

# Theodore Dreiser:

## An Inventory of His Collection at the Harry Ransom Center

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### Descriptive Summary

<b>Creator:</b>	Dreiser, Theodore, 1871-1945
<b>Title:</b>	Theodore Dreiser Collection
<b>Dates:</b>	1898-1944, undated
<b>Extent:</b>	2 boxes (.84 linear feet)
<b>Abstract:</b>	Includes manuscripts and letters written by the American novelist Theodore Dreiser. Several works concern World War II, or reflect Dreiser's interest in Russia and socialism. Correspondents in the collection include George Douglas, Helen Patges Dreiser, Alfred Goldsmith, Frank Harris, Sulamith Ish-Kishor, Edward David McDonald, Marguerite Tjader, and others.
<b>Call Number:</b>	Manuscript Collection MS-1215
<b>Language:</b>	English
<b>Access:</b>	Open for research

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### Administrative Information

<b>Processed by:</b>	Joan Sibley and Jamie Hawkins-Kirkham, 2011 <b>Note:</b> This finding aid replicates and replaces information previously available only in a card catalog. Please see the explanatory note at the end of this finding aid for information regarding the arrangement of the manuscripts as well as the abbreviations commonly used in descriptions.
<b>Repository:</b>	<a href="#">Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin</a>

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**Works:**

Answers to questions on Russia, signed typescript, 2 pages, undated.

**Container**  
1.1

Art for the people, carbon typescript, 4 pages, undated. Not described in card catalog.

Broadcast on the American war effort, typescript with handwritten revisions, 3 pages, undated; carbon typescript with handwritten revisions, 3 pages, 18 May 1944. Not described in card catalog.

Broadcast re Germany, typescript with handwritten revisions, 4 pages, 1944. Not described in card catalog.

Flies and locusts, typescript / copy, 8 pages, undated. From the Hanley Collection.

The hidden God, carbon typescript, 1 page, undated. From the Hanley Collection.

Judge Jones, the Harlan miners and myself, typescript / copy, 5 pages, undated. Included with this: memo of questions to be asked Judge Jones, carbon typescript 3 pages. From the Hanley Collection.

Prospectus for company to underwrite an American tour of the Russian Ballet, typescript, 2 pages, 1929. Not described in card catalog.

A secretary for the arts, typescript with handwritten corrections, 2 pages, undated. Not described in card catalog.

Sign in the fog, typescript with handwritten revisions and a handwritten list of possible titles, 17 pages, undated; carbon typescript, 14 pages, undated. Not described in card catalog.

**Container**  
1.2

Tobacco and men (motion picture idea), typed and carbon typescript with handwritten revisions, 23 pages, undated. Not described in card catalog.

**Container**  
1.1

The total stranger:

Handwritten manuscript / notes, 5 pages, undated. Not described in card catalog.

**Container**  
1.1

Typescript / outline, 1 page, 1945. Not described in card catalog.

Carbon typescript / incomplete with handwritten revisions, 9 pages, 1945. Not described in card catalog.

Carbon typescript, 13 pages, 1945. Not described in card catalog.



**Letters:**

TLS to Briggs, Ernest, 3 April 1935.

**Container 1.3**

ALS to Burke, Thomas?, re contributing to The American Spectator, 3 September 1932. Letterhead: The American Spectator.

ALS to Duffy, 25 May 1898.

ANS to Fawcett, 25 June no year.

TLS by "Harriet Bissell" to Forbath, Alex, 15 October 1936. With this: Equation called knowledge, handwritten manuscript by Dreiser, 1 page, undated.

2 ALS to Giffen, R. L., 18 February and 21 February 1915.

12 ALS, 5 TLS to Goldsmith, Alfred F., 1919-1927, undated.

2 ALS to Harris, Frank, 19 June 1918, 3 November 1920.

ALS to Hecht, Ben?, 28 November 1919.

6 ALS, ALI, 13 TLS to Ish-Kishor, Sulamith, 1929-1939, undated. Included with these: 2 TLS secretary Henrietta Helston to Ish-Kishor, 31 October 1934 and 20 February 1935; TLS secretary Evelyn Light to Ish-Kishor, 11 January 1933; ALI / draft Ish-Kishor to Dreiser, undated; suggestions for Moods, Cadenced and Declaimed, carbon typescript by Ish-Kishor, 3 pages, undated; Introduction to 1935 edition of Moods by Ish-Kishor, carbon typescript with handwritten emendations, 4 pages, undated.

**Container  
1.4**

ALS to Janvier, undated. Removed from PS 3507 R55 F73 1918 copy 3.

**Container  
1.3**

2 ALS, TLS to Kraft, H. S., 1929-1932. Enclosed with TLS: Revolt (notes for a film), typescript by Dreiser, 3 pages, undated.

ALS to Lentz, Josephine H., 7 March 1926.

TLS to Lewisohn, Ludwig, 5 July 1933.

4 ALS, 5 TLS, printed invitation to McDonald, Edward David, 1927-1930. 2 TLS signed by Dreiser's secretary. Enclosed with 25 January 1930 TLS: TL / copy Victor La Valle to Dreiser, 21 January 1930.

**Container  
1.5**

TLS to Markham, Anna Catherine re a book column in The Delineator, 16 July 1908.

**Container  
1.3**

TLS / copy to Palmer, Paul, 25 October 1929. Included with this: 2 TLS / copies from Palmer to Dreiser, 14 October and 24 October 1929. Not described in card catalog.

TLS to Roosevelt, Franklin Delano, 16 October 1939.

TLS, 3 ALS, 2 ANS to Skiff, F. W., 1917-1924.

ALS by Sixtus Fifth, pseud. to Starling, George, 17 October 1922.

ALS to Thompson, Basil, 20 November 1920. Letter offers a story for publication in **Container**  
The Double-dealer. Removed from PS 3507 R55 Z5 1922 copy 4. 1.4

ALS to Tittle, Walter, undated. **Container 1.3**

Letters to Tjader, Marguerite, 60 items, 1929-1945, undated:

Undated; 1929-1938. **Container 1.6**

1938-1944. **Container 1.7**

1944-1945. **Container 1.8**

(Above not described in card catalog.)

TLS to Tucker, Marguerite, 17 September 1929. **Container 1.3**

TLS by secretary Helen Richardson to Valentine, John, 28 September 1943.

TLS by secretary Helen Richardson to Wilson, Robert A., 5 December 1942.

ALS to Woolf, Mrs., 29 September 1920.

ALS to Wright, Mr., 22 January 1912.

**Letters I:**

Correspondence with various persons, 1920-1935. Contents include:

Cochrane, R. H. 2 TccL / copies to Dreiser, 12 April and 13 April 1932.

**Container**  
1.9

Dreiser, Theodore, 1871-1945:

TccL to Bailey, Forrest, 15 April 1932.

**Container** 1.9

TccL / copy to Cochrane, R. H., 12 April 1932.

10 ALS, 2 ALI, 17 TLS, AN to Douglas, George, 1920-1935, undated.

**Container**  
1.10

Statement to the John Reed Club, mimeo / copy, 1 page, 18 March 1930.

**Container**  
1.9

TccL to Kaufman, George, 30 April 1931.

What Americans think of the French, carbon typescript, 3 pages, undated.  
Reply to J. G. Fleury letter.

Fleury, J. G. TccL / copy to Dreiser, 17 April 1931.

Hays, Arthur Garfield and Arthur Carter Hume. TccL to Paramount Publix Corporation, 27 June 1931. Attorneys for Dreiser re An American tragedy (film version).

Kearney, Patrick. 2 Tcc / copies of telegrams to Dreiser, 5 April and 14 April 1932.

(Above from the Hanley Collection.)

**Recipient:**

Colony Publishing Company. TLS to Dreiser, 30 August 1929. Not described in card catalog.

**Container**  
2.1

Folsom, F. TccL, telegram to Dreiser, 11 July and 23 August 1938. Not described in card catalog.

McDonald, Edward David. TLS to Dreiser, 22 August 1927. Enclosed with this: bibliography of Dreiser's contributions to periodicals with few handwritten notes by Dreiser.

Reswick, William. Telegram to Dreiser, 8 December 1928. Not described in card catalog.

Roosevelt, Franklin Delano, 1882-1945. TLS to Dreiser, 25 October 1939.

Tjader, Marguerite. TLI, 2 TccLI, TccL to Dreiser, 1938-1945, undated. Not described in card catalog.

**Miscellaneous:**

Adams, J. Donald. TLS re Dreiser to Valentine, John, 23 May 1944.

**Container**  
2.2

Dreiser, Helen Patges:

If I have loved you (poem), carbon typescript, 1 page, undated.

**Container**  
2.2

To a poet (poem), signed carbon typescript, 1 page, undated.

Letters to Tjader, Marguerite, 16 items, 1935-1946, undated. Not described in card catalog.

**Container**  
2.3

Dreiser, Theodore, 1871-1945:

Funeral service for Theodore Dreiser, typescript, 17 pages, undated. Not described in card catalog.

**Container**  
2.2

Memorandum of agreement with Liveright (Horace), Inc. signed carbon typescript document, 12 pages, 1 January 1932.

My city by Theodore Dreiser, handwritten manuscript / page layouts, 4 sheets of hotel stationary, undated. Not described in card catalog.

Duffy, Richard. Prospectus, collected works of Theodore Dreiser, typescript with handwritten revisions, 4 pages, 1 June 1944. Not described in card catalog.

Levitt, Albert, 1877- . Was Clyde Griffiths guilty of murder in the first degree?, mimeograph essay re Dreiser's An American tragedy, 10 November 1926.

Smith, John Adam. In his steps, typescript, 3 pages, undated. From the Hanley Collection.

Tjader, Marguerite:

APCS to unidentified recipient, undated. Not described in card catalog.

**Container**  
2.2

Dreiser's popularity in Russia, or The love of the Russian people for Dreiser, typescript / outline, 1 page, undated; typed and carbon typescript, 39 pages, undated. Not described in card catalog.

Notes related to her association with Theodore Dreiser, handwritten and typed manuscript, 2 leaves, undated. Not described in card catalog.

Notes on remarks by H. S. Kraft, typescript, 1 page, undated; carbon typescript, 3 pages, undated. Not described in card catalog.

Revolt, or Tobacco, handwritten manuscript / notes, 5 pages, undated. Not described in card catalog.

To remember, carbon typescript, 2 pages, undated. Not described in card catalog.

To the dead Theodore, handwritten manuscript, 1 page, 9 February 1946. Not described in card catalog.

TccL / incomplete to unidentified recipient, January 1964. Not described in card catalog.

TLS / draft, 2 TccL to Dreiser, Helen, 1945-1946, undated.

## Explanatory Note Concerning Manuscript Collections Cataloged in the Card Catalog

Prior to 1990 when archival cataloging procedures were adopted at the Ransom Center, all manuscript collections were described in a card catalog.

### Organization of Collections:

- Manuscripts for each author collection were organized into four categories:
- **Works:** manuscripts by the author, arranged alphabetically by title;
- **Letters:** the author's outgoing correspondence, arranged alphabetically by recipient name;
- **Recipient:** the author's incoming correspondence, arranged alphabetically by the author of the letter; and
- **Miscellaneous:** all other manuscripts and correspondence, arranged alphabetically by creator.

Materials that did not fit into these categories, such as art, photographs, books, and near-print materials such as newspaper clippings, were dispersed to other Ransom Center collections for cataloging and storage.

### Abbreviations Used in Descriptions:

The symbols below were used in combinations. For example **ALS** means autograph letter signed; **Tccms** means typed carbon copy manuscript, etc.

- **A** = autograph (i.e., handwritten)
- **T** = typed
- **S** = signed
- **I** = initialed
- **Ms** = manuscript
- **Mss** = manuscripts
- **L** = letter
- **FL** = form letter
- **N** = note
- **D** = document
- **C** = card
- **PC** = post card
- **cc** = carbon copy
- **p** = page
- **pp** = pages
- **l** = leaf
- **ll** = leaves
- **nd** = no date
- **inc d** = incomplete date