H. L. Mencken Special Collection

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SCOPE AND CONTENT

This collection of ten books was put together by the Archives. All but one was in the circulating collection until 2008. Three Mencken books were donated by Gretta Smith – Happy Days: 1880-1892, Newspaper Days; 1899-1906, and Christmas Story. Each of these books is inscribed to Gretta Smith by Mencken. The other seven books are from the library of Estelle Williams and were purchased by the College’s Librarian, Elizabeth Simkins, after Estelle’s death in 1954. Six of these books are by Mencken – Treatise on Right and Wrong and the first five volumes on Prejudices. Each of the Prejudices has a personal inscription to “Gloom” from Mencken and so does the ninth book in this collection – The Man Mencken: A Biographical and Critical Survey by Isaac Goldberg.

The tenth book ‘Gloom’ A Case for Stella by R. Bryce Workman was purchased through the Historical Society of Carroll County. ‘Gloom’ is a brief biography of Bertha Estelle Bloom Kubitz Williams, known to H. L. Mencken’s Smart Set as “Gloom.”

INVENTORY

Box 1:
1. Treatise on Right and Wrong, H. L. Mencken. Alfred A. Knopf, Inc. 1934

Box 2:

Additional catalog entries:

Persons:
Theodore Dreiser
Marion Bloom Maritzer