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Descriptive Summary

Identifier ICU.SPCL.PUBLICRELATIONS

Title University of Chicago. Office of Public Relations. Records

Date 1924-1926

Size 1.5 linear ft. (3 boxes)

Repository Special Collections Research Center
University of Chicago Library
1100 East 57th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60637 U.S.A.

Abstract Contains the correspondence of Henry Justin Smith who, as Assistant to the President, was responsible for publicity and public relations at the University of Chicago, 1924-1926. Also contains some correspondence of Smith’s predecessor, Charles Russell Pierce. Correspondence is primarily with editors of newspapers regarding University activities. Other correspondents include Max Farrand, Frank Lowden, William Mayo, H.L. Mencken, Ezra Pound, Julius Rosenwald, and Carl Sandburg. Also includes texts of radio talks given by faculty.

Information on Use

Access No restrictions.

Citation When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: University of Chicago. Office of Public Relations. Records, [Box #, Folder #], Special Collections Research Center, University of Chicago Library

Historical Note

In September of 1924, Henry Justin Smith was appointed Assistant to the President of the University. He came to the University after some twelve years with the Chicago Daily News, and left again in 1926 to become its Managing Editor. During his time as Assistant to the President, Henry J. Smith was in charge of publicity and public relations for the University. Beginning in the 1920s the University hired public relations officers to disseminate information about University events and programs. Press releases were regularly sent to Chicago newspapers, wire services, and other news offices as appropriate.

Scope Note
Series I: Correspondence, 1924-1925

Some of the papers in this collection predate Smith’s tenure in office. His apparent predecessor, although without his title, was Charles Russell Pierce; many of the letters from early 1924 are Pierce’s. Most of the collection, however, is Smith’s correspondence. It has been left in alphabetical order by individuals or organizations as it was found, with one exception: the correspondence with the various editors of the Chicago newspapers has been pulled together under the names of the newspapers.

The correspondence is primarily with the editors of newspapers and journals about news of activities at the University; frequently Smith acknowledges an article or an editorial, supplies copy for press releases, or imparts general information. In addition he makes arrangements for speakers, for photography, and for occasions like cornerstone layings. His correspondence, as a result, also contains letters to and from many of the faculty members, particularly deans and heads of departments, and the officers of administration. A few persons outside the University who should be mentioned are Thomas B. Costain, Max Farrand (the Commonwealth Fund), Frank Lowden (Governor of Illinois), Dr. William Mayo, H.L. Mencken, Ezra Pound, Dr. Ben L. Reitmen (the Hobo College), Julius Rosenwald, Carl Sandburg, and John N. Wheeler (editor of Liberty). Almost every important faculty member is in the collection.

Series II: Radio lecture series, 1926

Early in 1926 the University launched an extensive program of radio talks given by the faculty. The third and last box of this collection contains the texts of many of these lectures, as well as the press releases that accompanied them. For an overview of the entire radio program the reader is directed to Box 3, Folder 18.

Related Resources

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

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

Office of Public Relations. Press Releases

Subject Headings

- Smith, Henry Justin, b. 1875
- Pierce, Charles Russell
- Mencken, H. L. (Henry Louis), 1880-1956
- Pound, Ezra, 1885-1972
- Rosenwald, Julius, 1862-1932
• Sandburg, Carl, 1878-1967
• Mayo, William James, 1861-1939
• Farrand, Max, 1869-1945
• Lowden, Frank O. (Frank Orren), 1861-1943
• University of Chicago-Public relations
• University of Chicago-History
• University of Chicago-Office of Public Relations

INVENTORY

Series I: Correspondence 1924-1925

Box 1
Folder 1
A

Box 1
Folder 2
Be

Box 1
Folder 3
Bl-By

Box 1
Folder 4
    Burton, Ernest Dewitt

Box 1
Folder 5
Ca

Box 1
Folder 6
Ch-Cr

Box 1
Folder 7
    Chicago Daily News

Box 1
Folder 8
    Chicago Herald-Examiner

Box 1
Folder 9
    Chicago Tribune

Box 1
Folder 10
    Chicago American; Chicago Daily Journal; Chicago Evening Post

Box 1
Folder 11
    Chicago Touring Companies

Box 1
Folder 12
Clippings Bureaus

Box 1
Folder 13
  D
Box 1
Folder 14
  Development, Committee on
Box 1
Folder 15
  E
Box 1
Folder 16
  Fa-Fl
Box 1
Folder 17
  Fairweather, G.E., Assistant Business Manager of the University
Box 1
Folder 18
  Free, E.E., editor of Scientific American and science editor of Forum
Box 1
Folder 19
  Frost, E.B., Director of Yerkes Observatory
Box 1
Folder 20
  G
Box 1
Folder 21
  H
Box 1
Folder 22
  I
Box 1
Folder 23
  K
Box 1
Folder 24
  L
Box 2
Folder 1
  Ma
Box 2
Folder 2
  Mc-Me
Box 2
Folder 3
  Mi
Box 2
Folder 4
  Mo-Moo
Box 2
Folder 5
  Moulds, John F., Committee on Development
Box 2
Folder 6
  Mou-Mu
Box 2
Folder 7
  N
Box 2
Folder 8
  Newsletter, University
Box 2
Folder 9
  O
Box 2
Folder 10
  Pa
Box 2
Folder 11
  Pe-Pu
Box 2
Folder 12
  Pierce, C. Russell (personal)
Box 2
Folder 13
  Q
Box 2
Folder 14
  R
Box 2
Folder 15
  Radio
Box 2
Folder 16
  Sa-Sc
Box 2
Folder 17
  Se-Si
Box 2
Folder 18
  Sm-So
Box 2
Folder 19  
St  
Box 2  
Folder 20  
Su-Sy  
Box 2  
Folder 21  
Science Service  
Box 2  
Folder 22  
Stagg, A.A., Physical Education  
Box 2  
Folder 23  
Swift, Harold, Board of Trustees  
Box 2  
Folder 24  
Ta-Th  
Box 2  
Folder 25  
To-Tu  
Box 2  
Folder 26  
U  
Box 2  
Folder 27  
V  
Box 2  
Folder 28  
Wa-We  
Box 2  
Folder 29  
Wh  
Box 2  
Folder 30  
Wi-Z  
Box 2  
Folder 31  
Miscellaneous  

Series II: Radio Lectures, 1926  
Box 3  
Folder 1  
Abbott-Angarola  
• Abbott, Edith, untitled typescript of radio lecture on facts on the current crime crisis.  
• Angarola, Anthone, "Inspiration of Chicago," typescript.
Box 3
Folder 2
Atkins-Boynton
- Bassoe, Peter, M.D. "Sleeping Sickness," typescript.

Box 3
Folder 3
Bretz-Burgess
- Burgess, E.W., "The Study of the Family."

Box 3
Folder 4
Charter-Cramp
- Clark, [John M.], "Free Exchange and the Interests of Mankind," typescript.

Box 3
Folder 5
Duddy-Fisher
- Falk, I.S., M.D., "Prolonging Life," typescript.
- Fischkin, Rose Mary (Art Institute), "Living Art and the Museum," typescript.

Box 3
Folder 6
Freund-Harvey
- Gooneratne, Chandra (U.C. student from India), "India's Awakening," typescript and press release.

Box 3
Folder 7
Hektoen-Judd
Folder 8
Kuh-Leland

Box 3
Folder 9
Leland-McLaughlin
• Leland, S.V., "Significance of Changes in the 1926 Revenue Act," typescript.

Box 3
Folder 10
Merriam-Morrison

Box 3
Folder 11
Mott-Norton
• Mott, R.L., "Law and Administration," typescript.
• Moulton, Harold G., "The Italian Debt Problem," typescript and holograph.
• Norton, J.F., "Vanishing Diseases," typescript.

Box 3
Folder 12
Noyes-Price

Box 3
Folder 13
Simpson-Smith
• Simpson, [Eyler N.], "Why Study Man as a Social Being?", typescript.
• Smith, Henry J., untitled lecture on the press, typescript.

Box 3
Folder 14
Smith-Thrasher
• Taylor, Archer, "Research in Folk Tales," typescript.
• Thrasher, Frederic, "Gangs and Crime in Chicago," typescript.

Box 3
Folder 15
Thurlstone-Ware

Box 3
Folder 16
Wells-Wright
- Wright, Quincy, "International Relations," typescript.

Box 3
Folder 17
Press releases on various radio lectures without texts of the lectures, January-April 1926.

Box 3
Folder 18
General press releases about the program of radio talks for 1926.

Box 3
Folder 19
Miscellaneous releases about radio programs: Blackfriars, etc.