

*T-Mss 1998-010

Guide to the Richard Carle papers, 1900-1941.

Billy Rose Theatre Division



The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts
New York, New York

Processed by: Elisabeth Elkind

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Descriptive Summary

Title:	Richard Carle papers, 1900-1941
Creator:	Richard Carle
Call Number:	*T-Mss 1998-010
Size:	.5 lin. ft. ; 1 box
Repository:	The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts. Billy Rose Theatre Division. New York, New York
Abstract:	Correspondence, contracts and scripts document Carle's work in the theater.
Languages Represented:	English
Source:	Bequest of Mrs. Richard Carle in 1998.
Access:	Collection is open to the public. Photocopying prohibited. Advance notice required
Restrictions on Use:	For permission to publish, contact the Curator, Billy Rose Theatre Division.
Preferred Citation:	Richard Carle Papers, *T-Mss 1998-010. Billy Rose Theatre Division, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts.

Biography

Richard Carle, playwright, composer, lyricist, producer, director and actor on stage and in film, was born in Somerville, Massachusetts on July 7, 1871 and died in Hollywood, California on June 28, 1941. His early career, 1900-1920s, was on Broadway in musical comedy as author, producer, director, lyricist and performer. He often appeared in his own plays. His first film appearance was in an Abbott and Costello film from 1916. From 1928-1941 he was seen in over 80 films as a character actor usually portraying dignified bankers and judges, though he also depicted a mad scientist in the Laurel and Hardy film *Habeas Corpus*.

Plays written by Carle include *Mam'selle 'Awkins*, 1900, *The Tenderfoot*, 1904, *The Maid and the Mummy*, 1904, *The Mayor of Tokio*, 1905, *The Spring Chicken*, 1906, *The Hurdy-Gurdy Girl*, 1907, *Mary's Lamb*, 1908, *The Boy and the Girl*, 1909, *Jumping Jupiter*, 1911, and *Broadway Whirl*, 1921.

Scope and Content Note

The collection of correspondence, contracts and scripts primarily documents Carle's work in the theater as writer, performer, producer or director. There is little on his later work as a character actor in films.

Organization

- Series I. Correspondence and contracts
- Series II. Scripts
- Series III. Sheet music

Series Descriptions/Container List

Series I. Correspondence and contracts, 1900-1941

14 folders

Arrangement is alphabetical by play title or correspondent.

Correspondence and contracts mostly concern rights to Richard Carle's work in the theater.

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| b. 1 f. 1 | Correspondence and contracts pertaining to <i>The Boy and the Girl</i> , 1903-1908
M. E. Rourke, Harry L. Heartz and Richard Carle on the writing of the play <i>The Boy and the Girl</i> . Earlier title: <i>Little Miss Modesty</i> . |
| b. 1 f. 2 | Carle's correspondence with Irvin S. Cobb, 1923-1929
Concerns collaboration on various script and songwriting projects. |
| b. 1 f. 3 | Contracts on <i>The Hurdy-Gurdy Girl</i> , 1904
Carle wrote the book and Harry L. Heartz wrote the music for the musical comedy <i>The Hurdy-Gurdy Girl</i> . |
| b. 1 f. 4 | Copyright and contract on <i>Mam'selle 'Awkins</i> by Richard Carle, 1900 |
| b. 1 f. 5 | Correspondence and contracts on <i>Mary's Lamb</i> by Richard Carle, 1907-1913 |
| b. 1 f. 6 | Correspondence on <i>Spring Chicken</i> by Richard Carle, 1906-1926 |
| b. 1 f. 7 | Contracts of Richard Carle and Henry Raeder for <i>The Storks</i> , 1902 |
| b. 1 f. 8 | Correspondence between Richard Carle and R. A. Barnet on <i>The Sympathetic Twin</i> , 1920 |

- b. 1 f. 9 Correspondence, box office statements and other financial papers on *The Sympathetic Twin* and Alexander Johnstone, 1920
- b. 1 f. 10 Correspondence and contracts on *The Tenderfoot*, 1902-1930
Richard Carle wrote the book and Harry L. Heartz wrote the music. Warner Bros. Pictures purchased the movie rights in 1930.
- b. 1 f. 11 Correspondence between Jerry Vogel and Dolly Carle on the publishing rights to Richard Carle's songs, 1941 Aug.
- b. 1 f. 12 Correspondence and contracts with Witmark Music Library, 1903-1933
Concerns the copyright to various plays and songs by Richard Carle.
- b. 1 f. 13 Correspondence by telegram, 1919-1920
Negotiations between Richard Carle and J. J. Garrity and Shaw Johnstone Co. on Carle's appearances at Chicago theaters.
- b. 1 f. 14 Miscellaneous correspondence and contracts of Richard Carle, 1911-1932
Also list of plays he owned.

Series II. Scripts, n.d.

4 folders

Alphabetical by play title

Typescripts of plays by Richard Carle.

- b. 1 f. 15 Typescript of *Mary's Lamb* by Richard Carle, n.d.
Staging directions underlined in red.
- b. 1 f. 16 Bound typescript of *The Mayor of Tokio* by Richard Carle, n.d.
Staging directions underlined in red.
- b. 1 f. 17 Bound typescript of *The Tenderfoot* by Richard Carle, n.d.
- b. 1 f. 18 Typescript of *Wake Up!* by Richard Carle, n.d.
Staging directions underlined in red.

Series III. Sheet music, 1912-1935

2 folders

Two pieces of sheet music relevant to the career of Richard Carle.

- b. 1 f. 19 Sheet music from *The Doll Girl*, music by Jerome Kern, book and lyrics by Harry B. Smith, 1912
For a song *Come On Over Here*. Cover has a drawing of performers Richard Carle and Hattie Williams.
- b. 1 f. 20 Sheet music for *A Lemon in the Garden of Love*, music by Richard Carle, lyrics by M. E. Rourke, 1935
From the musical *Spring Chicken*. Includes an advertising flyer from Jerry Vogel.