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Randolph Silliman Bourne Papers4079396

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Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Butler Library, 6th Floor
Columbia University, Mail Code 1127
535 W. 114th St.
New York, NY 10027
Business Number: (212) 854-5153
Fax Number: (212) 854-1365
rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu
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Summary Information

Repository:	Rare Book and Manuscript Library
Creator:	Bourne, Randolph Silliman, 1886-1918
Title:	Randolph Silliman Bourne Papers
ID:	4079396
ID:	MS#0138
Date [inclusive]:	1910-1966
Physical Description:	8.5 linear feet 20 document boxes
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	Correspondence and manuscripts of the radical essayist Randolph Bourne (1886-1918).

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Randolph Silliman Bourne papers; Box and Folder; Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Library.

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Biographical Note

Randolph Silliman Bourne was a radical leftist intellectual and essayist. He was born in Bloomfield, New Jersey in 1886. His difficult birth left him with facial scars from an improper forceps delivery, and a bout of spinal tuberculosis at the age of four curved his spine and stunted his growth. His essay "The Handicapped—By One of Them," published in the *Atlantic Monthly* in 1911, is a foundational work in disability studies. Bourne is best known for his essays in *The Seven Arts* and *The New Republic* that sharply criticized U.S. involvement in World War I and that took American intellectuals, notably his former mentor John Dewey, to task for their support of U.S. interventionist policy.

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Biographical Note

Bourne attended Columbia University, where he studied under John Dewey and Charles Beard. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1912 and a Master's in 1913. He was a contributor to, and eventually editor of, the *Columbia Monthly*. While enrolled at Columbia, Bourne also published regularly in the *Atlantic Monthly*; his collected essays for that magazine were published as *Youth and Life* by Houghton Mifflin in 1913.

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Biographical Note

From 1913 to 1914, Bourne studied in Europe on Columbia University's Richard Watson Gilder Fellowship. After returning to New York, he resumed his writing career, publishing extensively in *The New Republic* and *The Dial*, and in other outlets. He also published *The Gary Schools* (1916) and *Education and Living* (1917) books advocating for progressive educational reforms. He became a contributing editor of *The Dial* in 1918.

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Biographical Note

Published sources disagree on the exact date, but Randolph Bourne died of influenza in New York City on or around December 23, 1918.

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Summary

The collection is primarily composed of Randolph Silliman Bourne's correspondence and manuscripts, the majority of which date from approximately 1910 through 1918. The original manuscript of "The State"—one of the works for which he is best known, despite its being unfinished at the time of his death—is present. Other essays, published and unpublished at the

time of Bourne's death, and several poems are included. A small group of letters, unpublished manuscripts, and published works about Bourne are also included in Series III.

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Arrangement

Material is arranged into three series.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Butler Library, 6th Floor

Columbia University, Mail Code 1127

535 W. 114th St.

New York, NY 10027

Business Number: (212) 854-5153

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Revision Description

File created. xml document instance created by Carrie Hintz Finding aid updated by Celeste Brewer: related materials and custodial history notes added; biographical and scope and content notes revised; and Series III added to better distinguish between items created or owned by Bourne, and items created after his death. EAD was imported spring 2019 as part of the ArchivesSpace Phase II migration. 2009-06-26 2013-03-25 2019-02-04 2019-05-20

Restrictions on Access

This collection is located on-site.

Restrictions on Access

This collection has no restrictions.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Source of acquisition--De Lima, Mrs. Agnes. Date of acquisition--1955. Accession number--M-55.

Alternate Form Available

Boxes 1-10 have: microfilm copy.

Ownership and Custodial History

Gift of Agnes De Lima, 1955-1966; gift of John Moreau, 1966; gift of Mrs. Arthur W. MacMahon, 1978.

Processing Information

Cataloged Christina Hilton Fenn 04/07/89.

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Accruals

Materials may have been added to the collection since this finding aid was prepared. Contact rbml@columbia.edu for more information.

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Related Materials

Related Materials

[Arthur Whittier Macmahon Papers](#): Papers of Bourne's Columbia University classmate and friend, who became the university's Eaton Professor of Public Administration. Includes correspondence between Bourne and Macmahon, as well as notes and correspondence about Bourne. At the Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University.

Related Materials

[Alyse Gregory Papers](#): Papers of Randolph Bourne's close friend and biographer Alyse Gregory, containing correspondence between Bourne and Gregory dating from 1913

through 1918, as well as Gregory's biography of Bourne. Some of the letters may have originally been included in the Bourne correspondence given to Columbia University by Agnes de Lima. At the Beinecke Library, Yale University.

Related Materials

[Agnes de Lima Collection of Alyse Gregory](#): Includes letters from Gregory to de Lima discussing Gregory's biography of Randolph Bourne and de Lima's memories of Bourne. At the Beinecke Library, Yale University.

Related Materials

[Elizabeth Shepley Sergeant Papers](#): Papers of Bourne's friend and fellow New Republic contributor. Includes correspondence between Sergeant and Bourne dating from 1915 to 1916. At the Beinecke Library, Yale University.

Related Materials

[James Oppenheim Papers](#): Papers of Bourne's Seven Arts publisher, fellow World War I opponent, and elegist James Oppenheim. At the Manuscripts and Archives Division of the New York Public Library.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Education
- Political science
- Publishers and publishing
- Europe -- Description and travel
- Radicalism -- United States -- History -- 20th century
- Disability studies
- World War, 1914-1918
- Gregory, Alyse, 1884-1967
- Teall, Dorothy
- De Lima, Agnes
- Moreau, John
- Columbia College (New York, N.Y.) -- Students

Collection Inventory

Series I: Correspondence, circa 1910-1918

Scope and Contents

Series I includes both personal and professional correspondence: letters written to Bourne by his friends, and letters from magazines and publishers regarding his writings.

Title/Description	Instances
Abbott, Leonard D.	box 1
Addams, Jane	box 1
Amidon, Beulah	box 1
Anderson, Frances B.	box 1
Andersen, Olivia Cushing	box 1
Another of Them	box 1
Anthony, Katherine	box 1
Antin, Mary	box 1
Atkinson, Mabel	box 1
Austin, Gertrude	box 1
Babbitt, Irving	box 1
Bacall, Mabel C.	box 1
Ball, S.	box 1
Balmary, Henri	box 1
Barr, Simon	box 1
Barrus, Clara	box 1
Beard, Charles A.	box 1
Benjamin, Samuel Greene Wheeler	box 1
Behneke, Norman L.	box 1
Benjamin, Everett	box 1
Black	box 1
Bligh, M. A.	box 1
Bligh, Stanley M.	box 1
Bligh, Stanley M.	box 9

Blogg, Mathe	box 1
Boardman, Samuel	box 1
Bougie, Celestin	box 1
Bourne, B. F.	box 1
Bourne, Edith E.	box 1
Bourne, Randolph S., 1911-1914	box 1
Bourne, Randolph S., 1915-1918	box 2
Bourne, Randolph S. letters to Agnes de Lima, undated <u>Physical Description:</u> (2 folders)	box 9
Bourne, Randolph S. letter to Frederick P. Keppel, 1914 January 9	box 9
Bourne, Randolph S. letter to Alyse Gregory, 1916 January 21	box 9
Scope and Contents	
Typescript carbon copy	
Bourne, Randolph S. letters to Esther Cornell, 1916 November 20-circa 1917 <u>Physical Description:</u> (4 folders)	box 9
Bourne, Sara Randolph	box 9
Bower, Lucy Scott	box 2
Broderick, Vincent L.	box 2
Brooks, Van Wyck	box 2
Brooks, Van Wyck	box 9
Burroughs, John	box 2
Carter, Elizabeth	box 2
Cazamian, Louis	box 2
Chase, Harry	box 2
Choron, Alice A.	box 2
Clarke, C. L.	box 2
Clasquin, Pierre	box 2
Colby, Elbridge	box 2
Cole, J. J.	box 2
Colum, Padraic	box 9

Coombs, Evangeline	box 2
Cory, Herbert Ellsworth	box 2
Croly, Herbert	box 2
Dana, Harry	box 3
Davis, Charles Moreau	box 3
Dawson, Edgar	box 3
Dean, Elizabeth	box 3
Dean, Elizabeth	box 9
de Lima, Agnes	box 3
Demorest, William C.	box 3
de Wetter, Louise	box 3
de Wetter, Louise	box 9
Dewey, Evelyn	box 3
Dickinson, G.	box 3
D'Orqe, Jeanne	box 3
Douglas, Prudence W.	box 3
Draper, E. L.	box 3
Draper, J. M.	box 3
Durand, Frances E.	box 3
Dupuy, Helen	box 3
Durand, Rene	box 3
E., R. G.	box 3
Eastman, Max	box 3
Eaton, Mary	box 3
Eddy, L. J.	box 3
Eliot, Samuel A., Jr.	box 3
Eliot, Thomas D.	box 3
Elliott, H. W.	box 3
Ellis, Havelock	box 3
Elsasser, Henry Wolfgang	box 3
Erskine, John	box 3
Erskine, John	box 9

Fechheimer, Clara R.	box 3
Fenninger, Natalie	box 3
Fenninger, Natalie	box 9
Ficke, Arthur Davison	box 3
Filler, Louis	box 3
Fligelman, Fjrieda	box 3
Foner, Philip S.	box 3
Forshaw, F. E.	box 3
Frank, Waldo	box 3
Frank, Waldo and Margaret	box 3
Fry, Elisabeth	box 3
Fuller, Harold de Wolf	box 3
Gallaud, Rene	box 3
Galsworthy, John	box 3
Garland, Hamlin	box 3
Gavin, Edgerton	box 3
Gleason, Arthur	box 3
Gourlie, John C.	box 3
Greenman, Walter F.	box 3
Greenslet, Ferris	box 3
Gregory, Alyse	box 3
Griesser, Marjorie	box 3
Guillon, Marguerite	box 3
Hackett, Francis	box 4
Hamburger, Louise Loeb	box 4
Harris, Mark	box 9
Hayes, Carlton	box 4
Henle, James	box 4
Hobart, Ethel	box 4
Hobson, John	box 4
Hoyt, F. S.	box 4
Hurlbutt, Mary E.	box 4

Hutchings, F. G. B.	box 4
Iaccaci, Mabel	box 4
Igo, Harold	box 4
Jacques, Caggie P.	box 4
James, Edward Holton	box 4
James, Louisa	box 4
Johnson, Alvin	box 4
Jones, Perree	box 4
Jordan, David Starr	box 4
Kallen, Horace Meyer	box 4
Kane, Thomas A. M.	box 4
Kapp, Marie F.	box 4
Kearney, George F.	box 4
Kelly, Florence	box 9
Kenny, L. L.	box 4
Keppel, Frederick Paul	box 4
Keyser, Cassius Jackson	box 4
Knisely, Burton	box 4
Knot, Raymond	box 4
Koerner, Leon	box 4
Laidler, Harry W.	box 4
Lane, Margaret	box 4
Larsen, Hanna Astrup	box 4
Lerner, Max	box 4
Lewis, Read	box 4
Lewis, Read	box 9
Lindsay, Vachel	box 4
Lippmann, Walter and Macgowan, Kenneth R.	box 4
Littell, Philip	box 4
Lowell, Amy	box 4
Lum, Charles M.	box 4
Lundquist, Frances	box 9

Luttinger, Paul	box 4
McMahon, Arthur	box 9
McMahon, Arthur	box 4
Martin, Prestonia Mann	box 4
Matthews, Brander	box 4
Mebane, Daniel	box 4
Messer, Mary	box 4
Mitchell, Eileen	box 4
Mumford, Lewis	box 4
Myers, T. Hafetead	box 4
Nasmyth, Florence G.	box 4
Odell, George Clinton Densraore	box 4
Ogden, Rollo	box 4
O'Neele, Eleanora	box 4
Oppenheim, James	box 4
Parry, Carl E.	box 4
Parsons, Elsie Clews	box 4
Parsons, Elsie Clews	box 9
Perry, Lawrence	box 4
Phillips, Charles F.	box 4
Phillips, John Sanburn	box 4
Pilpel, Marion	box 4
Piper, Margaret Rebecca	box 4
Poore, Charles P.	box 4
Poyntz, Juliet Stuart	box 4
Quick, Herbert	box 4
R. S., Order & Stock Dept., General Electric	box 4
Rayner, Rhoda B.	box 4
Rehbeux Bros.	box 4
Rinehart, Mary Roberts, and other members of the Authors' League of America, Inc.	box 9
Robinson, James Harvey	box 4
Robinson, Karl Davis	

	box 4
Robinson, Mabel	box 4
Rodman, Henrietta	box 4
Romains, Jules	box 4
Rosenfeld, Paul	box 4
Rosenfeld, Paul	box 9
Sachs, Samuel Ezekiel	box 5
Salter, William M.	box 5
Safford, Irene Clark	box 5
Sedgwick, Ellery	box 5
Sergeant, Elizabeth Shepley	box 5
Sielruthal, M. M.	box 5
Smith, Evelyn D.	box 5
Smith, Marion Couthouy	box 5
Smith, Priseilia	box 5
Smith, William Benjamin	box 5
Smith, Thomas R.	box 5
Spargo, John	box 5
Snyder, Donald B.	box 5
Strunsky, Simeon	box 5
Swain, Joseph Ward	box 5
Teall, Dorothy	box 6
Thayer, Abbott H.	box 9
Thayer, Alma E.	box 6
Thayer, Gerald H.	box 6
Thayer, Gladys	box 6
Thayer, Gladys	box 9
Theis, S. F.	box 6
Ticknor, Florence	box 6
Torabo, Rudolf, Jr.	box 6
Torrence, Ridgely	box 6
Upton, L. M.	box 6

Van Rensselaar, Mariana Griswold	box 6
Vaughan, Hilda	box 6
Vaughan, Elsie A.	box 6
Wade, Grace	box 6
Wallas, Graham	box 9
Ward, Julia Remington	box 6
Ward, Sarah	box 6
Wells, Herbert George	box 6
Whited, Ciro Nae Vie	box 6
Wiers, Edgar S.	box 6
Wilson, Albert Frederick	box 6
Wilson, Dunning S.	box 6
Woodbridge, Frederick J.	box 6
Woodcox, B. F.	box 6
Young, Joy	box 6
Zigrosser, Carl	box 6

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Series II: Manuscripts and Documents, circa 1910-1918

Scope and Contents

Series II includes manuscripts and typescripts of Bourne's works. The original manuscript of "The State"—one of the works for which he is best known, despite its being unfinished at the time of his death—is present. Other essays, published and unpublished at the time of Bourne's death, and several poems are included. In addition to Bourne's more formal writings, his notebooks and course materials from Columbia University, circa 1909-1913, are also in Series II, as are his European travel diaries and ephemera from 1913-1914. Clippings and pamphlets on topics of interest to Bourne, including educational reform and political movements, are included in the series as well.

Title/Description	Instances
"The Artist in Wartime," undated	box 7
"Chivalry and Sin," undated	box 7
Scope and Contents	
Review of "The Cry of Youth" by Harry Kemp and "Americans" by John Curtis Underwood.	
"Development of Public Opinion," 1918	box 7

"The Disillusionment," undated	box 7
"Doubts About Enforcing Peace," undated	box 7
Scope and Contents	
Essay on the League to Enforce Peace.	
Handwritten manuscript on "Drift," undated	box 7
Columbia University course notes on the governments of Germany and Switzerland, circa 1910	box 7
"A Little Thing of Brunelleschi's," undated	box 7
"The Major Chord," undated	box 7
Scope and Contents	
Dramatic script for three parts: The Poet, Myrra, and Apris.	
"A Modern College," circa 1915	box 7
Scope and Contents	
Essay on Reed College in Portland, Oregon.	
"New Love and New Religion," undated	box 9
"The Night-Court," undated	box 7
"On Stamp-Collecting," undated	box 9
Outline of a proposed autobiographical novel, circa 1918 December	box 7
Politics 1-2, 1909-1910	box 7
Scope and Contents	
Columbia University course notebook	
"Pageantry and Social Art," circa 1916	box 7
Scope and Contents	
Essay on the Shakespeare Celebration Committee's planned festival in New York.	
"Practice vs. Product," undated	box 7
"The Prayer of a Materialist," undated	box 7
Untitled manuscript beginning, "Progressive educators object to...," undated	box 7
"Reply to Dewey," 1918 May 28	box 9
"Sabotage," undated	box 7

Scope and Contents

Poem

"Sabotage," circa 1912	box 9
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Scope and Contents

Poem

"Sex and Ferryboats," undated	box 7
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"The 'Scientific' Manager," undated	box 7
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"Sketches," undated	box 7
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Scope and Contents

Poems

"A Sociological Poet,"	box 7
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Scope and Contents

Essay on the poetry of Jules Romains.

"Song for a Little Boy,"	box 7
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Scope and Contents

Poem

Two sonnets on "Youth" and other poems	box 7
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Untitled manuscript beginning, "That spirit of malcontentedness...", undated	box 7
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"Suffrage and Josella," undated	box 7
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Untitled manuscript beginning "To most Americans of the classes which consider themselves significant...", circa 1918	box 7
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Scope and Contents

Beginning of Bourne's unfinished fragment on "The State"

Typescript and manuscript of unfinished fragment on "The State," circa 1918	box 7
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Physical Description: (2 folders)

"Twilight," undated	box 7
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"The Uses of Infallibility," circa 1917	box 7
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Scope and Contents

Essay on Newman's "Apologia pro sua Vita."

"The War of Cultures," circa 1916	box 7
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Physical Description: (2 folders)

"What Plato Means to Me," undated	box 9
Untitled manuscript beginning, "When you come as an inhabitant to this earth...", undated	box 7
Photographs, circa 1888-1918	box 7
Photographs, circa 1916	box 9
Diary for 1901 typescript, 1901	box 7
Loose Columbia University course notes and essays, circa 1910-1913	box 7

Physical Description: (13 folders)

College themes, with instructor comments, circa 1910-1913	box 9
Notebooks, circa 1910-1913	box 7
Loose handwritten notes, circa 1910-1918	box 7
Loose handwritten notes, circa 1910-1918	box 7
Loose notes, circa 1916-1918	box 9
Houghton Mifflin publishing contract and statements for <i>Youth and Life</i> , 1912 November 5, 1913-1915	box 7

Physical Description: (2 folders)

Columbia University scrubwomen's controversy, 1913	box 7
Notes and articles on Columbia <i>Spectator</i> and <i>Monthly</i> content, circa 1910-1913	box 7
Reading notes, circa 1910-1918	box 8

Physical Description: (2 folders)

Columbia University course notebooks, circa 1910-1913	box 8
Richard Watson Gilder Fellowship appointment letter, 1913 April 15	box 8
Travel diaries, 1913-1914	box 8

Physical Description: (3 folders)

Travel ephemera, 1913-1914	box 8
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Physical Description: (2 folders)

Scope and Contents

Includes Socialist pamphlets in French and other printed ephemera gathered by Bourne during his travels.

Accordion folder, circa 1913-1914	box 19
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Scope and Contents

Contains clippings and ephemera from Europe and New York.

Receipt books/reading lists, 1913, 1916-1918	box 8
Diary/appointment book, 1916	box 8
List of published articles by Bourne, by magazine, undated	box 12
Published articles by Bourne, 1911-1918 <u>Physical Description:</u> (3 folders)	box 12
Scrapbook titled "Education and Living," with clipped reviews of Bourne's work, circa 1911-1918	box 12
Loose reviews of Bourne's work, 1917-1918	box 12
French Socialist poster, 1914	box 12
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u> Conditions Governing Access	
CLOSED to researchers until after Conservation treatment. DO NOT UNFOLD.	
Articles and clippings: art and literature, circa 1910-1918	box 11
Articles and reports on education, 1913-1917	box 11
Articles and clippings: philosophy, psychology, and anthropology, circa 1910-1918	box 11
Articles and clippings: politics, circa 1910-1918	box 11
News clippings, circa 1910-1918	box 11
Socialist and pacifist pamphlets, circa 1915-1918	box 11
People's Council of America bulletins and clippings, circa 1917	box 11
<i>Four Lights</i> , circular of the Woman's Peace Party of New York City, 1917	box 11
Scope and Contents	
All issues addressed to Agnes de Lima.	
Contract with Rehbein Bros. for purchase of a piano, 1914 December 31	box 7
<i>Columbia Monthly</i> with essays by Bourne, 1910-1913	box 13
Holy Bible owned by Bourne	box 13
Books from Bourne's library	box 14
Books from Bourne's library	box 15

Books from Bourne's library	box 16
Books from Bourne's library	box 17
Books from Bourne's library	box 18

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Series III: Materials on Bourne, by others, 1918-1994

Scope and Contents

Series III includes works by others about Bourne, such as correspondence, biographers' handwritten notes, and publications. All, or nearly all, of these materials were written after Bourne's death. Series III also includes posthumous publications of Bourne's work.

Title/Description	Instances
Fenninger, Natalie Bourne letter to Esther Cornell, 1918 December 26	box 9
Bourne, Sarah Randolph letters to Esther Cornell, 1919 January 13, February 18 <u>Physical Description:</u> (2 folders)	box 9
R. S. Bourne, by S. A. Sacks, undated	box 9
<i>The Dial</i> and <i>The Liberator</i> with James Oppenheim's elegy for Randolph Bourne,, 1919	box 12
<i>The Dial</i> , 1920 January	box 20
Letters to Agnes de Lima regarding Bourne, 1920, 1947-1955 <u>Physical Description:</u> (8 folders)	box 9
Assorted manuscripts about, belonging to, or otherwise related to Bourne, circa 1910-1960	box 9
Letters written to John Moreau relating to his <i>Randolph Bourne: Legend and Reality</i> (Washington Public Affairs Press, 1966)	box 10
Scope and Contents	
The letters are from persons who knew Bourne and who read Moreau's manuscript.	
Biographers' notes and clippings, circa 1910s-1940s	box 20
Louis Filler's notes on Randolph Bourne, circa 1940s	box 20
Clippings about Randolph Bourne, circa 1940s	box 20
Proofs from Bourne section of <i>American Writers</i> , published by Scribner's, 1974	box 20

Scope and Contents

Sent to Columbia University Rare Books and Manuscripts Librarian Kenneth Lohf by the publisher.

Louis Filler, Randolph Bourne (Washington, D.C.: American Council on Public Affairs, 1943)., 1943	box 20
Olaf Hansen (ed.), Randolph Bourne: The Radical Will (Berkeley, CA: University of California Press, 1977)., 1977	box 20
Jeroen Staring, "F. Mattias Alexander, Randolph Bourne, and John Dewey: Playing Detective with Man's Supreme Inheritance," (Nijmegen, Netherlands: Druk and Vorm, 1994)., 1994	box 20

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