Overview of the Collection
Collection Title: Harry R. Thompson Papers
Dates: 1938-1942
Identification: MS-0551
Creator: Thompson, Harry R.
Physical Description: 0.20 linear ft
Language of Materials: English
Repository: Special Collections & University Archives
5500 Campanile Dr. MC 8050
San Diego, CA, 92182-8050
URL: http://library.sdsu.edu/scua
Email: askscua@sdsu.edu
Phone: 619-594-6791
Biographical Information:
Harry R. Thompson was an active community member in San Diego, California.
Accruals:
9999-176
Conditions Governing Use:
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Preferred Citation:
Identification of item, folder title, box number, Harry R. Thompson Papers, Special Collections and University Archives, Library and Information Access, San Diego State University.
Arrangement of Materials:
Chronological.
Scope and Contents:
The Harry R. Thompson Papers consist of letters written to Mr. Thompson, mostly from his brother George. Harry lived at 4127 Marlborough Ave., San Diego, CA. There are a few empty envelopes and a list of names and addresses at the bottom of the stack, some of which have dollar amounts by their names. One entry, Mrs. Jeff C. Hocker, has the word “Kill” written and struck through by her name.
All but one letter fall between March 22, 1940, and August 31, 1942 (also an empty envelope stamped 1938). Harry’s brother, George A. Thompson, wrote most of the letters. George lived in Joliet, Illinois with his wife who in 1940 fell deathly ill: “The doctor gave her up 3 days ago.” She passed away soon after.
George often discusses the weather in Joliet, describing winter snow storms and summer hot spells. He briefly discusses WWII, noting that the “Yankies [are] giving the Japs plenty.” George shares a story about a local woman, Christina, whose house was robbed while she was home. She discovers the robber stealing her jewelry and begins beating him: “She put up some fight. He tried to choke her but she bit him ... he begged for mercy.”
Among the letters addressed to Harry R. Thompson is one from Mary Barnett of Culmore Point, Londonderry, Ireland. She notifies Harry of George’s wife’s death: “Brother George’s wife has gone to the land beyond.” Another sender, Nettie Whitmore, thanks Harry graciously for the many books he donated to her library. A postcard from “The Theosophical Book Association for the Blind” is addressed to Harry, also thanking him for supporting their organization.

**Correspondence 1938-1942**

**Item 1**  
**Envelopes June 1, 1938**  
Scope and Contents  
Scope and Contents note: One envelope is addressed to Thompson from the Federation of Southern California Lodges Theosophical Society, the other is addressed to Thompson with no return sender identified.

**Item 2**  
**Letter From George Thompson March 22, 1940**  
Scope and Contents  
Scope and Contents note: Short letter re weather updates and replying to latest correspondence.

**Item 3**  
**Letter from George Thompson May 3, 1940**  
Scope and Contents  
Scope and Contents note: Short letter re the eminent death of wife.

**Item 4**  
**Thank You Note n.d.**  
Scope and Contents  
Scope and Contents note: Mass printed note is thanking Thompson for his interest in services for the blind. Note is from the Theosophical Book Association for the Blind.

**Item 5**  
**Letter from George Thompson February 28, 1941**  
Scope and Contents  
Scope and Contents note: Letter re health updates and weather updates.

**Item 6**  
**Letter from George Thompson December 23, 1941**  
Scope and Contents  
Scope and Contents note: Letter contents include a story about Christine fighting a burglar who attempted to steal jewelry from their home.

**Item 7**  
**Letter from N. S. Whitmore January 20, 1942**  
Scope and Contents  
Scope and Contents note: Letter contents include thanks for sending books to author, and updates to meeting times for the club Whitmore is involved in.

**Item 8**  
**Letter from George Thompson May 31, 1942**  
Scope and Contents  
Scope and Contents note: Letter contents include updates on a new baby and weather updates.

**Item 9**  
**Letter from George Thompson August 31, 1942**  
Scope and Contents  
Scope and Contents note: Letter re friends with new jobs in relation to World War II in ammunition plants and blue printing.

**Item 10**  
**2 Pages from Address Directory n.d.**
Item 11  Letter from Mary Barnett August 29
Scope and Contents
Scope and Contents note: Letter contents include family/friend updates re World War II.