Title: FREDERICK ALLEN KING. Papers

Approximate inclusive dates: ca. 1888-1935

Date of receipt: November 20, 1939

Received from: Estate of Frederick Allen King

Volume on arrival: 1 bundle

Number of boxes (after reboxing): 2

Condition: Fair

Restrictions: None

Description:

King (1865-1939), after having earned both a B.A. and a M.A. in literature from Wesleyan University by 1893, and having taught for ca. five years at various schools, began a successful editorial career in New York City. From 1909 to 1933 he was literary editor for the Literary Digest, a popular and well-regarded magazine concerned with current issues and subjects of a literary, cultural and humorous nature. King's papers indicate that he also had an active interest in music, theatre, and art.

King's papers divide into two main categories; editorial and personal. The editorial papers consist of correspondence and poems. Both are largely unsorted. A great deal of the letters are directed to King in his role as editor of the Current Poetry page (a regular feature of the magazine); some letters deal with other editorial and related business. A small part of the correspondence is personal, not professional. One smaller folder contains letters which follow two particular events. One is the Hahn vs. Duveen case, a controversy over the worth of a painting, and indirectly, of criticism itself; the other is the change in format of the Literary Digest and the subsequent public response. The poems are mostly submissions to the Current Poetry page and appear to be by amateur or minor poets. Many poems are accompanied by explanatory letters, which are not included with the other correspondence. Some of the editorial papers are interesting due to their anecdotal nature, and certain items could be of special interest to a student of literature of this period. Clippings which document the Hahn vs. Duveen case are at the end of the editorial material.

The personal papers include a record of books, notes on various subjects.


Accessioned by: [Signature]

Date: October 27, 1939
and examinations 1888-1892 from King's undergraduate and graduate work; financial papers from King's travels; photographs of old manuscripts and of autograph catalogues; and other unsorted papers.

Box 1- Editorial
Box 2- Personal