Guide to the
Percy Boynton
Papers 1925-1936
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Descriptive Summary

Identifier  ICU.SPCL.BOYNTON
Title  Boynton, Percy. Papers
Date  1925-1936(inclusive)
Size  .75 linear ft. (2 boxes)
Repository  1100 East 57th Street
           Chicago, Illinois 60637

Information on Use
Access  No restrictions.

Citation  When quoting material from this collection the preferred citation is:

Percy Boynton. Papers, [Box #, Folder #], Special Collections Research Center, University of Chicago Library

Biographical Note

Percy Holmes Boynton was born on October 30, 1875 in Newark New Jersey to George Mills Boynton and Julia Holmes Boynton. Boynton received an A.B. from Amherst University (1897), an A.M. from Harvard University (1898), and a Doctorate in Literature from Amherst (1939).

Boynton was an instructor at Smith Academy in St. Louis from 1898 to 1902. From 1903 to 1912 he was Secretary of Instruction at the Chautauqua Institution in New York State, and became Principal of Summer Schools there until 1916.

Boynton became a Professor of English at the University of Chicago in 1903. He remained there until his retirement in 1941, but taught at the University of Puerto Rico from 1944 to 1945. He received the Chicago Foundation for Literature Award for distinguished service to literature in 1941.

Boynton’s works include Some Contemporary Americans (1924), More Contemporary Americans (1927), The Rediscovery of the American Frontier (1931), Literature and American Life (1936), and America in Contemporary Fiction (1940). Boynton’s professional memberships
included the Modern Language Association and the American Association of University Professors.

Boynton married Lois Damon. She died on July 6, 1939. They had two children, Holmes and Damon. His second wife was Florence Rice.


Scope Note
The Percy H. Boynton Papers consist of correspondence and three scrapbooks.

The correspondence is arranged alphabetically and dates from 1925 to 1936. The scrapbooks contain articles written by Boynton for the Chicago Daily Journal from 1925 to 1929.

Related Resources
The following resources are located in the Special Collections Research Center:

University of Chicago. Dept. of English Language and Literature. Records

Subject Headings
- Boynton, Percy Holmes, 1875-1946.
- University of Chicago -- History
- Scrapbooks

INVENTORY

Box 1
Folder 1
  Correspondence, A
Box 1
Folder 2
  Correspondence, B
Box 1
Folder 3
  Correspondence, Boynton family
Box 1
Folder 4
  Correspondence, C-E
Box 1
Folder 5
  Correspondence, K-L
Box 1
Folder 6
  Correspondence, M-O
Box 1
Folder 7
   Correspondence, Perry Miller
Box 1
Folder 8
   Correspondence, Publishers
Box 1
Folder 9
   Correspondence, "Book Talk," weekly radio program
Box 1
Folder 10
   Correspondence, P-S
Box 1
Folder 11
   Correspondence, T-W
Box 2
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