

Jack Allen Collection
MSS 650

Vanderbilt University Special Collections Library
Nashville, Tennessee

Biographical Note

Jack Allen was born in 1914 in Prestonsburg, Kentucky to Anna Mayo Allen and Edward Allen. Jack Allen attended school in Prestonsburg and graduated high school in 1931. After high school he attended Eastern Kentucky State Teachers College where he received his A.B. in 1935. After teaching high school for two years in Prestonsburg Allen left for Nashville, Tennessee to attend graduate school at George Peabody College. He graduated with a doctoral degree in 1941 and took a job at his alma mater, Eastern Kentucky State Teachers College.

Jack met Peabody coed Cherry Falls in 1940 and married her in August 1941. He entered the Navy in August of 1942 and was assigned to Dallas, Texas on a Naval Selection Board. By 1943 he had reached the rank of Ensign and was re-assigned to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. In Hawaii he was placed with the Pacific Fleet Radar Center. He was released from duty in 1945 and took a job with George Peabody College in 1946 where he remained for 33 years.

Allen served on many boards and committees through the years including the National Council for the Social Studies where he was especially active in shaping the teaching of social studies to high school students. He also authored 15 textbooks and co-authored another 20 with colleagues.

He and Cherry had three sons David, Robert, and Edward. Jack Allen passed away on June 19, 2004 at the age of 89.

Scope and Content

The Jack Allen Collection is an accumulation of Allen's productive life as an educator at George Peabody College for Teachers in Nashville, Tennessee. The collection comprises five linear feet (4 Paige boxes) relating to Jack Allen's career and writings.

Only a few letters appear in the papers though the three from Jack Allen to his mother written in 1961 discuss his life in South Korea while on assignment from George Peabody College. Other items of interest are his writings on the teaching of Social Studies in high schools and primary grades.

Making up $\frac{3}{4}$ of the collection are textbooks which Allen wrote or co-wrote with colleagues. These textbooks trace the career of Jack Allen from 1949 to 1982 and are indicative of the progression of styles of social studies textbooks created for schools during those periods.

The Jack Allen Collection was donated to Special Collections in 2007 by his widow Cherry Allen of Nashville, Tennessee.

Box Listing

Box 1

Folder

- 1 Correspondence –Outgoing to Mother, 1961
- 2 Correspondence –General 1974, 1981-1983
- 3 Biographical Information –“My Philosophy of Living” by Jack Allen, 1938
- 4 Biographical Information –“And So I Became a Teacher” by Jack Allen
- 5 Biographical Information –“My Century –The Early Years” by Jack Allen, 1998
- 6 Biographical Information –“My Century –The Later Years” by Jack Allen, 2000
- 7 Biographical Information –Newspaper Clippings of Jack Allen
- 8 Biographical Information –Oral History Project at University of Texas
- 9 Education –Notebook from George Peabody College for Teachers (GPCT) Economics 440
Economics and Geography
- 10 Education –Notebook GPCT Education 420b History of Education
- 11 Education –Notebook GPCT Education 471
- 12 Education –Notebook GPCT Education 526 History of Philosophy/Education
- 13 Education –Notebook GPCT Education 689
- 14 Education –Notebook GPCT History 410 Revolutionary Period
- 15 Education –Notebook GPCT History 413 19th century Europe
- 16 Education –Notebook GPCT History 426 American Sectional Controversies
- 17 Education –Notebook GPCT History 473 Essay
- 18 Education –Notebook GPCT History 475
- 19 Education –Notebook GPCT History 540
- 20 Education –Notebook GPCT Sociology 531 Social Problems of the Southern Regions
- 21 Education – Master of Arts Thesis “Grade Placement of History”, 1938
- 22 Education –Introduction to doctoral dissertation “The Diary of Randal William McGavock, 1852-1862”
- 23 Career –George Peabody College (GPC) activities
- 24 Career –Meetings and Awards
- 25 Writings –As Jack Allen Sees Henry Hill
- 26 Writings –Curriculum Planning in American Schools: The Social Studies, 1958
- 27 Writings –Life in a Global Village
- 28 Writings –Old Oak Club
- 29 Writings –Peabody Saga, article
- 30 Writings –Textbooks for Schools and Colleges –A talk to Nashville Librarians on October 4, 1982
- 31 Writings –Thoughts on the future of Social Studies
- 32 Writings –Tribute to John E. Windrow, 1982
- 33 Writings –“The Community and Social Understanding” in *The Council Courier*, December 1941, p.3.

- 34 Writings –“Readers Comments on “What is Needed”” in *Social Education: Official Journal, National Council for the Social Studies*, Vol.12 no.5, May 1948, p.198.
- 35 Writings –“Review of Readings in American Educational History” in the *Journal of Southern History*, November 1951, p.570-571.
- 36 Writings –“The Modern Social Studies Teacher –a Portrait” in *NEA Journal*, November 1952, p.509.
- 37 Writings –“Charting Ninth Grade Social Studies” in *Social Education*, Vol.20 no.2, February 1956, p.68.
- 38 Writings –“The Study of Religion in High School American History” in *Religious Education*, July-August 1957, p.282.
- 39 Writings –“A Forward look in teaching the Social Studies” in *Midland Schools: Official Publication of the Iowa Education Association*, November 1958, p. 14-15.
- 40 Writings –“The Social Studies in American Schools: A Report” in *The Tennessee Teacher*, February 1959, p. 10-12.
- 41 Writings –“Social Studies for America’s Children” in *Phi Delta Kappan*, April 1959, p. 277-280.
- 42 Writings –“Of Teaching and Social Intelligence” in *Social Education*, Vol. 23 no.5, May 1959 p. 199-202.
- 43 Writings –“The Role of Ninth Grade Civics in Citizenship Education” in the *High School Journal*, Vol. 44 no. 3, December 1960, p.106-111.
- 44 Writings –“Assessing Recent Developments in the Social Studies” in *Social Education*, Vol. 31 no.2, February 1967, p.99-103.
- 45 Writings –“Corporate Expansion and Social Studies Textbooks” in *Social Education*, Vol.33 no. 3, March 1969, p.287-291.
- 46 Writings –*Issues Today-Teacher’s Edition*, Vol.2 no. 15, April 1, 1970.
- 47 Writings –“Response of 25 former Presidents of NCSS” in *Social Education*, Vol.34 no.8, November 1970, p.808.
- 48 Writings –“Asia Revisited: Fading Stereotypes” in *Issues Today-Teacher’s Edition*, Vol.3 no.2, September 25, 1970, p.1.
- 49 Writings –“Dissent in the Classroom” in *Issues Today-Teacher’s Edition*, Vol.5 no.9, February 9, 1973 Section 1, p.1.
- 50 Writings –“In My Opinion” in *Council of Supervisors and Administrators of the City of New York*, Vol.14 no.14, March 28, 1981, p.8-9.
- 51 Writings –“Social Studies Perspectives for the 80’s” in *Close-Up on Economic & Social Studies Education*. Peabody Center for Economic and Social Studies Education of Vanderbilt University, Fall 1981, p.1-2.
- 52 Writings –“Tribute to Merrill Hartshorn, NCSS Executive Secretary, Emeritus” in *Social Education*, Vol. 49 no.8. November/December 1985.
- 53 Writings –“Educational Excellence: An Enduring American Tradition” in *The Master Educator*, Winter 1986-1987.
- 54 Reel-to-reel tapes “Citizenship Forum” by Jack Allen and Forrest E. Conner,
Unidentified,
Program #3
- 55 Reel-to-reel tapes “Citizenship Forum” by Jack Allen and Forrest E. Conner,
Program #4

Program #5

56 Reel-to-reel tapes "Citizenship Forum" by Jack Allen and Forrest E. Conner,

Program #6

Program #7

57 Records -45's "News Record" by Jack Allen and Forrest E. Conner,

Vol. 1 nos.1-5, 1959

58 Records -45's "News Record" by Jack Allen and Forrest E. Conner,

Vol.2 nos.1-9, 1959-1960

59 Records -45's "News Record" by Jack Allen and Forrest E. Conner,

Vol.3 nos.1-10, 1960-1961

Box 2

Textbooks

1 *Recent Events in the Development of America* by Fremont P. Wirth. American Book Company, 1946.

2 *Recent Events* by Jack Allen and Fremont P. Wirth. American Book Company, 1949. Three copies

3 *Recent Events* by Jack Allen and Fremont P. Wirth. American Book Company, 1950.

4 *Recent Events* by Jack Allen and Fremont P. Wirth. American Book Company, 1951.

5 *Recent Events* by Jack Allen and Fremont P. Wirth. American Book Company, 1952.

6 *Recent Events* by Jack Allen and Fremont P. Wirth. American Book Company, 1953.

7 *Recent Events in the United States and the World* by Jack Allen and Fremont P. Wirth. American Book Company, 1954.

8 *Recent Events in the United States and the World* by Jack Allen and Fremont P. Wirth. American Book Company, 1955. Two copies

9 *Recent Events in the United States and the World* by Jack Allen and Fremont P. Wirth. American Book Company, 1956.

10 *Recent Events in the United States and the World* by Jack Allen and Fremont P. Wirth. American Book Company, 1958.

11 *Recent Events in the United States and the World* by Jack Allen and Fremont P. Wirth. American Book Company, 1959.

12 *Recent Events in the United States and the World* by Jack Allen and Fremont P. Wirth. American Book Company, 1960.

13 *United States History* by Fremont P. Wirth. American Book Company, 1954.

14 *United States History –Teacher's Manual* by Jack Allen, 1957.

15 *Workbook for United States History, revised edition* by Fremont P. Wirth and Jack Allen, 1949, 1952, and 1955.

16 *Civics* by Jack Allen and Clarence Stegmier, American Book Company, 1956.

17 *Teachers Manual and Key for Civics-50 States Edition* by Jack Allen and Clarence Stegmier, American Book Company, 1960.

18 *Workbook for Civics* by Jack Allen and Clarence Stegmier, American Book Company, 1959.

19 *The Development of America* by Fremont P. Wirth, American Book Company, 1956.

- 20 *The Development of America –Teacher’s Manual* by Fremont P. Wirth and Jack Allen, American Book Company, 1956.
- 21 *The Study of Religion in the Public Schools –An Appraisal* Jack Allen, contributor. American Council on Education, Washington DC, 1958.
- 22 *World History: Guide and Selected Resource Units –Phoenix Union High Schools and Phoenix College System*. Jack Allen, Director. Phoenix, Arizona, 1960.
- 23 *United States History, revised edition* by Fremont P. Wirth. American Book Company, 1961.
- 24 *United States History, revised edition –Teacher’s Manual* by Fremont P. Wirth and Jack Allen. American Book Company, 1952.
- 25 *The Problems and Promise of American Democracy*. McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1964 Prospectus.
- 26 *The Problems and Promise of American Democracy*. McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1964.
- 27 *The United States of America* by Jack Allen and Adelene E. Howland. Prentice-Hall Inc., 1964.
- 28 *Nations Around the Globe* by Jack Allen and Adelene E. Howland. Prentice-Hall Inc., 1966.
- 29 *Viewpoints: USA* by Bernard Feder, consultant Jack Allen. American Book Company, 1967.
- 30 *Viewpoints: USA Teacher’s Edition* by Bernard Feder, consultant Jack Allen. American Book Company, 1967.
- 31 *History: USA* by Jack Allen and John L. Betts. American Book Company, 1967.
- 32 *History: USA Teacher’s Annotated Edition* by Jack Allen and John L. Betts. American Book Company, 1967.
- 33 *This Government of Ours*, a prospectus, undated.

Box 3

Textbooks

- 1 *Contemporary Issues in American Society*, Eaglton Institute, second edition. Webster Division, McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1969.
- 2 *Contemporary Issues in American Society –Teacher’s Edition*, prepared by Jack Allen and Russell Farnen. Webster Division, McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1969.
- 3 *The American Public School* by Jack Allen. McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1969.
- 4 *USA: History with Documents*, prospectus.
- 5 *USA: History with Documents*, Vol. 1 by Jack Allen and John L. Betts. American Book Company, 1971.
- 6 *USA: History with Documents –Teacher’s Annotated Edition* Vol.1 by Jack Allen and John L. Betts. American Book Company, 1971.
- 7 *USA: History with Documents*, Vol. 2 by Jack Allen and John L. Betts. American Book Company, 1971.
- 8 *USA: History with Documents –Teachers Annotated Edition* Vol. 2 by Jack Allen and John L. Betts. American Book Company, 1971.
- 9 *Political and Economic Life in Planetary Society* by Jack Allen. American Book Company, 1973.
- 10 *Economic Life in Modern America-Teacher’s Annotated Edition* by Jack Allen, Thomas H. DeBolt and Susan E. DeBolt. American Book Company, 1973.

- 11 *Government and Society in Urban America –Teacher’s Annotated Edition* by Jack Allen, Thomas H. DeBolt and Susan E. DeBolt. American Book Company, 1973.
- 12 *History: USA Bicentennial Edition –Teacher’s Guide* by John L. Betts, American Book Company, 1976.
- 13 *One Nation Indivisible, 1777-1977: An Analysis of Unity Throughout American History*. Jack Allen, Editor. Great American Achievements Program. Study Kit. Bicentennial Council of the 13 Original States Fund Inc., 1978.
- 14 *A New Republic Among Nations. Users Guide* by Dana G. Kuffman. Great Achievements Program. Bicentennial Council of the 13 Original States Fund Inc., 1978.
- 15 *Democracy’s Beacon: The United States in Word Affairs*. Production script 3rd draft. Based on Jack Allen’s essay. Great Achievements Program. Bicentennial Council of the 13 Original States Fund Inc., University of Georgia.
- 16 *American Society* by Jack Allen. Prospectus, 1978.
- 17 *American Society Workbook* by Kenneth Hilton. American Book Company, 1978.
- 18 *American Society Chapter Tests*. American Book Company, 1978.
- 19 *American Book Social Studies*, Prospectus, 1979
- 20 *American Book Social Studies: Americans* by Jack Allen. American Book Company, 1979.
- 21 *American Book Social Studies: Americans –Teacher’s Edition* by Jack Allen. American Book Company, 1979.
- 22 *American Book Social Studies Workbook, Level E* by George T. Munyan. American Book Company, 1979.
- 23 *American Book Social Studies Workbook, Level E –Teacher’s Edition* by George T. Munyan. American Book Company, 1979.
- 24 *One Nation Indivisible, 1777-1977: An Analysis of Unity Throughout American History* by Jack Allen. Great American Achievements Program. Bicentennial Council of the 13 Original States Fund Inc., 1979.
- 25 *A New Republic Among Nations: The Role of the United States in Foreign Affairs* by Jack Allen. Great American Achievements Program. Bicentennial Council of the 13 Original States Fund Inc., 1980.
- 26 *Of, By, and For the People: Sovereignty in American History* by Jack Allen. Great American Achievements Program. Bicentennial Council of the 13 Original States Fund Inc., 1980.
- 27 *Education in the 80’s: Social Studies* Jack Allen, Editor. NEA: Washington DC, 1981.

Box 4

Textbooks

- 1 *Places-Teacher’s Edition*. American Book Social Studies, American Book Company, 1980
- 2 *The American People* by Jack Allen, American Book Company, 1982.
- 3 *The American People –Teacher’s Edition* by Jack Allen. American Book Company, 1982.
- 4 *The American People –Tests, Grade 5*. American Book Company, 1982.
- 5 *The American People –Teacher’s Annotated Edition Workbook* by George T. Munyan and Ronald Wheeler. American Book Company, 1982.
- 6 *Neighbors* by Dorothy J. Skeel. American Book Company, 1982

- 7 *Neighbors –Teacher’s Edition* by Dorothy J. Skeel. American Book Company, 1982.
- 8 *People of the World* by David C. King. American Book Company, 1982.
- 9 *People of the World –Teacher’s Edition* by David C. King. American Book Company, 1982.
- 10 *People in Places* by David C. King, Jay L. Weisman, and Ronald Wheeler. American Book Company, 1982.
- 11 *People in Places –Teachers Edition*. American Book Company, 1982.
- 12 *People* by Dorothy J. Skeel. American Book Company, 1982.
- 13 *People –Teacher’s Edition* by Dorothy J. Skeel. American Book Company, 1982.
- 14 *Communities-Teacher’s Edition*. American Book Company, 1982.