

# H. G. (Herbert George) Wells:

## An Inventory of His Collection at the Harry Ransom Center

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### Descriptive Summary

<b>Creator:</b>	Wells, H. G. (Herbert George), 1866-1946
<b>Title:</b>	H. G. (Herbert George) Wells Collection
<b>Dates:</b>	1886-1963, undated
<b>Extent:</b>	12 boxes (5.04 linear feet)
<b>Abstract:</b>	Contains manuscripts and letters by the noted English author, H. G. Wells. Includes proofs and drawings of <i>Anthony and the Zeppelin</i> and a handwritten page with revisions of <i>The War of the Worlds</i> . Also includes correspondence with Arnold Bennett, James B. Pinker, and Wells' brother, Frederick J. Wells.
<b>Call Number:</b>	Manuscript Collection MS-4465
<b>Language:</b>	English
<b>Access:</b>	Open for research

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### Administrative Information

<b>Processed by:</b>	Joan Sibley and Apryl Voskamp, 2013 <b>Note:</b> This finding aid replicates and replaces information previously available only in a card catalog. Please see the explanatory note at the end of this finding aid for information regarding the arrangement of the manuscripts as well as the abbreviations commonly used in descriptions.
<b>Repository:</b>	<a href="#">Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin</a>

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**Works:**

- The adventures of Tommy, color photo-processed copy, 10 pages boxed, undated. Limited and numbered edition-de-luxe, no. 1482. Included with this: TLS W. B. Robertson to unidentified recipient giving background of the work, 4 October 1928. **Container** 1.2
- Anthony and the Zeppelin, proofs with illustrations, 4 pages, undated.
- The autocracy of Mr. Parham:
- Signed handwritten and typed manuscript / draft with handwritten revisions and notes, 929 pages, circa 1930. Removed from six loose-leaf notebooks. **Container** 1.3
- Typescript with handwritten emendations, 497 pages bound, undated. Deleted from original title: "Remarkable adventures" and "autocracy" written in. **Container** 2.1
- Galley proofs with handwritten corrections and ANI, 83 pages bound, 1929-1930. For Nash's magazine. Also includes proof of Low illustrations. **Container** 2.2
- Crystal gazing: 1932, carbon typescript with few handwritten emendations, 13 pages bound, 1932. Bound with this: page proofs, 4 pages. **Container** 4.2
- George Gissing: A preface, page proofs, 14 pages, 16 June 1904. Suppressed preface for Gissing's posthumous *Veranilda*. Bound with this: 3 ALS to Edmund Gosse re suppression of preface, undated. **Container** 4.3
- Introduction to Swinnerton's *Nocturne*, signed carbon typescript with handwritten emendations, 5 pages, undated. Included with this: Introduction, printed page proofs, 8 pages, December 1917. **Container** 4.4
- The man who could work miracles, signed handwritten manuscript with revisions, 26 pages bound, undated. **Container** 4.5
- Notes for a speech given to PEN, handwritten manuscript, 9 pages, undated. **Container** 4.1
- The outlook for education, carbon typescript with handwritten emendations, 5 pages bound, November 1932. Bound with this: proof page for Nash's *Pall Mall* magazine, 1 page. **Container** 4.6
- The outlook for homo sapiens, printed copy of *The new world order* with Wells' handwritten revisions, 191 pages, undated. Written on front free endpaper are two notes, one signed, by Robert Senhouse. **Container** 4.7
- The problem of the troublesome collaborator, initialed page proofs with handwritten corrections and notes, laid in proof for covers, 69 pages, 1930 (date printed). **Container** 4.1
- The problem of the troublesome collaborator, page proofs, 74 pages, 1930.

- The shape of things to come, galley proofs / incomplete, 146 pages bound, undated. **Container**  
4.8
- A thesis on the quality of illusion in the continuity of the individual life in the Higher Metazoa..., printed pamphlet with one carbon typescript page of revision attached, 46 pages, undated. **Container**  
4.9
- This misery of boots, printed pages torn from The Independent Review with handwritten revisions by Wells, pages 396-413, 1905. **Container**  
4.1
- Time machine: Points for consideration, typescript with handwritten notes, 3 pages, undated. Questions, some in unidentified hand, about selected statements with answer or revision by Wells.
- The war in the air, handwritten manuscript / fragment with extensive handwritten revisions, 1 page, undated (1908?).
- The war of the worlds, handwritten revisions tipped into printed book, 1 page, 1898. **Container**  
Bound. 5.1
- When the sleeper wakes, handwritten fragment with revisions, 1 page, undated. **Container**  
4.1
- You can't be too careful; a sample of life, 1901-1951, proof copy with handwritten corrections by Wells and editorial handwritten notes and queries, 294 pages, 1941 (date published). Note by Roger Senhouse on cover. **Container**  
5.2

**Letters:**

AN to unidentified recipient, undated. Removed from AC-L W 462 G1 1934 copy 2. **Container**  
5.3

AN to unidentified recipient, undated. "A small thanks offering." Removed from AC-L W 462 go 1917a.

ANS to unidentified recipient, undated. "Mr. Wells regrets that he never lectures." Removed from AC-L W462 miste 1916a copy 3.

ALS to unidentified recipient, undated. "I'm very glad indeed that you liked my echo...."

ALS to unidentified recipient, undated. "I have never yet been able...."

ALS to unidentified recipient, undated. "Thank you very much for your kind opinion...."

ALS to unidentified recipient re Russia, undated.

ALS to unidentified recipient, 21 January 1896.

ALS to unidentified recipient re Anticipations..., 19 August 1903? Removed from AC-L W 462 wa 1917 copy 3.

ALS to unidentified recipient, 15 April 1919.

3 ALS to unidentified recipient "Mrs. S. K. R.," 1919, 23 September 1937, undated.

ALS, APCS to The Academy and Literature, 1 December 1901, undated.

ALS, ALI, ANS to Austin, Frederick Britten, undated.

ALS to Ball, \_\_\_\_\_, 3 November 1903.

15 ALS, 68 ALI, TLS, FLS, 3 ANI, AN, 2 APCI to Bennett, Arnold, 1897-1930, undated. Included in this: 1.) Anonymous AL to Wells, 5 October 1928; 2.) 5 TccL copies Bennett to Wells, 1918-1930; 3.) ALS Ella Hepworth Dixon to Bennett with ANI to Bennett from Wells, 10 February 1930; 4.) handwritten manuscript / blurb re History of the world in Wells' hand and carbon typescript / incomplete, 1 page each, 10 May 1920; drawings by Wells. Bound. **Container**  
6.1

5 ALS, 40 ALI, 2 ANI, APC, 2 APCI to Bennett, Arnold, 1901-1929, undated. **Container**  
6.2

ALS to Bland, Hubert, Mrs., 27 February 1902. With drawing titled The birth of self respect. **Container**  
5.3

ALS to Burke, Thomas, undated.

ALS to The Century Co. re extra-illustrated edition of The outline of history, undated (1920). Removed from AC-L W 462 ou 1919a.

ANS to Conolly, F. V., 20 November 1920. Removed from AC-L W 462 ru 1920.

ALS to Dawson, Miss, 25 November 1907.

ALS to Doughty, \_\_\_\_\_, 14 June 1926. Removed from AC-L W 462 ne 1935 a copy 1.

ALS to Duschinsky, 5 July 1923.

ALS to Duschinsky, Frau, 5 September 1923.

ALS to Edwards, Joseph, 7 November 1901.

ALS to Ellsworth, undated.

ALS to Franklin, Miss, undated.

TLS to Gamble, Peter, 17 April 1943.

**Container** 6.3

5 ALS, 3 ALI to Gatternigg, Hedy Verma, 1922, 1923, undated.

**Container**  
6.4

ALI to Granville-Barker, Harley re Masefield play, 1 February 1907. From Hanley II.

**Container**  
6.3

ANS to Hare, Sage, Mrs., 6 January 1922. Removed from AC-L W 462 worlds 1914c copy 2.

2 ALS, APCS to Harris, Frank, 18 September 1913, 14 February 1931, undated.

ACS, ALS, ANS, APCI to Harris, Helen O'Hara, 1921-1931, undated.

35 ALS, 6 ALI, 2 AL, 2 AL / incomplete, ANI, 2 AN, printed birth announcement to Healey, Miss, 1888-1905, undated. Included with this: 2 initialed handwritten poems to Miss Healey, Easter 1886, undated; drawings by Wells; photograph of Wells with skeleton, 1886? Bound.

**Container**  
7.1

8 ALS, Christmas card to Healey Miss, 1894-1898, undated. Included with these: printed admission card to reading of paper by Wells, 12 December 1894.

**Container**  
7.2

ALS to Hick, Rupert, undated.

**Container** 6.3

ALS to Jones, undated. Included with this: typed carbon copy.

ALS to Kauser, Alice, undated.

ALS to Landi, Elissa, 27 March 1935.

2 ALI to Le Galliene, Richard, undated. One letter thanks Le Gallienne for Prose fancies.

ALI to Low, undated. From the Hanley Collection.

9 ALI, 2 APCI to McCarthy, Lillah, 1911-1941, undated. From Hanley II.

**Container**  
7.3

ALS, ALI to Ogden, 15 November 1941, undated.

**Container 6.3**

ANS to Payen-Payne, James Bertrand De Vincheles, undated. Removed from AC-L W 462 new 1910 a copy 2. Written on postcard with photo of Easton Glebe.

2 ALS, 3 TLS to Payen-Payne, James Bertrand De Vincheles, 1934-1938. Three by Marjorie Wells. Removed from AC-L W 476 kip 1905b copy 2.

ALS to Phillips, undated. Included with this: typed carbon copy.

220 ALS, 254 ALI, AL, 2 AL / incomplete, 7 TLS, 2 TL, AN, 6 APCS, 13 APCI, 2 APC, 2 FPC, 16 telegrams to Pinker (J. B.) and Sons, 1896-1934, undated. Much correspondence for Wells by Catherine Wells. Included with these: related correspondence from publishers; drawings by Wells; prospectus for Love and Mr. Lewisham. Bound.

**Container**  
8.1-10.1

ALI to Pinker, James B., 5 May 1902.

**Container 6.3**

5 ALS to Radcliffe, 1919, undated.

ALS to Rhondda, Margaret Haig Thomas Mackworth, Viscountess, 10 November 1932.

TLS to Rittenberg, Louis, 27 October 1932. Re George Bernard Shaw.

ANS to Roberts, Kilham, 16 January 1932.

10 ALS, 2 ALI to Robins, Elizabeth, 1909-1910, undated. ALS / draft reply by Robins on letter postmarked 13 July 1909. Included with these: AL / copies of 2 letters from Robins to Wells, 8 and 11 January 1910; AL / copy Robins to Bessie Hatton, 8 January 1910.

**Container**  
11.1

ALS to Russell, John Francis Stanley Russell, Earl, undated. Removed from PR 5774 W27 copy 3 HRC.

**Container**  
6.3

TccL to Saturday Evening Post with handwritten note, 23 August 1918.

APCS to Searle, Townley, 17 July 1913.

3 ALI, TLS to Senhouse, Roger, 1942. TLS written and signed by Majorie Wells.

ALS / photocopy to Shorter, Clement King, undated. Original ALS is tipped into printed copy of Wells' *The war of the worlds* along with handwritten manuscript with revisions, 1 page, 1898. See folder 5.1 for the bound volume.

ALS to Sterling, George, 18 August 1908.

ALI to Straus, Ralph, undated. Removed from PR 5774 S6 1917 copy 5.

ANS to Tittle, Walter, 7 November 1923.

23 ALS, 15 ALI, AL, 3 APCS, 5 APCI, 2 APC, telegram to Wells, Frederick J., 1889-1941, undated. Many signed H. G. Busswhacker or The Busswhacker. Included with these: pen and ink sketched Christmas card; pencil sketch.

**Container**  
11.2

4 ALS, ALI, ALI / incomplete, 21 APCS, 2 APCI, 8 APC to Wells, Jean Alice, 1934-1940, undated; many with drawings.

**Container**  
11.3

ALS to Woolf, Leonard Sidney, circa 1923.

**Container** 6.3



**Letters I:**

Letters to The Literary Agency of London: 47 ALS, 2 ALS / incomplete, 25 ALI, TLS, APC, 4 APCS, 2 APCI, to Cazenove, Charles F., 1904-1914, undated; 5ALS, 5 ALI, APCI to Perris, George H., 1904-1914, undated; ALS to Maclure, 11 November 1906. Included with these: 1.) TL / incomplete unidentified author to Wells with AN by Wells, 27 March 1907; 2.) TLS John Phillips to Wells, 12 July 1911; 3.) ALS Catherine Wells to G. H. Perris with ANI by Wells, undated; 4.) TL / copy Wells to P. R. Reynolds, 24 March 1908; 5.) In a room on the ninth floor in the Skyscraper Hotel, New York, carbon typescript with handwritten emendations, 6 pages, undated; 6.) memorandum of agreement with Harper & Brothers, carbon typescript / draft with handwritten notes and revisions, 3 pages, undated. Bound.

**Container**  
11.4

**Letters II:**

Letters to various persons: 1.) 2 ALS, AL / incomplete to Benn, 1929; 2.) 4 ALS, 2 ALI, ANI, APCS to Brown, Curtis, 1917-1920; 3.) ALS to Cazenove, Charles F., 5 September 1891; 4.) 5 ALS to Colles, undated; 6.) 5 ALS, 2 ALI, 2 APCI to Gollancz, Victor, 1926-1927, undated; 7.) 5 TceL / copies with revisions to Jones, H. A., 10 November 1903, undated; 8.) 3 ALS to Secker, Martin, 14 February no year (1912?); 9.) ALS to Torley, undated; 10.) ALS to (Thorne, Doris Arthur Jones?), Thorne, 25 October 1929. Bound with this: review of Mr. Blettsworthy on Rampole Island by H. G. Wells with handwritten emendations and notes in Wells' hand, 5 pages, undated; 5 ink drawings with captions. Bound.

**Container**  
12.1

**Recipient:**

Laven, Fernando. ALS to Wells, 29 December 1901.

**Container 12.2**

Pagenstecher, Gustav, 1855-1942. ALS / photocopy to Wells, 25 November no year.

Příbaň, Cyril. ALS to Wells, 30 April 1902.

**Miscellaneous:**

- Amalgamated Press Ltd. TLS to Rota, Bertram re The adventures of Tommy, 10 May 1934. Removed from AC-L q W 462 ad 192-. **Container**  
12.3
- Beeton, H. R. TccL / copy with handwritten corrections to unidentified recipient Hugh re H. G. Wells, 10 March 1929. "...there is not one but three Wells."  
Removed from AC-L W 462 D 23 1928 copy 2.
- Chatto and Windus Ltd. TLS Ian Parsons to the H. G. Wells Society, directed to J. R. Hammond re a re-issue of The story of a great schoolmaster, 9 May 1961.  
Removed from AC-L W 462 stor 1924a copy 2.
- Kneale, Nigel. First men in the moon, by Nigel Kneale and Jan Read, from the novel **Container**  
by H. G. Wells, mimeo screenplay / final draft, 148 pages, September 1963. 12.4
- Perkins, Percival Densmore, 1897- . TccL to Cutler, Bradley Dwayne re Wells, 19 August 1930. **Container**  
12.3
- Perkins, Percival Densmore, 1897 - . TccL to Wells, Geoffrey Harry re H. G. Wells, 24 September 1930.
- Wells, Amy Catherine Robbins, d. 1927. TLS to Austin, Frederick Britten, undated.
- Wells, Amy Catherine Robbins, d. 1927. ALS to Bennett, Arnold, 31 December no year.
- Wells, Geoffrey Harry, 1900- . TLS to Perkins, Percival Densmore, 15 October 1930. Re H. G. Wells.
- Wells, H. G., 1866-1946. H. G. Wells prophesies, signed handwritten manuscript in cut-out folder as design for books, 1 page, undated.

## Explanatory Note Concerning Manuscript Collections Cataloged in the Card Catalog

Prior to 1990 when archival cataloging procedures were adopted at the Ransom Center, all manuscript collections were described in a card catalog.

### Organization of Collections:

- Manuscripts for each author collection were organized into four categories:
- **Works:** manuscripts by the author, arranged alphabetically by title;
- **Letters:** the author's outgoing correspondence, arranged alphabetically by recipient name;
- **Recipient:** the author's incoming correspondence, arranged alphabetically by the author of the letter; and
- **Miscellaneous:** all other manuscripts and correspondence, arranged alphabetically by creator.

Materials that did not fit into these categories, such as art, photographs, books, and near-print materials such as newspaper clippings, were dispersed to other Ransom Center collections for cataloging and storage.

### Abbreviations Used in Descriptions:

The symbols below were used in combinations. For example **ALS** means autograph letter signed; **Tccms** means typed carbon copy manuscript, etc.

- **A** = autograph (i.e., handwritten)
- **T** = typed
- **S** = signed
- **I** = initialed
- **Ms** = manuscript
- **Mss** = manuscripts
- **L** = letter
- **FL** = form letter
- **N** = note
- **D** = document
- **C** = card
- **PC** = post card
- **cc** = carbon copy
- **p** = page
- **pp** = pages
- **l** = leaf
- **ll** = leaves
- **nd** = no date
- **inc d** = incomplete date