

Guide to the Benét Family Collection

YCAL MSS 1108



Michael L. Forstrom

2017

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
P. O. Box 208330
New Haven, CT 06520-8330
(203) 432-2977
beinecke.library@yale.edu
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

CALL NUMBER: YCAL MSS 1108

CREATOR: Benét Family

TITLE: Benét Family Collection

DATES: 1866–1979

BULK DATES: 1912–1959

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 9.52 linear feet (25 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The Benét family collection consists of correspondence, writings, and other material documenting personal and professional activities of members of the literary Benét family. The collection features material by and relating to William Rose Benét and Stephen Vincent Benét.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.benetfamcol>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.benetfamcol>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to beinecke.images@yale.edu.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Acquired by gift and purchase, 1941–1996. For more information consult the appropriate curator.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Box 22: Restricted fragile material. Reference surrogates have been substituted in the main files. For further information consult the appropriate curator.

Conditions Governing Use

The Benét Family Collection is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

Preferred Citation

Benét Family Collection. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Processing Information

The Benét Family Collection contains material acquired by the library through gift and purchase from 1941 through 1979. Manuscript material formerly classified under multiple call numbers, as well as printed ephemera that had been cataloged separately, was brought together and processed during 2016-2017. Collection materials identified after 2017 were added to Series IX-XI in 2022.

Former call numbers: Za Benét, Uncat Za Ms 143, Uncat Za Ms 294, Uncat Za File 13, Uncat Za File 37, Uncat Za File 225, Uncat Za File 383, Uncat Za File 415, and Za B436 +1.

Related Materials

Material by or relating to the Benét family acquired by the library from family sources is located in the Benét Family Papers (YCAL MSS 1107). Additional material by or relating to Stephen Vincent and Rosemary Benét can be found in the Stephen Vincent Benét and Rosemary Benét Papers (YCAL MSS 1046). Additional material by or relating to William Rose Benét can be found in the William Rose Benét Papers (YCAL MSS 1100).

Benét family

Brigadier General S. V. (Stephen Vincent) Benét was born 22 January 1827 in St. Augustine, Florida. He studied at Hallowell's school in Alexandria, Virginia and then at the University of Georgia and the United States Military Academy, where he graduated in 1849. He was appointed to the Ordnance Corps, and served at the Watervliet Arsenal, at Washington, at Frankford Arsenal, again at Washington, and then at the St. Louis Arsenal. In 1859 he became Assistant Professor of Geography, History, and Ethics at West Point, and from 1861 until 1864 was instructor of Ordnance and the Science of Gunnery. From 1865 until 1869 he was in command of Frankford arsenal. In 1869 he became Assistant to the Chief of Ordnance, and in 1874 he succeeded to Chief of Ordnance with the rank of Brigadier General. He translated Jomini's "Political and Military History of the Campaign of Waterloo" (New York, 1853) and he is the author of a treatise on "Military Law and the Practice of Courts-Martial" (1862) and "Electro-Ballistic Machines and the Schultze Chronoscope" (1866).

He married Laura Amanda Walker and together they had two sons, James Walker Benét and Laurence Vincent Benét.

James Walker Benét (1857-1928), a Colonel in the U.S. Army, was born 16 July, 1857 in Richmond, Kentucky. He graduated from West Point Academy in 1880 and went on to serve most of his military career in the Army Ordnance Department. From 1890 until his retirement in 1921, he served at the Frankford Arsenal, Philadelphia (1890-1984); Bethlehem Iron Works, South Bethlehem, Pennsylvania (1894-1898); Ordnance Headquarters, Buffalo, New York (1898-1899); Watervliet Arsenal, New York (1904-1905, 1919-1921); Rock Island Arsenal, Illinois (1904-1905), Benicia Arsenal, California (1905-1911), and Augusta Arsenal, Georgia (1911-1918).

James Walker Benét married Frances Neill Rose (1860-1940) of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1883. Ms. Rose, born 23 October, 1860 in Washington, D.C., was the child of William John Rose and Mary Lee Mahon. She attended Mrs. Sutton's School for Girls. Their children include authors Laura Benét, William Rose Benét, and Stephen Vincent Benét.

Laura Benét (1884-1979) was educated at the Emma Willard School in Troy, New York, and at Vassar and Moravian colleges. She worked at the Spring Street Settlement in New York City from 1915 to 1917 and at the American Red Cross in Augusta, Georgia from 1917 to 1919. She later took on editorial and free-lance writing assignments. She was the author of several poetry collections, fiction, and biographical works.

William Rose Benét (1886-1950) was educated at Albany Academy and Yale College (1903-1907). After college, Benét worked for *Century Magazine* as a reader. He served in the U.S. Air Services during the First World War, and after the war took work as a copy writer for an advertising firm. In 1920, Henry Seidel Canby brought Benét on as an assistant editor at the *New York Evening Post* and in 1923, Canby, Benét, and their fellow editors left the *Post* to form the *Saturday Review*.

William Rose Benét was the author of several collections of poetry, a novel, and a collection of essays. His autobiography in verse, *The Dust Which Is God* (1941), was awarded a Pulitzer Prize in 1942. In addition to his long-standing (1923-1950) position with the *Saturday Review*, Benét contributed to several compilations of English-language poetry and literature.

William Rose Benét married four times, to: Teresa Frances Thomson (1912-1919), with whom he had three children, James Walker Benét (1914-2012), Kathleen Anne (Benét) Fry, and Frances Rosemary (Benét) Dawson; poet Elinor Wylie (1923-1928); actress Lora Baxter (1932-1937); and children's book author Majorie Flack (1941-1950).

Stephen Vincent Benét (1898-1943), educated at Summerville Academy and Yale College (1915-1919), was a well known and widely read author in the United States during the 1930s and 1940s. After the success of his long poem, *John Brown's Body* (1928), for which he was awarded a Pulitzer Prize in 1929, he regularly published poems, short stories, and other work in popular magazines such as *The Atlantic Monthly*, *The New Yorker*, and *The Saturday Evening Post*. His short story, "The Devil and Daniel Webster" (1936) was awarded the O. Henry Memorial Award in 1937. In addition to poetry and short stories, he is the author of novels, book reviews, essays, radio and stage plays, screenplays, and speeches.

Stephen Vincent Benét and Rosemary Carr married in 1921. They had three children, Thomas, Stephanie Jane, and Rachel.

Biographical information taken from Arlington National Cemetery website and other sources.

Scope and Contents

The Benét family collection consists of correspondence, writings, and other material documenting personal and professional activities of members of the literary Benét family. The collection features material by and relating to William Rose Benét and Stephen Vincent Benét.

Noteworthy correspondence files for Stephen Vincent Benét can be found with Yale College classmates Shreve Cowles Badger and John Chipman Farrar, with the literary agency Brandt & Brandt, for which there are approximately 227 pieces of correspondence, and with publishers Doubleday, Doran & Company and Farrar & Rinehart.

Larger correspondence files for William Rose Benét can be found with his third wife, Lora Baxter, the poets Jeremy Ingalls and Starr Nelson, and the *Saturday Review*. There are approximately 92 pieces of correspondence from Benét to Baxter, and the Starr Nelson gift consists of six scrapbooks containing approximately 360 letters between Nelson and Benét, as well as photographs, drafts or fair copies of writings, clippings, and printed ephemera.

The two largest groups of manuscript writings for Stephen Vincent Benét can be found in the Farrar & Rinehart Gift, which includes approximately 200 reader reports, and in the Material from Other Sources series, which includes drafts and printed versions of several works. For example, there are drafts of the poetry collection, *Songs of Dear Old Yale*, and a musical score, "The Headless Horseman," done in collaboration with Douglas Moore.

Drafts of poems and other writings by William Rose Benét can be found in the Reese Baxter and Wallace G. Fiske gifts. Other writings in the collection include a draft, typescript and autograph manuscript, of an autobiography by Colonel James Walker Benét.

Arrangement

Organized into eleven series: I. Shreve Cowles Badger Gifts, 1918-1944. II. Reese Baxter Gift, 1932-1958. III. Brandt & Brandt Gift, 1930-1943. IV. John Chipman Farrar Gifts, 1918-1960. V. Farrar & Rinehart Gift, 1933-1957. VI. Wallace G. Fiske Gift, 1914-1959. VII. Henry R. Hallowell Gifts, 1920-1958. VIII. Starr Nelson Gift, 1942-1950. IX. Material from Other Sources, 1909-1979. X. John Franklin Carter Gifts, 1917-1943. XI. Seven Gables Bookshop Gift, 1866-1912.

Collection Contents

Series I: Shreve Cowles Badger Gift, 1918–1944

0.21 linear feet (1 box)

The Shreve Cowles Badger gift contains correspondence to Badger from members of the Benét family and others and writings by and about Stephen Vincent Benét. Correspondence features 30 pieces of correspondence to Badger from Stephen Vincent Benét, a Yale College classmate.

Gift of Shreve Cowles Badger, 1944.

Organized into two subseries: Correspondence and Writings.

| Correspondence | | |
|------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| b. 1, f. 1 | Babb, James T. (James Tinkham) | 1944 July |
| b. 1, f. 2 | Benét, Frances Rose | undated |
| b. 1, f. 3 | Benét, Laura | 1943 |
| b. 1, f. 4 | Benét, Rosemary | 1921-1943, undated |
| b. 1, f. 5-6 | Benét, Stephen Vincent | 1918-1943, undated |
| b. 1, f. 7 | Benét, William Rose | 1921 December 2 |
| b. 1, f. 8 | Carter, John Franklin | 1917–1933 |
| b. 1, f. 9 | Lambert, Samuel W. | 1943 |
| b. 1, f. 10 | <i>Life</i> | undated |
| b. 1, f. 11 | MacLeish, Archibald | 1943 November 12 |
| b. 1, f. 12 | Scott, Arthur P. | 1921 December 31 |
| Writings | | |
| Badger, Shreve Cowles | | |
| b. 1, f. 13 | "Stephen Vincent Benét and His Yale Contemporaries," essay, draft, typescript carbon, corrected | undated |
| Benét, Stephen Vincent | | |
| b. 1, f. 14 | "The Proud Huntsmen," poem, printed version, <i>Parabalou</i> | [1920?] |
| b. 1, f. 15 | "The Veteran," poem, draft, typescript carbon | undated |

Series II: Reese Baxter Gift, 1932–1958*0.63 linear feet (2 boxes)*

The Reese Baxter gift contains correspondence, writings, and other material relating chiefly to William Rose Benét and Lora Baxter. Benét and Baxter were married from 1932 until 1937, and the group features approximately 92 pieces of correspondence from Benét to Baxter dating from 1932 until the year of his death, 1950. There are drafts and printed versions of poems by Benét and, among other materials, there is a copy of Benét's last will and testament.

Gift of Reese Baxter, 1990.

Former call number: Uncat Za Ms 143.

Organized into three subseries: Correspondence, Writings, and Other Material.

| Correspondence | | |
|--------------------------------|--|--------------------|
| b. 2, f. 16 | Amisano, Dorothy to Mr. Malicoat | 1956 February 18 |
| b. 2, f. 17 | Baxter, Lora to Dorothy Amisano | 1948-1953, undated |
| b. 2, f. 18 | Benét, William Rose to Dorothy Amisano | 1938-1950, undated |
| b. 2, f. 19-24 | Benét, William Rose to Lora Baxter | 1932-1950, undated |
| b. 2, f. 25 | Benét, William Rose to Mrs. Hugh Bullock | 1936 March 19 |
| b. 2, f. 26-27 | Mitchell, Alice (Baxter) to Lora Baxter | 1948-1954, undated |
| b. 2, f. 28 | Wescott, Glenway to Mrs. Benét | 1950 June 8 |
| b. 2, f. 29 | Others | 1948-1958, undated |
| Writings | | |
| Writings of Lora Baxter | | |
| b. 2, f. 30 | "The Personal Touch," story, draft, typescript carbon | undated |
| b. 2, f. 31 | "What Is It?" poem, draft, typescript, corrected | undated |
| Writings of William Rose Benét | | |
| b. 2, f. 32 | Poems, drafts, typescript and autograph manuscript, and printed versions | 1932-1947, undated |
| Writings of Others | | |
| Nelson, Starr | | |
| b. 2, f. 33 | "In the Boulder on the Shore," tribute, typescript carbon | 1950 October 10 |
| Salomon, Isidor Lawrence | | |

Writings > Writings of Others > Salomon, Isidor Lawrence (continued)

| | | |
|--------------------------|--|--------------------|
| b. 2, f. 34 | "W.R.B. (1886-1950)," poem, typescript, inscribed | 1950 May 11 |
| Unidentified | | |
| b. 2, f. 35 | Poems, drafts, typescript and autograph manuscript | undated |
| b. 2, f. 36 | Unidentified | undated |
| Other Material | | |
| b. 2, f. 37 | Cancelled check | 1952 December 12 |
| b. 2, f. 38 | Clippings | 1932-1957, undated |
| b. 21 (Oversize), f. 273 | Clippings | 1932-1955, undated |
| b. 3, f. 39 | Drawings | 1933, undated |
| b. 3, f. 40 | Invitation list | 1951 |
| b. 3, f. 41 | Legal documents | 1937-1955 |
| b. 3, f. 42 | Manuscript notes | undated |
| b. 3, f. 43-44 | Printed material | 1943-1951, undated |

Series III: Brandt & Brandt Gift, 1930–1943

0.21 linear feet (1 box)

The Brandt & Brandt gift consists of the literary agency's correspondence file for Stephen Vincent Benét for the period from 1930 through 1943. There are approximately 227 pieces of correspondence from Benét to various representatives of the firm, including many to founder Carl Brandt. Letters concern literary and personal topics, with many relating to stories and articles for publication.

Gift of Brandt & Brandt, 1955.

Arranged chronologically.

b. 4, f. 45-50 Correspondence

1930-1943,
undated

Series IV: John Chipman Farrar Gifts, 1918–1960*0.21 linear feet (1 box)*

Correspondence, writings, and printed material relating to Stephen Vincent Benét assembled by Yale college classmate, and publisher, John Chipman Farrar.

Gifts of John Chipman Farrar, 1941-1960.

Organized into three subseries: Correspondence, Writings, and Other Material.

| Correspondence | | |
|--------------------------|---|--------------------|
| b. 5, f. 51-52 | Benét, Stephen Vincent | 1918-1942, undated |
| b. 5, f. 53 | Engel, Gabriel | 1946 January 11 |
| b. 5, f. 54 | Yale University. Library | 1941 April 24 |
| Writings | | |
| | Benét, Stephen Vincent | |
| b. 21 (Oversize), f. 274 | "Listen to the People," printed version | circa 1941 |
| | Chamberlain, John | |
| b. 5, f. 55 | "The New Books," review of <i>Western Star</i> by Stephen Vincent Benét, proof, corrected | [1943] June |
| b. 21 (Oversize), f. 275 | "The New Books," review of <i>Western Star</i> by Stephen Vincent Benét, proof, corrected | [1943] June |
| Other Material | | |
| b. 5, f. 56 | Clippings | 1928–1960 |
| b. 5, f. 57 | Printed ephemera | 1939, 1947 |

Series V: Farrar & Rinehart Gift, 1933–1957*2.71 linear feet (7 boxes)*

The Farrar & Rinehart gift comprises the publisher's files for Stephen Vincent Benét. There are general correspondence files for Rosemary and Stephen Vincent Benét containing original letters, carbons of letters from Farrar & Rinehart, and third party correspondence with other publishers and the literary agency Brandt & Brandt. There are also files relating to a memorial, permissions, publicity, and individual works by Benét.

Other material features approximately 200 reader reports written by Benét on different titles. This group of material would appear to represent what amounts to Benét's unpublished literary criticism. Reports, typewritten, vary in length from a few lines to several pages. Most reports are written in an epistolary style, addressed to John Farrar or others in the firm. In reports, Benét highlights or criticizes aspects of the work, offers his opinion on whether or not Farrar & Rinehart should publish the work, and sometimes either identifies areas needing attention or offers advice to authors on how to move forward.

Gift of Farrar & Rinehart, 195[?].

Organized into two subseries: Correspondence and Other Material.

Correspondence

General Correspondence

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| b. 6, f. 58-59 | Benét, Rosemary | 1936-1947, undated |
| b. 6, f. 60-69 | Benét, Stephen Vincent | 1934-1945 |
| b. 21 (Oversize), f. 276 | Material removed from Benét, Stephen Vincent | 1942, [1944?] |
| b. 7, f. 70-73 | Benét, Stephen Vincent | 1945-1957, undated |
| b. 7, f. 74-78 | "Memorial folder" | 1943, undated |
| b. 7, f. 79 | "Permissions" | 1937-1955, undated |
| b. 7, f. 80-82 | "Promotion booklet" | 1943-1944, undated |

By Title

| | | |
|----------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| b. 8, f. 83-85 | <i>America</i> | 1943-1956, undated |
| b. 8, f. 86 | <i>The Beginning of Wisdom</i> | 1948 October 28 |
| b. 8, f. 87 | "Biography" | 1948-1949, undated |
| b. 8, f. 88-92 | <i>A Book of Americans</i> | 1933-1957, undated |
| b. 8, f. 93 | <i>Burning City</i> | 1934-1937, undated |

Correspondence > By Title (continued)

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| b. 8, f. 94 | "A Child Is Born" | 1942-1946, undated |
| b. 8, f. 95 | "Companion to 'A Book of Americans' (Never Published)" | 1934 |
| b. 8, f. 96 | <i>Dear Adolf</i> | 1942 |
| b. 9, f. 97-98 | <i>The Devil and Daniel Webster</i> | 1937-1956, undated |
| b. 9, f. 99 | "The Devil and Daniel Webster" libretto | 1939-1953, undated |
| b. 9, f. 100 | <i>James Shore's Daughter</i> | 1935-1937 |
| b. 9, f. 101-103 | <i>John Brown's Body</i> | 1933-1957, undated |
| b. 21 (Oversize), f. 277 | Clipping removed from <i>John Brown's Body</i> | undated |
| b. 9, f. 104 | <i>John Brown's Body</i> revised edition | 1954-1956, undated |
| b. 9, f. 105 | <i>Johnny Pye and the Fool-killer</i> | 1938-1939, undated |
| b. 9, f. 106-107 | "Listen to the People" | 1941-1954, undated |
| b. 9, f. 108 | "Nightmare at Noon" | 1940-1941, undated |
| b. 9, f. 109 | "Poetry Anthology (Never Published)" | 1939-1940, undated |
| b. 10, f. 110 | "The Power and the Land" | 1940-1943, undated |
| b. 10, f. 111-112 | <i>The Selected Works of Stephen Vincent Benét</i> | 1938-1955, undated |
| b. 10, f. 113-114 | <i>The Selected Works of Stephen Vincent Benét</i> copyright information | 1941-1955, undated |
| b. 10, f. 115 | "Sing a Song of Americans" | 1942-1946 |
| b. 10, f. 116 | <i>Tales Before Midnight</i> | 1939-1942, undated |
| b. 10, f. 117-118 | <i>They Burned the Books</i> | 1942-1943, undated |
| b. 10, f. 119 | <i>Thirteen O'Clock</i> | 1937-1945 |
| b. 10, f. 120 | We Stand United, and Other Radio Scripts | 1941-1957, undated |

Correspondence > By Title (continued)

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| b. 10, f. 121-122 | <i>Western Star</i> | 1934-1956, undated |
| b. 10, f. 123 | <i>Young Adventure</i> | 1945 |
| b. 11, f. 124-127 | <i>Zero Hour</i> | 1940-1941, undated |
| Other Material | | |
| b. 11, f. 128 | Radio scripts | undated |
| b. 11, f. 129-138 | Reader reports | 1936-1943, undated |
| b. 12, f. 139-140 | Reader reports | 1940-1942, undated |
| b. 12, f. 141 | "Speeches" | 1942, undated |
| b. 12, f. 142 | Other work | undated |

Series VI: Wallace G. Fiske Gift, 1914–1959*0.42 linear feet (1 box)*

The Fiske gift contains material relating to the Benét family, and William Rose Benét in particular, assembled by the Reverend Emerson Hugh Lalone. Correspondence includes subdivisions for letters to Lalone and to William Rose Benét. There are several pieces of writing by Benét, including corrected typescript drafts of a possible story, "Gowden Elspie," and article, "Night Thoughts of a Goldsmith." Miscellaneous other material, such as biographical information, clippings, and photographs, relate chiefly to William Rose Benét.

Gift of Wallace G. Fiske, 1957 date unknown.

Organized into three subseries: Correspondence, Writings, and Other Material.

Correspondence

Emerson Hugh Lalone Correspondence

| | | |
|---------------|---|--------------------|
| b. 13, f. 143 | Benét, James, 1914- | 1957 March 28 |
| b. 13, f. 144 | Benét, Laura | 1957 |
| b. 13, f. 145 | Benét, William Rose | 1949-1950, undated |
| b. 13, f. 146 | Cady, Harrison | 1957 April |
| b. 13, f. 147 | Coe, Lloyd Includes letter to Coe William Rose Benét and material relating to <i>The Dust Which Is God</i> | 1940 July 24 |
| b. 13, f. 148 | Fry, George Blanchard, Mrs. | 1957 April 16 |
| b. 13, f. 149 | Pearson, Norman Holmes | 1956-1958, undated |
| b. 13, f. 150 | Smythe, Daniel | 1957 |
| b. 13, f. 151 | St. Lawrence University. Library | 1957 |
| b. 13, f. 152 | Yale University. Library | 1957 |

William Rose Benét Correspondence

| | | |
|---------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| b. 13, f. 153 | Canby, Henry Seidel | 1943 September 17 |
| b. 13, f. 154 | Eaton, Walter Prichard | 1920 January 12 |
| b. 13, f. 155 | Flanner, Hildegarde | 1932 June 16 |
| b. 13, f. 156 | Foley, John L. | 1942 July 12 |
| b. 13, f. 157 | Fry, Kathleen Anne (Benét) | 1941 January 13 |
| b. 13, f. 158 | Hobson, Dorothy | 1942 July 16 |
| b. 13, f. 159 | Pratt, E. J. | 1948 November 17 |

Correspondence > William Rose Benét Correspondence (continued)

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| b. 13, f. 160 | <i>Saturday Review</i> | 1951 [October?] |
| b. 13, f. 161 | Sutton, E. F. (Edward Forrester) | 1914 July 27 |
| b. 13, f. 162 | Updegraff, Allan | 1915 January 28 |
| b. 13, f. 163 | Others | 1931-1948, undated |
| b. 13, f. 164-165 | Copies of letters to others | undated |
| Other Correspondence | | |
| b. 13, f. 166 | Others | 1950-1958, undated |
| Writings | | |
| Writings by William Rose Benét | | |
| b. 13, f. 167 | "[Gowden?] Elspie," draft, typescript carbon, corrected | undated |
| b. 13, f. 168 | "Maurois, Andre: Aspect of Biography," [lecture?] notes, typescript | circa 1928 |
| b. 13, f. 169 | "Night Thoughts of a Goldsmith," draft, typescript carbon, corrected | undated |
| b. 13, f. 170 | "Pan and the Children," poem, typescript carbon, corrected | undated |
| b. 13, f. 171 | "Reviewing Ten Years: A Personal Record of <i>The Saturday Review of Literature</i> ," essay, printed version | undated |
| b. 13, f. 172 | "Summa," poem, typescript, signed | undated |
| Writings of Others | | |
| Cousins, Norman | | |
| b. 13, f. 173 | "Don't Resign from the Human Race," essay, printed version, <i>Saturday Review of Literature</i> | 1948 August 7 |
| Henderson, Archibald | | |
| b. 13, f. 174 | "Mathematics and the Physical Sciences," essay, printed version, signed | undated |
| Hillyer, Robert | | |
| b. 13, f. 175 | "Poetry's New Priesthood," article, printed version, <i>Saturday Review of Literature</i> | 1949 June 18 |
| Lampson, Oliver Locker | | |
| b. 13, f. 176 | "Frederick Locker Lampson," essay, printed version | undated |
| Lowell, Amy | | |
| b. 13, f. 177 | "Walt Whitman and the New Poetry," essay, printed version, <i>The Yale Review</i> | undated |
| Nelson, Starr | | |

Writings > Writings of Others > Nelson, Starr (continued)

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| b. 13, f. 178 | "In the Boulder on the Shore," tribute, typescript, signed | 1950 October 10 |
| Other Material | | |
| b. 13, f. 179 | Addresses | undated |
| b. 13, f. 180 | Bibliographical information | undated |
| b. 13, f. 181 | Biographical information | undated |
| b. 13, f. 182 | Certificate | 1945 January 18 |
| b. 13, f. 183 | Clippings | 1922-1948, undated |
| b. 21 (Oversize), f. 278 | Clippings | 1918-1942, undated |
| b. 13, f. 184 | Empty envelope | undated |
| b. 13, f. 185 | Genealogical information | undated |
| b. 13, f. 186 | Manuscript notes | undated |
| b. 13, f. 187 | Photographs | undated |
| b. 13, f. 188-190 | Printed material | 1934-1959, undated |
| b. 13, f. 191 | Quotes | undated |
| b. 13, f. 192 | Scrapbook page | 1914, undated |

Series VII: Henry R. Hollowell Gifts, 1920–1958*0.21 linear feet (1 box)*

The Hollowell gifts contains a small amount of material relating to Stephen Vincent Benét.

Gifts of Henry R. Hollowell, 1979.

Organized into two subseries: Correspondence and Other Material.

| Correspondence | | |
|----------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| b. 14, f. 193 | Benét, Stephen Vincent | 1928-[1936?] |
| b. 14, f. 194 | Fenton, Charles A. | 1958 July |
| b. 14, f. 195 | House of Books, Ltd. | 1939-1944, undated |
| b. 14, f. 196 | Empty envelope | 1943 April 21 |
| Other Material | | |
| b. 14, f. 197 | Printed ephemera | 1920–1939 |
| b. 14, f. 198 | Receipts | 1939–1945 |

Series VIII: Starr Nelson Gift, 1942–1950*1.04 linear feet (3 boxes)*

The Starr Nelson gift features six scrapbooks ("volumes") containing correspondence between Nelson and William Rose Benét. Correspondence, including approximately 360 original letters between Nelson and Benét, is arranged in chronological order from 1942 until 1950. Volumes also contain photographs, drafts or fair copies of writings, clippings, and printed ephemera.

The correspondence between the two appears to start with a short autograph letter from Benét (1886-1950) to Nelson (1910-?), dated August 12, 1942, in which Benét informs Nelson that he is accepting her poem, "The Lovers in Ascension," for publication in the *Saturday Review*.

Gift of Starr Nelson, date unknown.

Organized into two subseries: Correspondence and Other Material.

| Correspondence | | |
|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| b. 15, f. 199-200 | Volume I Includes copies of poems and photographs | 1942–1944 |
| b. 15, f. 201-202 | Volume II | 1944–1945 |
| b. 15, f. 203-204 | Volume III | 1945–1946 |
| b. 16, f. 205-206 | Volume IV | 1947 |
| b. 16, f. 207-208 | Volume V | 1948–1949 |
| b. 16, f. 209-210 | Volume VI | 1949–1950 |
| Other Material | | |
| b. 17, f. 211 | Scrapbook | 1947-1950, undated |
| b. 21 (Oversize), f. 279 | Material removed from scrapbook | 1950, undated |

Series IX: Material from Other Sources, 1909–1979*1.25 linear feet (4 boxes)*

Material from Other Sources contains other small gifts and purchases of material relating to the Benét family. Correspondence is subdivided for Stephen Vincent and William Rose Benét correspondence and consists chiefly of outgoing letters. The largest files can be found for correspondence between Stephen Vincent Benét and the publisher Doubleday and Company, and for correspondence between William Rose Benét and the poet Jeremy Ingalls and the *Saturday Review*. The *Saturday Review* file contains original letters to Benét and other staff members at the journal, original letters from Benét to other staff, and carbons of outgoing letters. A good amount of *Saturday Review* correspondence is with translator Rae Dalven.

Writings feature multiple works, including drafts and printed versions, by Stephen Vincent Benét, as well as drafts of several poems by Elinor Wylie. Other noteworthy writings include a draft, typescript and autograph manuscript, of an autobiography by James Walker Benét (1857-1928) and a setting copy, corrected and with printer's annotations, of Muriel Rukeyser's *Theory of Flight* (Yale University Press, 1935). Rukeyser's collection was awarded the Yale Younger Poets Prize in 1934. Stephen Vincent Benét, who served as editor of the series from 1933 to 1942, made the selection and wrote a foreword to the 1935 publication.

Acquired by gift and purchase, 1941-1979.

Organized into three subseries: Correspondence, Writings, and Other Material.

Correspondence

Stephen Vincent Benét Correspondence

| | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| b. 18, f. 212 | Allan, [Ralph D.] | undated |
| b. 25, f. 341 | Andrews, John Williams | 1920–1933 |
| b. 18, f. 213 | Babb, James T. (James Tinkham) | undated |
| b. 18, f. 213a | Belitt, [Ben?] | undated |
| b. 18, f. 213b | Bradley, Mrs. Franklin T. | 1939 February 27 |
| b. 18, f. 214 | Carter, John Franklin | undated |
| b. 18, f. 215 | Crawford, Jack Randall | 1934, undated |
| b. 18, f. 215a | Davidson, [Eugene] | [1935 July 14?] |
| b. 18, f. 216-217 | Doubleday, Doran & Company | 1927–1942 |
| b. 18, f. 218 | Hart, M. M. | undated |
| b. 18, f. 219 | Jackson, Stuart W. (Stuart Wells) | 1940 February 11 |
| b. 18, f. 220 | Knollenberg, Bernard | undated |
| b. 18, f. 221 | Morison, Samuel Eliot (transcription) | undated |
| b. 18, f. 222 | Price, Allan | 1942, undated |
| b. 18, f. 223 | Samson, H. | undated |

Correspondence > Stephen Vincent Benét Correspondence (continued)

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|------------------------|
| b. 18, f. 224 | Shaw, Thomas S. | [1933?] September 6 |
| b. 18, f. 225 | Stephens, Pauline Frances | 1933–1934 |
| b. 18, f. 226 | Taylor, William | undated |
| b. 18, f. 227 | Tuttle, H. E. (Henry Emerson) (transcription) | undated |
| b. 18, f. 228 | Ware, [John N.] | undated |
| b. 18, f. 229 | Wing, Donald Goddard | 1942 January 25 |
| b. 18, f. 230 | Yale University Press | [1928?]-1935 |
| b. 18, f. 231 | Unidentified | undated |
| William Rose Benét Correspondence | | |
| b. 18, f. 232 | Alfred A. Knopf, Inc. | 1931 |
| b. 18, f. 233 | Bacon, Leonard | 1913 December 2 |
| b. 25, f. 342 | Benét, Frances Rose | 1909 September 10 |
| b. 18, f. 234 | Cady, Harrison | 1943-1950, undated |
| b. 21 (Oversize), f. 280 | Clipping removed from Cady, Harrison | 1950 April 23 |
| b. 18, f. 235 | Cushing, John P. | 1922 December 24 |
| b. 18, f. 236 | Davidman, Joy | 1949 |
| b. 18, f. 237 | Fisher, A. Hugh (Alfred Hugh) Includes photographs | 1912–1926 |
| b. 18, f. 238 | Fletcher, John Gould (photostats) | undated |
| b. 18, f. 239-240 | Ingalls, Jeremy | 1942-1950, undated |
| b. 21 (Oversize), f. 281 | Envelope removed from Ingalls, Jeremy | 1951 January 8 |
| b. 18, f. 241 | Jackson, Stuart W. (Stuart Wells) | 1946 September 8 |
| b. 18, f. 242 | Johnson, Robert Underwood | [1913 May 28] |
| b. 18, f. 243 | Lindsay, Vachel | 1913–1932 |
| b. 18, f. 244 | Loveman, Amy | 1935-1950, undated |

Correspondence > William Rose Benét Correspondence (continued)

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| b. 18, f. 245 | Nettleton, [George Henry] Includes clipping | 1943 April 20 |
| b. 21 (Oversize), f. 282 | Clipping removed from Nettleton, [George Henry] | 1943 March 14 |
| b. 18, f. 246-247 | <i>Saturday Review of Literature</i> | 1946-1948 |
| b. 19, f. 248-249 | <i>Saturday Review of Literature</i> | 1948-1950, undated |
| b. 19, f. 250 | Sinclair, Upton (photocopies) | undated |
| b. 19, f. 251 | Stephens, Pauline Frances | 1934-1937, undated |
| b. 19, f. 252-253 | Taggard, Genevieve (photostats) | undated |
| b. 19, f. 254 | Taylor, Prentiss | 1944 September 12 |
| b. 19, f. 254a | Williams, Esther | 1949-1950 |
| Elinor Wylie Correspondence | | |
| b. 25, f. 343 | MacDonald, Jessica North Autograph letter, signed, from Wylie to North | 1928 April 12 |
| Writings | | |
| Adams, Franklin P. | | |
| b. 25, f. 343a | "Beautiful book on the U.S.A.," review, draft, typescript | circa 1933 November 12 |
| Benét, James Walker | | |
| b. 19, f. 255 | [Autobiography], draft, typescript and autograph manuscript | undated |
| Benét, Rosemary | | |
| b. 25, f. 344 | "The Robin's Christmas," draft, typescript | undated |
| Benét, Stephen Vincent | | |
| b. 19, f. 255a | "Abraham Lincoln," screenplay, typescript mimeograph Written with Gerrut Lloyd | circa 1930 |
| b. 19, f. 256 | "The Captive," story, typescript, corrected, with proofreaders' marks and printer's annotations | undated |
| b. 19, f. 257 | "Five Sketches," galley proof, signed | undated |
| b. 19, f. 258 | " <i>The General's Lady</i> by Esther Forbes," review, typescript carbon, corrected | circa 1939 |
| b. 21 (Oversize), f. 283 | "Good Wine," review of <i>The Wind Bloweth</i> by Donn Byrne, printed version, <i>The Literary Review</i> | 1922 October 28 |

Writings > Benét, Stephen Vincent (continued)

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| b. 21 (Oversize), f. 284 | "The Headless Horseman," musical score, autograph manuscript Written with Douglas Moore | undated |
| b. 25, f. 345 | ["Here, with green trees by my bed..."], poem, draft, typescript, signed | undated |
| b. 21 (Oversize), f. 285 | "Hymn of a Reader to the New York City Librarians," poem, printed version, <i>The Villager</i> | 1952 April 10 |
| b. 25, f. 346 | ["Ladies and gentlemen..."], address, draft, typescript, corrected and annotated | [1935 February 12] |
| b. 19, f. 259 | "Listen to the People," printed version | 1941 |
| b. 25, f. 347 | "Resurrection," poem, draft, typescript, signed | undated |
| b. 19, f. 260 | "Songs of Dear Old Yale," poems, typescript carbon, corrected, and autograph manuscript | undated |
| b. 21 (Oversize), f. 286 | Envelope removed from "Songs of Dear Old Yale" | undated |
| b. 19, f. 261 | "Story Idea," draft, typescript | undated |
| b. 19, f. 262 | "We, the members of the Wolf's Head Society..." printed version | [1942] |
| b. 19, f. 263 | Untitled | undated |
| b. 25, f. 348 | Untitled, draft, autograph manuscript | undated |
| Benét, William Rose | | |
| b. 25, f. 349 | "Elinor Wylie," poem, fair copy, autograph manuscript | [circa 1928?] |
| b. 25, f. 350 | "The Golden day," poem, autograph manuscript Includes drawing | undated |
| b. 25, f. 351 | "The Literary spotlight," draft, typescript | circa 1923 October |
| b. 19, f. 264 | "My Brother Steve," essay, printed version | 1943 |
| b. 25, f. 352 | "Office building macabresque," poem, printed version and typescript, corrected | undated |
| b. 25, f. 353 | "A Word of introduction," draft, typescript carbon, corrected | 1944 November |
| Bennett, Ethel Harper | | |
| b. 19, f. 265 | "Epic Qualities," thesis, typescript carbon | undated |
| Hackett, Helen | | |
| b. 19, f. 266 | "It Happened at the Brick Row," essay, typescript, corrected | undated |
| Rukeyser, Muriel | | |
| b. 20, f. 267 | "Theory of Flight," setting copy, corrected, with printer's annotations | circa 1935 |
| Wylie, Elinor | | |

Writings > Wylie, Elinor (continued)

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| b. 25, f. 354 | Poems, drafts | undated |
| b. 25, f. 355 | "With a bare bodkin," poem, drafts, typescript Accompanied by typescript letter, signed, from William Rose Benét, dated May 25, 1931, to Russel Crouse, and "Memorandum" by Crouse dated March 2, 1950 | [1928] |
| | Other Material | undated |
| b. 20, f. 268 | Clippings | 1941, undated |
| b. 21 (Oversize), f. 287 | Clipping | 1977 April 23 |
| b. 20, f. 269 | Drawing by William Rose Benét | 1938 |
| b. 25, f. 356 | Drawings by Elinor Wylie | undated |
| b. 20, f. 270 | "Fourth Floor Funnygraph," typescript and typescript carbon | 1915–1916 |
| b. 25, f. 357 | "Pedigree of Laura Walker Benét" | undated |
| b. 25, f. 358 | Photographs of Elinor Wylie | undated |
| b. 20, f. 271 | Printed material | 1933-1953, undated |
| b. 20, f. 272 | Publicity | 1968, 1979 |
| b. 25, f. 359 | School exam books in the hand of Stephen Vincent Benét | undated |

Series X: John Franklin Carter Gifts, circa 1917-1943*0.21 linear feet (1 box)*

| Writings of Stephen Vincent Benét | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|-------------|
| b. 23, f. 290 | "Chemistry," poem, draft, typescript | undated |
| b. 23, f. 291 | "Geology," poem, draft, typescript | undated |
| b. 23, f. 292 | "Hofbrau sonnet," poem, printed version, [<i>The Yale record?</i>] | undated |
| b. 23, f. 293 | "Latin and Greek," poem, draft, typescript | undated |
| b. 23, f. 294 | "The Lotus eaters," poem, printed version, <i>The Yale record</i> | undated |
| b. 23, f. 295 | "Ode to Dwight Hall," poem, printed version, <i>The Yale record</i> | undated |
| b. 23, f. 296 | "Sheff monthly," poem, draft, typescript | undated |
| b. 23, f. 297 | "Song at which all good news editors shudder," draft, typescript | undated |
| b. 23, f. 298 | "The Uncollegiate damned," poem, draft, typescript | undated |
| b. 23, f. 299 | "The Vorpall blades," poem, draft, typescript | undated |
| Writings of John Franklin Carter | | |
| b. 23, f. 300 | "Apology for anonymity," poem, draft, autograph manuscript, corrected | undated |
| b. 23, f. 301 | "The Big men," poem, draft, autograph manuscript, corrected | undated |
| b. 23, f. 302 | "Chi delta theta," poem, draft, autograph manuscript, corrected | undated |
| b. 23, f. 303 | "The Darling of the news," poem, draft, autograph manuscript | undated |
| b. 23, f. 304 | "The Elizabethan Club," poem, draft, autograph manuscript, corrected and annotated by Stephen Vincent Benét | undated |
| b. 23, f. 305 | "English," poem, draft, autograph manuscript | undated |
| b. 23, f. 306 | "Epithalamion for Steve and Rosemary," draft, typescript carbon | circa 1920s |
| b. 23, f. 307 | "The Fine arts," poem, draft, autograph manuscript | undated |
| b. 23, f. 308 | "A Fine candidate for Sigma beta," poem, draft, autograph manuscript, corrected | undated |
| b. 23, f. 309 | "History," poem, draft, autograph manuscript, corrected | undated |
| b. 23, f. 310 | "Modern languages," poem, draft, autograph manuscript | circa 1917 |
| b. 23, f. 311 | "Mory's," poem, draft, autograph manuscript, corrected | undated |
| b. 23, f. 312 | "The 'News' Committee ode," poem, printed version, [<i>The Yale record?</i>] | circa 1919 |
| b. 23, f. 313 | "The Owlet," poem, draft, autograph manuscript, corrected | undated |
| b. 23, f. 314 | "Physics," poem, draft, autograph manuscript, corrected | undated |
| b. 23, f. 315 | "Psychology," poem, draft, autograph manuscript | |

Writings of John Franklin Carter (continued)

| | | |
|--|---|-----------------|
| b. 23, f. 316 | "The Pushed," poem, draft, autograph manuscript, corrected | undated |
| b. 23, f. 317 | "Wild geese that stormed the gale," essay, draft, typescript carbon, corrected | circa 1941-1943 |
| b. 23, f. 318 | "You're a drunk!" poem, draft, autograph manuscript, corrected | undated |
| Writings of Stephen Vincent Benét and John Franklin Carter | | |
| b. 23, f. 319 | "Byers," poem, draft, autograph manuscript | undated |
| b. 23, f. 320 | "The Courant," poem, draft, autograph manuscript, corrected | undated |
| b. 23, f. 321 | "Good-bye summer," poem, draft, typescript, corrected and annotated | undated |
| b. 23, f. 322 | "The Grand old battle hymn of the Sigma beta," poem, draft, typescript, corrected and annotated | undated |
| b. 23, f. 323 | "The Men who dare," draft, autograph manuscript, corrected | undated |
| b. 23, f. 324 | "Oh! Have you a friend on the News?" poem, draft, typescript, corrected | undated |
| b. 23, f. 325 | "The Painful episode of corporal evarts and the commandant," poem, draft, typescript | undated |
| b. 23, f. 326 | "Recessional 1919," poem, draft, typescript, corrected | undated |
| b. 23, f. 327 | "Songs of dear old Yale," table of contents, drafts, autograph manuscript | 1917-1918 |
| b. 23, f. 328 | "The Tapiad," poem, draft, autograph manuscript | undated |

Series XI: Seven Gables Bookshop Gift, 1866–1912*0.21 linear feet (1 box)*

Series XI. contains material relating to several members of the Benét and Rose families, including S. V. (Stephen Vincent) Benét (1827-1895) and his wife Frances (Rose) Benét, James Walker Benét (1857-1928), Laura Benét (1884-1979), Teresa Frances Benét, and Elizabeth Neill Rose. Materials include correspondence, printed ephemera, and school papers and records.

Gift of Seven Gables Bookshop, 1961.

Arranged alphabetically by name.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| Benét, Frances Rose | | |
| b. 24, f. 329 | School papers | 1876-1878, undated |
| Benét, James Walker | | |
| b. 24, f. 330 | School records | 1866–1873 |
| Benét, Laura | | |
| b. 24, f. 331 | Correspondence | 1903–1909 |
| b. 24, f. 332 | Notes | undated |
| b. 24, f. 333 | Notes from "Miss B's schoolmates" | undated |
| b. 24, f. 334 | Physical measurements | 1898–1899 |
| b. 24, f. 335 | Printed ephemera | 1895-1906, undated |
| b. 24, f. 336 | School records | 1894–1899 |
| b. 24, f. 337 | [Signature?] | undated |
| Benét, S. V. (Stephen Vincent) | | |
| b. 24, f. 338 | Autograph letter, signed, from [Jane Crawford?] | 1866 October 6 |
| Benét, Teresa Frances | | |
| b. 24, f. 339 | Autograph letter, signed, to an unidentified recipient | 1912 January 6 |
| Rose, Elizabeth Neill | | |
| b. 24, f. 340 | Autograph letter, signed, to [?] J. W. Benét | 1907 June 29 |

Restricted Fragile Papers

0.21 linear feet (1 box)

Box 22: Restricted fragile material. Reference surrogates have been substituted in the main files. For further information consult the appropriate curator.

| | |
|---------------|------------------|
| b. 22, f. 288 | Box 2, folder 19 |
| b. 22, f. 289 | Box 2, folder 22 |

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

American literature -- 20th Century
Authors, American -- 20th Century -- Archives
Authors and publishers -- United States
Editors -- United States -- 20th Century -- Archives
Poets, American -- 20th Century -- Archives
Publishers and publishing

Genres / Formats

Photographic prints

Occupations

Authors -- United States -- 20th Century
Poets -- United States -- 20th Century

Names

Badger, Shreve Cowles, 1897-1958
Benét, James, 1914-
Benét, Laura
Benét, Rosemary, 1900-1962
Benét, S. V. (Stephen Vincent), 1827-1895
Benét, Stephen Vincent, 1898-1943
Benét, William Rose, 1886-1950
Farrar, John Chipman, 1896-1974
Ingalls, Jeremy, 1911-2000
Lalone, Emerson Hugh
Nelson, Starr
Wylie, Elinor, 1885-1928

Families

Benét Family

Corporate Bodies

Brandt & Brandt
Doubleday, Doran & Company
Farrar & Rinehart
Yale University. Alumni