

Aldous Huxley:

An Inventory of His Collection in the Manuscript Collection at the Harry Ransom Center

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	Huxley, Aldous, 1894-1963
Title:	Aldous Huxley Collection
Dates:	1915-1973
Extent:	6 boxes (2.52 linear feet)
Abstract:	The Aldous Huxley materials date from 1915 to 1973 and include his manuscripts, proofs, contracts, and correspondence.
Call Number:	Manuscript Collection MS-02103
Language:	English
Access:	Open for research

Administrative Information

Acquisition:	Purchases and gifts, 1964-1989 (R1205, R1364, R2260, R2382, R3324, R3599, R3732, R4228, R4289, R4786, R6625, R6921, R11910)
Processed by:	Katherine Mosley, 2006
Repository:	Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin

Biographical Sketch

Novelist Aldous Huxley was born July 26, 1894, in Godalming, Surrey, England, to Leonard and Julia Huxley. He attended Eton College and hoped to become a doctor until an eye infection left him blind for nearly eighteen months. After his eyesight recovered enough, he went on to study at Balliol College, Oxford, where he received his B.A. in English in 1916. However, his poor eyesight disqualified him from serving in World War I and the medical profession. He worked as a schoolmaster at Eton from 1917 to 1919, but from then on made a career from his writing. Besides novels, essays, and short stories, he also produced poetry, travel writing, and filmscripts.

Huxley married Maria Nys in 1919; they had one son, Matthew, who was born in 1920. Huxley worked as an editor at the *Athenaeum* and as a drama critic for the *Westminster Gazette* from 1919 until 1924. Beginning in 1923, publishing contracts with Chatto & Windus provided him with financial security.

Huxley published three volumes of poetry before publishing his first fiction, *Limbo* (1920), a collection of short stories and one play. His first two novels, *Crome Yellow* (1921) and *Antic Hay* (1923), were social satires, as was *Point Counter Point* (1928), one of his most regarded works. These early novels struck a chord with the post-war generation, and Huxley became a popular literary figure in England. *Brave New World*, a broader satire of values in modern technological society, was published in 1932 and brought him international recognition.

Huxley's later writings, such as *Eyeless in Gaza* (1936), were more mystical and philosophical. After having lived in Italy during much of the 1920s, the Huxleys, along with Gerald Heard, moved to California in 1937. There Huxley became interested in Hindu philosophy, parapsychology, and mind-altering drugs. *The Perennial Philosophy* (1954) discussed the ideas of the world's great mystics. Huxley described his experiences with hallucinogenic drug use in *The Doors of Perception* (1954). In *Literature and Science* (1963), he reflected on the relationship between the two disciplines. His later novels *Ape and Essence* (1948), *The Genius and the Goddess* (1955), and *Island* (1962) were apologues and less successful due to their expository style.

Maria Huxley died of cancer in 1955, and Huxley married Laura Archera in 1956. Aldous Huxley died of cancer in Los Angeles, California, on November 22, 1963.

Scope and Contents

Aldous Huxley materials date from 1915 to 1973 and include his manuscripts, proofs, contracts, and correspondence. The materials are arranged in two series: I. Works and Career-Related, 1929-1938, 1955, 1957, undated; and II. Correspondence, 1915-1973, undated. Series I is divided into two subseries, A. Works, 1929-1936, undated; and B. Career-Related Material, 1931-1938, 1955, undated. This collection was previously

accessible through a card catalog, but has been re-cataloged as part of a retrospective conversion project.

Huxley's works are arranged alphabetically. Notable manuscripts include a bound corrected typescript of *Brave New World*, with handwritten inserts; bound corrected page proofs of *Eyeless in Gaza*, a corrected playscript with handwritten stage directions for *The Genius and the Goddess*, and corrected playscripts of *Now More than Ever* and *The World of Light*. Corrected typescripts, page proofs, and galley proofs of many essays written for *Nash's Pall-Mall Magazine* are also present. Two bound volumes ("Seventeen Essays" and "Sixty-two Short Essays") contain typescripts of essays, many with corrections. Typescripts of various poems are also present. An index of works is located at the end of this inventory.

Career-related materials include publishing contracts from 1931 to 1938 and a 1955 production contract for *The Genius and the Goddess*, as well as a typescript interview with corrections made by Huxley and a handwritten questionnaire of interview questions with Huxley's handwritten responses, both undated.

Correspondence is primarily outgoing; notable letters include those to Jelly d'Arányi, Alannah Harper, literary agents J. B. Pinker and Sons, Naomi Mitchison, and Kethevan Hotinski Roberts. Correspondence relating to the playscript *The Genius and the Goddess* includes letters with Rita Allen, Joseph Anthony, co-author Beth Wendel, and the William Morris Agency, as well as Wendel's correspondence with Rita Allen, Courtney Burr, Frank Hauser, and numerous others about the play and its production. Grover Smith edited a collection of Huxley's letters, *Letters of Aldous Huxley* (1969), and letters to him from various individuals regarding Huxley are also present. A complete list of correspondents may be found in the Index of Correspondents at the end of this inventory.

Related Material

Other manuscripts relating to Aldous Huxley at the Ransom Center may be found in the Sybille Bedford, Judson Crews, Allannah Harper, Mary Hutchinson, Nicolas Nabokov, James B. Pinker, Frederic Prokosch, Nancy Wilson Ross, Leonard Russell, Evelyn Scott, Swami Vidyatmananda, and Mike Wallace papers.

Index Terms

People

Allen, Rita.

Anthony, Joseph, 1912-1993.

Arányi, Jelly d', 1893-1966.

Bedford, Sybille, 1911-2006.

Brook, Clive, 1887-1974.

Carrington, Dora de Houghton, 1893-1932.

De Liagre, Alfred, 1904- .

Harper, Allanah, 1904- .

Heard, Gerald, 1889-1971.

Herlitschka, Herberth E., 1893- .

Isherwood, Christopher, 1904-1986.

Loos, Anita, 1893-1981.

Neveux, Jeanne.

Pearson, Malcolm.

Robinson, G. Sidney.

Sackville-West, Edward, Hon., 1901-1965.

Smith, Grover Cleveland, 1923- .

Wendel, Beth.

Organizations

Fosters' Agency Ltd.

J. B. Pinker and Sons.

William Morris Agency.

Subjects

Authors, English.

Document Types

Contracts.

Series I. Works and Career-Related, 1929-1938, 1955, 1957, undated**Subseries A. Works, 1929-1936, 1957, undated**

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| "Abroad in England," corrected typescript and corrected page proofs for <i>Nash's Magazine</i> , 1931, bound together. With "Sight-seeing in Alien Englands" | Box 1
Folder
1 |
| ["Almeria" (poem)], handwritten manuscript, undated (see also "Pagan Year," folder 4.11) | Folder
2 |
| "The Angry Ape," corrected typescript, page layout, page proof, and galley proof for <i>Nash's Magazine</i> , 1931, all bound together. With unbound duplicate galley proof and page proof | Folder
3 |
| "Beyond the Mexique Bay," bound corrected typescript, [1934] | Folder 4 |
| [Blurb for Karin Leyden paintings], facsimile of handwritten manuscript on printed invitation to Leicester Galleries exhibition, undated | Folder
5 |
| <i>Brave New World</i> | Folder |
| Corrected typescript with handwritten inserts, bound in three volumes, undated | Folder
6 |
| Corrected typescript (continued) | Box 2 Folder 1 |
| Bound corrected proofs, 1932 | Folder 2 |
| "Bullfights," corrected typescript titled "Bullfights and Democracy," page layout, page proof, and galley proof for <i>Nash's Magazine</i> , 1932, all bound together. With unbound duplicate page proof | Folder
3 |
| "Christ and the Present Crisis"--see "If Christ Should Come [Today!]" | Folder |
| "The Cult of the Infantile," corrected typescript and page proof from <i>Nash's Magazine</i> , 1933, bound together. With unbound duplicate page proof | Folder
4 |
| "The Cunning of the Oriental," corrected typescript, page proof, and galley proof for <i>Nash's Magazine</i> , 1932, all bound together. With unbound duplicate page proof | Folder
5 |

- "Drugs," corrected typescript and galley proof for *Nash's Magazine*, 1931, bound together. With unbound duplicate galley proof **Folder 6**
- Eyeless in Gaza* **Box 3 Folder**
- Bound corrected page proofs, undated. Bound with letter from Huxley to E. C. M. Joad, 7 June 1936 **Folder 1**
- Bound corrected page proofs, 1936 **Folder 2**
- "Forewarned Is Not Forearmed," corrected typescript, page proof, and galley proof for *Nash's Magazine*, 1932, all bound together **Folder 3**
- The Genius and the Goddess* (playscript by Huxley and Betty Wendel, based on Huxley's novel) **Folder**
- Corrected typescript, with handwritten stage directions, Oct.-Nov. 1957. With Jane Surrey's resume, memorandum from Huxley to Wendel, 24 Nov. 1957, and furniture and dressing plot, 15 Nov. 1957 **Folder 4**
- Corrected typescript fragment, undated **Folder 5**
- "Good Conversation," corrected typescript, page proof, and galley proof for *Nash's Magazine*, 1931, all bound together **Folder 6**
- "Greater and Lesser London," corrected typescript, page layout, page proofs, and galley proof fragment for *Nash's Magazine*, 1931, all bound together **Folder 7**
- "Hyde Park on Sunday," corrected typescript and layout page, [1931], bound together. With unbound page proof for *Nash's Magazine*, 1931 **Folder 8**
- "If Christ Should Come [Today!]" [symposium contribution], corrected typescript titled "Christ and the Present Crisis," page proof fragment, and galley proof fragment, 1932, all bound together. With typescripts by G. K. Chesterton, J. B. S. Haldane, and Dean Inge **Box 4 Folder 1**
- Jesting Pilate: The Diary of a Journey* **Folder**
- Corrected typescript, undated **Folder 2**

Corrected typescript, with four typescript fragments, undated	Folder 3
<i>Joyce, the Artificer: Two Studies of Joyce's Method</i> (with Stuart Gilbert), corrected typescript foreword and corrected typescript, both undated	Folder 4
"Love: A Fashion Forecast," corrected typescript and galley proof for <i>Nash's Magazine</i> , 1932, bound together. With unbound duplicate galley proof	Folder 5
"The Moor (After Seeing Paul Robeson's Performance of Othello)" (poem), corrected typescript, undated	Folder 6
"The New Salvationism," handwritten manuscript, undated	Folder 7
<i>Now More Than Ever</i> (playscript), corrected typescript, undated	Folder 8-9
"On Being the Right Size," corrected typescript, page proof, and galley proof for <i>Nash's Magazine</i> , 1932, all bound together	Folder 10
"Pagan Year" (poem), corrected typescript, with "Almeria," undated	Folder 11
"Perils of the Small Hours" (poem), typescript, with "Return to an Old Home," undated	Folder 12
"The Rest Cure," typescript, page proofs, and galley proofs, 1929, all bound together	Folder 13
"Seventeen Essays," bound handwritten and typescript essays, undated	Folder 14
"Sight-seeing in Alien England," corrected typescript, layout page, and page proofs, all bound together (*bound with "Abroad in England," folder 1.1)	Folder *

["Sixty-two Short Essays"] "A Collection of Typescripts of Two-page Essays," bound typescripts, many with corrections, undated	Box 5 Folder 1
<i>Texts and Pretexts: An Anthology with Commentaries</i> , bound incomplete corrected typescript, [1932]	Folder 2
["What Is History?"], corrected typescript, undated	Folder 3
<i>The World of Light: A Comedy in Three Acts</i> (playscript), bound corrected typescript, 1931	Folder 4
[Untitled article on slow movement of Beethoven's Quartet in A Minor used in dramatization of <i>Point Counter Point</i>], handwritten manuscript, undated	Folder 5
[Untitled poem] "Myrrhine, we have often sung...", handwritten manuscript, undated	Folder 6
Subseries B. Career-Related, 1931-1938, 1955, undated	Folder
Contracts, 1931-1938, 1955	Folder 7
Interview, corrected typescript [by Louise Morgan for <i>Everyman</i>] with additional corrections by Huxley, titled "Aldous Huxley: Who Wrote His First Novel in Complete Darkness," undated	Folder 8
Questionnaire, handwritten manuscript of questions [by Louise Morgan for <i>Everyman</i>], with Huxley's handwritten responses, undated	Folder 9

Series II. Correspondence, 1915-1973, undated

A-Z, 1915-1963, undated	Box 5 Folder 10
Arányi, Jelly d', [1915]-1918, undated	Folder 11
Roberts, Kethevan Hotinski, 1930-1941, undated	Folder 12
Smith, Grover, 1948-1967	Folder 13
Titus, Edward W., 1929-1930	Box 6 Folder 1
Wendel, Beth "Betty," 1954-1973, undated	Folder 2-3
Bound volume of letters, primarily to J. B. Pinker & Sons, 1920-1934	Folder 4

Index of Correspondents

Box and folder numbers are followed by a number in parentheses which indicates the number of items by that person. A single item is indicated where there is no number in parentheses following the box and folder number. Where there is correspondence from Aldous Huxley, the number in parentheses is followed by the phrase "from Huxley." So in the example:

Doran, George H. (George Henry), 1869-1956--5.10 (2 from Huxley), 6.4

there are two letters from Huxley to Doran in box 5, folder 10, and one letter from Doran to Huxley in box 6, folder 4.

- Ably, Jean, b. 1889--6.4 (with note from Huxley)
- Aldington, Richard, 1892-1962--5.10 (2 from Huxley, re. D. H. Lawrence)
- Allen, Rita--5.10 (2), 6.2 (9 to Beth Wendel, 2 from Wendel)
- American Arbitration Association--6.3 (to Weissberger & Frosch)
- Anthony, Joseph, 1912-1993--5.10 (2)
- Arányi, Jelly d', 1893-1966--5.11 (23 from Huxley)
- Arzner, Dorothy, 1900-1979--6.2 (2)
- Bagnold, Enid--5.13 (to Grover Smith)
- Barton, __--6.4 (from Huxley)
- Bedford, Sybille, 1911-2006--5.10 (from Huxley), 6.2 (2 to Beth Wendel)
- Bernhard Tauchnitz Verlag (Curt Otto)--6.4 (to J. B. Pinker and Sons)
- *Bookman's Journal*--5.10 (from Huxley)
- British Broadcasting Company (Michael Barry)--6.2 (to Fosters' Agency)
- Brook, Clive, 1887-1974--6.2 (11 to Beth Wendel, 3 from Wendel)
- Burr, Courtney--6.2 (3 to Beth Wendel, 1 from Wendel), 6.3 (5 from Weissberger & Frosch, 2 from William Morris Agency)
- Carpentier, Pierre--6.4 (to J. B. Pinker and Sons)
- Carrington, Dora de Houghton, 1893-1932--5.10 (5 from Huxley)
- Chatto & Windus (Firm) (C. H. C. Prentice)--6.4 (1 to Eric Pinker, 2 to J. Ralph Pinker)
- Christopher Mann Management Ltd. (Aubrey Blackburn)--6.2 (to Alfred De Liagre)
- Clark, G. N. (George Norman), Sir, 1890- --5.13 (to Grover Smith)
- Clark, Kenneth, Sir--5.13 (to Grover Smith)
- Constable (Firm) (Michael Sadleir)--6.4 (1 to Huxley, 1 to Eric Pinker)
- Cummings, Constance, 1910- --6.2 (to Beth Wendel)
- De Liagre, Alfred, 1904- ("Delly")--6.2 (9 to Beth Wendel, 6 from Wendel, 1 from Christopher Mann Management Ltd.)
- Doran, George H. (George Henry), 1869-1956--5.10 (2 from Huxley), 6.4
- Dramatists Guild (Justin Menus, Mills Ten Eyck, Jr.)--6.3 (2 from Weissberger & Frosch)
- Dyson, __-- 6.4 (from Huxley)
- Forster, E. M. (Edward Morgan), 1879-1970--5.13 (to Grover Smith)
- Fosters' Agency Ltd. (Max Kester, Gladys Toyne)--6.2 (19 to Beth Wendel, 4 from Wendel, 11 to William Morris Agency)
- Fountain Press (James R. Wells)--6.4 (to J. Ralph Pinker)
- Gallup, __--5.10 (from Huxley)
- Gillman, Elias--5.10 (from Huxley)
- Gottlieb, Morton--6.3 (also from Albert Seldon, to Beth Wendel)
- Graves, Robert, 1895-1985--5.13 (to Grover Smith)
- H. M. Tennent Ltd. (Hugh Beaumont)--6.2 (2 to Beth Wendel)
- Harper, Allanah, 1904- --5.10 (from Huxley)
- Hartley, L. P. (Leslie Poles), 1895-1972--5.13 (to Grover Smith)

- Hauser, Frank, 1922- --see Meadow Players Limited
- Heard, Gerald, 1889-1971--5.13 (to Grover Smith)
- Herlitschka, Herberth E., 1893- --6.2 (to Beth Wendel), 6.4
- Houseman, John--6.2 (to Beth Wendel)
- Huxley, Julian, 1887-1975--6.4 (to unidentified recipient)
- Isherwood, Christopher, 1904-1986--5.13 (to Grover Smith)
- J. B. Pinker and Sons (Eric Pinker, J. Ralph Pinker, F. L. Wicken)--6.4 (1 from Pierre Carpentier, 3 from Chatto & Windus, 1 from Constable (Firm), 1 from Fountain Press, 289 from Huxley, 1 from Melantrich (Firm), 1 from *Nash's Magazine*, 1 from *New York American*, 1 from Bernhard Tauchnitz Verlag)
- Jackson, W.--5.10 (from Huxley)
- Joad, C. E. M. (Cyril Edwin Mitchinson), 1891-1953--3.1 (from Huxley)
- Koestler, Arthur, 1905-1983--5.13 (2 to Grover Smith)
- Knebel, Herbert A.--5.10 (from Huxley)
- Knight, __--5.10 (from Huxley)
- Loos, Anita, 1893-1981--6.2 (5 to Beth Wendel)
- Mainbocher, 1891-1976--6.3 (4 to Beth Wendel)
- Meadow Players Limited (Frank Hauser)--6.3 (10 to Beth Wendel)
- Melantrich (Firm)--6.4 (to J. B. Pinker and Sons)
- Mitchison, Naomi, 1897- --5.10 (2 from Huxley)
- Moeller, Philip, 1880-1958--5.10 (from Huxley)
- Monro, Harold, 1879-1932--5.10 (3 from Huxley)
- Morgan, Louise--5.10 (2 from Huxley)
- *Nash's Magazine* (E. Atkins)--6.4 (to J. B. Pinker and Sons)
- Neveux, Jeanne--6.3 (5 to Beth Wendel, 1 from Wendel)
- *New York American* (Earl Conteau)--6.4 (to J. B. Pinker and Sons)
- Pearson, Malcolm ("Squire")--6.3 (2 to Beth Wendel)
- Rangoolam, S.--5.10 (from Huxley)
- Roberts, F. Warren--5.10 (from Huxley)
- Roberts, Kethevan Hotinski--5.12 (20 from Huxley)
- Robinson, G. Sidney--5.10 (3 from Huxley)
- Rose, Ralph--5.10 (10 from Huxley)
- Russell, Bertrand, 1872-1970--5.13 (to Grover Smith re. T. S. Eliot)
- S. Fischer Verlag (Dr. Bermann-Fischer, Stefani Hunzinger)--6.3 (from Beth Wendel, to Wendel)
- Sackville-West, Edward, Hon., 1901-1965--5.13 (2 to Grover Smith)
- Sagan, __--6.4 (from Huxley)
- Secker & Warburg (Martin Secker)--6.4 (to Chatto & Windus)
- Selden, Albert--6.3 (to Wendel, also from Morton Gottlieb)
- Smith, Grover Cleveland, 1923- --5.13 (1 from G. N. Clark, 1 from Kenneth Clark, 1 from E. M. Forster, 1 from Robert Graves, 1 from L. P. Hartley, 1 from Gerald Heard, 1 from Huxley, 1 from Christopher Isherwood, 2 from Arthur Koestler, 1 from Bertrand Russell, 2 from Edward Sackville-West, 1 from Alix Strachey, 1 from James Strachey), 6.3 (from Beth Wendel)
- Sokal, H. R. (Henry R.)--6.2 (3 to Fosters' Agency, 1 from Fosters' Agency)
- Squire, John Collings, Sir, 1884-1958--5.10 (from Huxley)
- Strachey, Alix, 1892-1973--5.13 (to Grover Smith)
- Strachey, James--5.13 (to Grover Smith)
- Strachey, Lytton, 1880-1932--5.10 (5 from Huxley)
- Tábori, Paul, 1908- --6.4
- Theis, __--5.10 (2 from Huxley)
- Titus, Edward W., b. 1880--6.1 (3 from Huxley, 4 to Huxley, 1 to Madame Lawrence)

- Weissberger & Frosch (Arnold Weissberger)--6.3 (5 to Courtney Burr, 5 to Huxley, 5 to Beth Wendel, 2 from Wendel, 2 from William Morris Agency)
- Wendel, Beth "Betty"--5.10 (2 from Rita Allen to Huxley and Wendel, 12 from William Morris Agency to Huxley and Wendel), 6.2 (9 from Rita Allen, 2 to Rita Allen, 2 from Dorothy Arzner, 2 from Sybille Bedford, 11 from Clive Brook, 3 to Clive Brook, 3 from Courtney Burr, 1 to Courtney Burr, 1 from Constance Cummings, 9 from Alfred De Liagre, 6 to Alfred De Liagre, 19 from Fosters' Agency, 4 to Fosters' Agency, 2 from H. M. Tennent, 1 from Herberth E. Herlitschka, 1 from John Houseman, 6 to Huxley, 3 from Huxley, 1 from Anita Loos, 4 from Mainbocher, 10 from Meadow Players Limited, 5 from Jeanne Neveux, 1 to Jeanne Neveux, 2 from Malcolm Pearson, 1 from S. Fischer Verlag, 1 to S. Fischer Verlag, 1 from Albert Selden and Morton Gottlieb, 1 from Grover Smith, 5 from Weissberger & Frosch, 2 to Weissberger & Frosch, 28 from William Morris Agency, 7 to William Morris Agency)
- William Morris Agency (Sid Berkowitz, Helen Harvey, Alice Jones, Alice N. Katz, Robert Youdelman)--5.10 (14), 6.2 (11 from Fosters' Agency), 6.3 (2 to Courtney Burr, 2 to Weissberger & Frosch, 28 to Beth Wendel, 7 from Beth Wendel)
- Unidentified--6.4 (to Huxley), 5.10 (2 from Huxley)

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- "Abroad, Sweet Abroad"--5.1
- "Afternoon at Cholula, An"--4.14
- "Almeria" (poem)--1.2, 4.11, 5.10 (Theis letter)
- "Angry Ape, The"--1.3
- "Best Sellers"--5.1
- "Beyond the Mexique Bay"--1.4
- Blurb for Karin Leyden paintings--1.5
- "Books without End"--5.1
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- "Cars and Babies"--5.1
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- "Cunning of the Oriental, The"--2.5
- "Dangers of Intelligence and the Dangers of Emotion, The"--5.1
- "Declarations of Independence"--5.1
- "Decline of Speech, The"--5.1
- "Doctors and Doctoring"--5.1
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- Foreword to unidentified work--5.10 (Louise Morgan letter)
- "Fruits of Education, The"--5.1
- "General Knowledge"--5.1
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- "Jonah and Politics"--5.1
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- "Modern Amusements"--4.14
- "Moor, The (After Seeing Paul Robeson's Performance of Othello)"--4.6
- "Music at Night"--6.4 (extracts, p. 148)
- "Music Industry, The"--5.1
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- "Work and Leisure"--4.14
- "World of Light"--5.4
- By Other Authors
- Chesterton, G. K. (Gilbert Keith), 1874-1936. "How Christ Would Solve Modern Problems If He Were on Earth Today" [contribution to symposium on "If Christ Should Come Today"]--4.1
- Gilbert, Stuart. "Joyce the Artificer; Two Studies of Joyce's Method"--4.4
- Haldane, J. B. S. (John Burdon Sanderson), 1892-1964. "If Jesus..." [contribution to symposium on "If Christ Should Come Today"]--4.4
- Inge, William Ralph, 1860-1954. [Contribution to symposium on "If Christ Should Come Today"]--4.4
- Krishnamurti, J. (Jiddu), 1895-1986. "The Dissolution of the Order of the Star"--5.10 (unidentified recipient)