

Guide to the Walter Prichard Eaton Papers

MS 190



compiled by Staff of Manuscripts and Archives

October 1984

Yale University Library
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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Manuscripts and Archives
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CALL NUMBER: MS 190

CREATOR: Eaton, Walter Prichard, 1878-1957

TITLE: Walter Prichard Eaton papers

DATES: 1894-1948

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 3.25 linear feet (7 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The papers consist largely of short stories, reviews, criticism, notes, and a small quantity of correspondence.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0190>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0190>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html. The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

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

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of F. C. Canfield, 1959; and transferred from the Frank McMullan Papers, 1988.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Copyright status for collection materials is unknown. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owners. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.

Preferred Citation

Walter Prichard Eaton Papers (MS 190). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

Biographical / Historical

Walter P. Eaton: worked in the drama department, New York Tribune, 1902-1907; drama critic, New York Sun, 1907-1908; drama critic, American Magazine, 1909-1918; professor of playwriting, Yale University, 1933-1947; free-lance drama and theater critic; author.

Scope and Contents

The papers consist largely of short stories, reviews, criticism, notes, and a small quantity of correspondence.

Arrangement

Collection is arranged by accession.

Collection Contents

Inventory, 1912-1948

2.25 linear feet (6 boxes)

Letters

b. 1	5 letters from WPE to Marshall Buick
b. 1	A.W.Barmby to WPE, Apr 14,1922
b. 1	M.M.Meloney to A.W.Barmby, Apr 12,1922 (concerns WPE)
b. 1	H.E.Stevens to WPE, Apr 11,1922
b. 1	F.M.Holly to WPE. Sept 14,1914
b. 1	Ellery Sedgwick to WPE, Dec 18,1912
b. 1	Ted Weeks to WPE, Jun 26,1948
b. 1	Lara Owen to WPE, Feb 15,?
b. 1	T.K. Stewart to WPE, May 6, 7, 1927
b. 1	R.B. Carter to WPE, Aug 25, 1964
b. 1	unidentified to WPE, Jul 13, 1944

Reviews by WPE

b. 1	<i>The Confessions of a Dealer</i> by Thomas Rohen
b. 1	<i>The Decline of Cussing</i> by H.L.Mencken - an article on American profanity in <i>American Speech</i> <i>Autobiography</i> by James Hackett
b. 1	<i>The Old World House; Its Furniture and Decoration</i> by Herbert Cescinsky
b. 1	<i>The Dreamer Delivered-Epoch, the Life of Steele MacKaye</i> by Percy MacKaye
b. 1	<i>Annals of the New York Stage</i> by George C.D. Odell English
b. 1	<i>The Modern Ibsen - an Interpretation</i> by Herman Weigand
b. 1	<i>Vocabularios Causiere: But - is it Art?</i> by Percy Hammond
b. 1	<i>The Quest of the Antique</i> by Mrs. Willoughy Hodgson
b. 1	<i>The Ladies' Home Journal One Act Plays</i>
b. 1	<i>George Henry Becker</i> by E.S.Bradley English
b. 1	<i>Restoration Drama - 1926 Model</i> by John Upton
b. 1	<i>One Act Plays for Young Folks</i> edited by M.A.Jagendorf Criticism English

Criticism

b. 1	The Amateur-Revolt in Our Theater
b. 1	What is a Moral Play?
b. 1	New Poetry and the Lingering Line
b. 1	Essays of Our Own Elia -- On Modern Dance Music
b. 1	The Boy and the Book (3 copies: 2 complete, 1 incomplete)
b. 1	Critics
b. 1	Notes for a Ph.D. Thesis
b. 1	Books for Boys
b. 1	paper on American newspapers
b. 1	paper on the problem of the Christian Church in modern society Fata Morgana -- critical questions and comments asked Lines in the Cambridge Revised Bible

Papers about individuals

b. 1	Agnes Booth
b. 1	Frederick Bartlett Conway
b. 1	James Henry Hackett
b. 1	James Keteltas Hackett
b. 1	James A. Hearne
b. 1	Francesca Romania Magdalena Jaranshek
b. 1	Thomas Wallace] Keene
b. 1	Francis Ann Kemble (Mrs. Pierce Butler)
b. 1	Henry Thoreau
b. 1	Artemus Ward
b. 1	Percival Wilde

Miscellaneous

b. 1	The English Drama on the Stage, Preface
b. 1	2 "Forewords" (both are different)
b. 1	1 pocket notebook
b. 1	Notes for address or lecture (5 diff. subjects)
b. 1	2 papers from students with WPE's comments

Miscellaneous (continued)

b. 1	Development of an Aspect of Unitary Christianity - presented to WPE with the compliments of the author, Nelson J. Springer
b. 1	Paper on Richard Mansfield, Jr., and other actors
b. 1	Three photographs of WPE
b. 1	Certificate: "The First Chevrolet Television Award"
b. 2	<i>The Useless Memories of Prentice Piper</i> (592 pages complete)
b. 2	<i>Sky Line Camps</i> (113 pages, complete)
b. 2	<i>A Road Away From Rome: Why I Live in the Country</i>
b. 3	<i>Hawkeye's Roommate - A Story of Hampshire School</i>
b. 3	<i>Lord of the Wilderness</i>
b. 3	<i>Lake Chilan</i> (incomplete: pps 114-393 present) English
Short Stories	
b. 3	To Whom Does the Future Belong
b. 3	The Twilight of the White Pines
b. 3	The Clouds on Cannon (15 pps typed)
b. 3	On Groaning at Puns
b. 3	The Haunt of the Golden Hemlock
b. 3	Putterin' 'Round the Garden
b. 3	The Garden I Dream of
b. 3	The Bird House Stories - The Chickadee
b. 3	Junk, Deluxe
b. 3	\$10 a Hole for the Heathen
Short Stories	
b. 4	A Critic's Memories
b. 4	What College Did to Me
b. 4	The Pampered Fledgling
b. 4	Winter Bon Fire
b. 4	"The Better Things of Life" English
b. 4	English as She Wasn't Taught
b. 4	The Boy Grows Up

Short Stories (continued)

b. 4	The Ideal Golf Course
b. 4	Musings at Myopia
b. 4	Iron Deer
b. 4	A Procrastinated Christmas
b. 4	Tell Me Next Wednesday
b. 4	Two in the Town
b. 4	First Nights
b. 4	The Rights of Small Notions - A Peep from the Average Man
b. 4	On Changing Human Nature
b. 4	The Pleasing Land of Drowsy-head
b. 4	White Christmas
b. 4	Andover Sesquicentennial - May 1928 (an address or poem)
b. 4	Woman's Place is the Home Green
b. 4	If Motor Cars Could Talk
b. 4	The Man etc.
b. 4	The Puppy Rug (24 pps typed)
b. 4	The Drone that Played Gadfly
b. 4	Little Old Eliza
b. 4	The Little God in the Square (16 pps typed)
b. 4	Concentrate-and Be a Crab
b. 4	The Educated Man and the Practical Theater (Yale Phi Beta Kappa - Dec 15,1911)
b. 4	He Understood Women
b. 4	Little Old Blam (2 copies; one typed, the other handwritten)
b. 4	A Dabble in Iniquity
b. 4	Main 12 - Ring 3
b. 4	A Return Engagement
b. 4	The Auction Hounds
b. 4	The Bauble -- An Academic Drama
b. 4	Holding Up the Mirror to Art
b. 4	The Antique Rug

Short Stories (continued)

b. 4	Creative Youth
b. 4	The Man Broadway Forgot (16 pps)
b. 4	The Meadow Larks
b. 4	The Song of the Sirens
b. 4	A Downcast Uplifter
Short Stories	
b. 5	Imaginary Conversations-Shakespeare and J.M.Barrie
b. 5	That Smoky Fireplace
b. 5	Come into the Kitchen
b. 5	Pity the Middle- Aged
b. 5	The Whip-poor-will
b. 5	52 Weeks a Year
b. 5	On Being Cheerful Before Breakfast
b. 5	Wild Strawberries
b. 5	"Thou Waitest Late and Com'st Alone" English
b. 5	"On Going to Some Other Place" English
b. 5	Boughs in the Snow
b. 5	Spring Jewells [sic]
b. 5	Lament for Susie (Susie is a stove)
b. 5	Shaving Mugs
b. 5	Ain't Science Wonderful
b. 5	Caves
b. 5	A Dangling Shovel
b. 5	Don't Go Home
b. 5	Happiness in Creases
b. 5	Rhubarb and Cream
b. 5	The Forgotten Boy
b. 5	Deer Week
b. 5	Scenery vs. Sound

Short Stories (continued)

b. 5	Hot Caps
b. 5	Chucks
b. 5	The Pittsfield Panther
b. 5	Lights in the Larkspur
b. 5	Sanctuary
b. 5	Under the Greenwood Tree
b. 5	Friendly with the Sky
b. 5	Chrystal Cloud
The Duck Series	
b. 5	<i>Dodo Duck's Tea Party</i>
b. 5	<i>Adventures of the Duck Family - How the Little Duck Lost His Squeak</i> (25 pps; also 28 p. variant: plus one page fragment of another copy) English
b. 5	Roffles-Penrod letter/ Penrod seems to be the little duck mentioned in the "squeak" story. Roffles is an enigma.
Plays	
b. 5	<i>Grandma - Old Style</i>
b. 5	<i>One of our Old Families</i> (notes on the play only; no dialogue) English
b. 5	<i>Real Realism</i> (a three page short to illustrate the "raw slice of life")
b. 5	Act I, Act II (two untitled acts belonging to the same play, but apparently not to <i>One of our Old Families</i>)
b. 5	Eighty-four untitled manuscripts
b. 5	Six incomplete manuscripts
b. 6	Twenty-six incomplete manuscripts

Accession 1988-M-067: Additional Material, (1894-1947)*0.5 linear feet (1 box)*

Addition inventory by Susan Brady 1988 February

Transferred from the Frank McMullan Papers, 1988, Feb 11

This material has been described according to a list found with the material. The list (in folder 1) may have been created by Eaton, Eaton's wife, or Frank McMullan. Some untitled articles and lectures were assigned titles by the creator of the list; they are identified in the following listing by an asterisk (*).

b. 1, f. 1	List of Walter P. Eaton Papers	undated
	Lectures	
b. 1, f. 1	"Man's Need of Drama" English	undated
b. 1, f. 1	"Theater as a Business"* English	1947
b. 1, f. 1	"Value of Theater from an Ethical Point of View"* English	undated
b. 1, f. 1	"Acting" English	undated
b. 1, f. 1	"American Drama" English	undated
b. 1, f. 1	"Shakespeare in Schools"* English	1941
b. 1, f. 1	"Radio Interview"* English	undated
b. 1, f. 1	"The Drama as Life's Looking Glass" English	undated
b. 1, f. 1	"The Nature and Changing Forms of Drama" English	undated
b. 1, f. 1	"The Bondage of the Box Office"* English	undated
b. 1, f. 1	"The American Drama-an Infant Industry" English	undated
b. 1, f. 1	"On Going to the Theater" English	1906
b. 1, f. 2	"Finding the Author through Criticism"* English	undated
b. 1, f. 2	"Lecture on Realism" (I)* English	undated
b. 1, f. 2	"Lecture on Realism" (II)* English	undated

Lectures (continued)

b. 1, f. 2	"Lecture on Realism" (III)* English	undated
b. 1, f. 2	"Where is American Drama Going?" English	undated
b. 1, f. 2	"Our Changing Drama" English	undated
b. 1, f. 2	"Mechanical Substitutes for Literature in the Theater"* English	undated
b. 1, f. 2	"Who Are the Puritans?" English	undated
Notebooks		
b. 1, f. 2	Drama 9	undated
b. 1, f. 2	"What Do We Know about Acting?" English	undated
b. 1, f. 3	Magazine Clippings	
b. 1, f. 3	"Some Ideas on Stage Decoration" by Ellen Terry English	undated
b. 1, f. 3	"The Marvel of Mary Anderson" by T. Edgar Pemberton English	undated
b. 1, f. 3	"The Mission Play of California" by Henry Van Dyke English	undated
b. 1, f. 3	"Some Pupils of Liszt" by Albert Morris Bagby English	undated
b. 1, f. 3	"Madame Modjeska" by J. Ranken Bagby English	undated
b. 1, f. 3	"The History and Progress of the Ballet" by Rosita Mauri English	undated
b. 1, f. 3	"A Four-hundred-Year Old Cottage in Kent, Where Ellen Terry Lives in the Summertime" English	undated
b. 1, f. 3	"Vision the Source of Achievement" by Mary Fanton Roberts English	undated
b. 1, f. 3	"Leaves from the Autobiography of Salvini" English	undated
b. 1, f. 3	"Pictorial Successes of Mr. Irving's 'Faust'" by Joseph and Elizabeth Pennell English	undated
b. 1, f. 3	"The Acting in Mr. Irving's 'Faust'" English	undated

Magazine Clippings (continued)

b. 1, f. 3	"The Chinese Theater" by Henry Burden McDowell English	undated
b. 1, f. 3	"The Real Edwin Booth-His Letters" English	1894

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

Educators
Literature -- History and criticism
Theater

Occupations

Authors

Names

Eaton, Walter Prichard, 1878-1957

Corporate Bodies

Yale University. Department of Drama
Yale University -- Faculty