ***Old age---its fears, its hopes : meeting the rising problems of declining years / by Estelle H. Ries. 1947***
 Author(s): Ries, Estelle H.

No. B-636 ***Eighty years a rebel : autobiography / by Joseph McCabe. 1947***
 Author(s): McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955

No. B-662 ***All in the name of God / by W.R. Leigh. 1947***
 Author(s): Leigh, W. R.

No. B 666 ***A giant's strength : a three-act drama of the atomic bomb / by Upton Sinclair. 1948***
 Author(s): Sinclair, Upton, 1878-1968

No. B-695 ***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***
 Author(s): Haldeman-Julius, E. (Emanuel), 1888-1951

No. B-696 ***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***
 Author(s): Blank, Nell

No. B-697 ***Life in a nudist camp / as told by Sarge Bank to D.O. Cauldwell, M.D. 1948***
 Author(s): Blank, Sarge

No. B-699 ***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***
 Author(s): Cauldwell, David O. (David Oliver), 1896-

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- No. B-700 ***The dumbness of the great : a survey of the nonsense, absurdities, inconsistencies, illogicalities, inaccuracies, and idiocies of the world's outstanding leaders / by Joseph McCabe. 1948***
 Author(s): McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955
- No. B-707 ***The encyclopedia of essential knowledge : volume 1 / by Joseph McCabe. 1948***
 Author(s): McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955
 Note: "A to C"
- No. B-711 ***How to retire to the Ozarks : 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***
 Author(s): Draper, William R.
- No. B-725 ***The encyclopedia of essential knowledge : volume 2 / by Joseph McCabe. 1948***
 Author(s): McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955
 Note: "D to H"
- No. B-728 ***Premature ejaculation---what to do about it : 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***
 Author(s): Cauldwell, David O. (David Oliver), 1896-
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Box 3

Big Blue Books Nos. B-733 to B-822

- No. B-733 ***A history of the British secular movement / by John Edwin McGee. 1948***
 Author(s): McGee, John Edwin, 1893-
- No. B-734 ***The encyclopedia of essential knowledge : volume 3 / by Joseph McCabe. 1948***
 Author(s): McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955
 Note: "I to O"
- No. B-740 ***The encyclopedia of essential knowledge : volume 4 / by Joseph McCabe. 1948***
 Author(s): McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955
 Note: "P to Z"
- No. B-746 ***Male sex habits : the meaning of the Kinsey report : the implications of the epochal "sexual behavior in the human male"--a comprehensive and authoritative review / by D.O. Cauldwell. After Kinsey--what? / by George Russell Weaver. 1948***
 Author(s): Cauldwell, David O. (David Oliver), 1896- ; Weaver, George Russell
- No. B-747 ***Nudism and the truth about nudists : an explanation of various aspects of social nudism, including an exhaustive criticism of the Kinsey report on nudity. / by D.O. Cauldwell, M.D., Sc.D. 1948***
 Author(s): Cauldwell, David O. (David Oliver), 1896-
- No. B-750 ***Positive and negative blood : 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***
 Author(s): Cauldwell, David O. (David Oliver), 1896-
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- 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 naïve 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
- No. B-795 ***Sunbathing and nudism : benefits and injurious effects. How to guard against overexposure : why do some practice nudism? Do nudists use sunbathing as a pretense to cover up exhibitionism / by A. Strachstein, M.D. New York. 1949***
 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.
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- 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. Caldwell, M.D., Sc.D. 1949***
 Author(s): Caldwell, 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 weakling or failure, for virile powers can be made to respond at will / by D.O. Caldwell, M.D., Sc.D. 1949***
 Author(s): Caldwell, David O. (David Oliver), 1896-
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Box 4

Big Blue Books Nos. B-828 to B-940

- 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 ***Christianity, a continuing calamity / by Clay Fulks and other articles by Mordecai T. Heller, E. Haldeman-Julius, H.G. Hayes, Jay William Hudson, John D. McInerney and Oliver L. Reiser Ph.D. 1950***
 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. (Benzion), 1875-
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- 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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- No. B-938 ***History's greatest liars : how "new historians" falsified and suppressed the truth at the behest of church interests / by Joseph McCabe. 1951***
 Author(s): McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955
- No. B-939 ***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***
 Author(s): McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955
- No. B-940 ***A book of popular fallacies : lies in generally accepted quotations and proverbs / by Joseph McCabe. 1951***
 Author(s): McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955