

# Robert E. Sherwood Play Scripts

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the  
Library of Congress

Prepared by David Mathisen



Manuscript Division, Library of  
Congress

Washington, D.C.

2011

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

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## Collection Summary

Title: Robert E. Sherwood Play Scripts

Span Dates: 1921-1962

ID No.: MSS39818

Creator: Sherwood, Robert E. (Robert Emmet), 1896-1955

Extent: 34 items; 3 containers; 1.2 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

Repository: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Abstract: Dramatist. Typescripts of plays by Sherwood submitted for copyright to the Library of Congress Copyright Office.

## Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### People

Sherwood, Robert E. (Robert Emmet), 1896-1955.

### Subjects

Drama--Stories, plots, etc.

### Occupations

Dramatists.

## Administrative Information

### Provenance

The play scripts of Robert E. Sherwood, dramatist, were transferred to the Manuscript Division from the Library of Congress Copyright Office in 1981.

### Processing History

The play scripts of Robert E. Sherwood were arranged and described in 1984. The finding aid was revised in 2011.

### Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Robert E. Sherwood is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

### Restrictions

Restrictions apply governing the use, photoduplication, or publication of items in this collection. Consult reference staff in the Manuscript Division for information concerning these restrictions. In addition, many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

### Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Robert E. Sherwood Play Scripts, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Biographical Note

Robert Emmet Sherwood was born April 4, 1896, in New Rochelle, N.Y. Sherwood was a playwright, editor, screen writer, and cofounder of the Playwrights' Company, a producing company. He wrote speeches for President Franklin D. Roosevelt during World War II and from 1941 to 1944 served as head of the overseas branch of the Office of War Information. Sherwood's book *Roosevelt and Hopkins* (1948) won the Pulitzer Prize, as did several plays, including *The Road to Rome* (1927) and *Abe Lincoln in Illinois* (1938). His original screenplay, *The Best Years of Our Lives*, won the Academy Award in 1946. Sherwood died in New York, November 14, 1955.

## Scope and Content Note

The play scripts of Robert Emmet Sherwood (1896-1955) span the years 1921-1962 and are dated according to the year the typescripts of dramas were submitted for copyright to the Library of Congress Copyright Office. Titles begin with *The Dawn Man* (1921) and include *The Road to Rome* (1926), *Abe Lincoln in Illinois* (1937), *Miss Liberty* (1949), *Small War on Murray Hill* (1953), and *Champagne and Caviar* (1957), an adaptation by Eddie Davis and Sam Alper of Sherwood's English version of Jacques Deval's *Tovaritch*.

## Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged by year of submission and therein by title of play.

# Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1	1921, <i>The Dawn Man</i>
BOX 1	1926
BOX 1	<i>The Love Nest</i>
BOX 1	<i>The Road to Rome</i>
BOX 1	1927, <i>Marching as to War</i>
BOX 1	1928, <i>The Queen's Husband</i> (two copies)
BOX 1	1929
BOX 1	<i>Horse-Shoes</i>
BOX 1	<i>Waterloo Bridge</i>
BOX 1	<i>Wooden Wedding</i>
BOX 1	1930
BOX 1	<i>Happy Days</i>
BOX 1	<i>It's a Bargain</i>
BOX 1	<i>This Is New York</i>
BOX 2	1931, <i>Reunion in Vienna</i>
BOX 2	1932, <i>Acropolis</i>
BOX 2	1933, <i>Afterglow</i>
BOX 2	1934
BOX 2	<i>Milk and Honey</i>
BOX 2	<i>The Petrified Forest</i>
BOX 2	1935
BOX 2	<i>Idiot's Delight</i>
BOX 2	<i>Tovaritch</i> , by Jacques Deval, English adaptation by Sherwood
BOX 2	1937, <i>Abe Lincoln in Illinois</i>
BOX 2	1945
BOX 2	<i>Out of Hell</i>
BOX 2	<i>The Rugged Path</i>
BOX 3	1949, <i>Miss Liberty</i>
BOX 3	1951, <i>Girls with Dogs</i>
BOX 3	1952, <i>The Better Angels</i>
BOX 3	1953
BOX 3	<i>The Backbone of America</i>
BOX 3	<i>The Trial of Pontius Pilate</i>
BOX 3	<i>Small War on Murray Hill</i>
BOX 3	1954
BOX 3	<i>The Days before Revolution</i>
BOX 3	<i>Dear Diary</i>
BOX 3	<i>Fear of God</i>
BOX 3	1957, <i>Champagne and Caviar</i> , by Eddie Davis and Sam Alper, adaptation of Sherwood's English version of Jacques Deval's <i>Tovaritch</i>
BOX 3	1962, <i>Waterloo!</i> by Douglas Marland, adaptation of Sherwood's <i>Waterloo Bridge</i>