MEREDITH NICHOLSON
PAPERS, 1891-1947

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Processed by
Alexandra S. Gressitt
October 1995
Updated 11 May 2004

Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org
## COLLECTION INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>VOLUME OF COLLECTION:</strong></th>
<th>2 manuscript boxes, 2 photograph folders</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>COLLECTION DATES:</strong></td>
<td>1891-1947</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PROVENANCE:</strong></td>
<td>Gift of Mrs. Meredith Nicholson, Jr., Indianapolis, Indiana, 30 June 1969; May 1970; and purchase from Robert Stock, Indianapolis, Indiana, October 1978</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RESTRICTIONS:</strong></td>
<td>None</td>
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<td><strong>REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>ALTERNATE FORMATS:</strong></td>
<td>M 0192, Carleton B. McCulloch Papers; M 0268, James Arthur Stuart Papers; M 0666, Meredith Nicholson Collection; SC 1065, Samuel Caldwell Meredith Papers; SC 2492, Robert Underwood Johnson Papers; and SC 2494, Jacquelin and Florence Holliday Papers.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>RELATED HOLDINGS:</strong></td>
<td>1969.0602; 1970.0507; 1978.1005</td>
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<td><strong>ACCESSION NUMBER:</strong></td>
<td>1969.0602; 1970.0507; 1978.1005</td>
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**NOTES:**
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Meredith Nicholson was born in Crawfordsville, Indiana, 9 December 1866, the son of Edward Willis and Emily (Meredith) Nicholson and died in Indianapolis, December 1947 where he is buried in Crown Hill Cemetery. He married first, Eugenie Kountze of Omaha, Nebraska (1896-1931) by which union they had four children: Elizabeth Kountze Nicholson (Mrs. Austin H. Brown--see also collections: BV 2629 and SC 2414) Eugenie Nicholson who died in infancy; Meredith Nicholson, Jr. and Charles Lionel Nicholson. He married, secondly, Dorothy (Wolfe) Lannon of Marion, Indiana, 20 September 1933, from whom he was divorced, 24 December 1943.

An author, diplomat, and lecturer, he was a self-educated man of letters, who with Booth Tarkington, George Ade, and James W. Riley is considered a leader in creating, during the first quarter of the twentieth century, a Golden Age of literature in Indiana. Following one year (1884) with the Indianapolis Sentinel, Nicholson went with the Indianapolis News, where he worked from 1885-1897. His literary career spanned nearly forty years with his first publication Short Flights 1891 and his last The Cavalier of Tennessee in 1928 and included both prose and poetry.

Nicholson participated with some enthusiasm--as party leader and candidate--in Democratic party politics, serving one term (1928-1930) as a reform city councilman in Indianapolis. For his long years of service and dedication to the Democratic party, Nicholson was rewarded with ministries to Latin America--Paraguay (1933-34), Venezuela (1935-1938) and Nicaragua (1938-1941).

Sources: Who Was Who in America, Vol. II, p. 397  
SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection represents material acquired through gift and purchase from Nicholson family members. It includes correspondence (1916-1947) of both Meredith Nicholson and his second wife Dorothy Wolfe Nicholson as well as Nicholson's literary notebooks (1891-1917) and other writings. While the correspondence largely relates to Nicholson's diplomatic service, there are a few early literary items. The collection has been divided into two parts—the first, material relating to Meredith Nicholson including correspondence, literary notebooks, other writings and news clippings and the second, material relating to Dorothy Nicholson, primarily correspondence. Materials are filed chronologically.

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BOX 1: Meredith Nicholson

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Correspondence, 1940-1943
Correspondence, n.d.
Literary Notebook, 1891-1898
Literary Notebook, 1898-1908
Literary Notebook, 1914-1917

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Box 1, Folder 6
Box 1, Folder 7
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BOX 2: Meredith Nicholson and Dorothy Wolfe Nicholson

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Meredith Nicholson: Literary Notebooks (2), n.d.
Meredith Nicholson: Broadcast WFMB, 10 Nov. 1925
Meredith Nicholson: Character Sketch by Nellie Simmons Meier, 16 March 1936

CONTAINER
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Box 2, Folder 2
Box 2, Folder 3
Box 2, Folder 4
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<tr>
<th>Content Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dorothy Nicholson: Correspondence</td>
<td>1933-1934</td>
<td>Box 2, Folder 6</td>
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<td>Dorothy Nicholson: Correspondence</td>
<td>1935-1939</td>
<td>Box 2, Folder 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dorothy Nicholson: Correspondence</td>
<td>1940</td>
<td>Box 2, Folder 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dorothy Nicholson: Correspondence</td>
<td>1941-1944</td>
<td>Box 2, Folder 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dorothy Nicholson: Correspondence</td>
<td>1945-1947</td>
<td>Box 2, Folder 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dorothy Nicholson: Correspondence</td>
<td>n.d.</td>
<td>Box 2, Folder 11</td>
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**Visual Materials**

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<tr>
<td>Sheila Hannah Photographs</td>
<td>Visual Collection: Photographs, Folder 1</td>
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<td>Dorothy Nicholson Negatives,</td>
<td>Visual Collection: Photographs, Folder 2</td>
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<td>ca. 1930-1945</td>
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CALENDAR


1 Nov 1931  Enveloped addressed to Meredith Nicholson from R. Watson.


29 Aug 1933  Kathleen [McNutt], Governor's Cottage [Chesterton, IN] to Meredith Nicholson. ALS, 2p. with envelope.


1 Dec 1933  Alex Weddell, Montevideo to MN. ALS, 4p. with 3 envelopes.

12 Dec 1933  Leo R. Sack, San Jose, Costa Rica to Nick. TLS, 3p. with envelope.

Dec 1933 Mr. & Mrs. Gould Dietz to Mr. & Mrs. Meredith Nicholson. Annotated 23 Dec. 1933 to Meddie from your Grandfather N. with envelope.

1933 Invitation from Luis Beltran y Gozalez with envelope.

1933 Invitation from The British Charge d'Affaires and Mrs. Tottenham-Smith to Minister and Mrs. Nicholson, with envelope.


8 Sep 1934 Frederick Van Nuys to Meredith [Nicholson]. ALS, 3p. with envelope.


10 Sep 1934 Hugh Gibson, Rio de Janerio to Colleague MN. TLS, 1p. with envelope.


13 Nov 1934 Envelope from Boston to Meredith Nicholson.

13 Dec 1934 Kenyon and Lucile Nicholson to Dorothy and MN. ANS, 1p. with envelope.

1934 (?) Invitation from the Minister of France and Mrs. Armand Barois. PFFI, 1p.


19 Jan 1935 Leo R. Sack, San Jose, Costa Rica to Nick. TLS, 2p. with envelope.


Jul 1935 Acceptance of invitation by Mr. & Mrs. Stabler. AN, 1p. with envelope.

1935 Greeting Card. AN, 1p.

14 Sep 1936 Tark [Booth Tarkington], Kennebunkport, Maine to Nick. TLS, 3p. with envelope and annotation.


[Dec] 1936 Christmas Greeting from Clara and George Orr to Mr. & Mrs. Nicholson. ANS.

9 Dec 1937 Alice and Philip Raine to Mr. & Mrs. Nicholson. ANS, 1p. with envelope.

10 Dec 1937 Gertrude Engle, Charleston, WVA, Christmas Greetings to Mr. & Mrs. Nicholson. ANS, 1p. with envelope.

11 Dec 1937 Mr. & Mrs. Weddell, Buenos Aires to Mr. & Mrs. Nicholson, Christmas Greetings. ANS, 1p.

20 Dec 1937 Nellie S. Meier, Indianapolis to Mr. & Mrs. Nicholson. TLS, 2p. with AN, 1p. and envelope.

20 Dec 1937 Charlie and Lydia, -------, San Juan, Puerto Rico to Mr. & Mrs. Nicholson. Signed card and envelope.


[Dec] 1937 Postal Christmas Greeting card from Mr. & Mrs. Josephus Daniels

[Dec] 1937 Mr. & Mrs. David Blelloch, Geneva, to Mr. & Mrs. Nicholson. Greeting card and envelope.

[Dec] 1937  Dr. Oliver Smith to Mr. & Mrs. Meredith Nicholson. Greeting card and envelope. ANS, 1p.


20 Sep 1938  Invitation from the Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores Particular, Nicaragua. TLS, 1p. with envelope.


[Dec] 1939  Edward F. Roosevelt, Christmas Greetings to Mr. & Mrs. Meredith Nicholson. Printed card with envelope.

1 Aug 1940  Gay[lord] Beaman to MN. TLS, 1p.

12 Oct 1940  Trudy ----- to Uncle Med and Dorothy. TLS, 3p. with envelope.

19 Mar 1941  Alice ----- to Mr. & Mrs. Nicholson. Autograph Post Card signed.

12 Aug 1941  Sue ----- to Mr. & Mrs. Nicholson. Autograph Post Card signed.

1941  Federal Tax Statement for 1941. AN, 1p.

20 Feb. 1943  Paul N. Rowe, Indianapolis, to MN. TLS, 2p.

2 Mar 1943  Herman [Kountze], Bedford, NY to Meredith. ALS, 2p. with envelope.

[March 1943]  [Meredith Nicholson] to Mr. Rowe. AL (draft copy), 2p.

10 Jul 1943  Arch. Hannah, Caracas, Venezuela, to Mr. & Mrs. Nicholson. ALS with envelope and black and white snapshot of Shiela Hannah 7-10-1943.


n.d.  Sit to MN. Autograph Post card signed.
n.d. Envelope to MN.
n.d. Christmas Greeting card and envelope from Major and Mrs. Alfred Jurad to Mr. & Mrs. Nicholson.
n.d. Christmas Greeting card from Jean Hope and Al Phelps.
n.d. Christmas Greeting card and envelope from Carmen and Henry Linam to Mr. & Mrs. Nicholson.
n.d. Calling card: Charlotte Field Hawkins
n.d. Calling card: Mr. & Mrs. Woodfin Lee Butte
n.d. Note: Dr. Mariano Salagar
n.d. Note: Arrival/departure times Managua
n.d. Postal receipt, PFFI, 1p.
n.d. Picture Postcard, Managua, Nicaragua (2)

DOROTHY WOLFE NICHOLSON: CORRESPONDENCE 1933-1947

10 Sep 1933 MN, Washington D.C., to Dorothy Wolfe Lannon. ALS, 1p.
1933 Maral DeLeyale, President of Paraguay to DN. ANS, 1p. with envelope.
[May 1934?] Marie Van Nuys to DN. ALS, 4p.
10 Aug 1934 ----- Marian to DN. ANS, 1p. with envelope.
11 Aug 1934 Hedwig Weiss, Barcelona to DN. ALS, 2p.
27 Nov 1934 Virginia Weddell to DN. ALS, 3p. with envelope.
3 Feb. 1935 Mary Lou LaFalda, Argentina to DN. ALS, 4p. with envelope.
15 Oct 1937 Lina Hauck to DN. Autograph Post Card signed.
4 Jan 1938 Mona Phelp to DN. Autograph Post card signed.
19 May 1938  MN, Washington, D.C. to DN. ALS, 1p. with envelope.

21 May 1938  MN, Washington, D.C. to DN. ALS, 2p. with envelope and news clipping
21 May 1938, NY Sun.

28 Aug 1939  Loretto Camus, Ancon, Canal Zone, to DN. TLS, 1p.

2 Mar 1940  MN, Managua, Nicaragua, to DN. ALS, 1p.

9 Mar 1940  MN to DN. ALS, 1p. with envelope.

13 Mar 1940  MN, Managua to DN. ALS, 2p. with envelope.

19 Mar 1940  MN, Mangua to DN, ALS, 2p. with envelope.

22 Mar 1940  MN, Mangua to DN. ALS, 3p.

23 Mar 1940  MN to DN. ALS, 2p.

21 May 1940  MN, Managua to DN. ALS, 4p.

[1940?]  D, Puerto Linion to DN. ALS (with initial). 2p.

25 Jan 1941  Medica Report, DN. PFFI, 2p. with envelope.

19 Feb 1941  Margarita Wells, Mexico to DN. ALS, 2p. with envelope.

[Dec 1943?]  MN to DN. AN, 1p.

10 Jan 1944  Mildred Shipley, Chicago, IL, to DN. TLS, 1p. with envelope.

[1943?]  Walgreen Co. form.

[1943?]  United States Corporation Receipt.

10 Feb 1944  L.S. Ayres and Company, Indianapolis. Storage Receipt for DN.

28 Jun 1944  L.S. Ayres and Company, Indianapolis. Storage Receipt for DN.

1944  Schedule of Personal Property, Marion County, Indiana, DN. PFFI, 2p.

30 Jul 1943  A.J. Upton, Indianapolis to DN. TLS 1p. with 2 Hotel Severin Receipts.
(5-3 & 5-4, 1945)

with 5 receipts and envelope.


20 Jul 1947  L.R. McCutchen, Miami Beach, Fl. to DN, Brutus, Michigan. TLS, 1p.

20 Mar n.y.  Mona Phelps, Postal Card to DN.

n.d.  Christmas Greeting card with annotation.

n.d.  Montanye Perry to DN. ALS, 4p. with envelope.

9 Dec n.y.  Mona Phelps to DN. ALS, 3p. with envelope.