Guide to the James N. Tidwell American Folklore Collection

Special Collections & University Archives

Overview of the Collection
Collection Title: James N. Tidwell American Folklore Collection
Identification: MS-0253
Creator: Tidwell, James Nathan, 1911-1989
Physical Description: 2.17 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: seref@rohan.sdsu.edu
Phone: 619-594-6791

Biographical Information:
Dr. James Tidwell was born in Texas in 1911. He earned his doctorate in English from the Ohio State University, and enlisted in the Navy during World War II. He taught at Ohio State University and Westminster College prior to joining the faculty at San Diego State College in 1947. He was a Fulbright Professor of American Literature and Language at the University of Athens in Athens, Greece from 1956-57.

Tidwell is the author of many scholarly publications and of A Treasury of American Folk Humor, published in 1956. During his career, Tidwell was the regional editor for the Journal of Western Folklore, Counselor for the American Folklore Society, member of the Advisory Committee of American Speech, and also hosted a local television series on folklore in 1956. He served as acting dean of the School of Arts and Letters, and retired in 1976.

Access Terms
This collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

Genre/Form of Material:
Personal Papers
Publications

Personal Name:
Tidwell, James Nathan

Topical Term:
Folklore--United States
Musical Americana
Proverbs

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Scope and Contents
The James Tidwell American Folklore Collection primarily consists of examples of American folklore, and was created by James Tidwell. It includes folklore in various genres, including stories, sayings, figures of speech, moral tales, anecdotes, legends, jokes, riddles, and music, among others. The collection also contains some student work from Tidwell's San Diego State College courses, and note cards documenting music and sayings. It is filed alphabetically by genre.

Identification of item, folder title, box number, James N. Tidwell American Folklore Collection, Special Collections and University Archives, Library and Information Access, San Diego State University.