

**William Orton Tewson Papers**  
**A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress**



**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**  
**Washington, D.C.**  
**2009**

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm80003199>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms008137>

Prepared by Michael Spangler

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2009  
Revised 2010 April

## Collection Summary

**Title:** William Orton Tewson Papers

**Span Dates:** 1923-1926

**Bulk Dates:** (bulk 1926)

**ID No.:** MSS3199

**Creator:** Tewson, William Orton, 1877-1947

**Extent:** 120 items

**Extent:** 1 container

**Extent:** .2 linear feet

**Language:** Collection material in English

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

**LC Catalog record:** <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm80003199>

**Summary:** Editor and literary critic. Primarily a list of contributors and responses from authors, poets, and journalists to Tewson's query, "Do you care what the critics say about you?" posed in the *Literary Review of the New York Evening Post* in 1926.

## Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

### People

Anderson, Sherwood, 1876-1941--Correspondence.

Chamberlain, George Agnew, 1879-1966--Correspondence.

Conrad, Joseph, 1857-1924.

Donehower, George. Mrs.--Correspondence.

Garland, Hamlin, 1860-1940--Correspondence.

Hecht, Ben, 1894-1964--Correspondence.

Hergesheimer, Joseph, 1880-1954--Correspondence.

Hughes, Rupert, 1872-1956--Correspondence.

Hurst, Fannie, 1889-1968--Correspondence.

Jeffers, Robinson, 1887-1962--Correspondence.

Lardner, Ring, 1885-1933--Correspondence.

Le Gallienne, Richard, 1866-1947--Correspondence.

Lewis, Sinclair, 1885-1951--Correspondence.

Markham, Edwin, 1852-1940--Correspondence.

Masters, Edgar Lee, 1868-1950--Correspondence.

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

Nathan, George Jean, 1882-1958--Correspondence.

Nathan, Robert, 1894-1985--Correspondence.

Nicholson, Meredith, 1866-1947--Correspondence.

O'Neill, Eugene, 1888-1953--Correspondence.

Robinson, Edwin Arlington, 1869-1935--Correspondence.

Sinclair, Upton, 1878-1968--Correspondence.

Tarkington, Booth, 1869-1946--Correspondence.

Tewson, William Orton, 1877-1947.

Untermeyer, Louis, 1885-1977--Correspondence.

Wister, Owen, 1860-1938--Correspondence.

### Subjects

American newspapers.

Criticism.

### Titles

*Literary review (New York, N.Y.)  
New York evening post.*

### **Occupations**

Critics.  
Editors.

## **Provenance**

The papers of William Orton Tewson, editor and literary critic, were purchased by the Library of Congress in 1946. An additional item was transferred from the Alfred Bendiner Memorial Collection of the Prints and Photographs Division in 1997.

## **Processing History**

The papers of William Orton Tewson were arranged and described in 1998. The finding aid was revised in 2009.

## **Copyright Status**

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

## **Access and Restrictions**

The papers of William Orton Tewson 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, William Orton Tewson Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## **Scope and Content Note**

The papers of William Orton Tewson (1877-1947) span the years 1923-1926, with all but one of the items dating from 1926 and consisting of responses from poets, writers, and journalists to the question by Tewson "Do you care what the critics say about you?" Tewson had raised the query in the *Literary Review of the New York Evening Post*, a weekly magazine edited by him, on 4 September 1926. More than one hundred authors responded, some at considerable length, with handwritten as well as typewritten and signed contributions. Their replies are arranged alphabetically by name of respondent.

Among the writers represented are Sherwood Anderson, George Agnew Chamberlain, Hamlin Garland, Ben Hecht, Joseph Hergesheimer, Rupert Hughes, Fannie Hurst, Robinson Jeffers, Ring Lardner, Richard Le Gallienne, Sinclair Lewis, Edwin Markham, Edgar Lee Masters, H. L. Mencken, George Jean Nathan, Robert Nathan, Meredith Nicholson, Eugene O'Neill, Edwin Arlington Robinson, Upton Sinclair, Booth Tarkington, Louis Untermeyer, and Owen Wister.

## **Arrangement of the Papers**

This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material and name of respondent.

## Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Letter to Mrs. George Donehower regarding Joseph Conrad, 1923
BOX 1	Symposium on literary critics, <i>Literary Review of the New York Evening Post</i> , 1926
BOX 1	List of contributors (incomplete)
BOX 1	Correspondence and responses of contributors (3 folders)