

Wilton W. Blancké papers

Ms. Coll. 1081

Finding aid prepared by Kristine McGee.

Last updated on July 15, 2020.

University of Pennsylvania, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts

2015 June 12

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Summary Information

Repository	University of Pennsylvania: Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts
Creator	Blancké, Wilton W. (Wilton Wallace), 1884-1949
Title	Wilton W. Blancké papers
Call number	Ms. Coll. 1081
Date [inclusive]	1900-1954
Extent	0.83 linear feet (2 boxes + 1 oversized folder)
Language	English
Abstract	The papers of Wilton W. Blancké document his life as an educator and author. A strong, vocal proponent for a foreign language curriculum in public education, Blancké wrote several articles on the subject. He also penned numerous letters to editors of various publications espousing the view that the study of foreign language contributes to an international understanding.

Biographical/Historical note

Wilton Wallace Blancké (1884-1949) was born on September 16, 1884 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He was the only child of Charles, an accountant for the Pennsylvania Railroad, and Ella Rhoades Blancké. Blancké graduated from Central High School in 1901 and was the second prize winner in the school's oratorical contest. He entered the University of Pennsylvania that fall, where he majored in Latin with

minors in Greek and Classical Archaeology. Throughout his undergraduate days, Blancké wrote, produced and starred in several plays. He graduated from Penn with an A.B. in 1905, a A.M. in 1906 and a Ph.D. in 1916.

Blancké joined the faculty at Central High School in 1906. He left Central High School in 1922 to become head of the foreign language department at South Philadelphia High School for Boys. In addition to heading the foreign language department, Blancké also taught Latin, French and German. He also taught college courses for teachers at the University of Pennsylvania and served as an advisor to foreign language students at Temple University. Blancké retired from teaching in 1946 but continued to write articles and plays as he had done throughout his adult years.

Blancké married artist Cecil Whittier Trout in August 1908. They had two children, Wilton Wendell Blancké, who later became an American diplomat and author, was born in 1908 and a daughter, Cecil, arrived in 1909. The couple later divorced and Blancké married Josephine Katzenstein in 1924. Blancké died from cancer on February 12, 1949.

Scope and Contents note

This collection contains articles, clippings, typescripts, lecture notes and essays of educator and author, Wilton W. Blancké. A firm believer that foreign language study contributed toward international understanding, Blancké was a vocal proponent for its study to be included in public education and wrote several articles on the subject. Foreign language education was not Blancké's only interest. His other writings reflect those interests and include a hiking guide, plays, and musicals. All material is arranged alphabetically and chronologically thereunder.

Administrative Information

University of Pennsylvania, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts

2015 June 12

Finding aid prepared by Kristine McGee.

Conditions Governing Access note

This collection is open for research use.

Conditions Governing Use note

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Controlled Access Headings

FORM/GENRE(S)

- Correspondence
- Essays
- Lecture notes

OCCUPATION(S)

- Teachers--United States

SUBJECT(S)

- Authors
- Authors, American--20th century
- Education
- Education--Pennsylvania--Philadelphia
- Language and languages
- Playwriting--20th century

Collection Inventory

	Box	Folder
"Abstemia or Oh Dry Up" , undated.	1	1
Biographical material, 1901-1938.	1	2
<i>Bulletin of the Pennsylvania State Modern Language Association</i> , 1925, 1939.	1	3
<i>The Classical Bulletin</i> , 1939.	1	4
<i>The Classical Weekly</i> , 1912.	1	5
Clippings, 1917-1943.	1	6

Clippings: Blancké-Lewis debate, 1921.	1	7
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Conference and meeting papers, speeches, 1912-1944.	1	8
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"Confessions of a Highbrow" , circa 1925.	1	9
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Correspondence, 1901-1948.	1	10
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<i>The Dramatic Values in Palutus</i> , 1918.	1	11
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Essays, 1901.	1	12
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"General Language as a Prognosis of Success in Foreign Language Study" , 1939.	1	13
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<i>General Principles of Language: reviews, 1953-1954.</i>	1	14
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<i>A Guide to Hikes Along the Philadelphia Main Line, 1943.</i>	1	15
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"Hotel Incog or Oh Claude!" , 1920.	1	16
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"How the Feud Ended" , 1900.	1	17
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"King of the Mountains" , undated.	2	1
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Lecture notes, 1939.	2	2
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"Midsummer Madness" , 1911.	2	3
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Miscellaneous writings, 1937, undated.	2	4
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<i>The Philadelphia Teacher</i> , 1936-1938.	2	5
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Public letters, 1919-1942.	2	6
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"Reducto Ad Absurdum: A Parable" , 1948.	2	7
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<i>The Trend in American Education</i> : review, 1924.	2	8
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"A Tribute to John C. Rolfe" , 1925.	2	9
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<i>The University Extension Bulletin</i> , 1917.	2	10
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Writings on education, 1936-1941, undated.	2	11
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Writings on music, 1904-1917.	2	12
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The Zelosophic Magazine, 1904.

2

13

Box

Fold

Oversized, 1904, 1946-1948.

49