



Guide to the D.W. Newsom papers, 1894-1972

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Summary

Collection Title:

D.W. Newsom papers, 1894-1972

Creator:

Newsom, D. W. (Dallas Walton), 1873-1949

Abstract:

D.W. (Dallas Walton) Newsom was an educational administrator, county manager, scholar, and poet. Newsom entered Trinity College in the fall of 1895 beginning a twenty-seven year association with the institution. The collection contains material correspondence between Newsom and Trinity College president John C. Kilgo and Tempe Battle Newsom; clippings of Kilgo's speeches, articles, visitations, and obituary from various local and regional newspapers; and some biographical writings regarding Kilgo. The materials in the collection date from 1894-1972.

Extent:

6.5 Linear Feet

Language:

Material in English

Collection ID:

UA.30.01.0010

Permalink:

<https://idn.duke.edu/ark:/87924/m1xh7g>

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], D.W. Newsom Papers, Duke University Archives, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University.

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Background

Scope and Content

The Newsom collection primarily contains material collected or created by D.W. Newsom. Includes material concerning Trinity College president John C. Kilgo such as correspondence between Newsom and Kilgo, clippings of Kilgo's speeches, articles, visitations, and obituary from various local and regional

newspapers, and some biographical writings regarding Kilgo. Major subjects include Trinity College (Durham County, NC); Christian education; and the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Also present in the collection are some materials relating to Newsom's administrative duties at Trinity College including a repair book (1911-1918), some memoranda concerning Trinity College, and miscellaneous letters. Of particular note are the responses to a janitorial service survey sent by Newsom to Trinity's peer institutions in 1920 asking for operational details of various institutions' housekeeping staff. Questions on the survey address race of staff, number of hours worked, salary, paid vacation/sick-leave, bonuses, division of responsibilities, retention, and age of workers.

Newsom kept various notebooks for jotting down thoughts, poetic words, and subjects of interest such as physics or Kilgo, philosophic quotations, and writings. These notebooks are present in the collection. Many of Newsom's notes are in shorthand. Personal correspondence consists primarily of letters between D. W. Newsom and Tempe Battle Newsom, but also contains correspondence from their parents, children, colleagues, and friends. A handwritten index of the personal correspondence is located in the collection control file and is available upon request. The materials in the collection date from 1894 to 1972.

Biographical/Historical

condensed from Dictionary of North Carolina Biography, ed. by William S. Powell Volume 4, L-O, 1991, pp. 366-367.

D.W. (Dallas Walton) Newsom was an educational administrator, county manager, scholar, and poet. He was born in Littleton, North Carolina to Marion Eaton and Annie Soule Heptinstall Newsom in 1873. Newsom entered Trinity College (now Duke University) in the fall of 1895, beginning a twenty-seven year association with the institution.

During his student days at Trinity, Newsom was a member of various scholastic and social clubs including Phi Beta Kappa, the 9019, Sigma Upsilon, and the Alpha Phi chapter of Kappa Alpha. He was also a campus leader serving as senior class president, editor of *The Trinity Archive*, as well as holding various officer positions in the *Hesperian Literary Society*. His involvement in the *Hesperian Literary Society* culminated in his winning its orator's medal in 1898. At the end of his first year, Newsom became the private secretary to President John C. Kilgo prompting a life-long friendship between the two men.

When Newsom graduated from Trinity in 1899, he received a post in Havana, Cuba, on recommendation from President Kilgo, where he served as a private secretary to the comptroller of customs in the U.S. Customs House. In 1901, Newsom returned to Trinity, becoming the college registrar and six years later college treasurer, a post he held until 1923. During this time, Newsom was also

the recording secretary to the Board of Trustees and a member of the officers' finance committee.

D.W. Newsom married Tempe Battle in 1905. Tempe Battle was born in 1881 in Whitaker, North Carolina to Marcus Josiah and Susan Ella Garrett Battle. D.W. Newsom and Tempe Battle had four children together- Dallas Walton, Jr., Dorothy, Routh Battle, and Tempe Garrett.

In 1923, Newsom left academic administration to enter private enterprise opening a real estate and insurance sales and service office in Durham. He was active in private business for seven years. Concurrently, he also served as secretary-treasurer and then president (1928) of the Durham Real Estate Board and as director of the State Board of Realtors.

Newsom also held several public offices. In 1924, he was appointed to the Durham County Board of Commissioners. He served for four terms. Governor Angus W. McLean named him to the Governor's Commission for a Survey and Study of County Government designed to "project the modernization of county governments" in 1925. This appointment led to Newsom's appointment to the Governor's County Government Advisory Commission (1927-1931). In 1930, Newsom became Durham County's first county manager, and one of the few county managers in the nation.

Newsom's published works include two books of poetry: *Song and Dream* (1922) and *A long the Silent Ways* (1973). The later was published posthumously by his daughters in celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of his birth. He also penned a *History of Duke Memorial Methodist Church from 1886 to 1932* (1933) and *Chapel Talks* (1922) by President John Carlisle Kilgo, transcribed from notes taken by Newsom. Newsom passed away in 1949.

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Arrangement

The Newsom collection is divided into the following series: correspondence, printed matter, subject files, writing and speeches, oversize, and personal correspondence.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Use Restrictions

Copyright for Official University records is held by Duke University; all other copyright is retained by the authors of items in these papers, or their descendants, as stipulated by United States copyright law.

Acquisition Information

The D.W. Newsom papers were received by the University Archives as a transfer in 2003 and as a gift from Battle Rankin Robinson in 2022.

Processing Information

Processed by Sherrie Bowser, June 2007

Encoded by Sherrie Bowser, July 2007

Accessions A2003-3 and UA2022-0036 are described in this finding aid.

Accession UA2022-0036 added and finding aid updated by April Blevins, August 2022.

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Related Materials

Related Material

Bill Arp / by D.W. Newsom. University Archives, Duke University. D. W. Newsom papers, [ca. 1890]-1950 and n.d. (bulk 1929-1948) David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University. In memory of everybody's friend "Marse Jim" (James Haywood Southgate) / D. W. Newsom David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University. Newsom Collection (Dallas Walton Newsom) North Carolina Collection at the Durham County Library. Robert S. Rankin Papers, 1898-1977. University Archives, Duke University.

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Names and Subjects

- Janitors -- Universities and colleges
- Clippings (information artifacts)
- Notebooks
- Methodist Episcopal Church, South -- North Carolina
- Kilgo, John Carlisle, 1861-1922
- Newsom, D. W. (Dallas Walton), 1873-1949
- Trinity College (Durham, N.C.) -- History
- Duke University -- History
- Newsom, Tempe Battle, 1881-1941
- Newsom family
- Trinity College (Durham, N.C.) -- Administration
- Trinity College (Durham, N.C.) -- Students

Collection Inventory

Correspondence

John C. Kilgo, 1915-1922	Box 1
Miscellaneous letters, 1917-1922	Box 1

Shorthand notebook, (perhaps contain material dictated by John C. Kilgo to Newsom)	Box 1
Trinity Memoranda, undated	Box 1

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Printed Matter

"Christian Education: Its Aims and Superiority" by John C. Kilgo	Box 1
Investigation of the Charges Brought by Justice Walter Clark Against Dr. John C. Kilgo, August 30-31, 1898	Box 1
The Kappa Alpha Journal, September 1922; May 1923	Box 1
Miscellaneous letters, notes, undated; 1898	Box 1
Psychology Descriptive and Explanatory A treatise on the phenomena, laws, and development of human mental life by George Trumbull Ladd, 1894 (located in oversize box)	Box 1
Repair Book, Trinity College, 1911-1918	Box 1
Trinity Alumni Register, vol. 8 no. 4 January 1923	Box 1
The Uplift, 1922	Box 1

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Subject Files

Aims of Trinity, undated	Box 1
Class Flag, undated	Box 1
Janitorial Service Survey, 1920	Box 1

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Writing and Speeches

Miscellaneous writing and speeches, undated	Box 1
Notebooks regarding John C. Kilgo, undated	Box 1
Notebooks, undated; 1898	Box 1

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Oversize

Clippings	Box 2
Baltimore Southern Methodist, August 31, 1922	Box 2
The Christian Educator, Trinity Park, Durham, NC February 1896	Box 2
September 1896	Box 2
May 1897	Box 2
The Durham Recorder, January 19, 1899	Box 2
Miscellaneous clippings, undated; 1894-1972 (2 folders)	Box 2
The Morning Post, Raleigh, NC, September 8, 1898	Box 2

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Personal correspondence

Scope and Contents

Consists of correspondence mostly between D.W. Newsom and Tempe Battle Newsom. Includes correspondence of Annie Soule Newsom, Marcus Josiah Battle, Susan Ella Battle, Blanche Newsom, Dallas Walton Newsom, Jr., and Tempe Garrett Newsom. Also contains correspondence to and from colleagues and friends of D.W. and Tempe Newsom.

A handwritten index of the correspondence in this series is located in the collection control file and is available upon request.

1898 February, September	Box 3
1904 June	Box 3
1904 July	Box 3
Physical Description: 2 folders	
1904 August	Box 3
1904 September	Box 3
Physical Description: 2 folders	
1904 October - December	Box 3
1905 February - June	Box 3
1905 June	Box 3
Physical Description: 2 folders	
1905 July	Box 3
Physical Description: 5 folders	
1905 August	Box 4
Physical Description: 6 folders	
1905 September	Box 4
Physical Description: 5 folders	
1905 November	Box 4
1905 December	Box 4
1906 March	Box 5
Physical Description: 3 folders	
1906 April	Box 5
1906 July	Box 5
Physical Description: 2 folders	
1906 September - November	Box 5

1906 November	Box 5
Physical Description: 4 folders	
1906 November - December	Box 5
1907 April	Box 5
Physical Description: 3 folders	
1907 May - August	Box 6
1907 September	Box 6
Physical Description: 5 folders	
1908 January	Box 6
Physical Description: 3 folders	
1908 April	Box 6
1908 April - July	Box 6
1908 August	Box 6
Physical Description: 3 folders	
1908 September - November	Box 6
1908 November - December	Box 6
1909 June	Box 6
1909 July	Box 6
1909 September - October	Box 7
1909 October	Box 7
Physical Description: 2 folders	
1910 January - March	Box 7
1910 April	Box 7
1910 May - June	Box 7
1910 July	Box 7
Physical Description: 3 folders	

1910 October	Box 7
Physical Description: 2 folders	
1910 November	Box 7
1911 January	Box 7
1911 March	Box 7
Physical Description: 2 folders	
1911 August	Box 7
Physical Description: 2 folders	
1911 October - November	Box 7
1911 November	Box 7
1912 July	Box 7
Physical Description: 2 folders	
1912 August - October	Box 7
1913 January	Box 7
1913 May	Box 8
1913 July - December	Box 8
1914 January	Box 8
Physical Description: 4 folders	
1914 February	Box 8
Physical Description: 5 folders	
1914 March - April	Box 8
1914 August	Box 8
Physical Description: 3 folders	
1914 September - December	Box 8
1914 December	Box 8
Physical Description: 4 folders	
1915 January - February	Box 8

1915 March - April	Box 8
1915 August	Box 9
Physical Description: 6 folders	
1915 September	Box 9
Physical Description: 4 folders	
1915 October	Box 9
1915 October - December	Box 9
1916 January - February	Box 9
1916 April - June	Box 9
1916 June	Box 9
Physical Description: 3 folders	
1916 July	Box 9
Physical Description: 2 folders	
1916 August	Box 9
1916 September - December	Box 9
1917 January - February	Box 9
1917 March	Box 9
1917 April	Box 10
Physical Description: 3 folders	
1917 May - June	Box 10
1917 July	Box 10
1917 August - September	Box 10
1917 September	Box 10
1917 October - December	Box 10
1918 March - May	Box 10

1918 July	Box 10
Physical Description: 3 folders	
1918 August	Box 10
Physical Description: 9 folders	
1918 September	Box 10
Physical Description: 2 folders	
Scope and Contents	
September 1, 1918, letter to D.W. Newsom from Walton Newsom included nitrate negative. Nitrate negatives are close to use; copies available upon request.	
1918 October	Box 11
1918 November - December	Box 11
1919 January - February	Box 11
1919 March	Box 11
Physical Description: 2 folders	
1919 April	Box 11
1919 April - July	Box 11
1919 October	Box 11
Physical Description: 2 folders	
1920 May - June	Box 11
1924 June	Box 11
1924 June - August	Box 11
1925 March, December	Box 11
1926 April - June	Box 11
1926 July	Box 11
1926 October	Box 11
1927 September - October	Box 11

1928 April - December	Box 11
1932 September - October	Box 11
1940 February - 1947 August	Box 11
undated	Box 11
Physical Description: 2 folders	
Name cards, book labels, and envelope, 1928 and undated	Box 11

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