

ICS 100

**Autobiography of WT Stace as a civil servant in Ceylon,
1910-1932**

SUMMARY GUIDE

Repository	GB 101 Institute of Commonwealth Studies
Reference code	ICS 100
Dates of creation of material	1964
Level of description	Collection
Extent	1 volume
Name of creator	Walter Terence Stace (1886-1967)

Administrative history

Walter Terence Stace (1886-1967) first went out to Ceylon as a young civil servant in 1910, accompanied by a wife (Adelaide) considerably older than himself. Beginning as a cadet in Galle, he gradually rose in the administrative hierarchy to become a police magistrate, private secretary to the Governor (Sir Robert Chalmers), district judge at Negombo, and an official (ultimately, the head) of the Land Settlement Department. During his last ten years in the colony, while working on land settlement, Stace divorced his first wife (who had returned to Britain) and married Blanche Beven; and he spent an increasing amount of time writing on philosophy which from an early age had been a significant personal interest. He resigned from the civil service in 1932 to become a teacher of philosophy at Princeton University, USA.

Stace published several works on philosophy, including 'A critical history of Greek philosophy' (1920), 'The philosophy of Hegel: a systematic exposition' (1924), 'The meaning of beauty: a theory of aesthetics' (1929), 'The theory of knowledge and existence' (1932), 'The concept of morals' (1937), 'The destiny of western man' (1942), and 'Mysticism and philosophy' (1961).

Archival history

The provenance of the work is unknown, but appears to have been sent to TE Smith at the ICS in c.1965, and is accompanied by an extract from a letter from HE Newnham to Smith, commenting on its value

Scope and content

The typescript is a draft of part of a larger autobiography of Stace, comprising chapters 7-16 inclusive. It is not known whether the work was published.

Access	Open
Copyright/copying conditions	Usual conditions
Language	English
Finding aids	A descriptive list is available in ICS Library

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DESCRIPTIVE LIST

ICS 100/1	Autobiography of WT Stace as a civil servant in Ceylon, 1910-1932 1 volume	1964
ICS 100/2	Typescript extract of letter from HE Newnham to TE Smith, ICS, commenting on Stace's work 1 paper	1965