Walter Winchell papers, 1920s-1960s

Processed by Sue Hwang with assistance from Julie Graham; machine-readable finding aid created by Caroline Cubé.
UCLA Library Special Collections
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Title: Walter Winchell papers
Collection number: 1904
Contributing Institution: UCLA Library Special Collections
Language of Material: English
Physical Description: 3.5 linear ft.(7 boxes, 1 flat box.)
Date (inclusive): 1920s-1960s
Abstract: Walter Winchell gained acclaim as a journalist through newspaper, radio, and television. Most associated with his career are his gossip columns and political commentary. The collection consists of correspondence, clippings and/or written pieces by and/or about Winchell, and a small amount of publicity stills and photographs. Additionally there is documentation regarding his television show, The Walter Winchell File.
Physical location: Stored off-site at SRLF. Advance notice is required for access to the collection. Please contact UCLA Library Special Collections for paging information.
Creator: Winchell, Walter, 1897-1972
Restrictions on Access
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Provenance/Source of Acquisition
Gift of David Shneidman.
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UCLA Catalog Record ID
UCLA Catalog Record ID: 6831694
Biography
Walter Winchell was born on April 7, 1897 in New York City, NY. In 1910, Winchell launched a career in vaudeville and spent several years as part of the Newsboys Sextet. In 1915, Winchell teamed with Rita Greene in a song and dance act and they toured until he enlisted in the Navy in 1917. Winchell officially started his journalism career in 1922, working for the Vaudeville News. In 1924, he went to work for the Evening Graphic, as dramatic critic and was given a Broadway column. By 1929, he was with the New York Daily Mirror, where he contributed a gossip column to until 1963. He made his radio debut in 1930 on CBS's Saks on Broadway, a 15-minute program devoted to show business news. In 1932, he began hosting The Jergens Journal, a show that mixed entertainment news with matters of national importance. Winchell gained fame as an American journalist and was the subject of frequent analysis, comment, and controversy. Despite this, his entertainment news reports and his weekly radio program brought him a huge audience and great influence from the 1930s to the 1950s. He was frequently censored for expressing his hatred of the Nazi Party in Germany and unfavorable remarks of certain Congressmen. After World War II, he was concerned with the spread of Communism and supported Senator Joseph McCarthy and the "Red Scare" investigations. Winchell also hosted The Walter Winchell Show (ABC, 1952-1960), The Walter Winchell Show (NBC, 1956), and The Walter Winchell File (1957-1958), which featured crime stories that Winchell had covered while working with the New York City Police Department. He was also the unseen narrator of the television drama series The Untouchables. Winchell died in Los Angeles, CA on February 20, 1972.
Scope and Content
The collection consists of materials related to the career of journalist, Walter Winchell. The bulk of the files comprise correspondence, much of it incoming letters from a variety of individuals. Additionally, there are clippings and /or written pieces by and/or about Winchell, and a small amount of publicity stills and photographs and documentation regarding his television show, The Walter Winchell File.

The files were purchased by the donor and are original files from Walter Winchell that were auctioned at Butterfields. Most of the file titles have been maintained; a small number of file titles were supplied by the processor.

Subjects and Indexing Terms
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box, Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</table>
| Box 6, Folder 17 | ABC Photos - publicity of Walter Winchell.  
Adolf Berle. (1941-1943).  
General note  
Correspondence and telegrams. |
| Box 6, Folder 7 | Assorted correspondence. (1924-1929).  
General note  
Incoming. |
| Box 7, Folder 1 | Assorted correspondence. (1924-1929).  
General note  
Incoming. |
| Box 6, Folder 6 | Assorted correspondence. (1935, 1940s-1950s).  
General note  
Mostly incoming. |
| Box 7, Folder 25 | Assorted correspondence. (1940s-1960s). |
| Box 3, Folder 10 | Assorted correspondence. (1941-1963).  
General note  
Incoming. |
Assorted correspondence. (ca. 1930).  
General note  
Incoming. |
| Box 7, Folder 2 | Assorted correspondence. (ca. 1930).  
General note  
Incoming. |
| Box 7, Folder 3 | Assorted correspondence. (ca. 1931-1932).  
General note  
Incoming. |
| Box 7, Folder 4 | Assorted correspondence. (ca. 1933).  
General note  
Incoming. |
| Box 7, Folder 5 | Assorted correspondence. (ca. 1934).  
General note  
Incoming. |
| Box 7, Folder 6 | Assorted correspondence. (ca. 1935).  
General note  
Incoming. |
| Box 7, Folder 7 | Assorted correspondence. (ca. 1936).  
General note  
Incoming. |
| Box 7, Folder 8 | Assorted correspondence. (ca. 1937).  
General note  
Incoming, with three replies. |
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<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Box 7</td>
<td>Folder 9</td>
<td>Assorted correspondence. (ca. 1938). General note Incoming.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 7</td>
<td>Folder 10</td>
<td>Assorted correspondence. (ca. 1939). General note Incoming.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 7</td>
<td>Folder 11</td>
<td>Assorted correspondence. (ca. 1940). General note Incoming.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 7</td>
<td>Folder 12</td>
<td>Assorted correspondence. (ca. 1941). General note Incoming.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 7</td>
<td>Folder 13</td>
<td>Assorted correspondence. (ca. 1942). General note Incoming, with one reply.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 7</td>
<td>Folder 14</td>
<td>Assorted correspondence. (ca. 1943). General note With Current Biography periodical with Winchell's entry.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 7</td>
<td>Folder 15</td>
<td>Assorted correspondence. (ca. 1944). General note Incoming, with one reply.</td>
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<td>Box 7</td>
<td>Folder 16</td>
<td>Assorted correspondence. (ca. 1945).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 7</td>
<td>Folder 17</td>
<td>Assorted correspondence. (ca. 1946). General note Incoming, with four replies.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 7</td>
<td>Folder 18</td>
<td>Assorted correspondence. (ca. 1947). General note Incoming, with one reply.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 7</td>
<td>Folder 19</td>
<td>Assorted correspondence. (ca. 1948).</td>
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<td>Box 7</td>
<td>Folder 20</td>
<td>Assorted correspondence. (ca. 1949).</td>
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<td>Box 7</td>
<td>Folder 21</td>
<td>Assorted correspondence. (ca. 1950).</td>
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<td>Box 7</td>
<td>Folder 22</td>
<td>Assorted correspondence. (ca. 1951).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 7</td>
<td>Folder 23</td>
<td>Assorted correspondence. (ca. 1952).</td>
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<td>Box 7</td>
<td>Folder 26</td>
<td>Assorted correspondence. (no date).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 2</td>
<td>Folder 7</td>
<td>Awards (Walter Winchell). (1940s, 1956). General note With a libel notice and a radio script of broadcast Sunday, March 26, 1944.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 6</td>
<td>Folder 20</td>
<td>B. (1940s-1960s). General note Incoming correspondence, telegrams, and clippings.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Container List

Box 6, Folder 2  Bache robbery. (1962 July).
    General note
    Clippings relating to Winchell's aid to FBI in the Bache and Co. stock theft case.

Box 4, Folder 1  Beacon - Levand. (1942-1943, 1952).
    General note
    Correspondence and clippings.

    General note
    Forms and permit documents. Photographs of Winchell for permit.

Box 6, Folder 1  Daily Mirror Contracts. (1937-1942).

Box 6, Folder 3  Down Memory Lane by Guy Magley - booklet.
    Earl Wilson.
    General note
    Mostly letters or notes from Wilson to Winchell and clippings.

Box 2, Folder 18  Ed Weiner. (1940s-1950s).
    General note
    Correspondence and clippings.

Box 6, Folder 9  Georgie Jessel. (1930s-1940s, 1960).
    General note
    Tearout from Esquire magazine and telegrams.

    General note
    Letters to Walter.

Box 3, Folder 1  James J. Walker. (1946 Nov).
    General note
    Reactions to Winchell's piece about Jimmy Walker.

Box 6, Folder 11  Jergens Lotion. (1930s-1940s, 1952).
    General note
    Correspondence and telegrams.


Box 5, Folder 11  John E. Rankin. (1940s).
    General note
    Regarding statements Rankin made about Winchell.

    General note
    Correspondence and clippings.
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<tr>
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</table>
| Box 2, Folder 9 | Letters to Walter Winchell. (1930s, 1942, 1969).  
General note  
Clippings and articles. |
| Box 8, Folder 2 | Magazine tearouts written by and about Walter Winchell. (1930s, 1940s and 1960).  
General note  
| Box 5, Folder 14 | Mentions about Walter Winchell. (1930s, 1953, 1967).  
General note  
With photographs. |
| Box 2, Folder 13 | Miscellaneous Stories by Winchell. (1964-1968). |
| Box 6, Folder 18 | NBC Publicity shots of Walter Winchell. |
| Box 2, Folder 8 | Notes to Winchell and clippings. (1969). |
| Box 6, Folder 5 | Plain Talk. (1950 Feb). |
General note  
Reactions to Winchell's piece. |
| Box 5, Folder 16 | President's Day. (1933).  
General note  
Correspondence with attachments and clippings. |
| Box 6, Folder 12 | Quiz Kids John Lewellen. (1945 Jan-Feb, May).  
General note  
Correspondence. |
| Box 3, Folder 4 | R. (1930s-1940s).  
General note  
 Incoming correspondence. |
| Box 5, Folder 12 | R. (1930s-1950s).  
General note  
Letters to Winchell, telegrams, and clippings. With a script titled Winchell Story by Sig Herzig and Arthur Eddy. |
| Box 3, Folder 5 | R (folder 1 of 2). (1940s, 1960s).  
General note  
Incoming and outgoing correspondence. |
| Box 3, Folder 6 | R (folder 2 of 2). (1940s, 1960s).  
General note  
Incoming and outgoing correspondence. |
General note  
Correspondence, photographs, and clippings. |
Box 2, Folder 15  
**Readers Digest.** (1960s).
General note
Winchell submissions.

Box 2, Folder 4  
General note
Letters and clippings regarding car leasing advertisements.

Box 1, Folder 8  
General note
Letters, press release, and telegram.

Box 2, Folder 16  
**Riviera Sun.** (1964 Aug-Oct).
General note
Winchell submissions.

Box 5, Folder 7  
General note
Correspondence regarding Winchell's stay at the hotel.

Box 2, Folder 1  
**Rosemarie Productions** (Danny Thomas) - AFTRA contract. (1964 Oct).

Box 1, Folder 11  
General note
Proposal and letters.

Box 3, Folder 7  
**Rowan and Martin.** (1960, no date).
General note
Letter and telegram.

Box 3, Folder 8  
**Russia.** (1940s).
General note
Letters, clippings and tearouts.

Box 6, Folder 13  
**Salem Methodist Church speech.** (1947 Oct).

Box 2, Folder 12  
**Senator David Walsh.** (1942 May).
General note
Regarding statements Winchell made about Senator Walsh.

Box 1, Folder 14  
**Sol Rosenblatt.** (1957-1958).
General note
Correspondence.

Box 2, Folder 17  
**Stars and Headlines.** (no date).
General note
Taken from various columns about people in entertainment; written by Winchell.

Box 2, Folder 10  
**Stories about Walter Winchell.** (1938, 1940s, 1950s, 1964).
General note
With draft of one-minute speech.

Box 2, Folder 14  
**Stories By Walter Winchell.** (1939, no dates).
Box 5, Folder 10  This Is New York. (no date).
    General note
    Questionnaire and photograph.

Box 1, Folder 12  Topics by Tinney. (1939 May).
    General note
    Transcript.

Box 5, Folder 9  U.S. Naval Reserve correspondence course. (1935).
    General note
    Course material (course reader?).

Box 4, Folder 4  W. (1940s-1950s).
    General note
    Correspondence.

Box 4, Folder 3  W. (1940s-1960s).
    General note
    Correspondence.

Box 5, Folder 5  W. (1942, 1960s).
    General note
    Incoming and outgoing correspondence and clippings.

    General note
    Articles, postage stamps, photographs and clipping.

Box 2, Folder 3  Wake Up and Live. (1937 Apr).
    General note
    Telegram and inter-office correspondence.

Box 5, Folder 1  Wall Street. (1958, 1959 Jan).
    General note
    Appears related to pieces on stock market.

Box 4, Folder 10  Walsh and Walsh Insurance. (1967-1968).
    General note
    Policy information.

Box 1, Folder 3  Walter Winchell T.V. poll. (1958 Jan-Feb).
    General note
    Appears to be related to Walter Winchell File program.

Box 2, Folder 11  Walter Winchell Articles. (1940s).
    General note
    Mostly about Walter Winchell.

Box 1, Folder 9  Walter Winchell File - clippings (folder 1 of 2). (1956-1957).
Box 1, Folder 6  Walter Winchell File - correspondence and contracts (folder 1 of 2). (1958-1959, 1961).
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Box, Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</table>
| 1, Folder 7| Walter Winchell File - correspondence and contracts (folder 2 of 2). (1957 March and no date.)     | General note  
Two pilot scripts. One titled The Walter Winchell File; one titled The Walter Winchell Show. |
| 1, Folder 4| Walter Winchell File (The) - press releases. (1957 Dec.)                                         |                                                                     |
| 8, Folder 1| Walter Winchell File (The) - program. (no date).                                                 |                                                                     |
| 1, Folder 5| Walter Winchell File (The) - publicity material. (1957).                                        | General note  
Balance statements and clippings.                               |
| 4, Folder 5| Walter Winchell Foundation. (1960s).                                                             |                                                                     |
| 6, Folder 4| Walter Winchell in Let's Go to Press - program. (no date).                                      |                                                                     |
Correspondence from Albert Zugsmith, photograph, waivers, and forms. |
| 6, Folder 15| Walter Winchell Publicity Photos.                                                               |                                                                     |
| 6, Folder 16| Walter Winchell Publicity Photos.                                                               | General note  
With what appears to be two childhood photographs.               |
| 6, Folder 14| Walter Winchell Show - one page ads. (No dates, 1956 Oct).                                       | General note  
With Facts, Figures and Film newsletter.                         |
| 1, Folder 1| Walter Winchell Show (The) - script material. (1956).                                           |                                                                     |
| 1, Folder 2| Walter Winchell Show (The) - ratings and correspondence. (1956-1958).                          |                                                                     |
| 5, Folder 15| Walter Winchell's Writings. (1940s).                                                            |                                                                     |
| 4, Folder 11| Washington Contest. (1938).                                                                     | General note  
Correspondence regarding beauty contest. With unrelated clippings. |
| 4, Folder 8| Wechsler, James. (1950s-1960s).                                                                 | General note  
Correspondence and clippings. With transcript of Novick testimony.|
| 3, Folder 3| Western Newspaper Union. (1940s).                                                                | General note  
Correspondence regarding Winchell columns.                         |
Outgoing telegrams sent by Walter Winchell.                         |
| 5, Folder 4| Westrick, Gerhard. (no date, 1940 Jul-Aug).                                                      | General note  
Clippings.                                                        |
Appears to be entertainment related.                              |
| Box 4, Folder 12 | **Winchell Orchids. (1933 Mar-Apr).**  
| | General note  
| | Clippings. |
| Box 6, Folder 19 | **Winchell Stock Pictures (headshots). (1959).** |
| Box 4, Folder 2 | **Winrod, Gerald. (1942-1943, 1952).**  
| | General note  
| | Correspondence and clippings. |
| Box 5, Folder 2 | **Wisdom Society. (1965 Sept, 1967 Sept; 1967 Nov-Dec).**  
| | General note  
| | Correspondence. |
| Box 5, Folder 3 | **World Journal Tribune. (1966 Sept-Oct; 1967).**  
| | General note  
| | Letters and clippings. |