



## **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:** 6 cubic feet, 6 oversize volumes  
(354 folders, 22 volumes)

**Language:** Collection materials are in English, Danish, Dutch, Czech, French and Swedish.

**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](https://www.shsmo.org/research-center-columbia). If you would like more information, please contact us at [columbia@shsmo.org](mailto: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). An addition was made on January 14, 2024, by Christopher L. Walters (Accession No. CA6720)

**Processed by:** Processed by The State Historical Society of Missouri-Columbia staff, date unknown. Finding Aid revised by Nick Raya, January 23, 2024.

**Biographical Note:**

Carl Crow was born in Highland, Missouri, on September 26, 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 June 8, 1945.

**Arrangement:**

The collection has been arranged into the following eight series:

Bills  
Clippings  
Compositions and Notes  
Correspondence  
Miscellaneous  
Speeches  
Scrapbooks  
Publications

**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**

- 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**

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

### Compositions and Notes

- 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 Burma 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 adaption. *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

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.
  - f. 143            American Council Institute of Pacific Relations.
  - f. 144-146       Comments on books.
  - f. 148            Correspondence with Webster Publishing Com. about History of Orient textbook.
  - 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.
  - f. 152            Letter from Charles E. Hogue on article "An American in Search of a Party". Townsend Harris.
  - f. 154            Gold of Babylon. Comments on books.
- f. 155-165       1939. Correspondence about chemical warfare and narcotic conditions in the Far East. Correspondence on opium.
  - f. 157            Letter from A.L. Shuman.
  - f. 158            Letters written while in China.
  - f. 159            Letters concerning Beveridge Memorial Prize.
  - f. 161            Medical relief in China. Peter B. Kyne letter.
  - f. 162            Citizenship for Younghill Kang.
  - 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.
  - f. 167            Names of institutions and individuals who are authentic on Chinese affairs. Japanese terrorism or atrocities.
  - f. 168            Evans F. Carlson tells of atrocities.

- f. 169 Letters about books and articles.
- f. 170 Opium. C.C. Wang article, "Japan's New Weapon." Personal.
- 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.
- f. 192 Translation of broadcast to Sweden. Letter from Pearl S. Buck. Letters about Phineas Miller, P.E.N., Association of Writers.
- f. 193 Review of "Meet the South American." Letter concerning J.B. Powell.
- f. 194 J.B. Powell. Correspondence concerning writing of books and war work.
- f. 195 War relocation. List of books on early industrial enterprise of New England.
- f. 196 Machine for printing and typewriting Chinese by L.H. Amdur.
- f. 197-203 1943. Publication of *Sunpao* by N.F. Allman. Story about the way machinery and mass production have affected the American way of life.
- f. 198 Correspondence pertaining to the writing of books on American industry.
- f. 199 Letter from L.H. Amdur. Letters about Korea.
- f. 201 Letters about William Wheelwright and Henry Meigs.
- f. 202 Paul G. Hoffman address on post-war plans.
- f. 203 Personal letters and letters from P.W. Han on Korean farmers.
- f. 204-209 1944. *History of American Magazine*. "Close Up of News" by Upton Close.
- f. 205 Comments on books.
- f. 206-208 Letters about Ching and *The City of Flint Grows Up*.
- f. 209 General correspondence concerning lectures and writing.
- f. 210 1945. General correspondence concerning the writing of books and articles.

**Miscellaneous**

- 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**

- 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**

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

**Publications**

- v. 7-29 Books written by Carl Crow, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek, and Lin Yutang, 1914-1945.
  - v. 7 *All We Are and All We Have*, Kai-Shek, Generalissimo Chiang, n.d.
  - v. 8 *How I Celebrate the New Year*, Yutang, Lin, n.d.
  - v. 9 *Handbook for China*, Crow, Carl, n.d.
  - v. 10 *Confucius: Wijsgeer van Het Oude China*, Crow, Carl, n.d. [Dutch]
  - v. 11 *Učitel Kung*, Crow, Carl, n.d.
  - v. 12 *America and the Philippines*, Crow, Carl, 1914
  - v. 13 *Japan and American*, Crow, Carl, 1916
  - v. 14 *Master Kung*, Crow, Carl, 1937
  - v. 15 *400 Million Customers*, Crow, Carl, 1937
  - v. 16 *400 Millioner Kunder*, Crow, Carl, 1937 [Danish]
  - v. 17 *400 Milioner Kunder*, Crow, Carl, 1937 [Swedish]
  - v. 18 *400 Millioen Klanten*, Crow, Carl, 1938 [Dutch]
  - v. 19 *My Friends, the Chinese*, Crow, Carl, 1938
  - v. 20 *He Opened the Door of Japan*, Crow, Carl, 1939
  - v. 21 *Mes Amis les Chinois Dans Leur Vie Quotidienne*, Crow, Carl, 1939 [French]
  - v. 22 *American in Stamps*, Crow, Carl, 1940
  - v. 23 *Mina Vänner Kineserna*, Crow, Carl, 1941 [Swedish]
  - v. 24 *Meet the South Americans*, Crow, Carl, 1941
  - v. 25 *Meet the South Americans*, Crow, Carl, 1942
  - v. 26 *Japan's Dreaan of World Empire: The Tanaka Memorial*, Crow, Carl, 1942
  - v. 27 *The Great American Customer: The Story of Invention, Mass-Production and of our Prosperity*, Crow Carl, 1943
  - v. 28 *China Takes Her Place*, Crow, Carl, 1944

v. 29      *The City of Flint Grows Up*, Crow, Carl, 1945

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