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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.

**Access:** Advance notice required.

**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.

## **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
- b. 6 f. 37 r. 3 *Racial Discrimination And Segregation In The Caribbean*

Manuscripts (cont.)

American Race Relations (cont.)

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

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
- b. 7 f. 11 r. 4 1955 (4 folders)

Professional Interests And Activities (cont.)

Teaching (cont.)

Brooklyn College (cont.)

Term Papers (cont.)

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)