

English Speaking Union. Nashville Branch. Records, (1957-1978)

Collection Summary

Creator: English Speaking Union of the United States. Nashville Branch.
Title: English Speaking Union of the United States. Nashville Branch. Records.
Inclusive Dates: 1957-1978

Summary/Abstract:

Financial data, administrative information, membership rosters, newsletters, clippings, photographs, and miscellaneous information concerning visiting speakers of the Nashville Branch of the English Speaking Union of the United States.

Physical Description/Extent: .5 cu. ft.

Series: Six series:

- I. Financial (1958-1978)
- II. Administrative data (1959-1977)
- III. ESU National Newsletters (1958-1976)
- IV. Social activities (1957-1977) (*part missing*)
- V. (*missing*) ESU (National-Local) Cross-Cultural Activities (1961-1972)
- VI. (*missing*) ESU National and Local Correspondence (1963-1974)

Accession Number: Acc. RT-100

Language: In English

Stack Location: Closed stacks workroom range 5 section 4.

Repository: Special Collections Division, Nashville Public Library, 615 Church St., Nashville, TN 37219

Chronology

1918 - English Speaking Union founded in Great Britain.

1920 – English Speaking Union of the United States established.

prior to 1957 – English Speaking Union, Nashville Branch established.

Biographical/Historical Sketch

In 1918, the English Speaking Union was founded in Great Britain by Sir Evelyn Wrench to promote “international understanding through the use of the English language.” The ESU sponsors cultural activities, seminars, and conferences worldwide, as well as administering international youth exchange programs.

The English Speaking Union of the United States, headquartered in New York City and founded in 1920, oversees programs in the branches throughout the United

States. As a non-profit, non-political and educational organization, it oversees the speakers and scholars programs and fosters international exchange.

A branch of the ESU US has been active in Nashville at least since the late 1950s, sponsoring events and speakers.

Scope and Content

The records of the Nashville Branch of the English Speaking Union, 1957-1978, include financial records, administrative data, membership rosters, newsletters, clippings, and materials about visiting speakers. Many speakers were from overseas. Among the speakers were Margaret (Mrs. Denis) Thatcher (1969) and retired General Maxwell Taylor (1976). Clippings and rosters mention such Nashville members as: Mrs. Victor Stromquist, secretary-treasurer of the Nashville Branch for many years; Mr. Joseph Olin White, member of the National Board of Governors 1953-1972 and former Nashville Branch president; and Herschel Gower, member of Nashville Branch Board of Directors.

The records are divided into six series:

Series I. Financial, (1958-1978). Includes estimated budgets, financial reports, bank account statements, and bank account check stubs. Also in this series are tax related information and miscellaneous local expenses.

Series II. Administrative Data, (1959-1977). Contains membership lists by year, branch membership statistics, national annual reports, and national by-laws. Some information is also included for proposed projects and activities in the 1960s.

Series III. National Newsletters, (1958-1976). Newsletters from the national headquarters of the ESU. Many gaps.

Series IV. Social Activities, (1957-1977). Clippings, photographs, and related information about dinner meetings of the local branch with guest speakers. Included are some lists of those attending the events, correspondence to members about the speakers, and speakers' vitae. Two folders of Series IV were missing at the time of rehousing in 2006. A finding aid produced in 1980 indicated they contained memos and data related to ESU national meetings and ESU travel.

The following two series were missing at the time of rehousing in 2006. Information about their contents is based upon a finding aid produced in the 1980s by Bill Danaher.

Series V. ESU (National-Local) Cross-Cultural Activities, (1961-1972). Missing at the time of rehousing in 2006. According to the finding aid prepared in 1980, the series contained information about ESU national and local cross-cultural activities. These included a list of students visiting the U.S. under auspices of the ESU, proposals for the celebration of the 150th anniversary of Charles Dickens's birth and the 400th anniversary of William Shakespeare's birth.

Series VI. ESU (National-Local) Correspondence, (1963-1974). Missing at the time of rehousing in 2006. Correspondence between members of the Nashville branch and the national ESU. Included is a congratulatory letter from the national ESU to the Nashville branch concerning Margaret Thatcher's local speaking engagement. Much of this series concerns Nashville Branch members Olin White, Ila Stromquist, and Herschel Gower.

Organization/Arrangement of Materials

The records are organized into six series, then divided into subseries by type of record and arranged chronologically.

At the time of rehousing in 2006, part of Series IV, all of Series V and Series VI were missing.

Restrictions

Restrictions on Access: In library use only.

Restrictions on Use and Reproduction: This material may be protected by copyright law (Title 17 U.S. Code).

Index Terms

Personal Names:

Gower, Herschel

Stromquist, Ila, 1904-1989

Thatcher, Margaret

Taylor, Maxwell D. (Maxwell Davenport), 1901-1987

White, Joseph Olin, 1907-1982

Corporate Names/Organizations:

English Speaking Union of the United States. Nashville Branch.

Subjects:

Clubs – Tennessee – Nashville

English language – Societies, etc.

Places:

Nashville (Tenn.) – History – Sources

Nashville (Tenn.) – Intellectual life

Nashville (Tenn.) – Societies, etc.

Genre/Document Types:

Clippings (aat)

Newsletters (aat)

Correspondence (aat)
Financial records (aat)
Membership lists (aat)
Administrative reports (aat)

Administrative Information

Copyright: This material may be protected by copyright law (Title 17 U.S. Code).

Preferred Citation: English Speaking Union of the United States, Nashville Branch. Records. Special Collections Division, Nashville Public Library.

Immediate Source of Acquisition: Source of acquisition unknown.

Ownership and Custodial History: Unknown provenance. Donated to Nashville Public Library prior to 1980.

Processing Information: Rehousing and new finding aid by volunteer Rose Mary Reed, 2006. An earlier finding aid, prepared in 1980 by Bill Danaher, is filed with processing notes.

Accruals: None expected.

Other Finding Aids

The original finding aid, prepared in 1980 by Bill Danaher, is filed with the processing notes.

Detailed Description:

Box One

Series I. Financial

- Folder 1 - Estimated Budgets 1964-1969
- 2 - Estimated Budgets 1969-1978
- 3 - Financial Reports 1963-1968
- 4 - Financial Reports 1968-1973
- 5 - Financial Reports 1973-1977
- 6 - Balanced Bank Acct. Statements 1960-1962
- 7 - Balanced Bank Acct. Statements 1963-1965
- 8 - Balanced Bank Acct. Statements 1966-1968
- 9 - Balanced Bank Acct. Statements 1969-1971
- 10 - Balanced Bank Acct. Statements 1972-1974
- 11 - Balanced Bank Acct. Statements 1975-1977
- 12 - Bank Acct. Check Stubs 1958-1969
- 13 - Bank Acct. Check Stubs 1969-1975
- 14 - Bank Acct. Check Stubs 1975-1977
- 15 - Tax Related Information – Misc. 1961-1976
- 16 - Local Expenses 1966-1967
- 17 - Local Expenses 1968-1970

Box Two

Series II. Administrative Data

- Folder 18 - Membership Lists and Related Information 1960-1966
- 19 - Membership Lists and Related Information 1969-1972
- 20 - Membership Lists and Related Information 1973-1975
- 21 - Membership Lists and Related Information 1976-1977
- 22 - Branch Membership Statistics 1959-1972
- 23 - Annual Reports (ESU US) 1961-1966
- 24 - Annual Reports (ESU US) 1967-1974
- 25 - National By-laws 1963, 1965, 1972
- 26 - National Report on Statement of Intent for Projects in the 1960's and Nashville Branch 1965 Activities Report

Box Three

Series III. National Newsletter

- Folder 27 - 1958, May
- 1960, Feb.
- 1962-63, Dec./Jan.
- 1963, June
- 1964, May, June, Nov./Dec.
- 1965, May, Dec.
- 1966, Feb.
- 1968, June
- 1969, Jan./Dec.
- 28 - 1970, Jan./Dec.
- 1971, Jan., April, May, Fall
- 1972, Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall
- 1973, Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall
- 1974, Winter, Early Summer, Fall
- 1975, Winter, Summer, Fall
- 1976, Winter, Spring, Summer

Series IV. Social Activities. (1957-1977) [portions missing]

- Folder 29 - Nov. 22, 1957 dinner meeting
- Feb. 23, 1958 dinner meeting guest speaker Lord Harlsham
- Apr. 25, 1958 dinner meeting g.s. Mrs. Pat Nicholson
- Nov. 14, 1958 dinner meeting g.s. Ian Gihnour
- Apr. 26, 1958 dinner meeting g.s. Donald Logan
- Nov. 4, 1959 dinner meeting g.s. Mrs. Joan Alldredge
- May 24, 1960 dinner meeting g.s. James Case, Jr.
- Apr. 18, 1960 dinner meeting g.s. Sir John Balfour
- June 7, 1961 itinerary for Ms. M. Stewart, visitor
- Feb. 15, 1962 dinner meeting g.s. Ms. Nan Patullo
- 1961-62 ESU-N.B. Social Activities, Report
- Nov. 7, 1962 dinner meeting g.s. Sir John Slessor
- Nov. 7, 1962 Itinerary for Ms. Brenda Howe
- Folder 30 - May 15, 1962 dinner meeting g.s. Lester Borley

- Oct. 14, 1963 dinner meeting g.s. Sir Percival Griffiths
- Oct. 15, 1963 Itinerary and dossier re: Ms. Margaret Smith, visitor
- Apr. 23, 1964 dinner meeting g.s. Arthur L. Goodhart
- Oct. 25, 1964 Itinerary for Ms. Violet Bruce, visitor
- Nov. 23, 1964 dinner meeting g.s. Sir Geoffrey Furlonge
- Mar. 13, 1965 dinner meeting g.s. Dr. Maynard Miller
- Oct. 21, 1965 dinner meeting g.s. Sir Fitzroy MacLean, M. P.
- Oct. 27, 1966 dinner meeting g.s. Maj. Gen. Richard A. Fyffe
- 31 - Mar. 14, 1967 dinner meeting g.s. Sir Reginald Sholl
- Nov. 2, 1967 dinner meeting g.s. E. C. A. Grimwood
- Apr. 2, 1967 dinner meeting g.s. Sir Ridgeby Foster
- Oct. 4, 1968 dinner meeting g.s. Lt. Gen. Sir John Bagot Glubb
- Mar. 20, 1969 dinner meeting g.s. Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, M. P.
- Oct. 31, 1969 dinner meeting g.s. Alan Lee Williams M. P.
(cancelled)
- Oct. 31, 1969 dinner meeting g.s. Mr. Peter Unwin (substitute)
- 32 Mar. 24, 1970 dinner meeting g.s. Mr. Andries Grobler
- Jan. 17, 1971 dinner meeting g.s. Mr. John Fisher
- Oct. 16, 1971 dinner meeting g.s. Mr. Peter Cotes
- Feb. 17, 1972 dinner meeting g.s. Sir Frank Roberts
- Oct. 20, 1972 dinner meeting g.s. Ms. Muriel Bowen
- Apr. 27, 1973 dinner meeting g.s. Mr. Hamilton Whyte
- Oct. 10, 1973 dinner meeting g.s. Rt. Rev. Kenneth Riches, D. D.
- Nov. 8, 1974 dinner meeting g.s. Mr. Francis Kennedy, M. B. E.
- May 8, 1975 dinner meeting g.s. Mr. Barry Bingham
- Nov. 5, 1975 dinner meeting g.s. Dr. Michael Brown
- Apr. 28, 1976 dinner meeting g.s. Gen. Maxwell Taylor
- Nov. 4, 1976 dinner meeting g.s. Mr. William Dalzell
- Apr. 21, 1977 dinner meeting g.s. Mr. George Bruce

Box Four

(Missing at the time of rehousing in 2006. Inventory that follows is based upon 1980 finding aid by Bill Danaher.)

- Folder 33 Apr. 20, 1960 Memo: Committee on Planning and Special Projects
- Nov. 15-18, 1960 Data re: 40th A.M. of ESU (national)
- Nov. 12-16, 1962 Quadrennial International Conference of ESU of the US and Commonwealth Countries
- Oct. 31-Nov. 4, 1965 Data re: 45th A.M. of ESU (national)
- Oct. 24-25, 1968 Data re: 46th A.M. of ESU (national)
- 34 ESU (National-Local) Social Activities
- Misc. Travel-related data re: ESU sponsored cruises, flights, and tours 1960-1976

Series V. ESU (National-Local) Cross-Cultural Activities, 1961-1972
(*missing*)

- Folder 35 Proposal for celebration of 150th Anniversary of Charles Dickens Birth, Dec., 1961
ESU Commonwealth Ball, May 11, 1962
List of Students visiting US under auspices of ESU, 1965-66
ESU (Nashville Branch) art exhibit, "The Australian Painters" Feb. 17-Mar. 6, 1970
Memo re: T.E.S.L. efforts sponsored by ESU, Dec., 1972
Proposal for celebration of 400th anniversary of birth of William Shakespeare, Apr. 23, 1964
William Shakespeare-Bibliography to Churchill Memorial Fund
ESU (Nashville Branch) contribution and acquisition of Winston Churchill speeches (disks), Apr. 8, 1965
Two copies of ESU – Concord magazine
Letterhead of ESU (Nashville Branch)

Series VI. ESU (National-Local) Correspondence, 1963-1974, (*missing*)

- 36 Letter re: Assessments from Olin White (ESU, NB)
 Mrs. Ila Stromquist (ESU, NB), June 28, 1962
Letter re: National Board Meeting, 1963 from Olin White
 (ESU NB) Judge Thomas Shriver (ESU, NB) May 30, 1963
Letter of congratulations re: Margaret Thatcher visit from Ms.
 Ms. F. McPheeters (ESU, National) – Mrs. Ila Stromquist
 Apr. 3, 1969
Copy of donation to ESU, NB of \$500.00 from Mr. O. White ESU
 National, Jan 15, 1970
Letter re: Charter types from Mr. Olin White (ESU NB) Mr.
 William Gudley (ESU National) Mar. 18, 1970
Letter and copy of memo re: Mr. R. Abbey's Nashville visit
 from Dr. Herschel Gower – Mrs. Ila Stromquist, Jan. 25,
 1972
Packet of letters and memoranda from Mr. Olin White (ESU NB)
 recounting incident leading to his resignation from ESU
 Nov. 8, 1974.