Guide to the Haldeman-Julius Publications Coll2009.003

Finding aid prepared by Michael P. Palmer
Processing this collection has been funded by a generous grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.
ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives, USC Libraries, University of Southern California
909 West Adams Boulevard
Los Angeles, California, 90007
(213) 741-0094
askone@ONEarchives.org
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Title: Haldeman-Julius publications
Identifier/Call Number: Coll2009.003
Contributing Institution: ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives, USC Libraries, University of Southern California
Language of Material: English
Physical Description: 62.0 pamphlets
Date (inclusive): circa 1924-1950
Abstract: Pamphlets from both the Little Blue Book and Big Book Series published between 1924 and 1950 by socialist activist Emanuel Haldeman-Julius (1889-1951). The pamphlets are printed on pulp paper and staple-bound, and were marketed to workers and the "educated" classes. Almost all the titles deal with homosexual themes, and cover a wide variety of subjects, including classical literature, history, useful knowledge, and frank treatment of sexuality. The bulk of the pamphlets were written in the late 1940s by David Oliver Cauldwell, a prolific and pioneering sexologist who published extensively on homosexuality and transsexualism. The sensational, often lengthy, titles were dictated by the publisher to pique public interest and increase sales.
creator: Cotright, Van
Access
The collection is open to researchers. There are no access restrictions.
Publication Rights
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Preferred Citation
Haldeman-Julius publications, Coll2009-003, ONE National Gay and Lesbian Archives, Los Angeles, California.
Acquisition Information
Approximately half the items were acquired by Jim Kepner between 1942 and 1997; the remainder were donated by Van Cotright, April 17, 2009.
Processing Information
Biography
Emanuel Julius was born in Philadelphia on July 30, 1889, the son of a Jewish bookbinder who had emigrated with his family from Russia. Harassed as a child for being Jewish, Julius developed a distain for all religion. After leaving school at age 15, Julius worked at a variety of menial jobs. He also read voraciously, in particular literature and pamphlets published by socialists, which was inexpensive and readily available. Convinced of their truth, Julius joined the Socialist Party before World War I. He became a journalist and in 1915 moved to Girard, Kansas, as editor of Appeal to Reason, an influential socialist newspaper with a large national circulation. The following year he married Anna Marcet Haldeman (whose name he added to his own in hyphenate), daughter of a wealthy local banker and niece of the social worker Jane Addams.
Inspired by the cheap ten-cent paperback editions of classic works he had purchased as a 15-year-old (Wilde's Ballad of Reading Gaol had struck him in particular), Julius nurtured the idea of publishing small, inexpensive paperback pocketbooks to provide information, in particular works of classic literature as well as those expressing common-sense knowledge, a wide range of ideas, and various points of view, to both the working and "educated" classes. He purchased the presses and 175,000-name subscriber list of his former employer, Appeal to Reason, and in 1919 began publishing Appeal's Pocket Series on cheap pulp paper, stapled and bound in a stiff red paper cover, for 25 cents each. The series name and color of the binding changed over the first few years, before settling on "Little Blue Book" in 1923. The pamphlets, which measured 5 x 3 1/2 inches, and cost 5 cents, were enormously popular, finding their way into the pockets of laborers, scholars, and the average citizen; their small size and low price made the books especially popular with travelers and transient workers. Beginning in 1925, Haldeman-Julius also published the "Big Blue Book" series, measuring 8 1/2 x 5 1/2 inches, costing 10 cents each; many, but by no means all the titles in this series were reprints of titles in the Little Blue Book series, in a more "agreeable" format. Both series sold an estimated total of 500 million copies. The St. Louis Dispatch called Haldeman-Julius "the Henry Ford of literature", and Haldeman-Julius and his wife became rich.
Following World War II, the FBI under J. Edgar Hoover viewed the Little Blue Books’ treatment of subjects such as socialism and atheism, and the frank treatment of sexuality, as subversive, and placed Haldeman-Julius on its "enemies" list. This caused a rapid decline in the number of bookstores willing to carry Haldeman-Julius' publications, and they sank into obscurity. Haldeman-Julius and his wife legally separated in 1934. Marcet died in 1941, and the following year Haldeman-Julius married Susan Haney, an employee. He drowned in his swimming pool on July 31, 1951. His son, Henry, took over the presses and continued to print and sell the pamphlets until the printing house burned down on July 4, 1978.

Sources:

Scope and Content of Collection
The collection consists of pamphlets from both the Little Blue Book and Big Book Series. Pamphlets in the Little Blue Book series measure 5 x 3 1/2 inches. They cover a wide variety of subjects, including classical literature, history, useful knowledge, and frank treatment of sexuality, with an emphasis on homosexuality. Pamphlets in the Big Book Series measure 8 1/2 x 5 1/2 inches, and deal primarily with issues of sexuality. The bulk of the pamphlets are written in the late 1940s by David Oliver Cauldwell (1896-1959), a prolific and pioneering sexologist who published extensively on homosexuality and transsexualism. The sensational, often lengthy, titles were dictated by the publisher to pique public interest and increase sales.

Subjects and Indexing Terms
Cauldwell, David O. (David Oliver), 1896-1959
McCabe, Joseph, 1867-1955
Niemoller, A. F. (Adolph Frederick), 1903-
Big blue book
Gay men's writings
Gay men--Biography
Haldeman-Julius Company
Homosexuality
Homosexuality--History
Lesbians--Biography
Little blue book
Sexology
Transvestism
Transvestites

Little Blue Book Series 1. circa 1924-1950
Physical Description: 19.0 pamphlets.
Series Scope and Content
This series contains pamphlets on a wide variety of subjects, including classical literature, history, useful knowledge, and frank treatment of sexuality, with an emphasis on homosexuality. The pamphlets include J. V. Nash’s Homosexuality in the lives of the great, one of the first two works on homosexuality Jim Kepner purchased in 1942 [ ONE/IGLA Bulletin, #2 (Spring-Summer 1996), 9]. The pamphlets measure 5 x 3 1/2 inches.
Physical Description: 32.0 p.

Physical Description: 55.0 p.

Box 1, Folder 3  Cauldwell, D. O. (David O.). *Artificial insemination*; how it's done; the $2,000 black market on babies; husbands for hire; fathers by proxy. Little Blue Book, No. 1829. Girard, Kan.: Haldeman-Julius Publications, c1947
Physical Description: 32.0 p.

Physical Description: 62.0 p.

Physical Description: 64.0 p.

Physical Description: 63.0 p.

Box 1, Folder 7  Fielding, William J. *Sex symbolism*. Little Blue Book, No. 904; Rational Sex Series, Vol. 10. Girard, Kan.: Haldeman-Julius Company, c1925
Physical Description: 64.0 p.

Physical Description: 62.0 p.

Physical Description: 63.0 p.

Physical Description: 64.0 p.

Physical Description: 32.0 p.

Physical Description: 32.0 p.

Box 1, Folder 13  Hamblen, Emily S. *Walt Whitman, bard of the West*. Little Blue Book, No. 529. Girard, Kan.: Haldeman-Julius, c1924
Physical Description: 64.0 p.

Physical Description: 63.0 p.


Physical Description: 62.0 p.


Physical Description: 64.0 p.

General note
One of the first two books on homosexuality purchased by Jim Kepner.


Physical Description: 31.0 p.


Physical Description: 32.0 p.


Physical Description: 64.0 p.

Big Blue Book Series 2. 1925-1950

Physical Description: 43.0 pamphlets.

Series Scope and Content
This series contains pamphlets dealing primarily with issues of sexuality. The bulk of the pamphlets were written in the late 1940s by David Oliver Cauldwell (1896-1959), MD, a prolific and pioneering sexologist who published extensively on homosexuality and transsexualism. Other authors include Joseph McCabe (1867-1955), freethinker and former priest, and Adolph Frederick Niemoeller, BS, AB, MA, Special Advisor on Sexual Anthropology to the American Anthropological Society. The sensational, often lengthy, titles were dictated by the publisher to pique public interest and increase sales. The series also includes a collection of essays by Edward Carpenter, condensed by Miriam deFord. The pamphlets measure 8 1/2 x 5 1/2 inches.

Box 1, Folder 20  Carpenter, Edward. *Civilization, its cause and cure and other essays*; condensed, with a foreword, by Miriam Allen deFord. Digest 34. Girard, Kan.: Haldeman-Julius Publications, c1945

Physical Description: 24.0 p.

Box 1, Folder 21  Cauldwell, D. O. (David O.). *Art of preserving one's manhood*; as virility is inherent, no man should be a sexual weakling or failure, for virile powers can be made to respond at will. Big Blue Book, B-822. Girard, Kan.: Haldeman-Julius Publications, c1949

Physical Description: 32.0 p.
Box 1, Folder 22  
**Cauldwell, D. O. (David O.). Bisexuality in patterns of human behavior**; a study of individuals who indulge in both heterosexual and homosexual practices, with comparative data on hermaphrodites, the human intersex. Big Blue Book, B-731. Girard, Kan.: Haldeman-Julius Publications, c1948  
Physical Description: 30.0 p.  
General note  
Identical to B-732.

Box 1, Folder 23  
Physical Description: 30.0 p.  
General note  
Identical to B-731.

Box 1, Folder 24  
Physical Description: 32.0 p.

Box 1, Folder 25  
**Cauldwell, D. O. (David O.). Exhibitionism—how it manifests itself**; the natural and the anti-social significance of a universal practice, with sidelights on its analogue, voyeurism. Big Blue Book, B-774. Girard, Kan.: Haldeman-Julius Publications, c1948  
Physical Description: 31.0 p.

Box 1, Folder 26  
**Cauldwell, D. O. (David O.). Female homosexuals—lesbians—tell their stories**; the truth concerning their sexual natures as revealed by courageous women, with comment and interpretation by the author. Big Blue Book, B-776. Girard, Kan.: Haldeman-Julius Publications, c1948  
Physical Description: 32.0 p.

Box 1, Folder 27  
**Cauldwell, D. O. (David O.). Male homosexuals tell their stories**; facts revealed by men unafraid to tell the truth, with comment and scientific interpretation by the author. Big Blue Book, B-771. Girard, Kan.: Haldeman-Julius Publications, c1948  
Physical Description: 31.0 p.

Box 1, Folder 28  
Physical Description: 32.0 p.[2 copies]

Box 1, Folder 29-30  
**Cauldwell, D. O. (David O.). Private letters from homosexuals to a doctor**; a compilation that is an important contribution to literature homosexuals. Big Blue Book, B-823. Girard, Kan.: Haldeman-Julius Publications, c1949  
General Physical Description note: 2 copies (1 purple cover, 1 red cover) : 32 p.

Box 1, Folder 31  
Physical Description: 31.0 p.
Box 1, Folder 32

Cauldwell, D. O. (David O.). *Questions and answers about the problems of the sexually diseased*; there are two well-known venereal diseases, but the number of sexual diseases is legion. This booklet answers the questions people ask about these diseases and the problems arising from them. Big Blue Book, B-857. Girard, Kan.: Haldeman-Julius Publications, c1950

Physical Description: 30.0 p.

Box 1, Folder 33

Cauldwell, D. O. (David O.). *Questions and answers about trasvestism in disguise*; transvestism is a nationally popular eccentricity and some transvestists appear to be the last to find it out. Big Blue Book, B-886. Girard, Kan.: Haldeman-Julius Publications, c1950

Physical Description: 29.0 p.

Box 1, Folder 34

Cauldwell, D. O. (David O.). *Questions and answers involving sexual ethics and sexual esthetics*; subjects discussed include common courtesy between married lovers and such practices as cunnilingus, fellatio, and such sexual states as those involving homosexuals, transexuals, transvestism, etc. Big Blue Book, B-861. Girard, Kan.: Haldeman-Julius Publications, c1950

Physical Description: 30.0 p.

Box 1, Folder 35


Physical Description: 30.0 p.

Box 1, Folder 36


Physical Description: 31.0 p.

Box 1, Folder 37


Physical Description: 31.0 p.

General note

Some discussion of homosexuality.

Box 1, Folder 38


Physical Description: 32.0 p.

Box 1, Folder 39a

Cauldwell, D. O. (David O.). *Sex transmutation---can one's sex be changed?*; there's but a thin genetic line between the sexes, but the would-be sex transmutee battles forces more stubborn than the genes. Big Blue Book, B-932. Girard, Kan.: Haldeman-Julius Publications, c1951

Physical Description: 28.0 p.
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<th>Box 1, Folder 39b</th>
<th>Cauldwell, D. O. (David O.). <em>Sexual athletes</em>; a study of high frequencies of sexual activity, with comparative data on sexual outlets, including explanations and cases. Big Blue Book, B-739. Girard, Kan.: Haldeman-Julius Publications, c1948</th>
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<td>Includes discussion of homosexuality.</td>
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<th>Box 1, Folder 40</th>
<th>Cauldwell, D. O. (David O.). <em>The Sexually contented tell their stories</em>; experiences of people who have found their way to sexual happiness. Big Blue Book, B-800. Girard, Kan.: Haldeman-Julius Publications, c1949</th>
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<th>Box 1, Folder 42</th>
<th>Cauldwell, D. O. (David O.). <em>Transvestists' unexpurgated letters</em>; intimate letters written to a doctor with the request that they be published as written by cross-dressers. Big Blue Book, B-882. Girard, Kan.: Haldeman-Julius Publications, c1950</th>
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<th>Box 1, Folder 44</th>
<th>Cauldwell, D. O. (David O.). <em>Undinism</em>; a study of a bizarre but not unnatural eccentricity involving a sexual interest in urine, urination, seeing others urinate, etc. Big Blue Book, B-875. Girard, Kan.: Haldeman-Julius Publications, c1950</th>
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<th>Box 1, Folder 45</th>
<th>Cauldwell, D. O. (David O.). <em>Voyeurism—a form of sexual behavior</em>; a critical study of a natural trait that has been given an erroneous meaning. Big Blue Book, B-787. Girard, Kan.: Haldeman-Julius Publications, c1949</th>
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<th>Box 1, Folder 46</th>
<th>Cauldwell, D. O. (David O.). <em>What is a hermaphrodite?</em>; a study of persons of either sex whose genital organs, mental integration and chemical (hormonal) characteristics embrace the characters or characteristics of both sexes. Big Blue Book, B-525. Girard, Kan.: Haldeman-Julius Publications, c1947</th>
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<th>Box 1, Folder 47</th>
<th>Cauldwell, D. O. (David O.). <em>What's wrong with transvestism?</em>; a compilation of the diaries of transvestists as revealed to the author, with letters and day-by-day events from the lives of those who prefer to wear the clothing of the opposite sex. Big Blue Book, B-825. Girard, Kan.: Haldeman-Julius Publications, c1949</th>
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<td>stories, weird confessions, historical data, and scientific</td>
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<td>explanations of transvestism.</td>
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<td>account of the worship of Priapus throughout the ages.</td>
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<td>50</td>
<td>Haldeman-Julius, E. Fillers; scientists look at homosexuality and</td>
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<td>more than 100 other short pieces.</td>
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<td>his problem.</td>
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<td>52</td>
<td>McCabe, Joseph. The Abnormal aspects of sex; perversities and</td>
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<td>aberrations of the human sexual impulse and its expressions. Vol. 1,</td>
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<td>No. 10 (October, 1947). Girard, Kan.: Haldeman-Julius,</td>
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<td>Sacher-Masoch, known as &quot;the great abnormal,&quot; who gave his name to</td>
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<td>a strange form of behavior—its prevalence and psychology.</td>
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<td>outstanding works of sensuality in ancient, medieval and modern</td>
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<td>55</td>
<td>McCabe, Joseph. The Story of the world's oldest profession;</td>
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<td>prostitution in the ancient, medieval and modern worlds.</td>
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<td>56</td>
<td>McCabe, Joseph. Vice in German monasteries; the amazing facts</td>
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<td>regarding what has come to be known as &quot;celibacy-disease.&quot;</td>
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<td>Big Blue Book, B-449. Girard, Kan.: Haldeman-Julius Publications,</td>
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<td>c1937</td>
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<td>57</td>
<td>McCabe, Joseph. What should be taught about sex?; what are the real</td>
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<td>effects of modern freedom in sex discussion and education? Key to</td>
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<td>Love and Sex, No. 7. Girard, Kan.: Haldeman-Julius Publications,</td>
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Physical Description: 32.0 p. |
| Box 1, Folder 59 | Niemoeller, A. F. *Bestiality and the law*; a resume of the law and punishments for bestiality with typical cases from fifteenth century to the present. Big Blue Book, B-517. Girard, Kan.: Haldeman-Julius Publications, c1946  
Physical Description: 32.0 p. |
| Box 1, Folder 60 | Niemoeller, A. F. *Bestiality in ancient and modern times*; a study of the sexual relations of man and animals in all times and countries. Big Blue Book, B-518. Girard, Kan.: Haldeman-Julius Publications, c1946  
Physical Description: 42.0 p. |
| Box 1, Folder 61 | Niemoeller, A. F. *Wanderings in "untrodden fields of anthropology"*; the choicest excerpts from the observations of a French army surgeon, made over 30 years experience in many places, concerning the sexual customs, practices, and peculiarities of various peoples. Big Blue Book, B-760. Girard, Kan.: Haldeman-Julius Publications, c1948  
Physical Description: 52.0 p. |
| Box 1, Folder 62 | Sade, marquis de. *De Sade on virtue and vice*; selections from the writings of the Marquis de Sade illustrating his views upon morality and sex; translated by A. F. Niemoeller. Big Blue Book, B-522. Girard, Kan.: Haldeman-Julius Publications, c1946  
Physical Description: 27.0 p. |