



Carl Crow Papers (C0041)

Collection Number: C0041

Collection Title: Carl Crow Papers

Dates: 1913-1945

Creator: Crow, Carl, 1883-1945

Abstract: Bills, accounts, speeches, notes, correspondence and book and article manuscripts on a wide range of subjects. Crow was a resident of China for a number of years and most of his writing was about China or related subjects. The collection includes a diary of a trip over the Burma Road, the diary of a Japanese soldier, and notes and articles on the Japanese opium trade.

Collection Size: 5 cubic feet, 4 oversize volumes
(354 folders, 2 volumes)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at columbia@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

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Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Carl Crow Papers* (C0041); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Columbia].

Donor Information: The papers were donated to the University of Missouri by Roma Crow Walters on July 31, 1945 (Accession No. CA0253).

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Historical Note:

Carl Crow was born in Highland, Missouri, on 26 September 1883. His parents were George Washington Crow and Elvira Jane Sharrock. In 1906, after working as a printer and having owned a newspaper, he entered the University of Missouri's School of Journalism. He worked for a time on the *Columbia Missourian* and went to China in 1911 as city editor of the *China Press*, the first American daily in China. After 18 months, he returned to New York and did magazine work.

In 1913, Crow went to Tokyo to work on the *Japan Advertiser*, returning in 1914 to New York to again write for magazines. He moved to California in 1915, and purchased a small fruit farm. He sold it upon America's entry into World War I and went to the Far East as head of the Far Eastern Division of the Committee on Public Information. After the war, he established and edited the *Shanghai Evening Post* and later opened an advertising agency which he headed until his departure from Shanghai when the Japanese invaded. Crow returned to the United States where he published several books and articles. He returned once more to China on a visit, this time via the Burma Road to Chungking. He also made a trip to South America.

In 1925, Crow married Helen M. Hanniger, who died in November 1941. Crow died after a long illness on 8 June 1945.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into the following seven series:

- Bills
- Clippings
- Compositions and Notes
- Correspondence
- Miscellaneous
- Speeches
- Scrapbooks

Scope and Content Note:

Most of the papers, correspondence, and manuscripts in this collection are from the period of Crow's life after his departure from China. In addition to finished articles, the papers include outlines and notes. The correspondence is mostly concerned with the publication of Crow's books and articles, his lecture tours, and his efforts to assist Chinese relief.

More complete descriptions of the series are in the container list.

Container List:**Bills Series**

- f. 1 Bills and accounts covering storage and disposal of Crow's household goods in Shanghai, decoration of his New York apartment, books, and transfer of real estate, 1938-1944

Clippings Series

- f. 2-6 Reviews of Crow's books, clippings of stories about China and the Far East, and miscellaneous subjects.

Compositions and Notes Series

- f. 7-28 Unpublished manuscripts
- f. 7-10 *China, After Forty Centuries* or *China-Forty Centuries Young*. Introduction, chapter outline, Chapters 1-3, part of Chapter 4, Chapters 15-17.
- f. 11-12 *History of the American Magazine*. Four chapters: "Magazines without Readers," "Magazines Find Readers," "Pure Food and Drug Law," and "Notes on Magazine Men and Women."
- f. 13 *Japan*. Two chapters: "Foundations of Japan" and "The Forty Seven."
- f. 14-15 *Sons of Han*. Two chapters: "Infanticide" and "Father Huc."
- f. 16-17 *William Wheelwright*. Outline for the book; typed copy of Chapters 1-6; manuscript copy of Chapters 2-14; copy of Chapter 1, unrevised; and notes on Wheelwright, Newburyport, Massachusetts, and various businesses in which Wheelwright was interested.
- f. 28 *You Can't Make Friends with Japan*. Outline and specimen chapter.
- f. 29-40 Articles on various phases of life and politics in China
- f. 29-32 "Advertising Meets War and Survives;" "American Saints and Chinese Sinners;" "And the Japanese Helped Us Do It" (rough draft); "Can China Fight For A Hundred Years?"; "China's Homeless Millions Find A Home;" "Chungking and Chinese Migration;" "Homes for China's Homeless Millions;" and "China's Homeless Millions Find New Homes."
- f. 33-39 "Is China A Democracy?"; "A Houseboat on the Chien Tang;" "The Orphan Villages of China;" "Proper Missie No Can Do;" "The Puzzle of Chinese Communism;" "Refugee Schools of China;" "Tacks in the Map of China"(incomplete draft); "A War Correspondent At Last;" "What if China Wins?"; "Will China Tremble and Obey?"; and "Your Reporter is Going to China."
- f. 40 Two articles, one untitled, recounting the story of a Mr. Ling of Hangchow and his experiences with the Japanese troops and in fleeing from them. Article, "Japan Would Enslave China," by Dr. Wang Chung-hui, written in Chungking, June 16, 1939.
- f. 41-44 Short stories
- f. 41 Six Pidgin English short stories written by Crow for *Liberty*. Adaptations of children's stories or legends.
- f. 42-44 Six short stories written by Crow with the following titles: "Charley the Truthful;" "Hop Ching and the Crooked Road;" "Puppet With a Gin Bottle;" "A Paper Mill for Macao;" "Sang De Boeuf Par Avion;" and "Sylvester Buys Some Books."
- f. 45-48 Notes on various phases of Chinese character, austerity, age, language, and women. Includes two articles, "The Great War in China," dealing with World War I, and "President Wilson's Eyes and Ears."
- f. 49-53 Various notes for *Foreign Devils in the Flowery Kingdom*. Fifty-two pages of notes on China, New China's industrial program, and Sun Yat Sen. Notes on life in Shanghai after beginning of China-Japan war.

- f. 54 Notes on Russell & Company, a Shanghai mercantile firm, its development and failure.
- f. 55-71 Chungking diary. Diary of Crow's trip into China via the Buram Road in the summer of 1941. Daily account as kept by Crow and later rewritten for publication.
- f. 72-78 Eight articles written by Crow on the Far East. "Burma--Beautiful Battleground;" "Burma--Spoiled Child of the Tropics;" "Five Hundred Miles in Seven Days" (an account of part of Crow's trip over the Burma Road); "Hope Dawns in Unhappy Korea;" "Japan's Secret War" (written about Burma); "The Philippines Under the Japanese Bootheel;" "Six Thousand Miles in Six Days" (account of Crow's journey to Burma to travel into China via the Burma Road); and "Under the Heel of Japan" (about the Philippine Islands).
- f. 79-83 Seven articles on Japan by Crow: "The Diary of Keisi Oriyama" (the complete diary of a Japanese soldier as translated); "Hirohito, The Mystery Man;" "His Imperial Japanese Majesty;" "Japan Monkeys with Religion;" "Pampered Prisoners of Japan;" "Private Oriyama Fights for Japan" (excerpts from the diary of Oriyama); and "The Puzzling Japanese Mind."
- f. 84 "Japan's Record" by Henry H. Douglas, a discussion of the history of Japanese foreign policy and diplomacy. "Post War Relations with Japan" by Sir George B. Sansom, a discussion of problems that will be encountered after Japan's defeat. The latter paper was presented at the eighth conference of the Institute of Pacific Relations, December 1942.
- f. 85-95 Notes, copies of articles, laws, speeches, and reports on the opium traffic in Japanese-occupied China.
- f. 96 Notes on Japanese propaganda and on Japanese atrocities in China.
- f. 97-102 A brief action synopsis of the screen adaptation of *400,000,000 Customers* and a copy of the screen adaptation. *400,000,000 Customers* was written by Crow, and concerns advertising and his experiences as an ad man in China.
- f. 103-111 Twenty-three articles and short stories by Crow on miscellaneous subjects: "A Boy's Heroes and Ambitions;" "The Adventures of the Garrulous Deaf Mute" and "The Story of the Garrulous Mute" (the same plot but variations in the two stories); "Can We Fight Against Mustard Gas?"; "Carl Drowings;" "Doodlebugs and Flying Geologists;" "Drama In Real Life;" "The Gang's All Here;" "A Hint to Homesteaders;" "I Am Trying To Be An American;" "Is Easy Money Finished?"; "More Power in South America;" "The Most Interesting Character I Ever Knew;" "The Most Unforgettable Character;" "On the Road to Glenwood;" "Paper Collars;" "Strategy for Success;" "Texas Afternoon's Entertainment" "When The American Travels;" "When The Ships Sail Again;" "Who Wants To Be A Spy;" "The World Is Our Customer;" and "Young Men With Itchy Feet."
- f. 112-114 Incomplete articles and brief outlines of article suggestions: The Advertising Bunk Pile; The American Farmer: Americans Christianize the World; Are We Returning To Feudalism?; The Battle for the Ether; The Builders of Modern Asia; Export of American Brains: Grandpa Treated 'Em Rough; If Shakespeare came to Town; Johnnie Appleseed--Typical American; Let's Start a Factory; Must We Have A Dictator?; A New Job for the Post Office; Organized Brotherhood; Rip Van Winkle Returns; The Story of a Farm; Three Great Danes; The Wood Pulp Belt Moves South.
- f. 115-129 Miscellaneous notes: notes and jottings for *Great American Customer*; postcard tours; The Story of American Liberty; The Story of British North America; South America; and miscellaneous jottings.

Correspondence Series

Most of the correspondence pertains to the writing and publication of books and articles. Correspondence with his representative, Nancy Parker. Comments on his books and articles, letters about opium and Japanese atrocities. Correspondence with W. Colston Leigh, lecture agent, concerning lecture tours. Correspondence pertaining to South American trip and trip to China. Letters about J.B. Powell, Phineas Miller, Harris M. Lyon, William Wheelwright, and Henry Meigs. Personal letters from his family.

- f. 130 Undated correspondence concerning articles and books. Personal letters from family.
- f. 131-132 1913-1929. Letters in answer to Crow's request for photographs of authors for the American Club in Shanghai, China.
- f. 133-137 1937. Comments on book *400 Million Customers*. W. Colston Leigh, lecture agent. Elmer J. Dawson letter on cheese in China. List of magazine stories by Harris Merton Lyon and correspondence concerning his work. Letters pertaining to Dr. Guy Sarvis family. Letter with poem by Harris M. Lyon.
- f. 138-154 1938. Comments on book, *I Speak for the Chinese*. Harris M. Lyon work. Letters on New Deal. Correspondence about books.
 - f. 139-140 Harris M. Lyon work. W. Colston Leigh, lecture agent.
 - f. 141 Letters concerning English edition of *Master Kung* by Grace Zaring Stone and Roy W. Howard. Dr. Seaman A. Knapp letter.
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 - f. 150 The Bell Syndicate, Inc., Author Statement. Comments on *400 Million Customers*.
 - f. 151 Comments on article "An American in Search of a Party." List of agencies in Shanghai for Melchers & Co.
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 - f. 154 Gold of Babylon. Comments on books.
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 - f. 157 Letter from A.L. Shuman.
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 - f. 163 W. Colston Leigh, lecture agent. Letters concerning books.
 - f. 164 Terms of W. Colston Leigh. *Chemistry and War* by A. Gibson.
 - f. 165 Writers Glossary. Maurice Williams United Council for Civilian Relief in China. Dr. Logan Clendening letter pertaining to opium warfare. Correspondence with friends in Shanghai. Alvin Wortham.
- f. 166-178 1940. Letters on National Sharecroppers Week. Citizenship for Younghill Kang. List of missionaries. Comments on article, "Dynamic America". Relations with Japan. Personal letters from friends concerning publication of books and articles.

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- f. 168 Evans F. Carlson tells of atrocities.
- f. 169 Letters about books and articles.
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- f. 171 Piracy of American books in China. Letters from Paul Stark and W. Colston Leigh.
- f. 172-173 Early history of Standard Oil in China. Letters concerning lectures and books. W. Colston Leigh.
- f. 176 Correspondence pertaining to trip to South America. List of countries in South American for which United States government has manufactured coins.
- f. 177 Will L. Smith experience in South America. Data on telephone service in South American countries.
- f. 178 Letters concerning lecture tour. Costs of interior transportation in Columbia, South America.
- f. 179-190 1941. Comments on Chungking diary. Correspondence concerning lecture tour. Excerpts from requests for Carl Crow's script. Correspondence concerning writing of books and articles on South America.
- f. 180 C.F. Kleye's criticism on Crow's book on the Chinese. W. Colston Leigh Lecture Tours.
- f. 181 "American Exporter." List of German publications published in Argentina. W. Colston Leigh.
- f. 182 Correspondence pertaining to lectures and articles.
- f. 183 Figures on population of Ecuador. Attitude of the people of Argentina on world affairs.
- f. 184 General correspondence on books and articles.
- f. 187 Background of Neiman-Marcus store in Dallas, Texas. United China Relief. Letter from J.B. Powell.
- f. 188 Letter about Ramie, textile grown in China. Amazon River. Committee for Jewish Army.
- f. 189 Criticisms on "South Americans."
- f. 190 W. Colston Leigh, lecture agent. Letters of condolence on wife's death.
- f. 191-196 1942. Personal letters. Letters about J.B. Powell, Phineas Miller, W. Colston Leigh.
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- f. 205 Comments on books.
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- f. 209 General correspondence concerning lectures and writing.
- f. 210 1945. General correspondence concerning the writing of books and articles.

Miscellaneous Series

- f. 211 Lecture contracts, itineraries, and correspondence with W. Colston Leigh, Inc., lecture bureau, pertaining to Crow's lecture tours.
- f. 212-215 Advertisements for books, Crow's speeches, book samples, samples of illustrations, picture of Crow, and other personal trivia.

Speeches Series

- f. 216-354 Five speeches made by Crow, c. 1940.
 - f. 216 Chungking visit via the Burma Road.
 - f. 217 Writing and printing in China, a broadcast for London made in Chungking, and a radio speech also on China.
 - f. 218 "The Role of the Far East in the World Crisis" a speech made by Crow, February 24, 1941, before the Economic Club of Detroit.
 - f. 219-354 Duplicates.

Scrapbooks Series

- v. 1-6 Scrapbooks of Carl Crow, journalist, writer, lecturer and advertising man, who lived in the Orient. Contains personal items and reviews of his books.

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