Emanuel Haldeman-Julius Collection.

Big Blue Books and Larger Books.

Finding guide by Tony Gardner, Curator.

Completed March 7, 2007

10 manuscript boxes (5 linear ft.)

Call no.: Z473.H15 B445

History

Emanuel Haldeman-Julius (1888-1951) moved to Girard, Kansas in 1915 to begin writing for Appeal to Reason, a leading socialist newspaper in pre World War I America. In 1919 he purchased a partnership with Louis Kopelin in the newspaper and its printing facility with money borrowed from his wife Marcet Haldeman. He began issuing the Big Blue Books in 1925. They were 5 ½” x 8 ½” high and generally 30,000 words in 64 pages. Customers could order titles from mail order catalogs or visit one of the outlet stores in Cincinnati, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Venice, Colorado. The Los Angeles store opened in 1924 in the downtown Mercantile Arcade Building (recently converted to loft apartments). These larger format versions cost from 25 cents to $1.00 each.

Provenance

The Haldeman-Julius Company printed these larger format books in Giraud, Kansas. The titles in this collection were assembled from two major gifts from retired University Library Dean Norman Tanis in the 1970s and Mr. Jack Botwin, a former salesman for Haldeman-Julius publications, in 1990.

Scope and Contents notes

The Big Blue Books and larger books are part of the Library’s Emanuel Haldeman-Julius Collection of publications that include Little Blue Books, books from Mr. Haldeman-Julius’ personal library, printing plates, and canceled business checks.

Organization

The publications are organized into two parts. Part I lists the numbered and unnumbered individual titles. Part II lists publisher’s series and sets. Some have a B number and a series number, such as Joseph McCabe’s History of Human Morals.

Haldeman-Julius occasionally reissued earlier B numbered titles without a number or assigned a new B number (e.g. B-471 was originally numbered B-26). When the earlier B number could be determined it is
recorded in brackets as “originally issued as ….,” or “reissued as….,” In some cases duplicate titles are included that display physical differences such as different color covers or numbering distinctions. Where the number suddenly jumps to 5000, the size also increases to over 9”. Advertisements refer to these as the “larger books”. Two exceptions are B-5004 and B-5500 which are the same size as the other Big Blue Books.

There are two other finding guides for the Little Blue books and Publishing Records. Books are grouped in the online catalog under the Emanuel Haldeman-Julius Book Collection.

Description

PART I. Numbered and Unnumbered Titles.

Series I: Unnumbered Titles
The unnumbered titles have no B or catalog number nor are part of a publisher’s series. They are included here because their size and printing format conforms to the numbered Big Blue Books. These are arranged alphabetically by author and cover a variety of subjects.

Series II. Numbered Titles
The numbered titles include the B series numbers (called Big Blue Books in Haldeman-Julius advertisements), numbered titles found in our copy of the publisher’s Big Blue Books Catalog (61 pages, no date), or confirmed against the finding guide for the Haldeman-Julius Publications, Mid-Sized Books, 1905-1951 prepared by Dyani Scheuerman at Kent State University Library’s Department of Special Collections and Archives. Numbers from these last two sources are bracketed. A variety of subjects are covered with many contributions by Carl Willard Smith about individual states, Joseph McCabe on notable persons, Paul Eldridge stories, Robert G. Ingersoll essays on religion, Upton Sinclair on social issues, A.F. Niemoeller and D.O. Cauldwell on human sexuality, and Hereward Carrington on psychology.

PART II. Publisher’s Series.

Series III: The ABC Library of Living Knowledge
Joseph McCabe (1867-1955), a former Franciscan monk and outspoken English rationalist, authored all the titles in this series. They cover astronomy, fascism, Nazism, the Spanish Civil War, imperial Japan, American politics, health, economics, and anthropology. There were 19 titles published.

Series IV: Appeal to Reason Library
Joseph McCabe wrote this collection of articles on Catholicism and contemporary world politics. This is 5 volumes.

Series V: Black International
Joseph McCabe wrote all 19 tracts issued in 1941 to 1942. The series links fascism and the Catholic Church.

**Series VI: Book of Life**
Haldeman-Julius published many of Upton Sinclair’s works. He issued the longer ones in the Big Blue Book format. This is a 4 volume set.

**Series VII: Digest**
These are condensed versions of works by Charles Dickens, Daniel Defoe, Richard Wagner, Sir Thomas Moore, and other well known authors, many with new introductions by Miriam Allen deFord. There are 36 volumes.

**Series VIII: The Freethinker's Library**
Joseph McCabe wrote the ten 15,000 word essays on rationalism, God, and religion that comprise this series. Single copies cost 50 cents or $1.00 for the whole set (advertisement, *Reviewer’s Library*, 5).

**Series IX: History of Human Morals**
Joseph McCabe wrote these essays on morality from ancient to modern times in European, Middle Eastern, and Asian civilizations.

**Series X: Key to Culture.**
Joseph McCabe wrote all 40 numbers in this encyclopedic series on science, literature, education, philosophy, psychology, and art and architecture started in 1929.

**Series XI: Key to Evolution**
Maynard Shipley, co-founder with his wife Miriam Allen deFord of the Science League of America during the anti-evolution movement of the 1920s, wrote this set of 4 double volumes.

**Series XII: The Key to Love and Sex**
Joseph McCabe writes on the philosophy and history of sex, and sexual morals in American and European civilization. Advertisements promoted this as providing all the facts about love and sex vital for human happiness.

**Series XIII: Notes and Comments**
Emanuel Haldeman-Julius reflects on a variety of subjects such as religion, sex, politics, and famous persons. He issued 10 numbers in this series which began in 1950. It was issued in both cloth and paper bindings.

**Series XIV: One Hundred Men Who Moved the World**
These are character sketches about individuals who the author considers the greatest creative forces in history. There were 17 titles mostly written by Joseph McCabe published.

**Series XV: Questions and Answers**
The advertisement in *Reviewer’s Library*, 5 for the first issues says these are Emanuel Haldeman-Julius responses to questions asked by readers of his publication *The American Freeman*. Future issues followed the same format. The series aimed to help the reader solve difficult problems in government, science, and economics. He printed 5,500 copies of each number and advertised them for $1.00 per issue. According to Haldeman-Julius this series never sold well and he gave it away as a premium to subscribers of *The American Freeman*. No B numbers are assigned.

**Series XVI: Reviewer’s Library**
Most of the numbers in this series are written by Isaac Goldbert and Marcet Haldeman-Julius. They are short biographies of notable contemporaries such and Jane Addams, George Gershwin, and Mussolini.

**Series XVII: The Story of the Human Race**
This 5 volume series contains biographies of historical persons. The subtitle is “The Biographical History of the World”.

**Series XVIII: Views & Reviews**
Only two numbers were apparently issued. They consist of opinions, criticisms, comments, character sketches, jokes and wisecracks.

**Series XIX: Wisdom of Life**
The *Big Blue Books* catalog lists 12 titles in this series. There are only three in the collection with this series name or number system. Other titles in this collection that seem to be part of this series lack the series name anywhere. These titles can be identified by the word “wisdom” in the title. (e.g. *Wisdom of Karl Marx*).

**Box Listing**

**Series I. Unnumbered Titles. Box 1.**

**Box 1 (AS/RS 30700110426250)**


Harry Elmer Barnes. *Freeing the Human Mind*. 


Edward Carpenter. *Love's Coming of Age* [Originally issued as B-41]. no date.


Rene Descartes. *Discourse on the Method of Rightly Conducting the Reason and Seeking Truth in the Sciences*. 1941


E. Haldeman-Julius. *The Fun I Get Out of Life* [Originally issued as B-8]


Marcet Haldeman-Julius. *Clarence Darrow’s Two Great Trials* [Originally issued as B-29]. 1927.


**Series II: Numbered Titles. Boxes 1-7.**

**Box 1 (AS/RS 30700110426250)**


82. Homer's *Iliad*. Long Selections, with a brief Introduction [by] Helen Pope [also issued as Digest 30]. 1945. [82].


188. Marcey Haldeman-Julius. *What I Have Learned About Animals*. no date. [188].


207. George Moore. *Confessions of a Young Man* [Originally issued as B-45]. no date. [207].

**Box 2 (AS/RS 30700110426169)**


216. Harvey N. Castleman. *Sam Bass, the Train Robber*. 1944. [216].


221. William Yancey Shackleford. *Belle Starr The Bandit Queen*. 1943. [221].
228. Clarence Darrow. *Clarence Darrow's Plea in Defense of Loeb and Leopold*. no date. [228].
265. Voltaire. *Candide. A Satire on the Notion That This Is the Best of All Possible Worlds*. [265].
266. Guy De Maupassant. *The History of a Woman's Heart*. [266].
277. Lewis Browne. *See What I Mean?*. 1943. [277].


343. Vance Randolph. *Tall Tales From the Ozarks*. 1944. [343].


357. Joseph McCabe. *Getting the Most Out of Life*. 1941. [357]

364. Erasmus. *In Praise of Folly*. [364].

Box 3 (AS/RS 30700110426177)


381. Bertrand Russell. *Ideas That Have Helped Mankind*. 1946. [381].


416. Upton and George Sinclair and Sokolsky. *Is the American Form of Capitalism Essential to the American Form of Democracy?* 1940. [416].

417. Upton and Philip F. Sinclair and LaFollette. *Peace or War in America*. 1941. [417].


471. Gotthold Lessing (Leo Markun, ed.). *Nathan the Wise* [Originally issued as B-026]. no date. B-471.


480. Heney Thomas, Ph. D. *The Beginning of Real Civilization*. no date.


**Box 4 (AS/RS 30700110426185)**


**Box 5 (AS/RS 30700110426193)**


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<td>707</td>
<td>Joseph McCabe</td>
<td><em>The Encyclopedia of Essential Knowledge</em> (vol.1)</td>
<td>1948</td>
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<td>Upton Sinclair</td>
<td><em>Marie and Her Lover</em></td>
<td>1948</td>
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<td>William James</td>
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<td>1948</td>
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<td>713</td>
<td>Simon Arundel Emler</td>
<td>&quot;Master-Mistress&quot;&quot;</td>
<td>1948</td>
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<td>714</td>
<td>Hereward Carrington</td>
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<td>1948</td>
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<td>1948</td>
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<td><em>A Dictionary of Your Dream</em></td>
<td>1948</td>
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<td>Estelle H. Ries</td>
<td><em>Grow Herbs for Pleasure and Profit</em></td>
<td>1948</td>
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<td><em>Christ and the Colonel</em></td>
<td>1948</td>
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<td><em>Home is What You Make it</em></td>
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<td><em>How Intelligent are we?</em></td>
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<td>Abraham Strachstein</td>
<td><em>Your Ailing heart and How to Live with it</em></td>
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<td>728</td>
<td>D.O. Cauldwell</td>
<td><em>Premature Ejaculation---What to do About it</em></td>
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<td>D.O. Cauldwell</td>
<td><em>The Folly of So-Called Sexual Conservation</em></td>
<td>1948</td>
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<td>730</td>
<td>Clifton Bennett</td>
<td><em>The F.B.I.---The Basis of an American Police State</em></td>
<td>1948</td>
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775. [Anon.]. *The "How" of Mail Order*. no date. B-775.


Box 6 (AS/RS 30700110426201)


818. [Anom.]. *Which Road for American Workers---Socialist or Communist? (Debates)*. no date. B-818.
856. D.O. Cauldwell. *Questions & Answers on the Sex Life...Problems of Trans-Sexuals*. 1950. B-
856.


862. Frank Sawncara (and others). *Black Lies As Evangelic Aids (And Other Articles)*. 1950. B-862.


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<td>Paul Eldridge</td>
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<td>J.B.S. Haldane</td>
<td><em>The Achievement of Albert Einstein and Other Scientific Articles</em></td>
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<td><em>Transvestists’ Unexpurgated Letters</em></td>
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<td>883</td>
<td>Jack Woodford</td>
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<td>1950</td>
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<td>Patsy O’Bang’s First Mistress</td>
<td><em>Pages From a Wanton Woman’s Secret Diary</em></td>
<td>1950</td>
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<td><em>Anatole France; Master of Irony and Pity</em></td>
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<td>895</td>
<td>Napoleon Buonaparte (and others)</td>
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<td>896</td>
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<td>900</td>
<td>500 Epigrams about Love</td>
<td>Compiled by Dr. Patsy O’Bang</td>
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<td>A.H. Bullen, ed.</td>
<td><em>Gay Poems of Bubby Love</em></td>
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<td>Diane Comtesse (Patsy O’bang, ed.)</td>
<td><em>A French Woman on Life and Love</em></td>
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<td>1950</td>
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<td><em>Darrow-Lewis Debate on the Theory of Non-Resistance to Evil</em></td>
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913. Albert Mordell, *A Reply to Dr.... Feldman (coupled with Albert Mordell....by Feldman)*. no date. B-913.


**Box 7 (AS/RS 30700110426219)**


924. Jack Woodford (and others), *Warnings and Advice to Writers Who want to be Published*. 1951. B-924.


5794. D.O. Cauldwell. *"Technique of Courtship and Marriage"*. B-5794.

**Series III-X. Box 8. (AS/RS 30700110426227)**

**Series III. ABC Library of Living Knowledge.**

**Series IV. Appeal to Reason Library**


**Series V. Black International, 1-10; Black International, Second series, 11-19.**


**Series VI. Book of Life, v. 1-2.**

**Book of Life, v.1**

**Book of Life, v.2**

**Series VII. Digest, 1-36.**


**Series VIII. Freethinker's Library, 1-10.**


**Series IX. History of Human Morals, 1-11.**


**Series X. Key to Culture, 2-26. Boxes 8-9.**


**Box 9 (AS/RS 30700110426235)**

29. Joseph McCabe. *Important Facts about the Great Writers of the Middle Ages*. Edited by E. Haldeman-Julius. no date.
40. Joseph McCabe. *Important Facts About the Progress of Science*. Edited by E. Haldeman-Julius. no date.

**Series XI –XIV. Box 9**

**Series XI. Key to Evolution, 1-7.**


**Series XII. Key to Love and Sex, 1-2, 5-8.**
5. Joseph McCabe. *Woman and the Creative Urge* Edited by E. Haldeman-Julius. no date. [45].
7. Joseph McCabe. *What Should be Taught about Sex* Edited by E. Haldeman-Julius. no date. [47].

**Series XIII. Notes and Comments, 1-10. Cloth Bound.**


**Series XIII. Notes and Comments, 1-10. Paper Bound.**


**Series XIV. One Hundred Men Who Moved the World, 2-3, 5-7, 9, 11, 13, 15-17.**


**Series XV – XIX. Box 10.**

**Series XV. Questions & Answers, 1-27.**

**Box 10 (AS/RS 30700110426243)**


**Series XVI. Reviewer's Library, 1-8.**


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**Series XVII. Story of the Human Race, 5, I - V.**


II. Henry Thomas. *The Parade of the Sword and the Cross*. [496].


**Series XVIII. Views & Reviews, 1-2.**

1. E. Haldeman-Julius. *Comments, Opinions, Criticisms...* No. 1

2. E. Haldeman-Julius. *Comments, Opinions, Criticisms...* No. 2

**Series XIX. Wisdom of Life Series, W-1, W-2, W-9.**

