

THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY
RARE BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS DIVISION
ACCESSION SHEET

Accession # 49M65

Location 5-g-1/2

Title Stebbins, Rowland, 1882-1948. Papers.

Approximate inclusive dates 1924-1947; (1933-1947, bulk).

Date of receipt March, 1949

Received from Estate of Rowland Stebbins.

Volume on arrival 14 boxes.

Number of boxes (after reboxing) 13 boxes. 4.2 linear ft.

Condition Generally good. Many carbons of letters from Stebbins' office are on paper which is beginning to crumble.

Restrictions

Description

Rowland Stebbins was a New York theatrical producer who worked under the name Laurence Rivers, Inc. Stebbins began his professional life as a stockbroker, but began producing plays during the 1920s. He turned to theatrical production full-time in 1929. His productions included: Shakespeare's Antony and Cleopatra, starring Tallulah Bankhead; Green Pastures, winner of a Pulitzer Prize; Lost Horizon; White Horse Inn, and others.

DESCRIPTION:

Stebbins' papers consist of correspondence, 1933-1947, and production records, 1924-1945 (mainly 1928-1940), of Laurence Rivers, Inc. Some early material may predate the formation of the firm, reflecting Stebbins' individual efforts.

Correspondence is with playwrights, actors, and their agents; theatrical unions and organizations; theater managers; job applicants, and others, and

Special Formats ☒ Photographs ☐ Maps ☐ Audio Tapes ☐ Films ☒ Graphics
☐ Artifacts ☐ Machine-readable records
☐ Other (list) _____

Temporary catalog card added entries
Theatrical producers and directors-New York (N.Y.)
Laurence Rivers, Inc. (New York, N.Y.)
League of New York Theaters (New York, N.Y.)
Union College (Schenectady, N.Y.). Mountebanks Theater
Evans, Maurice, 1901-

Accessioned by J. Miller

Date March 8, 1989

reflects the day to day operations of the firm's office during the 1930s and 1940s. Letters from some prominent actors, particularly Maurice Evans, are included. Also included are circulars, examples of legal agreements, and other communications, 1930s-1940s, from the League of New York Theaters; responses to an invitation to a recital at the Stebbins home on April 25, 1934; and Stebbins' correspondence, 1935-1947, with Union College, Schenectady, New York, chiefly concerning its Mountebanks Theater. Stebbins graduated from Union College in 1904.

Production records consist of: correspondence, memoranda, telegrams, contracts, salary lists, box office statements, accounts, bills, corporation documents, press releases, clippings of reviews, plot synopses, announcement lists, programs, and a few photographs, for more than twenty-five plays.

Stebbins - Container list

Box

- Correspondence, 1933-1947
- 1 A - E
- 2 F - L
- 3 M - T
- 4 U - Z
- 4 Invitation responses, April 25, 1934
- 4 Union College correspondence, 1835-1947
- 5 League of New York Theaters, 1930s-1940s
- Production Records, 1924-1945
- 6 Misc. contracts, accounts, announcement lists, 1924-1945
- Americana, 1928
- .. Antony and Cleopatra, 1937-1938
- 7 Antony and Cleopatra
- Astonished Ostrich
- Black Widow
- Caleb Catlum's America, 1940-1941 (script)
- Dear Mr. President, 1935
- Fields Beyond, 1936
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- 8 Green Pastures, 1930
- In a Nutshell, 1937-1938
- 9 Lost Horizon, 1933
- Maggie the Magnificent, 1929
- Merely Murder, 1937-1938
- 10 Merry Andrew, 1928-1929
- Moon Over Mulberry St., 1935
- Mr. Whistler, 1931

Box

- | | |
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| 10 | <u>On Stage</u> , 1935-1936 <u>Petticoat Fever</u> , 1928 |
| 11 | <u>Philip Goes Forth</u> , 1930-1931 <u>Pursuit of Happiness</u> , 1933-1934 <u>Red Planet</u> , 1932 Rowchar Productions, Inc., 1937 <u>Springtime for Harry</u> , 1939-1940 |
| 12 | <u>Springtime for Harry</u> road tour, Alabama-Oklahoma |
| 13 | <u>Springtime for Harry</u> road tour, Oregon-Wyoming <u>Tight Britches</u> , 1934 <u>Uncle Tom's Cabin</u> , 1933-1934 <u>White Horse Inn</u> , 1936-1937 |