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Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture,
Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division

Guide to the

Hugh H. Smythe papers

1942-1963

Sc Micro R-966

Processed by Stanton F. Biddle.

Summary

Creator: Smythe, Hugh H. (Hugh Heyne), 1913-1977

Title: Hugh H. Smythe papers

Date: 1942-1963

Source: Gift of Hugh Smythe, 1965

Abstract: Papers covering Smythe's professional career centering upon research, writing, and university teaching in the fields of sociology and anthropology, with special emphasis on East Asian and African studies. Correspondence including that written about his fieldwork in Nigeria. Smythe's manuscripts for articles, books, book reviews, and speeches pertaining to Africa, Nigeria, Japan, and race relations in the United States. Preliminary data relates to Hugh and Mabel Smythe's book, *THE NEW NIGERIAN ELITE* (1960). Material relating to Smythe's professional interests and activities includes syllabi, bibliographies, and lecture notes pertaining to his teaching at Yamaguchi National University (Yamaguchi Daigaku) in Japan and Brooklyn College. Also included is material illustrating Smythe's extra-academic interests including United Nations affairs, Crossroads Africa, and civil rights activities. The papers of Mabel Smythe (Hugh Symthe's wife) include a scrapbook, manuscripts, and some correspondence. Of particular interest is her research material on segregation in education, which was used by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People legal staff in the 1954 Supreme Court decision in *Brown v. Board of Education* barring segregation in public schools. Also, manuscripts of articles and speeches, and some correspondence by W.E.B. Du Bois including "Economic Illiteracy," 1947, and "Race Relations in the U.S.," 1948.

Physical Location: Sc MG 4

Alternative Form Available: Collection available on microfilm; New York Public Library; Master negative *ZZ-7407

Preferred citation: Hugh H. Smythe papers, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, The New York Public Library

Language of the Material: English

Processing note: Processed by Stanton F. Biddle; Machine-readable finding aid created by Apex Data

Services; revised by Terry Catapano.

**Separated Materials:
Separation Record**

The following items were removed from:

*Name of Collection/Papers*Hugh Smythe Papers

*Accession Number*Sc Micro R966-971

*Donor:*Hugh Smythe

Purchase

*Date received:*1965

*Date transferred:*1968

The item(s) listed below have been sent to the division indicated, either to be retained or disposed of there. Any items that should receive special disposition are clearly marked.

span class="emph">Schomburg Photographs and Print Division:/span>

A collection of photographs

Creator History

Hugh Smythe

1913, August 19 Born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania: son of William and Mary Barnhardt Smythe.

1936 Received A.B. degree from Virginia State College, Petersburg, Virginia.

1937 Received M.A. degree from Atlanta University, Atlanta, Georgia.

1937 Assistant Instructor in Anthropology, Morehouse College, Atlanta, Georgia,.

1938 Field Research and Administrative Assistant for the American Youth Commission of the American Council of Education, Atlanta, Georgia.

1938-1939 Research Assistant and Instructor in the Department of Social Sciences (Sociology) University, Nashville, Tennessee.

1939, July 26 Married Mabel Murphy

1942 Research Associate, Department of Sociology, Atlanta University, Atlanta, Georgia

1944 Professor of Sociology and Antropology at Morris Brown College, Atlanta, Georgia

1945 Received Ph.D. in Antropology African Studies) from Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois

1945-1946 Professor of Anthropology and Sociology, Tennessee State College, Nashville, Tennessee

1947-1949 Assistant Director, Department of Special Research, New York City Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

1949-1950 Research Director for W.B. Graham & Associates, New York, New York

1950-1951 Graduate Student, East Asian Institute, Columbia University, New York, New York.

1951-1953 Visiting Professor of Sociology-Anthropology at Yamaguchi National University, Yamaguchi City, Japan

1953, March-June Returned from Japan to U.S.A. via a trip around the world

1953- Member of Faculty in Department of, Sociology-Anthropology, Brooklyn College, New York, New

York. On leave since 1965
 1957-1958 Recipient of Ford Foundation Grant to do field research in Nigeria.
 1959-1960 Field Director of Operation Crossroads Africa
 1961-1962 Member of United States Delegation to the 16th United Nations General Assembly
 1961-1963 Lecturer at Foreign Service Institute of the United States Department of State
 1964-1965 Chief Consultant to Youth In Action, Office of Economic Opportunity
 1965-1967 Appointed Ambassador to Syria by President Lyndon B. Johnson
 1967 Appointed Ambassador to Malta by President Lyndon B. Johnson
 1968 Received LL.D, Virginia State College

Co-Author of: *The New Nigerian Elite*, 1960, *Educating the Culturally Dis-Advantaged Child*, 1966.
 Author of numerous articles and chapters in cooperative books; Editorial Consultant for Zenith
 (Doubleday)

Mabel Murphy Smythe

1918, April 3 Born in Montgomery, Alabama
 1933-1936 Attended Spelman College, Atlanta Georgia
 1937 Received B.A. degree from Mount Holyoke College, Holyoke Massachusetts
 1940 Received M.A. degree in Economics from Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois
 1942 Received Ph.D. in Economics and Law from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin
 1942-1945 Instructor in Economics and Business Administration at Lincoln University, Jefferson City, Missouri
 1945-1946 Instructor in Economics and Business Administration at Tennessee State College, Nashville, Tennessee
 1946-1947 Lecturer in Economics, Brooklyn College, New York, New York
 1951-1953 Visiting Professor of Economics, Shiga University (Japan)
 1954- Member of the staff of New Lincoln School, New York, New York
 1959- Principal of New Lincoln High School
 1961 Member of United States Advisory Commission on Educational Exchange
 1962-1965 Member of United States Advisory Commission on International Educational and Cultural Affairs

Co-Author of: *The New Nigerian Elite*(1960), *Intensive English Conversation*(1953/54), Co-Editor of:
Curriculum for Understanding, Union Free School District No.13, Valley Stream, New York, September,
 1965.

Scope and Content Note

The Hugh Smythe Papers, cover Smythe's professional career from 1942 through 1963. During this period Smythe's activities centered upon research, writing, and university teaching in the fields of sociology and anthropology, with special emphasis on East Asian and African studies. He also wrote extensively on American race relations and increasingly pursued interests in governmental affairs.

The Collection comprises correspondence; books, articles, and manuscripts; and material relating to Smythe's many professional interests and activities. Included are some papers of Mabel Murphy Smythe, his wife and sometime co-author; and manuscripts by W. E. Burghardt DuBois. The Papers

have been organized into five series as follows: Correspondence; Manuscripts; Professional Activities and Interest; Mabel Smythe; W.E.B. DuBois Papers.

Key Terms

Geographic Names

Africa -- Study and teaching
East Asia -- Study and teaching
Japan -- Study and teaching
Nigeria -- Study and teaching
United States -- Race relations

Subjects

African American anthropologists
African American college teachers
African American sociologists
African Americans -- Civil rights
African Americans -- Economic conditions
African Americans -- Education
African Americans -- Segregation
Anthropology -- Japan
Anthropology -- Study and teaching
Civil rights -- United States
Discrimination in education -- Law and legislation -- United States
Race relations -- United States
Segregation -- United States
Sociology -- Japan
Sociology -- Nigeria
Sociology -- Study and teaching

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Manuscripts
Scrapbooks
Speeches

Names

Smythe, Hugh H. (Hugh Heyne), 1913-1977
Du Bois, W. E. B. (William Edward Burghardt), 1868-1963
Smythe, Mabel M. (Mabel Murphy)
Symthe, Hugh H. (Hugh Heyne), 1913-
Symthe, Mabel M. (Mabel Murphy), 1918-
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
Operation Crossroads Africa
United Nations

Container List

Correspondence

The *CORRESPONDENCE*s are arranged chronologically, and in some instances topically. Several folders contain correspondence relating to Smythe's Ford Foundation grant in 1957.

- b. 1 f. 1 1942-1943
- b. 1 f. 2 1944
- b. 1 f. 3 1945
- b. 1 f. 4 1946
- b. 1 f. 5 1947
- b. 1 f. 6 1948
- b. 1 f. 7 1949
- b. 1 f. 8 1950
- b. 1 f. 9 1951
- b. 1 f. 10 Japan 1951-1953 (2 folders)
- b. 1 f. 11 1953
- b. 1 f. 12 Japanese Sociological Society 1953, 1955-1956
- b. 1 f. 13 1954
- b. 1 f. 14 United States Information Agency 1954, 1955
- b. 1 f. 15 1955
- b. 1 f. 16 Japanese Sociological Review 1955-1956
- b. 1 f. 17 1956
- b. 2 f. 18 1957
- b. 2 f. 19 Ford Foundation 1957
Nigerian Field Trip 1957
- b. 2 f. 20 General
- b. 2 f. 21 Letters To Family
- b. 2 f. 22 Travel Arrangements
- b. 2 f. 23 1958
- b. 2 f. 24 1959
- b. 2 f. 25 Susan Sontag 1959
- b. 2 f. 26 1960-1961
- b. 2 f. 27 1962-1963
- b. 2 f. 28 Including Phonodisc Undated
- b. 2 f. 29 Japanese Christmas Cards Undated

Manuscripts

The *MANUSCRIPT* series is subdivided topically by articles and alphabetically therein. The specified topics are: Africa, Japan, and American Race Relations. Of special interest in the African section is the preliminary data relating to the Smythes' *The New Nigerian Elite* (1960). Included are manuscripts for articles, monographs, book reviews and speeches.

Africa

- b. 3 f. 1 r. 2 *Africa's New Class* 1959
- b. 3 f. 2 r. 2 *Black Africa's New Power Elite* 1959

Manuscripts (cont.)
Africa (cont.)

- b. 3 f. 3 r. 2 The Colonial Question
- b. 3 f. 4 r. 2 The Colonial Question
- Preliminary Notes
- b. 3 f. 5 r. 2 *Social Change In Africa*
- b. 3 f. 6 r. 3 Articles, Including Notes (2 folders)
- b. 3 f. 7 r. 3 Book Reviews
- New Nigerian Elite*
- b. 3 f. 8 r. 3 Book Review, By Irene Diggs With Reply By H. Smythe
- b. 3 f. 9 r. 3 Carbon Copy Of Final Draft
- b. 3 f. 10 r. 3 First Draft
- b. 3 f. 11 r. 3 Outline And Questionnaire
- b. 4 f. 12 Preliminary Notes (7 folders)
- b. 4 f. 13 r. 3 Related Articles
- b. 4 f. 14 r. 3 Second Draft (2 folders)
- b. 4 f. 15 r. 3 Socio-Economic Implications Of Land In Contemporary Nigeria
- Japan
- b. 5 f. 16 r. 3 *American Japanese Cultural Relations* 1951
- b. 5 f. 17 r. 3 *Decade Of Japanese Democracy: An American View* 1956
- b. 5 f. 18 r. 3 *The Development Of Social Sciences In Japan By T. Sakata And H. Smythe* 1953
- b. 3 f. 19 r. 3 *Recent Trends In Sociology: Japan By K. Chikazawa And H. Smythe* 1957
- b. 5 f. 20 r. 3 *Status Of Women In Japan Before 1600* 1951
- Articles
- b. 5 f. 21 r. 3 1951 (2 folders)
- b. 5 f. 22 r. 3 1952 (3 folders)
- b. 5 f. 23 r. 3 1953
- b. 5 f. 24 r. 3 1958-1959
- b. 5 f. 25 r. 3 1960-1963
- b. 5 f. 26 r. 3 *Medical Study - The Mass Treatment Of Trachoma By S. Kamiya, M.D.*
- b. 5 f. 27 r. 3 Speeches 1951, 1953
- b. 6 American Race Relations
- b. 6 f. 28 r. 3 *Changing Patterns In Negro Leadership* 1950
- b. 6 f. 29 r. 3 *The Concept Of 'Jim Crow'* 1948
- b. 6 f. 30 r. 3 *NAACP Petitions The U.N. On Discrimination Against Negroes* 1947
- b. 6 f. 31 r. 3 *The Negro And The Fight For Civil Rights* 1948
- b. 6 f. 32 r. 3 *The Negro Scene* 1951
- b. 6 f. 33 r. 3 *Politics, Power And The Plural Society* 1959(?)
- b. 6 f. 34 r. 3 *Problems Of Providing Adequate House Service In The United States*
- b. 6 f. 35 r. 3 *Race And Intergroup Relations*
- (including Related Correspondence)
- b. 6 f. 36 r. 3 *Race Relations And Equality* 1961

Manuscripts (cont.)

American Race Relations (cont.)

NAACP Petitions The U.N. On Discrimination Against Negroes (cont.)

- b. 6 f. 37 r. 3 *Racial Discrimination And Segregation In The Caribbean*
- Articles
- b. 6 f. 38 r. 3 1948 And Undated
- b. 6 f. 39 r. 3 1955
- b. 6 f. 40 r. 3 1956
- b. 6 f. 41 r. 3 1959
- Book Reviews
- b. 6 f. 42 r. 3 Controversy Oak Vs. Smythe 1948
- b. 6 f. 43 r. 3 1948-1950
- b. 6 f. 44 r. 3 1950-1957
- b. 6 f. 45 r. 3 1958-1960
- b. 6 f. 46 r. 3 Notes For Book On Negroes In Contemporary American Life 1955-1956
- b. 6 f. 47 r. 3 *Pabst Report H. Smythe, Research Director* 1949 (2 folders)
- b. 6 f. 48 r. 3 Speeches 1948
- Other
- b. 6 f. 49 r. 3 *Current Trends In American Sociology* 1951
- b. 6 f. 50 r. 3 *Connecticut Chronicle - Sally Landring* 1948
- b. 6 f. 51 r. 3 *Connecticut Chronicle - Speaking Frankly* 1948
- b. 6 f. 52 r. 3 Notes For Social Situation Speech - June 28, 1961
- b. 6 f. 53 r. 3 Notes For Speech On Religion In Modern World
- b. 7 f. 54 r. 4 Notes On Sociological Readings
- b. 7 f. 55 r. 4 Photographs
- b. 7 f. 56 r. 4 Short Stories 1958

Professional Interests And Activities

The series on Hugh Smythe's *PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS AND ACTIVITIES* contains syllabi, bibliographies, lecture notes, etc., pertaining to his teaching at Yamaguchi National College (Japan) and Brooklyn College. Also included is material illustrating Smythe's extra-academic interests such as, United Nations affairs, Crossroads Africa, and civil rights activities.

Teaching

Yamaguchi National College

- b. 7 f. 1 r. 4 Teaching Notes 1951-1952

Brooklyn College

- b. 7 f. 2 r. 4 Anthropology 1956
- b. 7 f. 3 r. 4 *New York World Telegrams, Articles* 1958
- b. 7 f. 4 r. 4 Examinations 1955-1957
- b. 7 f. 5 r. 4 General
- b. 7 f. 6 r. 4 Nigeria Questionnaire Ca. 1958
- b. 7 f. 7 r. 4 Notes Fall Term 1956
- b. 7 f. 8 r. 4 Syllabi And Bibliographical Materials 1954-1955
- b. 7 f. 9 r. 4 Syllabi And Bibliographical Materials 1956
- b. 7 f. 10 r. 4 Teaching Materials Of Dr. Haynes, City College Of New York 1959-1960
- Term Papers

Professional Interests And Activities (cont.)

Teaching (cont.)

Brooklyn College (cont.)

Term Papers (cont.)

- b. 7 f. 11 r. 4 1955 (4 folders)
- b. 8 f. 12 r. 4 1956
- b. 8 f. 13 r. 4 1957 (3 folders)
- b. 8 f. 14 r. 4 1960

Other

- b. 8 f. 15 r. 4 Activities List 1957-1959
- b. 8 f. 16 r. 4 American Jewish Congress 1957
- b. 8 f. 17 r. 4 American Society Of African Culture 1958
- b. 8 f. 18 r. 4 American Society Of African Culture 1959
- b. 8 f. 19 r. 4 American Sociological Society 1954-1955
- b. 8 f. 20 r. 4 Bio-Sciences Information Exchange 1960
- b. 8 f. 21 r. 4 Conference On Social And Cultural Pluralism In The Caribbean 1959
- b. 8 f. 22 r. 4 Council On Race Relations, Bloomfield, N.J.
- b. 8 f. 23 r. 4 Elgin/Keswick Conference, Canada June, 1959
- b. 8 f. 24 r. 4 Federal Security Agency 1958
- b. 8 f. 25 r. 4 National Marine Exposition 1947
- b. 9 f. 26 r. 5 National Urban League 1947-1948
- Operation Crossroads Africa
- b. 9 f. 27 r. 5 Hugh Smythe, Field Director 1959-1960
- b. 9 f. 28 r. 5 Cameroon
- b. 9 f. 29 r. 5 Dahomey
- b. 9 f. 30 r. 5 Ghana
- b. 9 f. 31 r. 5 Nigeria
- b. 9 f. 32 r. 5 Togoland
- b. 9 f. 33 r. 5 Residential Seminars On World Affairs 1956-1958
- b. 9 f. 34 r. 5 Second All African Conference 1960
- b. 9 f. 35 r. 5 State Commission Against Discrimination 1956
- b. 9 f. 36 r. 5 State Commission Against Discrimination, Staff Conference November 24, 1956
- b. 9 f. 37 r. 5 United Nations Interests 1947-1948
- b. 9 f. 38 r. 5 United States Mission To The United Nations 1961-1962
- b. 9 f. 39 r. 5 University College Of Ghana 1959-1960

b. 10 Mabel Smythe

MABEL SMYTHE'S PAPERS, arranged alphabetically by form and therein by subject, include personal memorabilia (a scrapbook), manuscripts, and some correspondence. Of particular interest is her research material on segregation in education, which was used by the N.A.A.C.P. legal staff in their cases, and was instrumental in the 1954 Supreme Court Decision barring segregation in public schools.

Correspondence

- b. 10 f. 1 r. 5 1945-1947
- b. 10 f. 2 r. 5 1950-1955
- b. 10 f. 3 r. 5 1956-1959, N.D.
- b. 10 f. 4 r. 5 General

Manuscripts

Mabel Smythe (cont.)
Manuscripts (cont.)

- b. 10 f. 5 r. 5 *The Bridegroom Cometh*
- b. 10 f. 6 r. 5 Short Stories
- b. 10 f. 7 r. 5 Manuscripts By Emilio Lanier
- b. 10 f. 8 r. 5 New Lincoln School, 10Th Anniversary Journal 1958
- b. 10 f. 9 r. 5 Notes For School Segregation Study 1953 (7 folders)
- b. 10 f. 10 r. 5 Notes For Self Image Project - Negro Book
- b. 10 f. 11 r. 5 Notes On Race Relations In Africa
- b. 10 f. 12 r. 5 *Profile, New York Post* Dec. 11, 1964
- b. 11 f. 13 r. 5 Scrapbook (4 folders)
- b. 12 r. 6 r. 5 W.E.B. Dubois

The fifth series comprises manuscripts of articles and speeches and some correspondence by *W. E. B. BURGHARDT DUBOIS*. This material, also arranged alphabetically by form and therein by subject, was included in the papers of Hugh Smythe at the time of receipt.

- b. 12 f. 1 r. 5 African Affairs 1947-1948
- b. 12 f. 2 r. 5 Correspondence 1944-1946
- b. 12 f. 3 r. 5 Letters From Robert. D.C. 1947
- Manuscripts
- b. 12 f. 4 r. 5 Manuscripts (2 folders)
- b. 12 f. 5 r. 5 *Economic Illiteracy* 1947
- b. 12 f. 6 r. 5 *Gandhi* 1948 (?)
- b. 12 f. 7 r. 5 *Race Relations In The U.S.* 1948
- b. 12 f. 8 r. 5 Unidentified 1947
- b. 12 f. 9 r. 5 Speeches (Including Notes) 1890-1949 (3 folders)