

Guide to the Arnold Bennett Collection

GEN MSS 323



by Beinecke Staff

July 1996

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
P. O. Box 208330
New Haven, CT 06520-8330
(203) 432-2977
beinecke.library@yale.edu
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

CALL NUMBER: GEN MSS 323

CREATOR: Bennett, Arnold, 1867-1931

TITLE: Arnold Bennett collection

DATES: 1899-1931

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 1.25 linear feet (3 boxes and 1 portfolio)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: Writings and correspondence by Arnold Bennett. Correspondence consists of letters by Bennett to others, including 70 to Frank Vernon, and 5 letters to Bennett from John Van Druten, accompanied by carbon typescript copies of Bennett's replies. The Writings include drafts of novels, essays, reviews, and playscripts by Bennett, production notes for the play "Cupid and Commonsense," and a memorandum of agreement concerning the production of the play "The Love Match."

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

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.bennett>.

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

Ongoing collection of documents acquired by gift and purchase from various sources. Source information is recorded in series level notes. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Restricted Fragile materials may only be consulted with permission of the appropriate curator.
Preservation photocopies for reference use have been substituted in the main files.

Conditions Governing Use

The Arnold Bennett 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

Arnold Bennett Collection. General Collection. Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

Processing Information

This finding aid was produced from previously existing cards in the Manuscripts Catalog. All pertinent bibliographical information has been retained. This finding aid will be updated periodically to account for new materials that may be added to the collection. The date of the most recent update is noted on the title page. For information on material that may have been added since the last update, please consult the Public Service Desk.

Scope and Contents

This finding aid encompasses accessions of single manuscripts and small groups of manuscripts and other papers, by or pertaining to Arnold Bennett, acquired by the library from a variety of sources. Materials incorporated into the collection prior to September 1997 have been organized into five series: [Series I, James M. Osborn Gift](#), [Series II, Lansing V. Hammond Gift](#), [Series III, Philip Neufeld Gift](#), [Series IV, Charles A. Stonehill Gift](#), and [Series V, Additional Materials](#), which consists of materials acquired from various other sources. [Restricted Fragile Papers](#) contains material from Series I.

Collection Contents

Series I: James M. Osborn Gift, 1909-1931

0.8' (2 boxes)

Gift of James M. Osborn, 1951

b. 1, f. 1	TNS and ALS to Virginia Fox-Brooks Vernon, London	1928, 1929
b. 1, f. 2	4 ALS and 1 TLS from John Van Druten, [v.p.] Accompanied by carbon typescript copies of Arnold Bennett's replies, dated March 6, 1929; October 26, 1929; March 31, 1930; April 2, 1930	1929-30
b. 1, f. 3-6	70 ALS, TLS and APS to Frank Vernon, [v.p.] Accompanied by a letter from Bennett's secretary, Winifred Nerney, April 17, 1931. Letter dated Sep 14, 1919 is accompanied by pencil note in Frank Vernon's hand	1909-31
b. 1, f. 7	<i>The Crime: A Play in Four Acts</i> , typescript of the scenario	n.d.
b. 1, f. 8-12	<i>Cupid and Common Sense</i> , production notes of the play, autograph copy Contents: Stage directions, stage settings with sketches, list of properties. Accompanied by a typescript of the title page, synopses of scenes and remarks on the various characters in the play. Note on envelope: "apparently in the hand of Frank Vernon"	n.d.
b. 1, f. 13	<i>Don Juan</i> , typescript copy of a sketch of a play in four acts Accompanied by a rough sketch of the stage setting for one of the acts of <i>Don Juan</i> [?]	n.d.
b. 1, f. 14-20	<i>The Great Adventure: A Play of Fancy in Four Acts</i> , typescript copy with autograph stage directions and corrections Published in N.Y. by George H. Doran [c1913]. Accompanied by a typed copy of the forward	n.d.
b. 2, f. 21	<i>The Love Match: "Memorandum of Agreement Between Arnold Bennett and Frank Vernon,"</i> concerning the production of the play: typescript copy, initialed and signed for Arnold Bennett, by A. N. Tayler	1922 Jan 10
b. 2, f. 22-31	<i>Milestones: A Play in Three Acts</i> , by Arnold Bennett and Edward Knoblauch, typescript copy with autograph stage directions and corrections Accompanied by another typescript copy of <i>Milestones</i> with a few autograph corrections. Accompanied by 2 typescript copies of "Forward to <i>Milestones</i> ," a stage plan of the Royalty Theatre, lists of the cast in Chicago and New York, a list of "Letters filed" and "List of cheques received" with a drawing of stage plan on verso. <i>Milestones</i> was published in London by Methuen & Co., Ltd., 1912	n.d.
b. 2, f. 32-33	<i>Rivals for Rosamund, A Farce in One Act</i> , 2 typescript copies (original and carbon), each with pencilled corrections and additions Includes carbon copy of a pen and ink sketch of the stage setting and an autograph manuscript of "Furniture property and plot"	n.d.

Series II: Lansing V. Hammond Gift, 1929*0.1' (1/4 box)*

Gift of Lansing V. Hammond, 1962

b. 3, f. 34	"Debtors Who Have Short Memories," autograph manuscript essay, signed, London Concerning the state of veterans after World War I	1929 Jan
b. 3, f. 35	"Don't Be Shocked," autograph manuscript essay, signed, London Concerning modern art	1929 Jan 31
b. 3, f. 36	"Questions and Answers About Life," autograph manuscript essay, signed, London	1929 Mar 9
b. 3, f. 37	"This Modern Living," autograph manuscript, signed, London	1929 May 17

Series III: Philip Neufeld Gift, 1916-1929

0.2'(1/2 box)

Gift of Philip Neufeld, 1958-1961

b. 3, f. 38	"Books and Persons," autograph manuscript, London A critical review of Lytton Strachey's <i>Elizabeth and Essex</i>	1929 Mar 19
b. 3, f. 39	"Edwin Alfred Rickards, A Personal Sketch," autograph manuscripts of a personal reminiscence, announcement of a book on Rickards, and a "postscript" Accompanied by typescripts. Published as the introduction to <i>The Art of E. A. Rickards...</i> , London, 1920	n.d.
b. 3, f. 40-50	<i>Lord Raingo</i> , TMS used in setting the American edition Acc #: 621220-b	n.d.
b. 3, f. 51	"Mr. Arnold Bennett was coming out of the New Savoy Theatre...," autograph manuscript, London Imaginary interview written in third person. Accompanied by typescript	1929 Oct 16
b. 3, f. 52	"No Smoke Without Fire," autograph manuscript, London Criticism of British law	1928 Oct 10-11
b. 3, f. 53	"Souvenir Programme" of the 'Grand Special Concert' for the Wounded Allies Relief Committee, autograph manuscript Accompanied by a form letter, in facsimile, advertising the concert	1916 Feb 20

Series IV: Charles A. Stonehill Gift, 1927-1928

0.05' (1/8 box)

Gift of Charles A. Stonehill, 1938

b. 3, f. 54	"Books & Persons," Reviews, in MS, of L. Riding's <i>Contemporaries and snobs</i> and of W. B. Yeats's <i>The Tower</i> , London Mention is also made of A. N. Whitehead's <i>Science and the Modern World</i>	1928
b. 3, f. 55	Two original manuscript reviews, signed, of <i>Life and Letters of Joseph Conrad</i> and <i>Letters from Joseph Conrad</i> Includes manuscript corrections and additions. Edited by G. Jean-Aubry	1927, 1928

Series V: Additional Materials, 1899-1930*0.05' (1/8 box)*

Acquired by gift or purchase from various sources, as indicated on individual folders

b. 3, f. 56	2 ALS to William Morris Colles, Bedfordshire	1901, 1902
b. 3, f. 57	ALS to Mrs. George Day, Hôtel Californie, Cannes	1911 Dec 7
b. 3, f. 58	ALS to "My Dear Hueffer" [Ford Maddox Ford], Seine et Marne, France	1909 May 12
b. 3, f. 59	2 ALS to Cranstoun Metcalfe, London	1899 Jun 2, 1900 Apr 12
b. 3, f. 60	ALS to F. Whelen, Avon, France	1911 Aug 18
b. 3, f. 61	"Books & Persons," autograph manuscript, signed, London Accompanied by a typed transcript. Discusses literary criticism in general and Sinclair Lewis and Harold Bell Wright in particular.	1930 Jul 12
b. 3, f. 61a	"Folk Song Quartet," autograph manuscript notes	n.d.

Restricted Fragile Papers

1 Item (portfolio)

Restricted fragile material. Reference surrogates have been substituted in the main files. For further information consult the appropriate curator.

b. PORT, folder Box 2, folder 22
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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.

Genres / Formats

Playscripts

Preferred Titles

Books and Persons

Don Juan de Marana a Play in Four Acts

Lord Raingo

Names

Bennett, Arnold, 1867-1931

Van Druten, John, 1901-1957

Vernon, Frank, 1876-1940