

Joseph Wood Krutch Papers

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Prepared by Patrick Doyle

Collection Summary

Title: Joseph Wood Krutch Papers

Span Dates: 1920-1971

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1950-1970)

ID No.: MSS29009

Creator: Krutch, Joseph Wood, 1893-1970

Extent: 4,500 items ; 27 containers ; 10.8 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

Summary: Author, drama critic, and naturalist. Correspondence, diaries, writings, and other papers reflecting Wood's career as a professor of English at Columbia University and scholarship in the fields of conservation, society, and drama and theater.

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

Faulkner, William, 1897-1962.

Green, Joseph G. Joseph G. Green papers.

Haydn, Hiram Collins, 1907-1973.

Kohler, Richard. Richard Kohler papers.

Krutch, Charles.

Krutch, Joseph Wood, 1893-1970.

Mencken, H. L. (Henry Louis), 1880-1956.

Menninger, Karl A. (Karl Augustus), 1893-1990.

O'Neill, Carlotta Monterey.

O'Neill, Eugene, 1888-1953.

Pratt, Wallace Everette, 1885-1981.

Sloane, William Milligan, 1850-1928.

Teale, Edwin Way, 1899-1980.

Van Doren, Dorothy, 1896-1993.

Van Doren, Mark, 1894-1972.

Organizations

Belvedere Fund (San Francisco, Calif.)

Columbia University--Faculty.

Subjects

Conservation of natural resources.

Drama.

English language--Study and teaching.

Social history.

Theater.

Places

Baja California (Mexico : Peninsula)--Description and travel.

Mexico--Description and travel.

Occupations

Authors.

Critics.

Naturalists.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of Joseph Wood Krutch, author, drama critic, and naturalist, were given to the Library of Congress by Krutch in 1969-1970. Additions were given by his wife, Mrs. Joseph Wood Krutch, in 1972 and 1979, and by Emery Neff in 1972.

Processing History

The papers of Joseph Wood Krutch were processed in 1973 and expanded in 1980. The finding aid was revised in 2013.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Joseph Wood Krutch is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Joseph Wood Krutch are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. 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, Joseph Wood Krutch Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1893, Nov. 25	Born, Knoxville, Tenn.
1915	B.S., University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tenn.
1916	M.A., Columbia University, New York, N.Y.
1917	Instructor of English, Columbia University, New York, N.Y.
1918	United States Army Psychological Corps
1919-1920	Cutting travel fellow
1920-1923	Associate professor of English, Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn, Brooklyn, N.Y.
1923	Married Marcelle Legula
1924	Ph.D., Columbia University, New York, N.Y.
1924-1925	Special lecturer in English, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, N.Y.
1924-1932	Drama critic and associate editor, <i>Nation</i> magazine
1925	Associate professor, Graduate School of Journalism, Columbia University, New York, N.Y.
1929	Published <i>The Modern Temper</i> . New York: Harcourt, Brace

1930-1931	Guggenheim fellowship
1931-1935	Lecturer, New School for Social Research, New York, N.Y.
1932-1937	Member, editorial board, <i>Nation</i>
1937	Returned as drama critic, <i>Nation</i>
1937-1943	Professor of English, Columbia University, New York, N.Y.
1940-1941	President, New York Drama Critics Circle
1943-1952	Brander Matthews professor of dramatic literature, Columbia University, New York, N.Y.
1944	Published <i>Samuel Johnson</i> . New York: H. Holt
1948	Published <i>Henry David Thoreau</i> . New York: W. Sloane Associates
1953	Published <i>The Best of Two Worlds</i> . New York: W. Sloane Associates President, Arizona Sonora Desert Museum, Tucson, Ariz. Awarded Burroughs Medal for mature writing
1954	Published <i>The Measure of Man</i> . Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill
1955	Awarded National Book Award
1955-1970	Contributing editor, <i>American Scholar</i>
1961	Published <i>The Forgotten Peninsula</i> . New York: W. Sloane Associates
1962	Published <i>More Lives Than One</i> . New York: W. Sloane Associates
1964	Awarded Richard Prentice Ettinger Medal and Award Published <i>If You Don't Mind My Saying So . . .</i> . New York: W. Sloane Associates
1970, May 23	Died, Tucson, Ariz.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Joseph Wood Krutch (1893-1970) span the period 1920-1971, with the bulk of the collection covering 1950-1970. The collection consists of correspondence, diaries, writings, and other papers and is organized into six series: [Travel Diaries](#); [Correspondence](#); [Subject File](#); [Speech, Article, and Book File](#); [Miscellany](#); and [Addition](#).

The [Travel Diaries](#) portray Krutch's ecological and botanical interests. Especially illustrative and detailed are the accounts of his numerous field trips to the Baja Peninsula that were sponsored by the Belvedere Fund, a San Francisco-based research group.

The [Correspondence](#) file reveals Krutch's wide range of interests and includes prominent correspondents such as William Faulkner, Hiram Collins Hayden, Charles Krutch, H. L. Mencken, Karl A. Menninger, Eugene O'Neill, Carlotta Monterey O'Neill, Wallace Everett Pratt, William Milligan Sloane, Edwin Way Teale, Dorothy Van Doren, and Mark Van Doren. Also included are family letters exchanged between Krutch, his wife, Marcelle, and his brothers.

The [Speech, Article, and Book File](#) comprises a substantial portion of the collection and documents Krutch's wide interests. As professor of English at Columbia University, where he taught courses in drama, and as a long-time drama critic, Krutch revealed in his lecture notes and reviews his knowledge of the theater. Other writings in the series focus on ecology and conservation and his critiques in books and essays of contemporary society.

Included in the [Miscellany](#) is a master's thesis with a bibliography of Krutch's writings. The [Addition](#) contains diaries for the years 1933-1970 as well as separate accounts of his travels. Also in the Addition is background material relating to his writings on animals and correspondence with publishers.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in six series:

- [Travel Diaries, 1958-1969](#)
- [Correspondence, circa 1920-1970](#)
- [Subject File, 1954-1970](#)
- [Speech, Article, and Book File, 1939-1971](#)
- [Miscellany, circa 1944-1970](#)
- [Addition, 1933-1970](#)

Description of Series

<i>Container</i>	<i>Series</i>
BOX 1-2	<u>Travel Diaries, 1958-1969</u> Typewritten diary notes kept by Krutch of his travels. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 3-7	<u>Correspondence, circa 1920-1970</u> Letters received and copies of letters sent, with some miscellaneous attachments. Arranged alphabetically.
BOX 8	<u>Subject File, 1954-1970</u> Correspondence, newspaper clippings, notes, and printed and near-print material. Arranged alphabetically by subject.
BOX 9-19	<u>Speech, Article, and Book File, 1939-1971</u> Handwritten and typewritten drafts, galleys, and near-print and printed copies of Krutch's speeches, articles, books, and other writings. Also includes correspondence pertaining to speeches. Arranged by type of material.
BOX 20-21	<u>Miscellany, circa 1944-1970</u> Newspaper clippings, notes, obituaries, a master's and doctoral thesis on Krutch, and printed matter. Arranged by type of material.
BOX 22-27	<u>Addition, 1933-1970</u> Diaries, publishers correspondence, writing material, and printed matter. Arranged by type of material.

Container List

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Subject File, 1954-1970

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Speech, Article, and Book File, 1939-1971

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