



State of Tennessee  
Department of State  
**Tennessee State Library and Archives**  
403 Seventh Avenue North  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0312

**Ralph G. Morrissey (1903-1956)**  
**Papers, 1930 -1956**

**Processed by:** Theodore Morrison, Jr.  
**Accession Number:** THS 721  
**Location:** THS VI-E-5  
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**Microfilm Accession No.:** 1453

The Ralph Morrissey Papers, 1930-1956, centers on Ralph Morrissey (1903-1956) of Nashville, Tennessee, amateur photographer and newspaper literary review editor. The Ralph Morrissey Papers are a gift of Mrs. Eleanor Morrissey. Single photocopies of unpublished writings in the Ralph Morrissey Papers may be made for scholarly research.

**Cubic feet of shelf space occupied:** 4.58 cu. ft.  
**Approximate number of items:** ca. 300; 10 vols.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Ralph Morrissey Papers contain 10 volumes and approximately 300 items spanning the period between 1930 and 1957. The collection is composed of accounts, an advertisement, clippings, correspondence, invitations, programs, lists, notes, a poem, photographs, press releases, publications, and school records.

The bulk of the collection consists of clippings from **The Nashville Tennessean** featuring the literary review columns of Ralph Morrissey (1903-1956).

Included within the correspondence are letters from notables such as Margaret Mitchell, Merrill Moore, Arna Bontemps, Anya Seton, and T.S. Stribling.

An avid amateur photographer, Morrissey received numerous national awards. Included in the photographs section of the addition are several of his award-winning shots (see also the Ralph Morrissey Photograph Collection, ac. no. THS 484). Morrissey also garnered awards for his philatelic collection and became well-known as an aficionado of pipes and Sherlock Holmes mysteries.

The volumes within the Morrissey Papers are scrapbooks that contain a wealth of newspaper and magazine clippings.

## CONTAINER LIST

### BOX NO. 1

1. Accounts—Bills, notes and receipts—Morrissey, Ralph, 1949-1955
2. Advertisements—E. Leitz Inc. – cover photo by Ralph Morrissey, n.d.
3. Associations, institutions, etc. – The Sherlock Holmes Society of London, 1953
4. Associations, institutions, etc. – Wednesday Book Club, 1957
5. Clippings—Vanderbilt University “The Alumnus” – Morrissey, Ralph, 1951
6. Clippings—“Book Editor To Report On Award Activities,” 1955
7. Clippings—“Book Editor To Speak At N. Y. Forum,” 1954
8. Clippings—“Book Page Editor Congratulates Authors,” January 27, 1955
9. Clippings—“Book Prize Honors Tennessean,” January 26, 1955
10. Clippings—“Book Review Editors Review Own Problems,” January 30, 1954
11. Clippings—“Book Reviewers Review Their Jobs,” January 29, 1955
12. Clippings—“ Books Billy Reads,” September 18, -----
13. Clippings—“Clown Photo By Book Editor Shown in N. Y.” April 17, 1950
14. Clippings—“Confuser?”, n.d.
15. Clippings—Cover of Recreation Magazine by Ralph Morrissey, October, 1954
16. Clippings—“The Critics Take to Their Hammocks,” 1954
17. Clippings—“Folks’ Like Jesse Stuart,” n.d.
18. Clippings—“ Georgian Wins Poetry Award,” January 27, 1954
19. Clippings—“Here’s a Tip to Santa,” 1952
20. Clippings—“I Hunt Literary Lions” by Ralph Morrissey, 1956
21. Clippings—“In And Out of Books,” May 27, 1956
22. Clippings—“The Job of Newspaper Literary Editor” by Ralph Morrissey, 1952
23. Clippings—“Lace Work” –Photos by Ralph Morrissey, September 18, 1955
24. Clippings—“Life Stories of 2 Great Southerners,” 1954
25. Clippings—“A Man of Simple Tastes,” September 14, 1952
26. Clippings—“Media Information,” November 25, 1950
27. Clippings—“Media Information,” October 30, 1954
28. Clippings—“Miscellaneous
29. Clippings—“Morrissey Chats With Book Award Winners,” January, 28, 1954
30. Clippings—“Morrissey Wins Philatelic Award,” March 23, 1954
31. Clippings—“Nashville Photo Carnival,” November 1950
32. Clippings—The National Book Awards, 1950
33. Clippings—The National Book Awards, 1952
34. Clippings—The National Book Awards, 1954
35. Clippings—The National Book Awards, 1955
36. Clippings—“News and Trends of the Week,” July 18, 1953
37. Clippings—“News and Trends of the Week,” February 6, 1954
38. Clippings—“Novels by the Hundred” –Photo by Ralph Morrissey, August 15, 1955
39. Clippings—“Ralph Morrissey Named Radio Contest Judge,” 1949

**BOX NO. 1 – cont'd**

40. Clippings—"Review Copies: What the Book Editor Wants," September 9, 1950
41. Clippings—"Reviewers and Book-Page Editors Answer the Publicity Directors," April 12, 1952
42. Clippings—Reviews, 1950-1955
43. Clippings—Reviews—Typescripts, 1947-1952
44. Clippings—"Survey of Contemporary Literature, Photos by Ralph Morrissey, 1954
45. Clippings—"Tennessean Editor Honored for Photos," April 18, 1955
46. Clippings—"Tennessean's Book Editor Meets Award Winners," March 19, 1950
47. Clippings—"Third Annual Writers' Workshop at Morehead State College, Morehead, Kentucky, 1954
48. Clippings—"Universal Photo Almanac," n.d.
49. Clippings—"Value of Publicity Releases Surveyed By Houghton Mifflin," October 4, 1952
50. Clippings—"Van Sickle, Knestrick Exhibit Best Work"—Tennessee State Fair Art Show, 1954
51. Clippings—"Vox Pup," January 29, 1956
52. Clippings—"VU To Get Coast to Coast Salute Over Vaughn Monroe Show on Monday," May 4, 1952
53. Clippings—Washington and Lee University "Class Notes" –Morrissey, Ralph, March , 1955
54. Clippings—"Winter Class Registration Set at Watkins Friday," n.d.
55. Correspondence—Bailie, D. Graham – Boggs, Tom
56. Correspondence—Bontemps, Arna, February 20, 1951
57. Correspondence—Bradfield, Edward - Calwell, Taylor
58. Correspondence—Chase, Anya Seton, n.d.
59. Correspondence—Cole, Lois – Minton, Walter
60. Correspondence—Mitchell, Margaret, September 23, 1944
61. Correspondence—Moore, Merrill, October 22, 1952
62. Correspondence—Morgan, Willard – Stokes, Tom
63. Correspondence—Stone, Irving, January 23, 1953
64. Correspondence—Stone, Martin, 1949; 1950
65. Correspondence—Stowe, Leland, February 22, 1952
66. Correspondence—Stribling, T.S., 1951 – 1954
67. Correspondence—Talley, V. – Wreden, Nicholas
68. Correspondence—Miscellaneous – Author Unknown
69. Invitations, programs, etc. – Morehead Writers' Workshop, 1954
70. Invitations, programs, etc. – The National Book Award, 1950 – 1955
71. Lists—Authors Attending The National Book Award, 1953-1955
72. Lists—"Best in Frontier Fiction," 1955
73. Lists—"Critics Who are Coming to the NBA," February 17, 1951

**BOX NO. 1 – cont'd**

74. Lists—Guest—American Book Publishers Council Party for Book Review Editors, January 26, 1955
75. Notes—Telephone Message from Dinah Shore's Secretary, January 26, 1955
76. Poetry—Morrissey, Ralph—"The Night Before Sunday," February 9, 1930
77. Photographs, drawings, etc.—Morrissey, Ralph, n.d.
78. Photographs, drawings, etc.—National Book Awards, 1953
79. Press Releases—E. Leitz, Inc.—"Camera Fan at Circus Finds Unusual Subjects All Over Lot," 1955 (Photos included)
80. Press Releases—Prentice Hall, Inc. —"Simenon Tells Book Critic His Views on Writing And On U.S." July 6, 1951
81. Publications—Booklet—"The Peabody Reflector," January, 1952
82. Publications—Newsletter—Publishers' Ad Club, January, 1954
83. Schools Records—Morrissey, Ralph—Syllabus For English 474, 1951

**BOX NO. 2**

**Volumes**

1. Columns and Reviews—Morrissey, Ralph, 1944-1950
2. Columns and Reviews—Morrissey, Ralph, 1948-1950
3. Columns and Reviews—Morrissey, Ralph, 1950-1953

**BOX NO. 3**

**Volumes**

1. Columns and Reviews—Morrissey, Ralph, 1953
2. Columns and Reviews—Morrissey, Ralph, 1954-1956
3. Columns and Reviews—Morrissey, Ralph, 1956
4. Columns and Reviews—Morrissey, Ralph, 1956

**BOX NO. 4**

**Volumes**

1. Magazine Articles—Morrissey, Ralph, 1945-1953
2. Magazine Articles—Morrissey, Ralph, 1954-1956
3. Magazine Articles—Morrissey, Ralph, 1956