



The New York Public Library
Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

Cornelius P. Cotter papers

1949-1958

*T-Mss 2003-007

Compiled by Weatherly Stephan, 2014

Summary

Creator: Cotter, Cornelius P.

Title: Cornelius P. Cotter papers

Date: 1949-1958

Size: .42 linear feet (1 box)

Source: Gift of Beverly Cook, 2003.

Abstract: Cornelius P. Cotter was a professor of political science at Stanford University. While earning his Ph.D. in Public Administration from Harvard University, and during his first years as a professor, he worked as a general manager, business manager, and public relations director for summer stock theatre companies. From 1949 to 1956, Cotter was employed with St. John Terrell's Music Circus in Lambertville, New Jersey; Niagara Falls Summer Theatre in Niagara Falls, Ontario; and the Melody Circus Theatre in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The Cornelius P. Cotter papers, dated 1949 to 1958, highlight the business end of summer stock companies through correspondence, weekly operating statements, and budget memoranda. The companies' productions are documented through programs, fliers, clippings, and photographs; also included are programs for productions of related summer stock companies working during the early 1950s. Correspondence, most of which relates to Cotter's work with St. John Terrell, discusses plans for upcoming seasons, proposals to launch new summer stock companies, and budgetary concerns for the companies.

Access: Some collections held by the Dance, Music, Recorded Sound, and Theatre Divisions at the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts are held off-site and must be requested in advance. Please check the collection records in **the NYPL's online catalog** for detailed location information. For general guidance about requesting offsite materials, please consult:
<https://www.nypl.org/about/locations/lpa/requesting-archival-materials>

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Related Materials:

Cornelius P. Cotter papers, 1959-1961. Dwight D. Eisenhower Library, Abilene, KS.

Key Terms

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Financial records
Theater programs

Subjects

Summer theater -- Ontario
Summer theater -- United States
Theater management

Names

Terrell, St. John