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Descriptive Summary

Identifier ICU.SPCL.HANSENH
Title Hansen, Harry. Papers
Date 1898-1977
Size 23.75 linear feet (31 boxes)
Repository Special Collections Research Center
University of Chicago Library
1100 East 57th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60637 U.S.A.

Abstract Harry Hansen, writer, literary critic, and editor. The Harry Hansen Papers consist of correspondence, manuscripts by Hansen, reviews and production notes of his books, and an extensive collection of clippings of his book review columns, World War I reporting, and other short writings.

Information on Use

Access
The collection is open for research.

Citation
When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: Hansen, Harry. Papers, [Box #, Folder #], Special Collections Research Center, University of Chicago Library

Biographical Note
Harry Hansen was born in Davenport, Iowa, December 26, 1884. After graduating from high school, he became telegraph editor for the Davenport Republican. While his Papers contain few documents from this period, letters from numerous Davenport correspondents, Hansen’s return for speeches, and occasional writing for the Iowa State Historical Society bulletin show his continuing interest in the city of his birth.

Hansen came to Chicago to study English at the University of Chicago and was awarded his Ph. B. in 1909. He remained at the University until 1911 as alumni secretary and editor of the University Magazine.

In 1911, Hansen became a reporter for the Chicago Daily News, and in 1914 he was sent to Germany to cover World War I. His attendance at the Paris Peace Conference in 1919 led to the first of more than fifteen books, The Adventures of the Fourteen Points.

Scope Note

The Harry Hansen Papers consist of letters to Hansen, manuscripts by him, reviews and production notes of his books, and an extensive collection of clippings of his book review column, “The First Reader,” and other short writings.

Series I contains materials from his foreign correspondence for the Chicago Daily News during World War I, including clippings, correspondence, photographs, and notes.

Series II contains manuscripts and materials relating to his book-length works, including notes, reviews, and some correspondence. This series also includes collected clippings of Hansen’s book review columns for both the Chicago Daily News and Harper’s.

Series III contains additional clippings of book reviews and other articles by Hansen published in a variety of newspapers and periodicals. It also includes writings by others, research and notes on a variety of subjects, and other materials relating to Hansen’s work as editor, reviewer, and author.

Series IV contains memorabilia from Hansen’s years at the University of Chicago; of particular interest are the photographs and printed ephemera stemming from his active participation in the Blackfriars.

Series V contains the bulk of correspondence in the collection as well as biographical materials, including photos, Hansen’s own autobiographical notes, and various publications about Hansen. The correspondence in this series and in Series II includes letters from authors whose work Hansen reviewed, editors, publishers, and other literary colleagues, as well as from readers and fans of Hansen’s journalism and books. Also included with the correspondence in Series V are personal cards and letters and a few invitations, programs, and conference schedules. Photocopies of short letters from Ernest Hemingway, F. Scott Fitzgerald, and Harry Truman are contained in Box 22 of Series V.
Series VI contains oversize material from Series I through V. This includes maps and additional clippings from Hansen’s World War I reporting, numerous book reviews (both regular columns and single reviews), newspaper and magazine articles by Hansen and others, research and clippings on various subjects, promotional materials for Hansen’s work, additional biographical materials, and additional memorabilia from the University of Chicago, including Blackfriars scores.

**Related Resources**

The following related resources are located in the Department of Special Collections:

http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/spcl/select.html

University of Chicago. Blackfriars. Records

University of Chicago. Chicago Alumnae Club. Records

**Subject Headings**

- Hansen, Harry, 1884-
- University of Chicago -- Alumni and alumnæ
- University of Chicago. Blackfriars
- World War, 1914-1918
- Authors
- Editors

**INVENTORY**

**Series I: World War I Reporting**

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Correspondence, clippings, notebooks, photographs, ephemera related to HH’s assignments as a European reporter for the Chicago Daily News, 1914-1919

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Folder 2
Carbon copies of dispatches, correspondence to the Daily News and to publishers regarding a possible book on war experience, 1914-1915

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 Scrapbook filled with correspondence to and from Harry Hansen, 1914-1915

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Nine photographs of soldiers, Rome, 1916

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Notebook from 1919 Peace Conference
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  Scandinavian trip notes, correspondence, clippings and printed ephemera, photographs, passport, 1916
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Reviews of Your Life Lies Before You, 1923-1935, undated

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Folder 5
Correspondence and promotional materials for Your Life Lies Before You 1923-1959

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Folder 6
Midwest Portraits, correspondence and reviews, 1923-1924, 1934-1935, 1973

Box 5
Folder 7
Correspondence and loose clippings from Midwest Portraits scrapbook, 1923-1924

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- Stairways to Stardom, manuscript, undated

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Folder 6
- Stairways to Stardom, manuscript, undated

Box 6
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Box 6
Folder 8
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Box 7
- Scrapbook of First Reader columns, Chicago Daily News, December 12, 1927 to July 31, 1928

Box 7
- Scrapbook of First Reader columns, Chicago Daily News, August 1, 1928 to March 27, 1929

Box 8
- Scrapbook of First Reader columns, Chicago Daily News, November 28, 1929 to February 4, 1930

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**Series V: Correspondence, Personal, and Biographical Materials**

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Box 24
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Box 24
Scrapbook of clippings related to 1919 Paris Peace Conference

Box 24
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Folder 3
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