



Smithsonian

*National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center*

Guide to the Sam DeVincent Collection of  
Illustrated American Sheet Music, Series 17: The  
Human Condition, Physical, Mental, Behavioral

NMAH.AC.0300.S17

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## Collection Overview

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| <b>Repository:</b>      | Archives Center, National Museum of American History   |
| <b>Title:</b>           | Sam DeVincent Collection of Illustrated American Sheet Music, Series 17: The Human Condition, Physical, Mental, Behavioral   |
| <b>Date:</b>            | circa 1833-1987, undated   |
| <b>Identifier:</b>      | NMAH.AC.0300.S17   |
| <b>Creator:</b>         | DeVincent, Sam, 1918-1997  |
| <b>Extent:</b>          | 9 Boxes  |
| <b>Language:</b>        | English .  |
| <b>Summary:</b>         | Sam DeVincent loved music and art and began collecting sheet music with lithographs at an early age. Series 17, The Human Condition--Physical, Mental, Behavioral contains approximately 1,000 pieces of sheet music and other materials documenting the development of and popular attitudes towards the human condition in the United States. An overview to the entire DeVincent collection is available here: <a href="#">Sam DeVincent Collection of Illustrated American Sheet Music</a> . |
| <b>Digital Content:</b> | <a href="#">Image(s): The Human Condition, Physical, Mental, Behavioral</a>  |

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

This collection was purchased by the Smithsonian Institution in 1988 from Sam and Nancy Lee DeVincent.

### Materials in Other Organizations

[Sam DeVincent Collection of American Sheet Music](#) , Lilly Library, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana

This collection contains duplicates of materials in the Smithsonian collection, as well as materials acquired by Mr. DeVincent after the donation to the Smithsonian. The phonograph records described above were transferred to the University of Missouri at Kansas City.

### Materials in the Archives Center, National Museum of American History

Donald J. Stubblebine Collection of Musical Theater and Motion Picture Sheet Music and Reference Material, 1843-2010 (AC1211)

### Forms Part Of

Series 17: The Human Condition forms part of the [Sam DeVincent Collection of Illustrated American Sheet Music](#) .

An ongoing, updated list of DeVincent topical series is available [via the Smithsonian finding aid portal](#) .

## Preferred Citation

The Sam DeVincent Collection of Illustrated American Sheet Music, Archives Center, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution

## Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

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## Scope and Contents

Series 17, The Human Condition --Physical, Mental, Behavioral, 1833-1987, contains approximately 1,000 pieces of sheet music and other materials documenting the development of and popular attitudes towards the human condition in the United States. The dates always refer to copyright of the music and not to the subject on the cover, songwriter's life, or other events. In addition, there is one box of ephemera arranged in the same subseries order as the music listing, which is described following the container list.

Subseries 1, Physical Health, 1833-1982, undated, covers doctors, nurses, The Red Cross, eyes (including blindness), disabilities, lisping, stuttering, body weight, nudity, drugs, and general health.

Subseries 2, Happiness, 1845-1978, undated, includes songs with gay, happy, laugh, and smile in the titles; also songs about whistling, fun, tickling, and being cheerful.

Subseries 3, Crazy, Foolish, 1904-1973, undated, has two folders with crazy and fool/foolish titles; and one folder the cheerful, fun, humor, joy, and tickle songs.

Subseries 4, Rubes, 1888-1938, contains one folder with titles and/or images of the unsophisticated type.

Ephemera contains DeVincent's 'see' notes referencing other parts of the Collection, articles, promotional materials, and various items that pertain to the subjects in Series 17. Note that the Ephemera boxes are numbered separately from the boxes containing sheet music.

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## Arrangement

Arranged in 5 subseries.

- 17.1: Physical Health
- 17.2: Happiness
- 17.3: Crazy, Foolish
- 17.4: Rubes
- 17.5: Ephemera

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## Container Listing

### Subseries 17.1: Physical Health, 1833-1982, undated

Scope and Contents: Subseries 1, Physical Health, 1833-1982, undated, covers doctors, nurses, The Red Cross, eyes (including blindness), disabilities, lisping, stuttering, body weight, nudity, drugs, and general health.

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Box 1, Folder A-D | Doctors, Nurses, and General Health, 1939-1982, undated   |
| Box 1, Folder A   | Doctors, 1894-1977, undated<br>Notes: Includes: "Doctor Tinkle Tinker," "Dr. Dippy" from Captain Careless, and "Our Family Doctor" (or "The Rise of the Butcher Boy"). (31 items)   |
| Box 1, Folder B   | Written, Composed, Arranged by, or Dedicated to, Doctors, 1839-1923, undated<br>Notes: Includes: "Munyon's Liberty Song" and "Day by Day in Every Way I'm Getting Better and Better," dedicated to Dr. Emile Coue. (32 items)                 |
| Box 1, Folder C   | Nurses and Red Cross, 1871-1963<br>Notes: Includes: "The Angel of No Man's Land," "The Little Good for Nothing's Good for Something After All," "She Would Like to Be a Soldier," and "We've Had a Lovely Time, So Long, Goodbye." (59 items) |
| Box 2, Folder D   | General Health, 1898-1982<br>Notes: Includes: "I Got a 'Code' in my 'Doze'," "It's All Up to You (to Make North Carolina No. 1 in Good Health)," and "Medicine Man." (43 items)   |
| Box 2, Folder E-L | Eyes, 1833-1979, undated  |
| Box 2, Folder E-H | "Eye" Titles, 1833-1954, undated  |
| Box 2, Folder E   | A -- E<br>Notes: Includes: "All Things Love Thee So Do I" ('Eye'), "Dreamy Eyes" from The Runaways, and several titles regarding blue eyes. (36 items)  |
| Box 2, Folder F   | F -- K<br>Notes: Includes: "I Idolize My Baby's Eyes," "I've Got a Cross-Eyed Papa," and "Keep Your Eye on the Girlie You Love." (31 items)   |
| Box 3, Folder G   | L -- S<br>Notes: Includes: "Lift Your Eyes to Mine" from Sybil, "Said My Right Eye to My Left Eye," and "She of the Black Coffee Eyes." (26 items)  |

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Box 3, Folder H   | T -- Y<br>Notes: Includes: "Then You Wink the Other Eye" and "What Color Eyes Do You Like Best" from The Royal Chef. (32 items)   |
| Box 3, Folder I   | Songs about Being Blind, 1942-1979, undated<br>Notes: Includes: "The Blind Boy," "The Blind Ploughman," and "Listen with Your Eyes," (35 items)   |
| Box 4, Folder J-K | Blind Musicians and Performers, 1865-1980, undated  |
| Box 4, Folder J   | Adam Geibel, 1878, 1924<br>Notes: Includes "Little Cotton Dolly." (12 items)  |
| Box 4, Folder K   | Blind Musicians and Performers, Miscellaneous, 1865-1980, undated<br>Notes: Includes covers picturing Blind Boone, Ray Charles, Ronnie Milsap, and Stevie Wonder. Also see Series 11, Entertainment. (32 items) |
| Box 4, Folder L   | Glasses and Spectacles, 1926-1943<br>Notes: Includes "Somebody Stole My Rose Colored Glasses." (3 items)  |
| Box 4, Folder M   | Disabilities, 1907-1949<br>Notes: Includes: "Willie Roy, the Crippled Boy." (3 items)   |
| Box 4, Folder N   | Lisping and Stuttering, 1906-1943<br>Notes: Includes: "The Boy Who Stuttered and the Girl Who Lisped," "K-K-K-Katy," and "Thtop Your Thtuttering." (26 items)   |
| Box 4, Folder O   | Fat and Skinny, 1893-1978, undated<br>Notes: Includes "Down Where the Vest Begins," "Huggin' and Chalkin'," "Short, Fat, and 4F," and four Santa Claus items. (47 items)  |
| Box 4, Folder P   | Nudity and Streaking, 1934-1974<br>Notes: Includes: "Cutest Little Nudist," "Lady Godiva," and "The Streak." (6 items)  |
| Box 5, Folder Q   | Drugs, 1911-1983<br>Notes: Includes: "Cocaine," "Hooked on Grass," and "Smokin' Reefers." (15 items)  |

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## Subseries 17.2: Happiness, 1845-1978, undated

Scope and Contents: Subseries 2, Happiness, 1845-1978, undated, includes songs with gay, happy, laugh, and smile in the titles; also songs about whistling, fun, tickling, and being cheerful.

Box 5, Folder A      Gay Titles, 1860-1953

Notes: "Gay and Happy," two songs from The Gay Hussars ("Kitty Please Give Me a Kiss"), and "Keep It Gay" from "Me and Juliet." (16 items)

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Box 5, Folder B-D | Happy Titles, 1845-1978, undated  |
| Box 5, Folder B   | A -- "Happy Wanderer"<br>Notes: Includes: "Ever Be Happy" (or "The Pirate's Farewell"), "Happiness" from You're a Good Man Charlie Brown, and "Happy Days Are Here" from Chasing Rainbows. (39 items) |
| Box 5, Folder C   | "Highways..." -- S<br>43 Items<br>Notes: Includes: "I Could Be Happy with Either One" from Nancy Brown, "Make Believe You're Happy" from Lovely Lady, and "Stay with Happy People."                   |
| Box 5, Folder D   | T -- Y<br>14 Items<br>Notes: Includes: "You Can't Buy Happiness" and "You Gotta Stay Happy."  |
| Box 6, Folder E   | Laugh Titles, 1864-1952, undated<br>Notes: Includes: "Laughing on the Outside" and "This Is No Laughing Matter." (28 items)   |
| Box 6, Folder F-H | Smile Titles, 1907-1952, undated  |
| Box 6, Folder F   | C -- K<br>Notes: Includes: "Her Mouth Which a Smile" [sic] from Rosina, "Her Bright Smile Haunts Me Still," and "Come and Have a Smile with Me" from Yankee Tourist. (34 items)                       |
| Box 6, Folder G   | L -- "Smile..."<br>Notes: Includes: "Leave Me with a Smile," "Roll Out of Bed with a Smile," and "Smile, Darn Ya, Smile." (51 items)  |
| Box 7, Folder H   | "Smiles..." -- Y<br>Notes: Includes: "Smilin' Through" from Smilin' Through, "The Sunshine of Your Smile," and "You can Win with a Smile." (38 items)   |
| Box 7, Folder I-K | Whistling, 1888-1977  |
| Box 7, Folder I   | A -- "Walking..."<br>Notes: Includes: two "Give a Little Whistle" titles, "There's a Whistle in the Thistle," and "Tweet and Toot." (52 items)  |
| Box 7, Folder J   | "Whistle" -- "Whistlin'..."   |

Notes: Includes: "Whistle and I'll Wait for You," "Whistle and the Girls Come Round" from Peggy, "The Whistler's Mother-in-Law," and "Whistlin' Otto." (51 items)

Box 8, Folder K "Whistling" -- "Willie..."  
Notes: Includes: six "Whistling Boy" titles, "Whistling in the Light" from Riding High, and a folio, The Tunes Dad Whistled. (42 items)

Box 8, Folder L Cheerful, Fun, Humor, Joy, Tickle, 1898-1951, undated  
Notes: Includes: "Ain't We Got Fun," "Everthing's Funny to Me," four "Humoresque" (also "Humoreske") titles, and "Stop Tickling Me." (28 items)

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### Subseries 17.3: Crazy, Foolish, 1904-1973, undated

Scope and Contents: Subseries 3, Crazy, Foolish, 1904-1973, undated, has two folders with crazy and fool/foolish titles; and one folder the cheerful, fun, humor, joy, and tickle songs.

Box 8, Folder A-C Crazy, Foolish, Goofy, Nutty, 1904-1973, undated

Box 8, Folder A Crazy, 1904-1958  
Notes: All songs have "crazy" in the title. Includes "Crazy Words, Crazy Tune, Vo-do-de-o" and "I'm Going Crazy (Don't You Want to Come Along)." (21 items)

Box 8, Folder B Fool, Foolish, 1911-1973  
Notes: Includes: "Ain't I the Foolish Kid," "Foolish Questions" from The Beauty Spot, and "Why Do Fools Fall in Love." (40 items)

Box 8, Folder C Dumb, Goofy, Maniac, Nutty, 1923-1952, undated  
Notes: Includes: "All Nuts Don't Grow on Trees," "Maniac Waltz," "Neurotic You and Psychopathic Me," and "Nutsey Fagan." (16 items)

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### Subseries 17.4: Rubes, 1888-1938

Scope and Contents: Subseries 4, Rubes, 1888-1938, contains one folder with titles and/or images of the unsophisticated type.

Box 9, Folder A Rubes, 1888-1938  
Notes: Includes: "Hey! Mister Joshua," "Those Darling Girls," and "When Reuben Comes to Town." (38 items)

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Box 10, Folder 1 Aladdin, Hypnotism, Mesmerize and Voodoo



|                  |                      |
|------------------|----------------------|
| Box 10, Folder 2 | Luck/Lucky           |
| Box 10, Folder 3 | Magic                |
| Box 11, Folder 1 | Memory/Memories      |
| Box 11, Folder 2 | Memory/Memories      |
| Box 11, Folder 3 | Wishing/Wishing Well |

### Subseries 17.5: Ephemera

Scope and Contents: Ephemera contains DeVincent's 'see' notes referencing other parts of the Collection, articles, promotional materials, and various items that pertain to the subjects in Series 17. Note that the Ephemera boxes are numbered separately from the boxes containing sheet music.

| Physical Health, 1918-1987, undated |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Box 66, Folder A                    | General Health   |
| Box 66, Folder A                    | Five pages of 'see' notes  |
| Box 66, Folder A                    | Four advertisements including two for Dr. Harter's Iron Tonic              |
| Box 66, Folder A                    | Red Cross  |
| Box 66, Folder A                    | One page of 'see' notes  |
| Box 66, Folder A                    | Junior Red Cross News March 1937   |
| Box 66, Folder A                    | Two articles, 1981, 1982   |
| Box Oversize                        | * The Official Red Cross Primer, Ladies' Home Journal, February 1918       |
| Box Oversize                        | * Cross Words September 1980   |
| Box 66, Folder A                    | Disabilities   |
| Box 66, Folder A                    | Danny Deardorff folder   |
| Box 66, Folder A                    | Lyrics to two songs  |
| Box 66, Folder A                    | Eyes/Blind   |
| Box 66, Folder A                    | Twelve pages of 'see' notes  |
| Box 66, Folder A                    | Three articles: Stevie Wonder, Fred Lowery, and Jason Ellsworth, 1975-1987 |

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Box 66, Folder A | AP Wire: machine to read sheet music for visually impaired             |
| Box 66, Folder A | "Are the Blind Superior to the Seeing in Hearing?" The EtudeApril 1932 |
| Box 66, Folder A | Two items regarding blind pedestrians                                  |
| Box 66, Folder A | Hargus 'Pig' Robbins promoJuly 1977                                    |
| Box 66, Folder A | PamphletAllen County League for the Blind                              |
| Box 66, Folder A | Certification from Indiana Association of Workers for the Blind, 1972  |
| Box 66, Folder A | Lisp/Stutter   |
| Box 66, Folder A | Two pages of 'see' notes   |
| Box 66, Folder A | Fat/Skinny   |
| Box 66, Folder A | One page of 'see' notes  |
| Box 66, Folder A | List of song titles  |
| Box 66, Folder A | "Skinny Minny" promo   |
| Box 66, Folder A | Nudity/Streaking   |
| Box 66, Folder A | Article: "Streak" and Ray StevensJune 1974                             |
| Box 66, Folder A | Article: Fred Loweryblind whistlerDecember 1984                        |
| Box 66, Folder A | "Streakin'," ABC/Dunhill Records promoMarch 1974                       |
| Box 66, Folder A | "Streaking with My Baby" promoMarch 1974                               |
| Box 66, Folder A | Drugs  |
| Box 66, Folder A | Two pages of 'see' notes   |
| Box 66, Folder A | List of song titles  |
| Box 66, Folder A | Two articles: Waylon Jennings and Doug Kershaw, 1977, 1978             |
| Box 66, Folder A | Memo: "Drug Lyrics" caseYale Broadcasting Company. v. Federal          |
| Box 66, Folder A | Communications Commission  |
| Box 66, Folder A | Lyrics for "Lake Shore Drive (L. S. D.)"                               |

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Box 66, Folder A | What's It All About? April 1972, (Youth-Rock Culture), with lyrics for "Mister Can't You See.", April 1972 |
| Box 66, Folder A | "Does Hollywood Sell Drugs to Kids?" Parade, 31249   |
| Box 66, Folder A | Happiness, Whistling, 1970, undated  |
| Box 66, Folder B | Eight pages of 'see' notes   |
| Box 66, Folder B | List of "smile" titles   |
| Box 66, Folder B | "A Smile," Chapman Motors promotional card   |
| Box 66, Folder B | "The Vanishing Art of Whistling," Stereo Review, May 1970  |

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