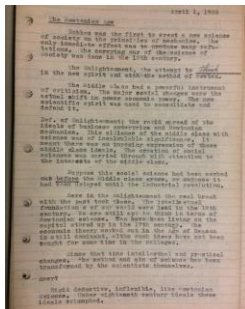


The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary,
Columbia University in the City of New York

Union Theological Seminary Archives 1
Finding Aid for
Daniel Day Williams Papers, 1935 – 1970



Williams's notebook, 1935. Credit to: UTS1: Daniel Day Williams Papers, 1837-1857, Series 1, box 1, folder 1, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

Finding Aid prepared by: Daniella Cádiz Bedini and Rebecca Nieto, June 2018
With financial support from the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation.

Summary Information

Creator: Daniel Day Williams, 1910 – 1973

Title: Daniel Day Williams Papers

Inclusive dates: 1935-1970

Bulk dates: 1935-1970

Abstract: Associate professor of Christian Theology at the University of Chicago and the Chicago Theological Seminary, and later Professor of Theology at Union Theological Seminary in New York City. Collection contains textual material, including articles for publication, and material related to university study, including lectures and sermons. The papers also includes correspondence received from members of the Theology-Science Discussion Group, including papers written by Harold K. Schilling, William G. Pollard, and Harmon R. Holcomb.

Size: 1 box, .5 linear feet

Storage: Onsite storage

Repository: The Burke Library

Union Theological Seminary

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New York, NY 10027

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Administrative Information

- Provenance: The Daniel Day Williams Papers were among a large group of unprocessed materials that were organized in 2018 with the support of the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation.
- Access: Archival papers are available to registered readers for consultation by appointment only. Please contact archives staff by email to burkespecial@library.columbia.edu, or by postal mail to The Burke Library address on page 1, as far in advance as possible. Burke Library staff is available for inquiries or to request a consultation on archival or special collections research.
- Access Restrictions: The collection is unrestricted to readers.
- Preferred Citation: Item description, UTS 1: Daniel Day Williams Papers, series #, box #, and folder #, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

Biography

Daniel Day Williams was born on September 12, 1910, in Denver, Colorado. In 1931 he graduated from the University of Denver, and in 1933 he earned his Master's degree from the University of Chicago. The following year, in 1934, he earned his BD from the University of Chicago's Theological Seminary, where he had taken classes with William Pauck and had been influenced by the work of Henry Nelson Wieman, Charles Hartshorne and, notably, Alfred North Whitehead.

In 1934 he also began his studies in History of Philosophy at Columbia University, where he wrote his dissertation on the development of liberalism at Andover Theological Seminary during the nineteenth century, "though his treatment showed the influence of neo-orthodox realism".¹ He was ordained in 1936 and in he received his doctorate in philosophy from Columbia University in 1940.

From 1939-1954 he was professor of Christian Theology at Chicago Theological Seminary, where he was associated with the distinguished exponent of process philosophy, Charles Hartshorne.² In 1954 he joined Union Theological Seminary in New York City, where he served as Professor of Theology and was involved in the Program in Psychiatry and Religion. Among his colleagues at Union were Paul Tillich, John Knox, Frederick Grant, and John Macquarrie.³ As of 1971 he served as representative to the Faith and Order Commission of the World Council of Churches in The United Church of Christ. He was the author of numerous books, including a study of his Union Seminary colleague Reinhold Niebuhr's thinking, *God's Grace and Man's Hope*

¹ Williams, Daniel Day (1910 - 1973), Theologians in American National Biography Online, Accessed June 11, 2018, <http://oxfordindex.oup.com/view/10.1093/oi/authority.20110803122536338>

² Pittenger, W Norman (William Norman). 1981. "Daniel Day Williams: process theologian." *Modern Churchman* 24, no. 2: 97. *ATLASerials, Religion Collection, EBSCOhost* (accessed June 11, 2018).

³ *Ibid.*, 99.

(1949), *The Family Learns about Jesus* (1960), *The Minister and the Care of Souls* (1961), *The Spirit and the Forms of Love* (1968), and *The Andover Liberals: A Study in American Theology* (1970).

He died in New York City on December 3, 1973, at the age of 63 years. Following his death, Union Seminary established the Daniel Day Williams Award, which is given to a doctoral student “doing outstanding work in theology in ways exemplified by the late Professor Daniel Day Williams”.⁴

Collection Scope and Content Note

This collection consists primarily of documents related to Daniel Day Williams’s research, teaching and publishing. It contains material related to conferences, lectures, and presentations on science and theology, and material specifically related to the Theology-Science Discussion Group to which he belonged. The collection includes correspondence from and work by some of its members, including the nuclear physicist and Episcopal priest William G. Pollard, Harold K. Schilling, professor of Physics and Dean of the Graduate School at Pennsylvania State University, Harmon R. Holcomb from the Department of Philosophy at the University of Kentucky, and Frederick Ferré from the University of Georgia. The collection includes manuscripts of “The Mystery of Matter” and “Nature and Supernature” by William G. Pollard, and a manuscript copy of Harold K. Schilling’s “Cosmic Mystery”, as well as prints and reprints of his “On the Significance of Science for Religious Thought”, “A Human Enterprise”, and “Concerning the Nature of Science and Religion”. Other materials include “Understanding Science” by John J. Compton. The correspondence from members of the Theology-Science Discussion Group shows Williams’s connections to important figures at Union and in broader theological history. These papers also include Williams’s personal material, notably his notebook from 1935.

The collection is organized in one series, divided into six folders.

- **Series 1: Daniel Day Williams 1910 – 1973 (1 box, .5 linear feet)**

This series contains 1 box of research material, including handwritten correspondence and typed papers and presentations. Additionally, this series contains notes and documents from the Theology-Science Discussion Group and some of its members.

Processing

Metal clips and staples were removed from materials and folded items were flattened. Materials were placed in new acid-free folders and boxes. Files wrapped in brown paper

⁴ “Awards and Prizes Conferred at Commencement May 16, 2014”, Union Theological Seminary in the City of New York, accessed 11 June 2018.

<https://myunion.utsnyc.edu/academics/commencement/commencement-awards>

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were transferred to folders and one of the folders was separated into several smaller-sized ones.

Further Sources

Sources consulted on Williams include:

"DANIEL D. WILLIAMS OF UNION SEMINARY." The New York Times. December 04, 1973. Accessed June 12, 2018. <https://www.nytimes.com/1973/12/04/archives/daniel-d-williams-of-union-seminary.html>.

Williams, Daniel Day (1910 - 1973), Theologians in American National Biography Online, Accessed June 11, 2018, <http://oxfordindex.oup.com/view/10.1093/oi/authority.20110803122536338>

Pittenger, W Norman (William Norman). 1981. "Daniel Day Williams: process theologian." *Modern Churchman* 24, no. 2: 97. *ATLASerials, Religion Collection, EBSCOhost* (accessed June 11, 2018).

"Awards and Prizes Conferred at Commencement May 16, 2014", Union Theological Seminary in the City of New York, accessed 11 June 2018. <https://myunion.utsnyc.edu/academics/commencement/commencement-awards>

Contents list

Series 1: UTS/1: Williams

Series	Box	Folder	Contents
			UTS 1935-1970
1	1	1	Notebook, 1935
1	1	2-4	Papers on science and theology by members of the Theology-Science Discussion Group, 1958-1967
1	1	5	Publications and sermons, 1963-1970
1	1	6	Harrold K. Schilling's manuscript for "Cosmic Mystery", 1967