Finding aid for the Brewer Family papers
Collection 074

This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on April 20, 2019.
Describing Archives: A Content Standard
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Summary Information

Repository: Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department
Title: Brewer family papers
ID: Collection 074
ID [Archivists Toolkit Database::RESOURCE]: 77
Date [inclusive]: 1770-1968
Physical Description: 12.5 Linear Feet 28 boxes plus flat files
Language of the Material: English
Abstract: This collection documents the lives of three members of the Brewer family: Joseph Henry Brewer (1875-1943), Mary Augusta Hillyer Brewer (1873-1967) and their son Joseph Hillyer Brewer (1898-?). The material emphasizes the family life and especially the life, education and career of the younger Brewer. The papers document his education at Dartmouth, Oxford and his career as a publisher, college president and, to a limited degree, college librarian. This collection also provides insights into the life of a socially prominent Grand Rapids family, a successful businessman and the effects of various political and economic forces on the family members. Included in a family album are photos of William Alden Smith and Arthur Vanderberg. Also, Joseph Brewer's Olivet correspondence contains letters from Henry Russell Hitchcock and other national or international figures.

Biographical / Historical

The Brewer family papers contain biographical information primarily on the three family members. Joseph Henry Brewer (1875-1943) was the son of Lucien Bonaparte and Anne (nee Escott) Brewer. Mary Augusta Hillyer (1873-1967) was the daughter of Henry L. Hillyer (1840-1886) and Francis nee Van Vechten (1846?-Oct. 27, 1924). Joseph and August (as she preferred to be called) had two children, Hillyer (1895-1898?) and Joseph Hillyer (1898-1990[death date unconfirmed]).
Joseph Brewer worked as a court stenographer, 1891-1905, but later expanded into other business ventures. He was an early investor in the Grand Rapids Sticky Flypaper Co., but made his fortune building and combining utility operations in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois and Indiana. He sold these interests in 1924 at a considerable profit and purchased controlling interests in several of the Grand Rapids banks, the Pantlind Hotel and Morton House Hotel, as well as establishing a 1,000 acre dairy and poultry farm north of the city. The economic ill effects of the Depression wiped out most of Brewer's financial fortune, but he begin rebuilding that empire before his death. He was a founding member of the Michigan National Bank Corp. Brewer died of heart problems, as had his older brother.

Augusta Hillyer married Joseph Brewer on 11 October 1894. She was the daughter of Henry Livingston Hillyer a well-known nineteenth century artist of the "Washington (D.C.) Landscape School" and Frances Hillyer, an early woman physician with a degree from Howard University. The 1880 census lists Henry and Frances living in Washington, with Henry working as a clerk for the government. Frances and Henry moved to Grand Rapids around 1883, as documented by their listings in the city directory. Henry dies three years later in 1886. The move to Grand Rapids may have been prompted by the presence of Frances' sister living in Grand Rapids, Mrs. Caroline S. Torrey (Arthur C.) Frances died Oct. 27, 1924 in Grand Rapids.

Augusta Brewer attended Michigan State University (then known as the Michigan Agricultural College), but did not graduate. She bore two children, Hillyer, a boy who died as the result of burns while she was carrying her second son, Joseph Hillyer Brewer. During her life Augusta was active in various garden clubs and during 1942-1943 was elected national president of the Council of State Garden Clubs.

Joseph Hillyer Brewer attended high school in Grand Rapids, and graduated from Dartmouth College in 1920. Following Dartmouth he attended Magdalen College, Oxford University, England from 1921-1922. He completed the requirements for his M.A. degree from Magdalen in 1933. From 1922-1924 he worked on the staff of The Spectator, a London literary magazine. In 1925, having returned to the United States, he worked for Payson & Clarke publishers and in 1928 took over the assets of this firm and formed Brewer & Putnam publishers, of which he was president. This firm was sold to Harcourt, Brace & Co. during the Great Depression. From 1934 to 1943 (1944) Brewer was president of Olivet College, of which his father was a trustee. After resigning from Olivet, Brewer received a Library Science degree from Columbia University and worked as the associate director of the Queens College Library. Brewer married twice; first to Jacqueline Denise Campau of Grand Rapids in 1949 (she died in 1954); and later to Helen Wilson a professor at Queens College.

Other family of note, though with little collection content, are Augusta Brewer's parents. Her mother, Dr. Francis S. Hillyer, was a physician, one of the first woman documented in this profession in Grand Rapids, ca. 1883, with the first believed to be Frances Rutherford ca. 1868. Francis is first documented in the city directories in 1883/1884, which also lists her artist husband Henry. Henry Livingston Hillyer was a landscape painter, of the Washington (DC) Landscape school. He died shortly after moving to Grand Rapids, in 1886.

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Scope and Contents

The collection provides a detailed look at the Brewer family, first the relationship between the husband and wife, later their relationship to their son. Of particular note is the extensive documentation of the son's life. His letters to his parents provide extensive details of his college and professional lives. Brewer wrote poetry as well as several abortive dramas which are included. Of note are the Olivet College papers, which extensively detail the opposition Brewer experienced there, and his ultimate resignation. The series descriptions that follow provide further details.

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department

111 Library Street NE
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503
localhis@grpl.org
URL: http://www.grpl.org

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Joseph H. Brewer, Jr., July 1968. Accession number 00.000

Related Materials

See the reference to Dr. Hillyer in a sketch in Coll. 094, Rebecca Richmond series, Drawings.

See articles on the sale of the East Wisconsin Railway to Kelsey, Brewer & Co. of Grand Rapids, in the Daily Northwestern newspaper, Oshkosh, Wis. Feb. 1917. Poor quality old negative print unprocessed, accession 1986.092
Controlled Access Headings

- Grand Rapids (Mich.) -- History
- Brewer, Joseph Henry
- Brewer, Mary Augusta Hillyer
- Brewer, Joseph Hillyer

Collection Inventory

Series I. Joseph H. Brewer, Sr.

Scope and Contents
This series contains primarily the personal correspondence of the elder Brewer. The letters written before 1918 are to his wife, written while he traveled, first as a court stenographer and later as part of his utility business. They relate his feelings, individuals encountered and briefly mention his business activities. The correspondence after 1918 also includes correspondence to his son Joseph Brewer, Jr. This material also discussed home life, business matters, and various business endeavors that the younger Brewer was considering. Biographical data can be found in the two folders of clippings and articles. The Miscellany folder contains licenses and passports.

Correspondence, 1875-1943

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title/Description</th>
<th>Instances</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1875-1892</td>
<td>Box 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1893-1900</td>
<td>Box 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901-1910</td>
<td>Box 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911-1918</td>
<td>Box 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1919</td>
<td>Box 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1920-1925</td>
<td>Box 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1926-1930</td>
<td>Box 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1932-1935</td>
<td>Box 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1936-1943</td>
<td>Box 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obituaries, Funeral Registers, 1943</td>
<td>Box 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estate Papers, 1943</td>
<td>Box 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Scope and Contents

Like the series for her husband, this bulk of this series consists of personal correspondence, both to and from "Aunt Gussie" as she preferred to be called. The correspondence reflects the social life of one of Grand Rapids' more wealthy families and the happenings within the extended family. Also contained are material on Augusta Hillyer's service in the Garden Clubs of America. The diaries present a brief accounting of the days events, particularly social events. This series also contains the baby book for Hillyer Brewer, the first son of Joseph and Augusta, who died as a small child from burns.

Title/Description | Instances
--- | ---
Hillyer Family Papers, 1890-1893, n.d. | Box 3 folder 1

Correspondence, 1894-1968.

Title/Description | Instances
--- | ---
1894-1905. | Box 3 folder 2
1906-1915. | Box 3 folder 3
1916 | Box 3 folder 4
1917 | Box 3 folder 5
1918 | Box 3 folder 6
1919 | Box 3 folder 7
1920-1925. | Box 3 folder 8
1926-1930. | Box 4 folder 1
1930-1935. | Box 4 folder 2
1938-1968. | Box 4 folder 3
n.d. | Box 4 folder 4

Garden Club, 1940-48, n.d.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title/Description</th>
<th>Instances</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Papers, 1941-48, n.d.</td>
<td>Box 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>folder 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speeches, c.1945.</td>
<td>Box 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>folder 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc. Clippings, 1941-48, n.d.</td>
<td>Box 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>folder 7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Miscellaneous, 1874-1963.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title/Description</th>
<th>Instances</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blythfield Farms Sale, 1943.</td>
<td>Box 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>folder 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clippings, 1920s, n.d</td>
<td>Box 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>folder 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations, 1961-1963</td>
<td>Box 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>folder 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frances Hillyer Papers, 1924-1925.</td>
<td>Box 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>folder 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellany, 1874-1957.</td>
<td>Box 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>folder 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greeting Cards, n.d.</td>
<td>Box 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>folder 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poems, n.d.</td>
<td>Box 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>folder 14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Diaries, 1890s-1947

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title/Description</th>
<th>Instances</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1890s. ca. 1893.</td>
<td>Box 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>volume 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911-1916</td>
<td>Box 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>volume 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1917-1921.</td>
<td>Box 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>volume 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1922-1924.</td>
<td>Box 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>volume 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1930</td>
<td>Box 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>volume 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1935</td>
<td>Box 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>volume 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1936</td>
<td>Box 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>volume 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1939</td>
<td>Box 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>volume 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1947</td>
<td>Box 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>volume 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address Books, n.d. (9 various sizes and types, one in folder)</td>
<td>Box 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>volume 10 – 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Autograph Books, n.d.</td>
<td>Box 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>volume 19 – 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Household Inventory, n.d.</td>
<td>Box 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>volume 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Household Guestbook, n.d.</td>
<td>Box 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>volume 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Household Guestbook, n.d.</td>
<td>Box 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>volume 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House Books to the Hostess, n.d.</td>
<td>Box 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>volume 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hillyer Brewer Babybook, ca. 1898.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Hillyer Family Documents, 1865-1901

**Scope and Contents**

The following items are housed with oversized certificates in Collection 216, Box 5

*Note: The following items, which may have also been housed with the oversized, were not found in the 1998 inventory: unidentified Group of People, n.d., previously listed; Hillyer Brewer photos, c. 1898; 3 unidentified photos of infant [11/27/98]*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title/Description</th>
<th>Instances</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Fred Hillyer, Rectore, Gustavo Adolfo Harnack, Universitatis Fridericae Guilelmæ Berolinensis Apr. 23, 1901. Oversized</td>
<td>Collection 216 Box 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Fred Hillyer, Apr. 23, 1901, legal sized. (2 items)</td>
<td>Collection 216 Box 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Henry L. Hillyer and Frances S. VanVechten marriage license, June 27, 1865, N.J. In folio folder.</td>
<td>Collection 216 Box 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Frances S. Hillyer, Howard University Diploma, 1877. Oversized</td>
<td>Collection 216 Box 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Plate from book? Man in suit with cane, unidentified. Pencil notes on verso&quot; pg. 13 Genealogical Recorcd of the Van Vechten Family ... Samuel Van Vechten ...</td>
<td>Collection 216 Box 5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Subseries A. Correspondence, 1898-1968, n.d.

Scope and Contents

The correspondence consists of letters addressed to Brewer and letters written by Brewer, primarily to his parents. The letters present a vivid picture of college life at Dartmouth and the social and literary elements of the younger Brewer's life during his college years. The letters from Magdalen College, Oxford provides similar insight from that institution as well as insight into an American's life in Europe during the post-World War I years. The remainder discusses his social activities, travels and daily events in his life. Brewer was a diligent writer and often, during his college years, wrote home three and four times weekly.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title/Description</th>
<th>Instances</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1898-1910.</td>
<td>Box 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911-15.</td>
<td>Box 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1916</td>
<td>Box 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan-Mar 1917.</td>
<td>Box 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr-Jun 1917.</td>
<td>Box 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep-Dec 1917.</td>
<td>Box 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan-Apr 1918.</td>
<td>Box 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May-Aug 1918.</td>
<td>Box 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct-Dec 1918.</td>
<td>Box 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1919</td>
<td>Box 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan-Aug 1920.</td>
<td>Box 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep-Dec 1920.</td>
<td>Box 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan-Jun 1921.</td>
<td>Box 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul-Dec 1921.</td>
<td>Box 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan-Jun 1922.</td>
<td>Box 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul-Dec 1922.</td>
<td>Box 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan-Jun 1923.</td>
<td>Box 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul-Dec 1923.</td>
<td>Box 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan-Jun 1924.</td>
<td>Box 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul-Dec 1924.</td>
<td>Box 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1925</td>
<td>Box 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1926</td>
<td>Box 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1927</td>
<td>Box 11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1928
Box 11  folder 4

1929-1930.
Box 11  folder 5

1931-1932.
Box 11  folder 6

1933-1935.
Box 11  folder 7

1936
Box 11  folder 8

1937-1945.
Box 11  folder 9

1946-1948.
Box 12  folder 1

1949-1950.
Box 12  folder 2

1951-1955.
Box 12  folder 3

Box 12  folder 4

Box 12  folder 5

Former Pipe Organ Pumpers, 1931-1933.
Box 12  folder 6

**Subseries B. Dartmouth College, 1916-1920, n.d.**

**Scope and Contents**

This sub-series contains papers and notes that Brewer wrote during his undergraduate years. They focus exclusively on English and Literature. Also included are his records from service in the Student Army Training Corps during 1918; Brewer achieved the rank of Second Lieutenant. The Miscellany folder contains poetry written during his Dartmouth years. Also included are issues of the Dartmouth Bema, which Brewer edited during his senior year. Description of his experiences at Dartmouth are in the Correspondence sub-series.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title/Description</th>
<th>Instances</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Financial records, 1916-1919.</td>
<td>Box 12  folder 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Report Cards, 1916-1920.</td>
<td>Box 12  folder 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English class papers: Barrie, MacKenzie, c.1919.</td>
<td>Box 12  folder 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essays, c.1919.</td>
<td>Box 12  folder 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class notes, 1918-1919.</td>
<td>Box 12  folder 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Army Training Corps, 1918.</td>
<td>Box 12  folder 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduation, 1920.</td>
<td>Box 12  folder 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellany, n.d.</td>
<td>Box 12  folder 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Rapids High School, June 23, 1916 diploma</td>
<td>Box 216  folder 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph Hillyer Brewer, Dartmouth, Statement of Credit, Sept. 1916</td>
<td>Box 216  folder 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma, June 1920.</td>
<td>Box 216  folder 5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Dartmouth Bema [serial]**
### Musicals-programs and sheet music, 1918-20, n.d.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title/Description</th>
<th>Instances</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oh, Doctor, 1919.</td>
<td>Box 19 folder 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I Love to Dance, n.d.</td>
<td>Box 19 folder 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dancing Honeymoon. Boston, Mass. : Boston Music Co.</td>
<td>Box 19 folder 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heave To. [4 typed sheets, words only]</td>
<td>Box 19 folder 5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Musicals oversized.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title/Description</th>
<th>Instances</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Heave To, 1918. (2 copies) One copy is inscribed to Joe Brewer's</td>
<td>Box 20 folder 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dancing Honeymoon, 1918. (2 copies)</td>
<td>Box 20 folder 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oh, Doctor</td>
<td>Box 20 folder 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egyptian Dance, c.1918.</td>
<td>Box 20 folder 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chasin' Around 1920.</td>
<td>Box 20 folder 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naughty Nero 1919.</td>
<td>Box 20 folder 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O Wayward n.d.</td>
<td>Box 20 folder 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Subseries C. Oxford University, 1921-1922.

**Scope and Contents**

Brewer's English Literature class notes, class papers and segments of his M.A. exam are included. The sub-series also contains various pamphlets from Oxford, Brewer's entry into the Carlton Club, and poetry written during his term at Oxford. Information on his social life are included in the correspondence series.

### English Literature Papers, 1921-22.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title/Description</th>
<th>Instances</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Milton, Pope, Shakespeare, Shelley, Sidney, Spenser, Swift, Wordsworth</td>
<td>Box 13 folder 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congreve, Dryden, Gower, Greene, Hyde, Ben Johnson, Samuel Johnson, Lyly, Marlowe.</td>
<td>Box 13 folder 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Subseries D. The Spectator, 1923-1925.

**Scope and Contents**

This small sub-series consists primarily of Brewer's writing while serving as business manager for The Spectator under the editorship of Joe St. Loe Strachey. This sub-series also contains Brewer's attempt at an auto-biography. The Spectator was not on solid financial footing, so the financial papers document Brewer's unsuccessful effort to have his father invest in the journal; more on this is also found in the correspondence of both the senior and junior Brewers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title/Description</th>
<th>Instances</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business Correspondence, 1923.</td>
<td>Box 14 folder 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Editorials, 1923.</td>
<td>Box 14 folder 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Articles by Brewer, 1923-1925.</td>
<td>Box 20 volume 49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Autobiography-Chp. 1, 1925.</td>
<td>Box 14 folder 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poetry, 1923-1925.</td>
<td>Box 14 folder 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial papers, 1923-1925.</td>
<td>Box 14 folder 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellany, 1923-1925.</td>
<td>Box 14 folder 9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


**Scope and Contents**

Following his return from England, Brewer joined the firm of Payson & Clarke; which later became Brewer, Warren & Co.; which in turn became Brewer, Warren & Putnam, all publishers in New York. The sub-series
provides a brief glimpse of these endeavors, presumably the bulk of these files went to Harcourt, Brace & Co. at the time of the sale.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title/Description</th>
<th>Instances</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Correspondence, 1926-1932.</td>
<td>Box 14 folder 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manuscripts, n.d.</td>
<td>Box 14 folder 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some Visionary Meditation on Publishing, 1931.</td>
<td>Box 14 folder 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Typography and Editing Information, 1928, n.d.</td>
<td>Box 14 folder 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News clippings, 1929-1932, n.d.</td>
<td>Box 14 folder 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization changes, 1927-1932. [Contracts, Brewer, Warren, &amp; Putnam, Inc.]</td>
<td>Box 15 folder 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sale to Harcourt, Brace &amp; Co., Inc., 1932.</td>
<td>Box 15 folder 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Subseries F. Olivet College, 1934-1944.**

**Scope and Contents**

The Olivet College sub-series reflects Brewer's effort to establish a tutorial teaching system at the college, following the example used at Oxford University. In 1941 controversy began to swirl through the college apparently the result of R.E. Blackwell's opposition to Brewer and the tutorial curriculum. The papers document this controversy in detail. The controversy lessened for several years, but resurfaced in 1944 whereupon Brewer resigned. The Collection also reflect the writers workshop through which Brewer brought the likes of Gertrude Stein, Robert Frost, et. al. to the Olivet Campus.

**Correspondence, 1934-1944.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title/Description</th>
<th>Instances</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Application, 1934.</td>
<td>Box 15 folder 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congratulatory, 1934.</td>
<td>Box 15 folder 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fraternity, 1934.</td>
<td>Box 15 folder 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opposition, 1934.</td>
<td>Box 15 folder 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General, 1934-1944.</td>
<td>Box 15 folder 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resignation and Support, 1944.</td>
<td>Box 15 folder 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consulatory, 1944.</td>
<td>Box 15 folder 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curriculum reorganization, 1934-1935.</td>
<td>Box 15 folder 10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Controversy, 1941**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title/Description</th>
<th>Instances</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blackwell file, 1941.</td>
<td>Box 15 folder 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board of Trustees, 1941.</td>
<td>Box 15 folder 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty Duties, 1941.</td>
<td>Box 15 folder 13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Finding aid for the Brewer Family papers Collection 074

Faculty Support, 1941.  
Box 16  
folder 1

Speech to Students, 1941.  
Box 16  
folder 2

Public Correspondence, 1941.  
Box 16  
folder 3

Box 16  
folder 4

Speeches and articles, 1935-44.  
Box 16  
folder 5

Writers Workshop, n.d.  
Box 16  
folder 6

News articles, 1934-44.  
Box 16  
folder 7

College Publications, 1934-44.  
Box 16  
folder 8

Miscellany, 1940, n.d.  
Box 16  
folder 9

Scrapbook.  
Box 27  
volume 55

Subseries G. Miscellaneous, 1770-1960.

Scope and Contents

This sub-series contains a variety of items collected by Brewer, including several literary efforts. Also included are a few documents from or about Brewer's eighteenth and nineteenth century ancestors.

Title/Description  
Instances

Artwork, 1903-1908, n.d.  
Box 16  
folder 10

Box 16  
folder 11

Columbia University, SLS Degree, 1944-1945.  
Box 16  
folder 12

Esther a drama, 1914  
Box 17  
folder 1

For Love of Herbs, 1945.  
Box 17  
folder 2

Licenses and registrations, 1909-1923, n.d.  
Box 17  
folder 3

Box 17  
folder 4

Our Own Mermaid Tavern, by Paul (aka Paulo) Bowerman, [1918].  
Box 17  
folder 5

Plays, 1918, n.d.  
Box 17  
folder 6

Poetry, n.d.  
Box 17  
folder 7

Box 17  
folder 8

The Search for Unity in Higher Education, 1946.  
Box 17  
folder 9

Historic family papers, 1770, 1815-1816, 1860.  
Box 17  
folder 10

Scope and Contents

This small sub-series consists of items generated by Crump who worked on a master thesis on the elder Brewer and used the unprocessed collection extensively and corresponded with the younger Brewer. Crump did his work at Wayne State University, but it does not appear that he finished the thesis.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title/Description</th>
<th>Instances</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Correspondence, 1968.</td>
<td>Box 17 folder 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family History, 1968.</td>
<td>Box 17 folder 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banking Committee Notes, 1968.</td>
<td>Box 17 folder 13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Subseries I. Address Books, Pocket Calendars, Baby Book, etc., 1916-1944

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title/Description</th>
<th>Instances</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Small Black Pocket Calendars (Called vols. 30-40), 1934-1944</td>
<td>Box 18 folder 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baby book</td>
<td>Box 18 folder 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1916 Central High School Annual</td>
<td>Box 18 folder 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address books (4, Called vols. 41-44)</td>
<td>Box 18 folder 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class notes (small black notebooks with lined paper, mostly empty)</td>
<td>Box 18 folder 45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Series IV Photographs, circa 1877-1968

Scope and Contents

The collection of photographs documents members of the extended family, and recreational activities. Of note are the scrapbooks of various vacations including to Yellowstone Park and Europe. Joseph Brewer, Jr.'s life is particularly well documented, especially his youth, Dartmouth and Oxford years. This series also contains the photo albums, that repeat these same themes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title/Description</th>
<th>Instances</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blythfield Farm. Belmont. Kent County. (87)</td>
<td>Box 21 folder 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Court Rooms. (2)</td>
<td>Box 21 folder 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dartmouth College. (46, + 1 postcard)</td>
<td>Box 21 folder 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Houses. (19 + 1 postcard)</td>
<td>Box 21 folder 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Council of State Garden Clubs. (14)</td>
<td>Box 21 folder 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olivet College.(29)</td>
<td>Box 21 folder 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oxford, England. (68 + 3 postcards)</td>
<td>Box 21 folder 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People. Brewer, Augusta Hillyer. (82)</td>
<td>Box 21 folder 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brewer Family. (63)</td>
<td>Box 21 folder 9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Brewer, Helen Wilson. (4)  Box 21  folder 9
Brewer, Hillyer. (14)  Box 22  folder 1
Brewer, Jacqueline Denise Campau. (15)  Box 22  folder 2
Brewer, Joseph Henry. (39)  Box 22  folder 3
Brewer, Joseph Hillyer. (129)  Box 23
People. Fuller Family. (20)  Box 22  folder 4
Hillyer Family. (47)  Box 22  folder 5
People. Unidentified. (159 + 1 postcard)  Box 24
Plainfield Bridge. (1 postcard)  Box 22  folder 6
Wicopee. Dutchess County. New York. (30)  Box 22  folder 7
Wyoming. (3 booklets)  Box 22  folder 8
WWI Student Army Training Corps. (10)  Box 22  folder 9
Wooden Indians. (3)  Box 22  folder 10
Christmas Greetings. (12, 10 postcards)  Box 22  folder 11
Negatives from 1917-1921 Diary. Found and Added 9/3/2008  Box 22  folder 12
Miscellaneous Art Photos. (23)  Box 25

**Albums**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title/Description</th>
<th>Instances</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blythfield Farm and Brewer Family.</td>
<td>Box 26  volume 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blythfield Farm</td>
<td>Box 26  volume 51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellowstone Park and Blythfield Farm.</td>
<td>Box 26  volume 52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Vacation.</td>
<td>Box 27  volume 53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photo Album 1912-1917 [Scrapbook].</td>
<td>Box 26  volume 54?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Scope and Contents**

Includes casual photos of: Senator William Alden Smith (Neg. #3782 and 3875); Arthur Vandenberg (Neg. #3781, dup. print in Col. 54 7/99)


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### Series V. Postcards, 1916-1961

**Scope and Contents**

This series, primarily sent by Joseph Brewer, Jr. to his mother, documents the various travels of the younger Brewer. Of note are the postcards from the Caribbean and Europe during the 1950s.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title/Description</th>
<th>Instances</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cadillac (Mich.). (1)</td>
<td>Box 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caracas, Venezuela. (1)</td>
<td>Box 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cedarville (Mich.). (5)</td>
<td>Box 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dixville Notch (New York). (4)</td>
<td>Box 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firenza, Italy. (1)</td>
<td>Box 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Ross (Calif.) (1)</td>
<td>Box 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geneva, Switzerland (1)</td>
<td>Box 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hanover, (N. Hamp.) (3)</td>
<td>Box 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jamaica, British West Indies.(1)</td>
<td>Box 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lexington (Kent.).(1)</td>
<td>Box 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>London, Canada. (1)</td>
<td>Box 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mackinaw City (Mich.).(1)</td>
<td>Box 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magdalen College, Oxford, England.(2)</td>
<td>Box 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McCrea Magee College, Londonderry, England.(1)</td>
<td>Box 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan.(1)</td>
<td>Box 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mohawk Lake, (New York).(1)</td>
<td>Box 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nassau, Bahamas.(1)</td>
<td>Box 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York (New York).(1)</td>
<td>Box 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oka, Quebec, Canada. (1)</td>
<td>Box 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Mission (Mich.). (1)</td>
<td>Box 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ottawa, Canada. (1)</td>
<td>Box 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oxford, England.(3)</td>
<td>Box 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paris, France.(10)</td>
<td>Box 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portland, (Maine).(1)</td>
<td>Box 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rockford (Mich.).(1)</td>
<td>Box 28</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Thomas, Virgin Island.(1)</td>
<td>Box 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Antonio (Texas).(1)</td>
<td>Box 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Box</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Francisco (Calif.)</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saratoga Springs (N.Y.)</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stockholm, Sweden</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tadousac, Canada</td>
<td>28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Voterra, Italy</td>
<td>28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Watkins Glen (N.Y.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yosemite National Park</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Drapeau, France*

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Morocco (movie poster)

**Scope and Contents**

The poster was not previously listed in the Brewer finding aid, but has been assumed to be part of this collection, until proved otherwise. Brewer family materials were found in the folder with the poster.
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