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Guide to the W.E.B. DuBois Collection

JWJ MSS 8



by Beinecke Staff

August 1996

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Collection Overview

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CALL NUMBER: JWJ MSS 8

CREATOR: Du Bois, W. E. B. (William Edward Burghardt), 1868-1963

TITLE: W. E. B. Du Bois Collection

DATES: 1889-1970

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 2 linear feet (5 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The W. E. B. Du Bois Collection contains Correspondence, Writings, including drafts of *Dusk of Dawn*, and *The World and Africa*, and Subject Files.

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

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.dubois>.

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

The W. E. B. DuBois Collection contains items presented to the James Weldon Johnson Collection by Mr. DuBois, by way of Carl Van Vechten, with additional items from other persons.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The W. E. B. Dubois 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

W. E. B. Dubois Collection. Yale Collection of American Literature. Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Processing Information

This finding aid was produced from a previously existing manuscripts inventory. All pertinent information has been retained. Former call number: JWJ MSS Small Collections.

W. E. B. DUBOIS (1868-1963)

W. E. B. Dubois secured his position as one of the key voices in the argument over the role of the black man in modern America through his seemingly endless works of social activism. He was an educator (at Fisk University and Atlanta University), a founder of the Niagara Movement (which later merged into the NAACP), the long-time editor of the NAACP publication, *The Crisis*, a lecturer, political activist, and prolific writer. His works include: *The Souls of Black Folk*, *Dusk of Dawn*, and an *Autobiography* (published posthumously).

Scope and Contents

This collection contains materials pertaining to W. E. B. Dubois.

Collection Contents

Series I: Correspondence, 1931

| | | |
|----------------|--|----------|
| b. 1, f. 1 | Bosley, Roberta To: 1 / From: 0 | 1931 |
| b. 1, f. 2 | Cook, Mercer To: 1 / From: 0 | 1946 |
| b. 1, f. 3 | Cullen, Countee To: 1 / From: 1 Includes letter from CC to Irene Diggs | 1940 |
| b. 1, f. 4 | <i>Chicago Defender</i> To: 1 / From: 1 | 1940 |
| b. 1, f. 5 | Gannett, Lewis To: 1 / From: 0 | 1933 |
| b. 1, f. 6 | Harcourt, Brace and Co. Inc. To: 1 / From: 0 | 1940 |
| b. 1, f. 7 | Johnson, James Weldon To: 5 / From: 0 | 1931-38 |
| b. 1, f. 8 | LaFarge, Oliver To: 4 / From: 0 | 1933 |
| b. 1, f. 9 | <i>New York Herald Tribune</i> To the editor To: 0 / From: 1 | n.d. |
| b. 1, f. 10 | [Nussbaum?], Anna To: 1 / From: 0 | 1930 |
| b. 1, f. 11 | Padmore, George To: 1 / From: 1 | 1946 |
| b. 1, f. 12-13 | Partington, Paul To: 0 / from: 10 Includes letters about DuBois research and photocopied issues of <i>The Moon</i> | 1961-70 |
| b. 1, f. 14 | Viking Press To: 0 / From: 2 | 1946 Jun |
| b. 1, f. 15 | Work, Monroe N. To: 1 / From: 0 | 1932 Jan |

Series II: Writings

| | | |
|----------------|---|-------------|
| | "The Black Belt of Arkansas" | |
| b. 1, f. 16 | Article, typescript carbon, 7 p. | n.d. |
| | "Colonies and Moral Responsibility", | |
| b. 1, f. 17 | Article, typescript carbon, 16 p. Abstracted from [<i>The World and Africa</i>] | ca. 1948 |
| | <i>Darkwater</i> | |
| b. 1, f. 18-19 | Draft, typescript, corrected | 1918 |
| b. 1, f. 20 | Printed poem "Easter Emancipation, 1863-1913" with holograph revisions, [became "Children of the Moon," pages 151-153 in previous draft] | n.d. |
| b. 1, f. 21-22 | Draft revisions, typescript carbon, corrected, incomplete | n.d. |
| b. 1, f. 23 | Draft, printed copy with holograph additions: chapter I, "The Shadow of Years" | 1919 |
| | <i>Dusk of Dawn</i> | |
| b. 1, f. 24-26 | Early draft, typescript, corrected | n.d. |
| b. 1, f. 27-28 | Later draft, typescript, corrected, incomplete | n.d. |
| b. 1, f. 29-30 | Later draft, typescript carbon | n.d. |
| b. 1, f. 31 | Miscellaneous pages | n.d. |
| b. 1, f. 32 | Review | 1940 Sep 7 |
| | "Ethiopia" | |
| b. 1, f. 33 | Article, typescript carbon, corrected | n.d. |
| | <i>The Gift of Black Folk</i> | |
| b. 2, f. 34-38 | Draft, typescript, corrected | n.d. |
| b. 2, f. 39 | Miscellaneous notes and pages | n.d. |
| | "Joseph Pulitzer" | |
| b. 2, f. 40 | Poem, typescript | 1911 Oct 30 |
| | "Litany at Atlanta" | |
| b. 2, f. 41 | Draft, typescript carbon, corrected | n.d. |
| | <i>The Negro</i> | |
| b. 2, f. 42 | Early draft pages with notes | n.d. |
| b. 2, f. 43-51 | Draft chapters, typescript and carbon, corrected | 1914-15 |

The Negro (continued)

| | | |
|-------------|---|----------|
| b. 2, f. 52 | "Suggestions for Further Reading," typescript carbon | |
| b. 2, f. 53 | Miscellaneous draft pages, typescript and holograph | n.d. |
| | "The Prayers of God" | |
| b. 2, f. 54 | Poem, typescript, corrected | n.d. |
| | "The New Negro Church" | |
| b. 2, f. 55 | Article, typescript carbon | n.d. |
| | "A Pageant in Seven Decades" | |
| b. 2, f. 56 | Printed version | 1938 |
| | "The Renaissance of Ethics" | |
| b. 3, f. 57 | "a critical comparison of Scholastic and Modern Ethics" Thesis in Philosophy IV, holograph, 52 p., with notes and comments by William James | 1889 |
| | "Sacco and Vanzetti" | |
| b. 3, f. 58 | Outline and synopsis of play, holograph and typescript | n.d. |
| | <i>The Souls of Black Folk</i> | |
| b. 3, f. 59 | Fragment, numbered 307-310 (conclusion), holograph, corrected | ca. 1903 |
| | "The Superior Race" | |
| b. 3, f. 60 | Article, typescript carbon and proofs | n.d. |
| | "A Woman in Black" | |
| b. 3, f. 61 | Poem, typescript, corrected | n.d. |
| | <i>The World and Africa</i> | |
| b. 3, f. 62 | List of portraits proposed for book | n.d. |
| b. 3, f. 63 | Circular letter enlisting aid of scholars | n.d. |
| b. 3, f. 64 | "A Book Note," drafts, typescript and carbon, corrected | n.d. |
| b. 3, f. 65 | Table of contents, drafts, holograph, typescript and carbon, corrected | n.d. |
| b. 3, f. 66 | Postscript, draft, typescript carbon | n.d. |
| b. 3, f. 67 | Outline of chapters I & II | |
| | Book drafts | |
| b. 3, f. 68 | Typescript, corrected Includes: chapter IV, "Africa Rises from the Sea" chapter V, "The Peopling of Africa" chapter VI, "Egypt" chapter VI, "The Land of the Burnt Faces" chapter VII, "The Land of the Burnt Faces" chapter VIII, "Europe in Africa" chapter IX, "Atlantis" | n.d. |

The World and Africa > Book drafts (continued)

| | | |
|----------------|---|------|
| b. 3, f. 69 | Typescript, corrected Includes: Foreword, Table of contents chapter I, "The Collapse of Europe" chapter II, "The White Masters of the World" "A History of the Gold Coast and Ashanti" | 1946 |
| b. 3, f. 70 | Typescript carbon Includes: Forward chapter I, "The Collapse of Europe" chapter II, "The White Masters of the World" chapter III, "The Rape of Ethiopia" "A History of the Gold Coast and Ashanti" | n.d. |
| Chapter drafts | | |
| b. 3, f. 71 | "Africa Rises from the Sea", notes and parts of pages, typescript carbon, corrected | n.d. |
| b. 3, f. 72 | "Andromeda", two versions: typescript, corrected, and carbon | n.d. |
| b. 3, f. 73 | "Asia in Africa", two versions: typescript, corrected and typescript carbon | n.d. |
| b. 3, f. 74 | "Atlantis," two versions: typescript, corrected and typescript carbon | n.d. |
| b. 3, f. 75 | "The Black Sudan", three versions: Two typescripts, corrected and one typescript carbon | n.d. |
| b. 3, f. 76 | "Central Africa and the March of the Bantu," typescript carbon | n.d. |
| b. 3, f. 77 | "The Collapse of Europe," typescript, corrected | n.d. |
| b. 3, f. 78 | "Congo and East Africa," typescript carbon | n.d. |
| b. 3, f. 79 | "Egypt," three versions: one typescript, corrected and two typescript carbons | n.d. |
| b. 3, f. 80 | "Egypt," notes and miscellaneous pages | n.d. |
| b. 4, f. 81 | "Europe in Africa," typescript carbon | n.d. |
| b. 4, f. 82 | "The Flight of the Bantu", two versions: typescript, corrected and typescript carbon | n.d. |
| b. 4, f. 83 | "The Land of Burnt Faces", two versions: typescript carbons and loose pages | n.d. |
| b. 4, f. 84 | "The Outpouring of Asia", two versions: typescript, corrected and typescript carbon | n.d. |
| b. 4, f. 85 | "The Peopling of Africa", four versions: two typescripts, corrected and 2 typescript carbons | n.d. |
| b. 4, f. 86 | "The Peopling of Africa," notes and miscellaneous pages | n.d. |
| b. 4, f. 87-88 | "The Rape of Ethiopia", four versions: two typescripts, corrected and two typescript carbons | n.d. |
| b. 4, f. 89 | "White Masters of the World", two versions: typescript, corrected and typescript carbon | n.d. |
| b. 4, f. 90-97 | Notes and miscellaneous pages | n.d. |

The World and Africa (continued)

b. 5, f. 98-101 [Notes and miscellaneous pages](#)

Untitled works

| | | |
|--------------|---|------|
| b. 5, f. 102 | Fragment of article on Pan-Africanism Typescript carbon | n.d. |
| b. 5, f. 103 | Fragment, article on education, typescript, corrected | n.d. |

Series III: Subject Files, 1916

| | | |
|--------------|---|---------------|
| b. 5, f. 104 | Amenia Conference (1916) Includes: two programs and resolution signed by participants | 1916 |
| b. 5, f. 105 | Amenia Conference (1933) Includes: Memoranda, publicity statements, and findings | 1933 |
| b. 5, f. 106 | DuBois Literary Prize Includes: Publicity statements and letters | 1933 |
| b. 5, f. 107 | Encyclopedia of the Negro Includes: Memorandum, and carbons of letters | n.d. |
| b. 5, f. 108 | "International Integration of Negroid Peoples" by E. H. Steele (Mimeograph with handwritten notes by EHS) | n.d. |
| b. 5, f. 109 | N.A.A.C.P. Includes: copies of memoranda from DuBois | 1931-48, n.d. |
| | United Nations, <i>A Statement on the Denial of Human Rights to minorities in the case of Citizens of Negro Descent in the United States</i> Edited by, with an introduction by WEBD | |
| b. 5, f. 110 | Mimeograph, with revisions | 1947 |
| b. 5, f. 111 | Mimeograph | 1947 |
| b. 5, f. 112 | "A Summary of the Petition to the U.N.," draft, mimeograph, corrected and mimeograph copy | 1947 |
| b. 5, f. 113 | "Statement of Dr. W. E. B. DuBois to the Representatives of the Human Rights Commission," typescript, signed with mimeograph copy, signed, and clipping | 1947 |

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

African American authors -- 20th Century --
Archives
Authors, American -- 20th Century -- Archives

Names

Du Bois, W. E. B. (William Edward Burghardt),
1868-1963