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## **H. L. Mencken Collection MS-0001**

Special Collections and University Archives staff

Special Collections & University Archives

04/12/2001

5500 Campanile Dr. MC 8050

San Diego, CA 92182-8050

askscua@sdsu.edu

URL: <http://library.sdsu.edu/scua>

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**Contributing Institution:** Special Collections & University Archives

**Title:** H. L. Mencken Collection

**Creator:** Mencken, H. L. (Henry Louis) (Henry Louis Mencken)

**Identifier/Call Number:** MS-0001

**Physical Description:** 21.00 items

**Physical Description:** .21 Linear Feet

**Date (inclusive):** 1914-1968

**Language of Material:** English .

**Scope and Contents**

This small collection of pamphlets, reprints, and correspondence is part of the larger collection of one hundred individually cataloged monographs and serials by and about H. L. Mencken, which is also housed in Special Collections. These small items consist of promotional materials, special event publications, letters, and one sound recording.

**Conditions Governing Access**

This collection is open for research.

**Conditions Governing Use**

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**Accruals and Additions**

9999-027, 1976

**Preferred Citation**

Identification of item, folder title, box number, H. L. Mencken Collection, Special Collections and University Archives, San Diego State University Library.

**Biographical Note**

H. L. Mencken was a critical but humorous journalist, literary reviewer, and language expert. In 1899 he became a reporter for the *Baltimore Morning Herald*; beginning in 1906, and continuing throughout much of his life, he worked at various intervals for *The Baltimore Sun*. He was co-editor of *The Smart Set*, and was co-founder of the *American Mercury*. Additional publications of his were *Prejudices*, *The American Language*, and an autobiographical trilogy.

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**

Journalism--United States

Satire, American

Personal Papers

Mencken, H. L. (Henry Louis), 1880-1956

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box 1, item 1	<b>A Personal Word. Description of the editorial and business organization of the Smart Set, a circulation booster. n.p., n.d. [1914], 16 pages.</b> Item 1
box 1, item 2	<b>The American Language. A chapter from the 4th edition. Publisher's advance printing of one complete chapter with descriptive text on cover. Prints the entire preface to the new edition and the complete chapter X: Proper Names in America. n.d. [ca. 1939], 83 pages.</b> Item 2
box 1, item 3	<b>American Profanity. Reprinted from American Speech, New York: Columbia, University Press, Dec 1944, 9 pages. Signed by H.L. Mencken.</b> Item 3
box 1, item 4	<b>The Eminent Physician by H.L. Mencken. Berkeley: Gillick Press, n.d. [1940], 7 pages.</b> Item 4

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- box 1, item 5 **The Incomparable Physician by H.L. Mencken. San Francisco: McDonald, 1936, 14 pages.** Item 5
- box 1, item 6 **Menckenianna. A selection from H.L. Mencken's Mencken Chrestomathy with a forenote by George Jean Nathan. New York: Knopf, 1949, 16 pages. Green wrappers, printed label.** Item 6
- box 1, item 7 **The Smart Set. Suggestions to our visitors. 26 policy statements "issued as a jocosity" by Mencken N.Y. n.d. [1915], 4 pages.** Item 7
- box 1, item 8 **Suggestions to our visitors by George Jean Nathan and H.L. Mencken, editors of The Smart Set. Reprinted at San Francisco, 1968 by the Roxburghe Club, 8 pages.** Item 8
- box 1, item 9 **Spiritual Autopsies, an article on Gamelia Bradford. by H.L. Mencken. Issued as an advertisement by the publisher for Bradford's American Portraits. New York: Houghton, 1921, 4 pages.** Item 9
- box 1, item 10 **Upton Sinclair. Biographical and critical opinions from England, France, Germany, Belgium and the U.S.A including Henry Barbusse, H.L. Mencken and others. Pasadena: Sinclair, n.d. [1922], 32 pages.** Item 10
- box 1, item 11 **H.L. Mencken by Walter Lippmann. Reprinted from The Saturday Review, Dec. 11, 1926. New York: Knopf (1926), 8 pages.** Item 11
- box 1, item 12 **The Love Story of an Old Maid by Sara Haardt. Girard, Kansas: Haldeman-Julius Publications. Blue Book no. 375, n.d. [192?], 32 pages.** Item 12
- box 1, item 13 **A Literary Chameleon: A New Estimate of Mr. H.L. Mencken by J.D. Logan. Milwaukee: privately printed, 1926, 22 pages. Copy no. 30 of 300 numbered copies, signed by the author. Also signed by Mencken in full, on the cover.** Item 13
- box 1, item 14 **H.L. Mencken Speaking. Mencken conversing with Donald H. Kirkley Sr. of The Baltimore Sun, recorded by the library of Congress, D.C., June 30, 1948. 33 1/3 LP record, and cassette tape.** Item 14
- box 1, item 15 **Book review for L'Action Française, Sept. 14, 1933. One 3x5" card.** Item 15
- Scope and Contents**
- La revue de critique l'American Mercury, que dirige le Juif Mencken, est, de l'avis de M. Bernard Fay, spécialiste des choses d'Amérique, "l'une des plus vivantes, des plus pittoresques, des plus typiques des Etats-Unis." en même temys "qu'une des forces d'opinion les plus solides."
- box 1, item 16 **Typed letter signed to Mr. Silvay. One sheet, signed in full on American Mercury green letterhead.** Item 16 **Dated Jun. 10, 1926**
- box 1, item 17 **Typed letter signed to Mark Sullivan, Washington D.C. On the letterhead of The Smart Set, The Aristocrat of Magazines.** Item 17 **Dated April 4, 1922.**
- box 1, item 18 **Two typed letters signed to Harry Ruby. Beverly Hills. On the author's personal Baltimore stationary, with the mailing envelope.** Item 18 **Dated November 1933 & November 25, 1933.**
- box 1, item 19 **Two typed letters signed to Mr. Dellquest. On the author's personal Baltimore stationary.** Item 19 **Dated May 5, 1944 and April 28, 1945.**
- box 1, item 20 **Two typed letters signed and addressed to "Gentlemen." On the author's personal Baltimore stationary.** Item 20 **Dated September 28, 1944 and September 7, 1945.**
- box 1, item 21 **Typed letter signed to Miss Day. One sheet on American Mercury green letterhead.** Item 21 **Dated April 25, no year.**
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