

## **H. L. Mencken Special Collection**

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Title: H. L. Mencken Special Collection

Quantity: Two document cases

### **Processing Information:**

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By: Barbara O'Brien

### **Acquisition Information:**

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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
2. *Happy Days: 1880-1892*, H. L. Mencken, Alfred A. Knopf, Inc. 1940
3. *Newspaper Days: 1899-1906*, H. L. Mencken, Alfred A. Knopf, Inc. 1941
4. *Christmas Story*, H. L. Mencken, illus. by Bill Crawford, Alfred A. Knopf, Inc. 1946
5. '*Gloom*:' *A Case for Stella*, R. Bryce Workman, Fountain Publication, New Windsor, 2007

### Box 2:

6. *Prejudice: First Series*, H. L. Mencken, Alfred A. Knopf, Inc. 1919
7. *Prejudice: Second Series*, H. L. Mencken, Alfred A. Knopf, Inc. 1920
8. *Prejudice: Third Series*, H. L. Mencken, Alfred A. Knopf, Inc. 1922
9. *Prejudice: Fourth Series*, H. L. Mencken, Alfred A. Knopf, Inc. 1924
10. *Prejudice: Fifth Series*, H. L. Mencken, Alfred A. Knopf, Inc. 1926
11. *The Man Mencken: A Biographical and Critical Survey*, Isaac Goldberg, Simon and Schuster, 1925

## Additional catalog entries:

### Persons:

Theodore Dreiser  
Marion Bloom Maritzer