INGE, WILLIAM RALPH, 1860-1954.
William Ralph Inge letters, 1924

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Descriptive Summary

Title: William Ralph Inge letters, 1924
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 285
Extent: 0.01 cubic ft. (1 folder)
Abstract: Consists of two letters written by Inge during the time he was Dean of St.
Paul’s.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access
Unrestricted access.

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Citation
[after identification of item(s)], William Ralph Inge Letters, Archives and Manuscript Dept.,
Pitts Theology Library, Emory University.

Processing

Collection Description

Biographical Note
William Ralph Inge was born in Yorkshire, England in 1860. He attended Eton and King’s
College, Cambridge. He was assistant master at Eton from 1884 to 1888, and became a fellow
at Oxford in 1888. Inge was ordained a priest in the Anglican Church in 1892. He served as
Dean of St. Paul’s Cathedral in London from 1911 until his retirement in 1934. Inge received
numerous honorary degrees and honors during his lifetime.

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A prolific writer, Inge engaged in both political and religious debates. His focus in the area of theology was Christian mysticism, Plotinus and neoplatonism. In the political realm, Inge was known for his acerbic tongue. He was an outspoken critic of industrialism and social change. Because of the pessimistic attitude ever present in his writings and speeches, he was nicknamed, “The Gloomy Dean.” Inge died in February 1954.

**Scope and Content Note**
This collection consists of two short letters written by Inge during the time he was Dean of St. Paul’s. One letter is dated 1924. Both are refusals to unknown requests.