

Charles Lahr (1885-1971)

(MS 985)

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MS985

Lahr, Charles (1885-1971)

1917-1967

Name of Creator:

Lahr, Charles (1885-1971) political activist and publisher

Extent:

6 boxes

Administrative/Biographical History:

Charles Lahr was born Karl Lahr in 1885 at Wendlesheim in the Rhineland Palatinate, Germany. During his teenage years he became first a Buddhist and later an anarchist. In 1905, to escape conscription into the German army, he left Germany for London. On arriving in London he worked as a baker and expressed his political involvement by joining and frequenting anarchist clubs. By 1914 Lahr had taken work as a razor grinder and had joined the British Section of the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW). He began to accumulate books at around this time as he moved from residence to residence in the Kings Cross area of London. He also let rooms to people he met through his political activities. Designated an enemy alien, Lahr was interned in Alexandra Palace in London from 1915 to 1919. After the war Lahr returned to his trade and continued his involvement with the IWW, where he met his future wife, Esther Archer, whom he married in 1922. Lahr and Archer both joined the Communist party in 1920, but left in 1921. It was during this brief membership that the Lahr met and became friends with Liam O'Flaherty. In 1921 Lahr took over the Progressive Bookshop at 68 Red Lion Square, Holborn. The bookshop became a centre for new writers and political activists from around the world, and specialised in the sale of radical literature and first editions. The Lahr's first moves into publishing came in when K. S. Bhat recommended the editors of the *New Coterie* to take the magazine to the Lahrs. From 1925 onwards Lahr started publishing items on his own account, often using his wife's maiden name to counter anti-German prejudice. During 1925 to 1927 these took the form of offprints from *New Coterie*, and then articles within the magazine itself. In the publishing world he was in close contact with writers such as D. H. Lawrence, T. F. Powys, James Hanley, A.S.J. Tessimond, Liam O' Flaherty, Paul Selver, Russell Green, George Woodcock, Rhys Davies and

several others. The New Coterie ran until 1927, and in 1930 Lahr launched his Blue Moon Booklets and a year later the Blue Moon Press. However, by 1933 Lahr was having financial problems. In 1935 his difficulties came to a head when he was found guilty of receiving stolen books and was sentenced to six months imprisonment. However, after his release he continued his publishing activities although on a much reduced scale. The bookshop continued to be a focus for radicals and revolutionaries. The bookshop in Holborn was bombed in May 1941. Lahr moved the bookshop to several locations in central London before finally moving it to the headquarters of the Independent Labour Party at 197 Kings Cross Road, London. Charles Lahr died in London in 1971.

References: R. M. Fox, 'Lahr's Bookshop' in *Smoky Crusade*, Hogarth Press, 1938, pp. 180-188. D. Goodway, 'Charles Lahr: Anarchist, Bookseller' in *London Magazine*, Jun-Jul 1977, pp. 47-55.

Custodial History:

The University of London Library purchased the papers on 20 August 1999 from Oonagh Lahr, daughter of Charles Lahr. Before the papers were transferred to the Library in 1999, Ms Lahr hired a person to organise some of the material. Several signatures and names of individuals, which were difficult to decipher, were identified by Ms Lahr. Most of the material was already separated according to the author (e.g. correspondence) before it reached the library. The material was kept in this order, since most of the letters are still in their original envelopes and dating most of the letters would have been impossible without them. Included in the Lahr papers were a number of typescripts, galley proofs or manuscripts of works by various authors submitted for possible publication by Lahr. These had already been separated according to their author and usually give no indication of date.

Scope and Content:

The papers document many of Charles Lahr's activities, especially during the 1920s and 30s. These include his involvement in the publishing business, and bookselling activities. Most of the correspondence is related to social and family matters. There are various typescripts related to the activities of the Blue Moon Press available, some of them with manuscript corrections and signed by the authors. A file of newspaper cuttings consisting mainly of reviews of published works provides additional information on the

publishing activities in London at the time. Most of the correspondence lack important details such as dates or clear identification of writer. Some of the correspondence has been annotated for Ms Oonagh Lahr before she handed the collection to the University of London. Some of the annotations were written in pencil on the same documents while other notes are attached with the originals. Where these give added information to that in the documents, these notes have been kept with the originals. Some of the photographs have notes written on their reverse identifying some of the persons featuring in them. This was also done by Ms Oonagh Lahr. Esther Lahr clearly played a significant role in the running of both the bookshop and the various publishing ventures in which Charles Lahr engaged. Correspondence addressed to her is listed in a separate section of this catalogue.

System of Arrangement:

The collection is divided into twelve sections:

MS985/1: Correspondence addressed to the Lahr Family

MS985/2: Works for publication

MS985/3: Lectures

MS985/4: Newspaper Cuttings

MS985/5: Photographs and Drawings

MS985/6: Bookseller's Catalogues

MS985/7: Advertising, Publicity Material and Notices

MS985/8: Other Correspondence

MS985/9: Blue Moon Press Greetings Cards

MS985/10: Administrative Material relating to Business Activities

MS985/11: Papers for Clubs and Societies

MS985/12: Other Papers and Publications

Access conditions:

Access to this collection is unrestricted for the purpose of private study and personal research within the supervised environment and restrictions of the Library's Palaeography Room. Uncatalogued material may not be seen.

Copying conditions:

Copies may be made, subject to the condition of the original. Copying must be undertaken by the Palaeography Room staff, who will need a minimum of 24 hours to process requests

- MS985/1 Correspondence addressed to the Lahr family 1905-1967**
 This material consists of correspondence with authors, friends, and people who shared Lahr's interests and concerns. The correspondence contains a mixture of literary comment, personal news, and publication matters.
- MS985/1/1 From Peter Abrahams, Anne and Annesley Aldred and George Baker 1931-1957**
 A holiday postcard from the Aldreds (1957), and correspondence relating to pieces for the printing and sales of *Wild Conquest* by Abrahams (1950) and *Nuptials* by Baker (1931).

 3 items in envelope
- MS985/1/2 From H. E. Bates 1927-1950**
 Relating to publications, book purchase and includes greetings cards to Charles Lahr and his family. One letter relates to Lahr's release from internment.

 31 items in envelope
- MS985/1/3 From A. E. Berry, Oswald Blakeston, Jean de Bosschere 1935-1966**
 The letter from Berry asks to visit Lahr in prison (1935). There are 3 Christmas cards from Blakeston (1960-1966), and de Bosschere writes about the publication of drawings (c.1927).

 6 items in envelope
- MS985/1/4 From Alec Bristow 1932-1934**
 Correspondence relates to mutual friends, business at the Blue Moon Press, and the purchase and sale of books including *Charles' Wain*. Bristow also includes personal news including the announcement of his marriage.

 16 items in envelope

- MS985/1/5 From Essex Brooks, Donald Campbell, Fredrick Carter** **c.1925-1932**
 Brooks writes a letter of encouragement to Lahr in prison (1935), Campbell wishes to buy banned books, and Carter writes about D. H. Lawrence's death (c.1930) and sends a Christmas greeting.
 5 items in envelope
- MS985/1/6 From Rupert Croft-Cooke** **c.1927**
 Relating to the publication of his writing in 'The New Coterie' and as stand-alone pieces.
 5 items in envelope
- MS985/1/7 From Robert C[ross]** **1927**
 Letter asking for return of short story he submitted for publication.
 1 items in envelope
- MS985/1/8 From Rhys Davies** **c.1927-1941**
 Containing personal news, including health issues, and comments on his writing and literary friends and colleagues. There are also several holiday postcards. Some of the correspondence relates to Lahr's time in prison, and also the damage sustained by Lahr's bookshop during the Blitz. 25 letters, 9 post cards, 1 cheque.
 35 items in envelope
- MS985/1/9 From Kenneth L. Dickman, Charles Duff, Dick Fox** **1929-1932**
 Dickman writes his thanks for advice (1932); Duff submits a poem to the Blue Moon Press (typescript included) (1931); Fox sends holiday greetings (1929). 2 letters, 1 postcard, 1 typescript poem.
 4 items in envelope
- MS985/1/10 From John Gawsworth, Stuart Gilbert** **1933**
 Gawsworth writes concerning payment and Gilbert writes concerning a book purchase. 2 postcards
 2 items in envelope

- MS985/1/11 From R[ussell] G[reen]** **1927-1933**
 Letters mostly relate to arrangements for the New Coterie, but there are also comments relating to D. H. Lawrence and personal news. 5 letters
 5 items in envelope
- MS985/1/12 From John Hampson** **1931-1934**
 Relating to his works - mainly 'Two Stories' and 'O Providence', and also relating to book purchases and arrangements to visit London. 7 letters
 7 items in envelope
- MS985/1/13 From James Hanley** **1930-1966**
 Postcards with Christmas greetings and letters relating to social arrangements and family and publishing matters. 2 cards, 2 letters, 1 enclosure
 5 items in envelope
- MS985/1/14 From James Healey, A. Hickman-Smith, Kenneth Hopkins, J. W. Humphrey-Jones** **c.1941-1966**
 Healey (1966) and Humphrey-Jones (n.d.) both write concerning book payments; Hickman-Smith (1945) and Hopkins (1941) both send Christmas cards with poems. 2 letters, 2 Christmas cards
 4 items in envelope
- MS985/1/15 From Herbert Jones and Ena Douglas, and Jakob Kramer** **1924-1942**
 Jones and Douglas write to ask if they can visit Lahr in prison (1935); Kramer writes concerning publication of his artwork, portraits of the Lahrs and payment. 3 letters, 2 notes
 5 items in envelope
- MS985/1/16 From Esther Lahr, B. Law, Philip L[indsay], Manuel Lopes, John [Loxley]** **c.1921-1933**
 Esther Lahr writes from hospital concerning their family and relationship; Law (1932), Lindsay (n.d.) and Lopes (n.d.) all write concerning book purchases. Loxley sends a holiday greeting. 4 letters, 2 postcards
 6 items in envelope

- MS985/1/17 From Ruth Manning Sanders 1931-34**
 Writing to order books and to submit a poem for publication. 4 letters, 2 postcards
 6 items in envelope
- MS985/1/18 From Hugh McDiarmid, Phyllis Marshall and Olive Moore 1934; n.d**
 A Christmas card from McDiarmid; a letter giving personal news from Marshall; comments on an article in the Sketch and Anaïs Nin's book on D. H. Lawrence from Olive Moore. 1 postcard, 2 letters
 3 items in envelope
- MS985/1/19 From Reginald Moore, and Lady Ottoline Morell c.1930**
 Moore writes relating to the publication of a Rhys Davies book; Lady Ottoline writes about a book purchase. 1 letter, 1 postcard
 2 items in envelope
- MS985/1/20 From Liam, Margaret and S[ean] O' Flaherty 1926-33**
 Relating to payments for publications, and family matters and social activities. 6 letters, 2 postcards
 8 items in envelope
- MS985/1/21 From Seamas O' Sullivan, Conal O'Riordan 1931-2**
 O'Sullivan writes about supplying the Dublin Magazine to Lahr's bookshop; O'Riordan writes to thank Lahr for giving help to Boris Conrad. 2 letters
 2 items in envelope
- MS985/1/22 From Herbert E. Palmer 1931-2**
 Relating to the publication of 'What the Public Wants' and other manuscripts for possible publication. 3 letters, 1 postcard
 4 items in envelope

- MS985/1/23 From L. A. Pavey and Laurence Pollinger 1935-1961**
Pavey writes a letter of encouragement to Lahr during his imprisonment; Pollinger writes to apologise for comments he made about the publication of an edition of 'Lady Chatterley's Lover'. Also includes two letters from H.P. Palmer to Lahr regarding the former's manuscript 'The Medieval Nun'.
4 items in envelope
- MS985/1/24 From Violet, Francis Llewellyn and Theodore Francis Powys 1925-35**
Violet (15 letters) and Francis Powys (9 letters) write concerning payment for various pieces of writing, and also concerning the purchase of books. Francis also submits 2 manuscript poems (enclosed) for publication. T. F. Powys (2 letters) writes thanks for gifts. 26 letters, 2 MS poems
28 items in envelope
- MS985/1/25 From Eric Robinson and K. B. Seidenstucker 1905-c.1930**
Robinson writes concerning the purchase of books; Seidenstucker sends a script for the introduction to a lecture on Buddhism which Lahr chaired. 3 letters
items in envelope
- MS985/1/26 From P. Stephenson and Elizabeth Stewart 1931**
Stephenson writes concerning the New Coterie and financial matters; Stewart writes concerning the possible publication of a book by her brother. 3 letters
3 items in envelope
- MS985/1/27 From Dr H. Strok and Gay Taylor 1945; 1932-1941**
Strok's letter (in German) is paper headed the 'America Red Cross'. The correspondence from Taylor relates to her visit to Spain in 1932 and her work. 2 letters, 2 postcards, 1 note.
5 items in envelope

- MS985/1/28 From A.S.J. Tessimond** **c.1927-
c.1933**
- 'Letters relating to the publication of articles and poems in the 'New Coterie', including typescripts of 2 poems, and concerning book purchases. 2 letters, 2 postcards, 2 typescripts.
- 6 items in envelope
- MS985/1/29 From W. Walton and Geoffrey West** **1928-1935**
- Walton writes to submit a poem, a manuscript copy of the poem is included (1932). West writes concerning publishing arrangements (1928-1935). 5 letters, 1 card.
- 6 items in envelope
- MS985/1/30 From an Anonymous Correspondent** **c.1930**
- A letter giving a bogus autobiography of a writer. The postscript suggests that this was written by Rhys Davies.
- 1 letter
- 1 items in envelope
- MS985/1/31 From various correspondents (first names only)** **1921-46**
- A letter from Gibby apologising for a missed appointment (1921); a letter from Michael about money matters (1927); a letter from M. K. about a mutual acquaintance called Tochatti; postcard from William about books and films (1929); a letter from 'Henry' thanking the Lahrs for their hospitality (1931); a letter from Marshall concerning the death of T. E. Shaw (1935); a letter from J. B. C. thanking Lahr for books (1941); a holiday postcard from George (1946); a letter from Henry (11 Manville Rd, London, SW17) thanking Lahr for theatre tickets (n.d.); a letter from John concerning book purchases (n.d.). 8 letters, 2 postcards.
- 10 items in envelope
- MS985/1/32 Christmas greetings** **c.1930-40**
- Christmas cards sent to the Lahr family, with personal greetings unless otherwise indicated. From Paul Banks (n.d.); H. E. Bates (1930); Andrew Block (1931, unsigned); Russell Green (1930, 1940); Reginald Hutchings (1933, unsigned); Hy. Marsh Makin (1930, unsigned); Eric Partridge

(1929); Alexis Polokoff (1930); Cissy and Louis Sterling (1934, 1939). 12 items.

12 items in envelope

MS985/1/33 From Gay Taylor

c.1930

Complaining about the inadequacies of her publisher. 1 letter.

1 items in envelope

- MS985/2 Works for publication** **c.1920-1932**
- This material consists of typescripts and manuscripts of poems, novels and short stories submitted to Charles Lahr for publication. There are also galley proofs and mock-ups included for some of the publications. Some of the typescripts have manuscript corrections, in some cases made by Charles Lahr.
- 33 envelopes
- MS985/2/1 Proof copy of the 6th issue of The New Coterie** **1927**
- With a few corrections to the text. 102 pages.
- 1 item in envelope
- MS985/2/2 Works by L. Aarson, Richard Aldington and John Arrow** **c.1920-1931**
- 2 typescripts of poems by Aarson (Revelation and The Wandering Jew).
A review of the work of James Hanley by Richard Aldington.
A manuscript on D. H. Lawrence by John Arrow including 2 cuttings from Lawrence's Pornography and Obscenity, with relevant quotations indicated.
- 4 items in folder
- MS985/2/3 Works by H.E. Bates** **c.1920-1931**
- Manuscript of an extract (13 pages) from the novel Two Sisters by H.E. Bates (and 2 typescript pages).
2 copies of Holly and Sallow, the Blue Moon Press poem for Christmas 1931.
Typescript of a poem Song in Winter.
- 5 items in folder
- MS985/2/4 Works by K. S. Bhat, J. Boylan, Caryl Brahms, and John Brophy** **1926-1931**
- Page proofs of Panini, a short story by K. S. Bhat.
Signed typescript of poem Epitaph for Christmas Day 1936 by J. Boyland.
Galley proofs of Lampshades, a short story by Caryl Brahms for publication in New Coterie.
Typescript of poem Epitaph by John Brophy, a Blue Moon poem for Christmas 1931, with 2 mock-ups of the card.

6 items in folder

- MS985/2/5 'The Grasshopper' by Gerald Bullett** **1925**
Typescript with no annotations
1 items in envelope
- MS985/2/6 Works by Frederick Carter, Rupert Croft-Cooke, and Nancy Cunard.** **c.1920-1931**
A manuscript and typescript of 'Martha and Mary', by Frederick Carter.
Typescripts (with corrections) and galley proofs (with corrections) of 'The Queen Bee' and 'Whitehorse Wood', poems by Croft-Cooke.
Typescript of 'Simultaneous' (with corrections) a poem by Nancy Cunard.
7 items in folder
- MS985/2/7 Works by Rhys Davies (1)** **c.1920-1931**
Galley proofs of Mrs. Evans Number 6, and also 3 typescripts of a German translation of the story.
Typescript, signed and corrected, of A Pig in Poke.
Proof sheets for one page of Blue Moon Booklet 2, A Tale, with Davies' signature.
Part of typescript of The Red Hills, with corrections.
Typescript of part of unidentified prose piece, with corrections.
Typescript of part of unidentified prose piece no corrections (April 1929)
9 items in folder
- MS985/2/8 Works by Rhys Davies (2)** **c.1925**
Rings on her Fingers by Rhys Davies
Typescript with corrections. Accompanied by a note from Davies to Lahr about the typescript. Also contains the first page of a typescript of a brief autobiography of Davies, with comments about 'Withered Root'.
3 items in folder

- MS985/2/9 Works by Rhys Davies** **c.1925**
 Typescript of 'A Bed of Feathers' with no corrections.
 Typescript of 'The Stars, the world and the women' with no corrections.
 2 items in folder
- MS985/2/10 Mrs Salgast's Baby by Jean Devanny** **c.1925**
 Galley proofs for story. Folder also contains proofs for a book or books of poetry by an unidentified author. There is also a proof for part of an introduction to a book described as a collection of 'fragments'. Again the author is not identified.
 3 items in folder
- MS985/2/11 Works by Stephen Graham** **c.1920-1931**
 Typescript of Where is Holy Russia Now? with corrections.
 Manuscript (part) of The Death of Yesterday, a prose piece on the Soviet Union.
 Manuscript (parts) of The Significance of Love, an essay on love.
 Also contains part of a manuscript on a religious theme with no title, a letter addressed to Graham from a potential translator, and a photograph of Graham on his Russian travels.
 9 items in folder
- MS985/2/12 Works by Russell Green and John Hampson** **c.1927-
c.1931**
 Galley proof for Progress by Russell Green.
 Typescripts of 2 short stories, Tea Party and The Mare's Nest, by John Hampson, with no corrections.
 The works by Hampson listed here are fragile. They are stored separately and are not produced for readers without permission from the conservator.
 3 items in folder
- MS985/2/13 Works by James Hanley** **c.1927**
 Part of a typescript of The Abyss, with some corrections.
 58 items in folder

- MS985/2/14 Works by E. Aubrey Lees, Marsh Makin, Phyllis Megroz, David Michaelson and Oliver Moore** c.1930-1932
- Manuscript poem by Lees.
 Typescript of Tomorrow a Toast, addressed to Lahr, a poem by Makin.
 2 typescript poems with associated galley proofs for New Coterie (July 1927), by Phyllis Mégroz.
 Typescript of a short story, The Philanthropist, by Michaelson.
 Typescript, with corrections of Further Reflections on the Death of a Porcupine, by Olive Moore.
- 6 items in envelope
- MS985/2/15 Works by Eimar O' Duffy** 1931
- Manuscript and 6 draft printed copies of a Blue Moon Christmas card entitled National Christmas. Includes a copy signed for Lahr and a manuscript note by O'Duffy about the printed cards.
- 7 items in envelope
- MS985/2/16 Works by Liam O'Flaherty** c.1925-
c.1930
- New Coterie galley proofs for The Child of God. Also 2 sets of proofs for Blue Moon Booklet no. 1, Joseph Conrad: An Appreciation by Liam O'Flaherty.
- 3 items in envelope
- MS985/2/17 Works by Laurence and Theodore Francis Powys** c.1920-1931
- Galley proofs of 24 poems by Laurence Powys. One page proof from Christ in the Cupboard by T. F. Powys
 Typescript of The Sin-Eater, a play written by T. F. Powys with Stephen Tomlin. This includes photocopy of a sketch of the stage setting.
- 4 items in envelope
- MS985/2/18 In the Quiet Cloisters by V. V. Rozanof** c.1920-1931
- Manuscript of prose piece, no annotations.
- 1 items in envelope

- MS985/2/19 Works by Willy Scholor, Orpheus Scrannel, Paul Selver, and J. D. Stoyanovic 1931**
 Manuscript poem by Scholor.
 Mock up and corrected galleys of An Unterrestrial Pity by Schannel (1931).
 Typescript and manuscript translations by Paul Selver of 4 Czech poems and 1 prose piece.
 Typescript and part of manuscript of Vladimir Solovyof: The Man by Stoyanovic.
- 10 items in envelope
- MS985/2/20 Works by Gay Taylor c.1920-1931**
 Typescript of The Frog, Forty Years On, Cherries, Miss Fullalove and Mr. Ming, Sigh no more, Ladies and Carne Vale. All with no corrections
 All these items are fragile. They are stored separately and are not produced for readers without permission from the conservator.
- 6 items in envelope
- MS985/2/21 Works by A.S.J. Tessimond, Dorothy Thackeray, A. Wareham, and Geoffrey H. Wells c.1926-1931**
 Typescripts of Romantic, Twentieth Century Hymn, Winter Landscape, Sunday at Home, and Attack on the Ad-Man, by Tessimond.
 Proofs with no corrections Some of Them (Or Three or Four) by Thackeray.
 Typescript (with corrections) of A Christmastide Sermon, and galley proofs of Lines to H.E. Bates on his Marriage, by Wareham.
 Typescript of The Marvel, by Wells.
- 9 items in envelope
- MS985/2/22 Galley proofs for articles to be published in New Coterie c.1927**
 Proofs of Early Morning by D. E. Boyd; Sun by D. H. Lawrence; A Love Story for the Pension by Alice Ritchie; The Bride by T. F. Powys; Jack Ashore by Donald Stewart; Evening Session by Robert Odo Cross; Mrs Salgast's Baby by Jean Devanny; Miss Archer - A Strong Girl by T. F. Powys; Lampshades by Caryl Brahms; A Trilogy by Paul Selver; Civil War by Liam O'Flaherty; New Coterie Poetry Section. Also contains 3 unidentified parts of typescript submissions.
- 16 items in envelope

- MS985/2/23 Work by various authors submitted for publication in New Coterie** **c.1927**
 Typescripts of Rouge et Noir by Michael Joseph; A Stubborn Tree by T. F. Powys and The Faithful Lover by Frána Šrámek, translated by Paul Selver. Also includes 3 draft Editorials for an issues of the magazine and letters relating to contributions from B. J. Brooks, Felix Hope, John Gould Fletcher, and Denis Botterill (2).

 10 items in envelope
- MS985/2/24 Works by various authors submitted for publication by The Blue Moon Press or New Coterie, or other Lahr publications** **c.1927; 1932**
 A Strong Girl by T. F. Powys, Sun by D. H. Lawrence, Child of God by Liam O'Flaherty, Reflections, by an unidentified author. All are corrected and are marked up for printing.

 4 items in envelope
- MS985/2/25 Works by various authors submitted for publication by The Blue Moon Press or New Coterie, or other Lahr publications** **c.1920-1931**
 Typescripts of 'Civil War' by Liam O'Flaherty, 'You don't know Molly!' by Douglas Goulding, 'A Gift of Death' by Rhys Davies, 'Some of Them (Three or Four)' by Dorothy Thackery.
 Manuscript and typescript of Plage Passim, by TW Earp.
 Typescripts and manuscripts of poems by 'T.R.'. Russell Green, John Gould Fletcher, Paul Selver, John Metcalfe, Peter Quennel, Wilfred Childe, Evan Morgan, Benjamin Gilbert Brooks, A S J Tessimond, and Ashley Sampson. The file also contains letters concerning pieces submitted from Mercy Lehane-Willis (1925) and K. S. Bhat (n.d.)

 22 items in envelope
- MS985/2/26 Works by various authors submitted for publication by The Blue Moon Press or New Coterie, or other Lahr publications** **c.1920-1931**
 Typescripts of 'The Terrorist' by Liam O'Flaherty, 'Vrou Bertha and the Baboons' by D.E. Stuart Jervis, 'The Mullet and the Swans - A Fable' by T.F. Powys, 'Progress' by Russell Greene. Also contains a typescript of a poem by Robert McAlmon, and an

unidentified part typescript relating to Oscar Wilde.

7 items in envelope

MS985/2/27 Works by unidentified authors submitted for publication by The Blue Moon Press or in New Coterie, or other Lahr publications **c.1920-1931**

Works entitled: 'Holy Fires', 'Mr Gladstone's Fire', 'The Russian Idea', 'The Exorciser', 'History', 'The Common Enemy', 'Only your Fair Hand', 'The Russian Madonna and Child', 'Contribution to the History of Parliamentary Action in the Modern Labour Movement' and 'The Friend'.

10 items in envelope

MS985/2/28 Part prose works by unidentified authors **n.d.**

15 typescripts

15 items in envelope

MS985/2/29 Poems by unidentified authors **n.d.**

Typescripts and manuscripts of 31 poems

31 items in envelope

MS985/2/30 Manuscript of 'A Story of the Revolutionaries' by Leonide Zarine **n.d.**

Chapters 4 and 5 and one other section. Corrected by Stephen Graham

1 items in envelope

MS985/2/31 Draft manuscripts by unidentified authors **n.d.**

Two exercise books - one containing a mystery story, the other containing part of a political novel. The handwriting suggests two different authors.

2 items in envelope

MS985/2/32 Proofs or prints of artwork by J. Bissil **c.1925**

Possibly for use in New Coterie

4 items in envelope

MS985/2/33 Mock-up of the cover of Blue Moon Booklet no. 12, 'What the Public Wants' by Herbert E. Palmer c.1931

1 items in envelope

- MS985/3 Lectures** **c.1926-1931**
- This material consists of manuscript notes and typescript texts of lectures held by various friends of Lahr, and submitted to him possibly for publication.
- 3 envelopes
- MS985/3/1 By Lucis Svampa and K.B Seidenstucker** **c. 1926-1931**
- Typescript of lecture entitled 'In Quest of Peace' by Lucis Svampa and another lecture on Buddhism by K.B. Seidenstucker for which Lahr presided as a Chair.
- 2 items in envelope
- MS985/3/2 By Stephen Graham** **c. 1931**
- Manuscript of lectures entitled 'Lenin and Trotsky', 'Russian literature and politics', 'The Russian Madonna and Child' and 'Conditions in the Old Russia'.
- 5 items in envelope
- MS985/3/3 By unidentified author** **1931**
- Typescript of a lecture called 'Dreams, Daydreams and Accidents' which was delivered on 13 February 1931.
- 1 items in envelope

- MS985/4 Newspaper cuttings** **c.1929-1967**
 Newspaper cuttings about publications, plays and obituaries of persons who shared Lahr's interests.
 6 envelopes
- MS985/4/1 Newspaper cuttings** **c.1929-1970**
 Mostly reviews of publications, obituaries of authors and poets and other write-ups about artists and literary activities in London.
 54 items in envelope
- MS985/4/2 Newspaper article on D.H. Lawrence** **c.1930s**
 Written by Richard Aldington, mounted on paper and made into a pamphlet.
 1 items in envelope
- MS985/4/3 Newspaper cuttings** **c.1929**
 Stored in an envelope labelled 'Times Literary Supplement Cutting July 4th 1929 re Lawrence's 'Pansies'. The envelope also contains other cuttings relating to Lawrence.
 7 items in envelope
- MS985/4/4 Newspaper cuttings** **c.1930**
 Formerly clipped together, these cuttings relate to political, literary and censorship issues.
 22 items in envelope
- MS985/4/5 Cutting of an article from periodical** **n.d**
 Article entitled 'Another Book for Suppression', 3 pages
 1 items in envelope

MS985/4/6 Cutting of an article 'A Black Briton comes
'Home': Claude McCay in England, 1920' by
Wayne Cooper and Robert Reinders. Signed by
the author. **1967**

1 items in envelope

- | | | |
|------------------|---|----------------------|
| MS985/5 | Photographs and Drawings | c.1910-1970 |
| | This material consists of photos of Charles Lahr with members of his family and others with friends. Some portraits of his friends are also included. | |
| | 5 envelopes | |
| MS985/5/1 | Photographs of Charles Lahr | c.1910-1970 |
| | All black and white, various sizes. | |
| | 10 items in envelope | |
| MS985/5/2 | Photographs of Charles Lahr with members of his immediate family | c.1920-1960 |
| | All black and white, various sizes. | |
| | 10 items in envelope | |
| MS985/5/3 | Photographs of Charles Lahr with members of his extended family and with friends | c.1920-1960 |
| | All black and white, various sizes | |
| | 10 items in envelope | |
| MS985/5/4 | Photographs of other individuals | c.1910 - 1930 |
| | All black and white. Individuals are unidentified except for one photograph which shows J.B. Priestley and Hugh Walpole. | |
| | 4 items in envelope | |
| MS985/5/5 | Photocopies of portraits of Charles and Esther Lahr by Jacob Kramer | c.1930 |
| | The originals are held by the Conservation department. | |
| | 2 items in envelope | |

MS985/6 Booksellers' Catalogues

c.1931

MS985/6/1 Published and typescript catalogues

c.1931

Issued by E.Lahr, listing first editions and other publications

4 items in envelope

- MS985/7 Advertising, publicity materials and notices** **1926-c.1930**
 Material created for publicising Lahr's various businesses and writers.
 5 envelopes
- MS985/7/1 Publicity Materials for Esther Lahr's Lending Library** **c.1930**
 Consisting of flyers, book labels and an advertising bookmark.
 5 items
- MS985/7/2 Publicity for 'The New Coterie'** **1926-1927**
 2 advertising leaflets with subscription form and 3 small display boards for shops selling the publication (for issues 5 and 6).
 4 items
- MS985/7/3 Publicity for Blue Moon Publications** **c.1930**
 For books by Dora Montefiore and Olive Moore
 2 items in envelope
- MS985/7/4 Publicity leaflets, posters and flyers for material not published by Lahr** **1926-c.1930**
 Publicity materials for works by Guy Aldred, H.E. Bates, Rupert Croft-Cooke, Nancy Cunard, John Gawsworth, Duncan Glen, W.L. Hanchant, James Hanley, D.H. Lawrence, Christopher Logue, John Metcalfe, Philip O'Connor, William Roberts, J. Smith, The Melissa Press, 'transition' magazine, 'Wales' magazine and 'The Ulysses Bookshop'.
 25 items
- MS985/7/5 Prints of sketches of writers** **c.1930**
 Prints of sketches by William Roberts of Liam O'Flaherty, H.E. Bates and 2 unidentified authors. The sketches of O'Flaherty and Bates are signed.
 18 prints

MS985/8 Other Correspondence 1885-1960

Letters which do not appear to have Lahr as either sender or recipient, or which have unidentified recipients.

2 envelopes

MS985/8/1 Correspondence between other people (named correspondents) 1883-1960

From Annie Brassey to Captain Perott, sending a copy of her book (1883); from H.S. Northcote to H.I. Pennell, about speaking to Lord Iddesleigh; from Namama to Stephen, about proofs for a book (1917); from Geoffrey Webb to Turner arranging a meeting (1917); from S.Davies to E.Usher, concerning the return of a manuscript (1929); from 'G.P.Y.' to A.S.J. Tessimond concerning Scarlet Fever (1929); from S.H. De La Mare to Mr St. George, sending a book (1931); from Percy S. to Edith, about a visit (1935); from Deutsche Notenbank to Frank Ridley, with a translation by Lahr (1960); from Gay Taylor to Alec Bristow arranging a meeting (n.d.).

MS985/8/2 Correspondence with unidentified recipient 1916-1941

Letters from A. Koupine concerning his stories (1916), from Ianka Licknerowicz about translating 'Russia and the World' into French (1917), from the Companies Registration Office (1941), and from Richard Collins about the publication for a story (n.d.), all addressed to 'Dear sir'. One letter addressed to 'Dear madam' from B. Jackson regarding a book purchase (1922).

5 letters

- MS985/9 Blue Moon Press Greetings cards 1929-1975**
 These cards were issued by the Blue Moon Press and usually consist of a poem written by a Blue Moon author, and an illustration. The Lahr family received these cards from various authors and friends. During the 1960s and 1970s Oonagh Lahr used the Blue Moon imprint to create her own cards.
- 4 envelopes
- MS985/9/1 Blue Moon Press Cards sent to the Lahr family 1931-1935; 1967**
 Poems by Arnold Wareham (2); Ruth Manning-Saunders; John Gawsworth; A.S.J. Tessimond; Kenneth Marshall; S.T. Whotehorn; A.R.D. Fairburn; Olive Moore. All signed by the authors often with personal messages. Also a card illustrated by William Roberts and sent by Sarah Roberts.
- 10 items
- MS985/9/2 Blue Moon Press cards with no recipient 1929-1935**
 Poems by Laurence Powys (3 copies); H.E. Bates; Eimar O'Duffy (2 copies); Arnold Wareham (signed).
- 7 items
- MS985/9/3 Drafts and mock-ups of Blue Moon Press cards**
 With some corrections
- 7 items

- | | | |
|-------------------|--|---------------------------|
| MS985/10 | Administrative material relating to business activities | c.1925-
c.1944 |
| | Material created during the day to day activities of the bookshop and publishing businesses. | |
| | 3 envelopes | |
| MS985/10/1 | Address Book | c.1925-
c.1944 |
| | Containing addresses of friends and business contacts. Also contains brief notes on shop and publishing matters, and some inserted book requests. | |
| | 1 item | |
| MS985/10/2 | Shop stationary and sign | c.1925 |
| | Esther Lahr's own printed postcards and letter heads for the bookshop, and also for the Blue Moon Press. Also a sign for use in the shop concerning the sale of 'dirty' books. | |
| | 8 items | |
| MS985/10/3 | Statement of Account for Charles Lahr from Messrs Hodgson and Co. | 1929 |
| | 1 item | |

- | | | |
|-------------------|--|-------------------|
| MS985/11 | Papers for Clubs and Societies
Minutes and other papers from Societies to which Lahr belonged.

2 envelopes | 1932-1950 |
| MS985/11/1 | The Shaw Society
2 sets of minutes and a membership card for Lahr.

3 items | 1948-1950 |
| MS985/11/2 | Other Societies
Draft foundation document for the Rabelasian Society and Souvenir programme for a Libertarian Association Garden Party.

2 items | 1932; n.d. |

MS985/12	Other papers and publications	c.1915- c.1950
	Other items reflecting Lahr's interests and his life, including books and other published items	
MS985/12/1	Other papers	1915 - c.1950
	Philosophical note on 1 page of Unicorn Press headed paper; envelope addressed to Lahr decorated with sketch of a woman's head; 2 copies of an extract from the 'Shonan pact'; letter informing internment camp authorities that Lahr was to be responsible for the registration of prisoners of war (1915); memorial card for Albert Young; brief autobiographical notes written by Lahr (c.1950); a facsimile of Walter Scott's handwriting; printed poem entitled 'Confessions of a British Stalinist'; a copy of a leaflet 'The Nightshirt' for November 1933.	
	10 items	
MS985/12/2	'Vicarage Party' by John Lindsay	1933
	Book published by Chapman and Hall, and inscribed to Charles Lahr by the author.	
	1 volume	
MS985/12/3	'The Autobiography of Ethel Firebrace'	1937
	Published by the Cresset Press	
	1 volume	
MS985/12/4	'Fire for Silver' by Malachi Whitaker	1932
	Published by Jonathon Cape and signed by the author.	
	1 volume	
MS985/12/5	Booklets and pamphlets not published by Lahr	1920-1967
	'Furious Futures' (1967) and 'Dying Phantasty Poets' (n.d.) both by Oswell Blakeston; 'A Comedy of life' (1926) by William Burton; 'Spring in New Hampshire' (1920) by Claude McKay; 'The Tolling of the Bell' (n.d.) by Lawrence Neat; 'Second Front Poems' (c.1940) by Philip O'Connor; 'A Study in Czech Literature' (1921) by Paul Selver.	

