R. L. Giffen:
An Inventory of His Collection at the Harry Ransom Center

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Giffen, R. L., d. 1946
Title: R. L. Giffen Collection
Dates: 1915-1943, undated
Extent: 1 box (.42 linear feet)
Abstract: Includes letters to the American agent R. L. “Larry” Giffen, who represented authors, sold works for motion pictures, managed stage actors, and was a theater company manager, owner, and producer. Correspondents in this collection include Zoë Akins, Edna Ferber, Fannie Hurst, Rupert Hughes, Ring Lardner, and Mary Roberts Rinehart, among others.
Call Number: Manuscript Collection MS-1603
Language: English
Access: Open for research

Administrative Information

Processed by: Joan Sibley and Katherine Noble, 2012

Note: 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.

Repository: The University of Texas at Austin, Harry Ransom Center
Miscellaneous:

Adams, Maude. ALS to Giffen, 16 October 1922.

Akins, Zoë, 1886-. TLS to Giffen, 3 August 1921.

Balmer, Edwin, 1883-. TLS to Giffen, 25 April 1922.

Barnes, Margaret Ayer, 1886-. TNS to Giffen, 17 February 1941.

Beban, George. ALS to Giffen, 27 June 1920.

Biggers, Earl Derr, 1884-1933. 2 ALS, 5 TLS to Giffen, 1921, undated.

Blinn, Holbrook. TLS to Giffen, 10 April 1917.

Bosworth, Hobart. TLS to Giffen, 1 February 1915.

Boyle, Jack. ALS to Giffen, 25 December 1921.

Butler, Ellis Parker, 1869-1937. 5 ALS to Giffen, 1920.

Chambers, Robert William, 1865-1933. ALS to Giffen, 8 January 1918.

Comstock, Harriet. ALS to Giffen, 4 March 1920.

Crothers, Rachel, 1878-. ALS to Giffen, 2 May no year.

Davis, Bessie McCoy. TLS to unidentified recipient re Giffen, 29 April no year.

Davis, Bessie McCoy. TLS to Giffen, 24 October no year.

Day, Holman Francis, 1865-1935. TLS to Giffen, 3 February no year.

Deland, Margaret Wade Campbell, 1857-. ALS, TLS to Giffen, 19 March 1917, 3 April no year.

Douglas Lloyd Cassel, 1877-. TLS to Giffen, 1 August 1932.

Durling, E. V. TLS to Giffen, undated.

Faversham, William, 1868-1940. TLS to Giffen, 13 April 1918.

Ferber, Edna, 1887-. 3 TLS to Giffen, 21 March, 30 April, and 21 May 1920.

Glaspell, Susan, 1882-. TLS to Giffen, 25 April no year.

Hale, Creighton. ALS to Giffen, undated.

Herrick, Robert. TLS to Giffen, 1 June 1920.

Hopkins, Arthur Melancthon, 1878-. TLS to Giffen, 15 August 1941.

Hough, Emerson, 1857-1923. TLS to Giffen, 23 December 1921.

Hughes, Rupert, 1872-1956. 2 ALS to Giffen, 10 April and 18 June 1919.

Hurst, Fannie, 1889-1968. TLS to Giffen, 28 October 1931.

Irwin, Wallace, 1876-. 2 TLS to Giffen, 23 October 1919, 14 November 1920.

Johnson, Owen McMahon, 1878-. ALS to Giffen, 24 May 1931.

Kelly, Eleanor Mercein, 1880-. 2 TLS to Giffen, 2 August 1920, 14 July 1922.

King, Basil, 1859-1928. ALS to Giffen, 17 July 1920.

Klem, John. ALS from “Jack Norworth” to Giffen, 19 September 1922.

Kyne, Peter Bernard, 1880-. 2 TLS to Giffen, 7 November 1922, 27 November 1943.

Lardner, Ring Wilmer, 1885-1933. TLS to Giffen, 10 April no year.

Morosco, Oliver. 2 TLS to Giffen, R. L. 18 February and 6 March 1919.

Packard, Frank Lucius, 1877-1942. 3 TLS to Giffen, 1931-1941.

Rice, Alice Caldwell Hegan, 1870-1942. 5 ALS, ACS to Giffen, 1917-1924, undated.

Rich, Irene. TLS to Giffen, 7 February 1928.

Rinehart, Mary Roberts, 1876-. 3 TLS to Giffen, 1916-1922, undated.

Roberts, Kenneth Lewis, 1885-. ALS to Giffen, 5 October 1920.

Rothchild, Edward S. 2 APCS to Giffen, 15 September 1938, 15 May 1939.


Sheldon, Edward Brewster, 1886-. 2 ALS to Giffen, undated.
Soutar, Andrew, 1879-. ALS, TLS to Giffen, 25 September, 10 October no year (1924?).

Southern, J. M. 2 ALS to Giffen, 9 April and 1 May 1915.

Terhune, Albert Payson, 1872-1942. TCS to Giffen, 20 August 1922.


Train, Arthur Cheyney, 1875-1945. 2 ALS, ACS to Giffen, undated.


Tuttle, Margaretta Muhlenberg Perkins, 1880-. TLS to Giffen, undated.

White, Grace Miller. TLS to Giffen, 29 August 1932.

Widdemer, Margaret. ALS to Giffen, 23 July 1920.

Wiggin, Kate Douglas Smith, 1856-1923. 2 ALS to Giffen, 18 November 1916 (answered), 20 October 1919.

Williams, Alice. ALS to Giffen, 5 March no year.

Williams, Ben Ames, 1889-1953. ALS to Giffen, 24 November 1924.

Wilson, Harry Leon, 1867-1939. TLS to Giffen, 18 July 1930.

Winslow, Thyra Samter, 1893-. TLS to Giffen, 12 December 1922.

Wister, Owen, 1860-1938. TLS to Giffen, 21 April 1921.
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