

C Browne, James Raymond, Papers, 1919-1966
3479 .7 linear feet

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INTRODUCTION

Manuscript by an American lawyer who lived in the Orient. Correspondence pertaining to Browne's estate. Articles written by Browne's brother-in-law, Henry Kinyon.

DONOR INFORMATION

The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Mrs. Henry Kinyon on 14 July 1975 (Accession No. 1154).

BIOGRAPHICAL

James R. Browne was born September 5, 1893, in Clinton, Missouri, to John B. and Elizabeth Browne. He was an American lawyer who lived in the Orient for more than forty years. He worked professionally in China, Japan, and Korea. Browne was in China at the time of the Japanese takeover. He was placed in an internment camp for three years. Eventually he was able to leave China and go to Japan. Browne died in Japan on April 19, 1965, at the age of 72.

FOLDER LIST

- f. 1 Correspondence between J.R. Browne and Mabel and Henry Kinyon pertaining to Browne's manuscript, and revisions of same. Also letters between Kinyon and various publishers--rejection letters sent to Kinyon. Agreement of sale of promissory note, \$25,000 loaned to Otto Bochow by J.R. Browne.
- f. 2 Correspondence between Browne and the Kinyons. Also letters to publishers about the manuscript; their rejection letters. Agreement between Browne and John Weatherhill, Inc., concerning manuscript. Inventory of Mabel Kinyon's property upon her death. Letters between H. Kinyon and Attorney George A. Furness; also Ruth K. Fisher and Furness pertaining to Browne Estate.
- f. 3-5 Correspondence concerning Browne Estate: between Ruth Kinyon Fisher and Henry Kinyon; to Mabel Stockdale from her sister, Ruth K. Fisher. Letters from Attorney George Furness to Henry Kinyon, Ruth K. Fisher, Otto Bochow, First National City Bank of New York, Bertrand Lurie, and Luis Ongpin. Correspondence from T.B. Maxfield, Luis Ongpin, Otto Bochow, and F. Conley to Henry Kinyon.
- f. 6 Contains an unsigned article titled "The Press of Japan." Gives a short history of newspapers in Japan. Many of the papers are propaganda sheets. Because of the enforcement of various bans, nothing derogatory about Japan ever appears in print. The larger daily papers

- are extremely interested in foreign and economic news. To maintain circulation, papers print novels in serials form, and run contests with prizes.
- f. 7 Unsigned untitled short story about a family that had no “luck” with money.
- f. 8 Articles written by Henry H. Kinyon that appeared in various magazines: “Great West of the Far East’ Enters New Era of Progress” (concerns Manchuria’s farming efforts with the addition of foreign trade and investment). “Coal, Iron, Beans and Brains” (Manchuria’s rise from obscurity--into “modern” society). “Going West in Manchuria” (concerns the rapid development of railways is bringing new prosperity to Manchuria). “Manchuria; The New Old Land of the East” (a blending of East and West). Articles written by Henry H. Kinyon that appeared in various magazines: “Manchuria--A Romance of Development” (how trade has been built around the soya bean). “Japan May Become Involved in Chinese War” (Manuscript--possibility of Japanese intervention and the consequences that would follow).
- f. 9-21 Manuscript, “Some Remembrances of an American Lawyer in the Orient”
- f. 9 Introduction. History of China. China has, for the most part, always been an agrarian nation. Browne mentions ancient law and punishments. Explanation of why the Chinese people are non-religious. Mentions Opium War, Treaty of Tientsin, and the Tai Ping Rebellion. Sun Yat-sen, leader of Kuomintang, had three loyal followers; Chiang Kai-shek, Hu Han-min, and Wang Ching-wei. Chiang was the best of the three. Gives short background history of Chiang.
- f. 10 Foreigners owned much of the large industry in China in the 1920s. Arrival of Chiang Kai-shek in Shanghai--and his rapid acceptance. He became dictator. Movement of the Kuomintang. Mao Tse-tung takes over--Chiang moves his government to Formosa. Gives information about making and taking narcotics. Apathy among Chinese--a cruel and merciless people. Mention of Boxer Rebellion—1900. Chinese are poor parents--abuse children. Biographical sketch of Yuan Shih-Ka. Chinese involvement in World War I. History of Hong Kong and Macao.
- f. 11 Growth of industry in China, especially Hong Kong. Social life in Hong Kong. Differences in basic law between China and the West. Description of Canton. The court system of China--after the abolition of extraterritoriality in 1943--was changed. A geographical and historical look at Shanghai
- f. 12 “Land Regulations” for foreigners--they were the city of Shanghai’s basis for charter of franchise. Short assessment of real estate business in Shanghai.
- f. 13 Hitler” refugees who settled in China; 25,000 Jews came from

- Germany and Austria. Shanghai had grown tremendously by 1950. International Mixed Court--heard all types of cases. "Shanghai Provisional Court," established in 1927 to replace the Mixed Court. Description of Court. International Law.
- f. 14 Description of International Law Admiralty Law; a history. "United States Court for China" established in 1906; duties and make-up of the Court. Other foreign courts in China--British, French, Japanese; after World War I, Russian, German and Austrian. Mentions Far Eastern American Bar Association.
- f. 15 Description of small details concerning consular court criminal cases. Coinage, exchange, and the Stock Market in China. Description of Shanghai Stock Exchange and author's role for his company.
- f. 16 Education in China--for the wealthier families, because only they could afford it. Legal profession not respected until recent years; no good law schools until recently. The author taught at one of the American Law Universities. Mentions the Chinese language--the difficulty of learning the 40,000 characters of the language. Description of social life in Shanghai.
- f. 17 Japanese occupation of China. Internment Camps--a description of life inside. Author was put in Pootung Civil Assembly Center--details camp life, punishment, authority, living conditions.
- f. 18 Narcotics in the Internment Camp. Details of author's departure from behind the Bamboo Curtain. A narrative of Japan--history--including the rulers.
- f. 19 America defeats Japan--what occurred after Japan surrendered. Law in Japan. In early days, nothing written--only what was deemed unacceptable was punishable; and then very severely. In the late 1800s Japan began writing laws, and has continued to do so in the 1900s. Mentions Law Schools and their requirements. Japanese Court System. Big business in Japan.
- f. 20 Stock Exchanges in Japan--also commodity exchanges. The practices of big businessmen in Japan. The role of the Far East in the International Trade Market--with the U.S. A history of Korea, mentions geography and the inhabitants. Mentions Korean interest in the arts. Short history of events leading to the Korean War.
- f. 21 Discussion of various peace conferences. Communists in China. Chinese and American monetary exchange standard. Differences between the Orient and the West.

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