

## COLLECTIONS OF CORRESPONDENCE AND MANUSCRIPT DOCUMENTS

NAME OF COLLECTION: Ben GRAUER PapersSOURCE: Gift of Mrs. Ben GrauerSUBJECT: Radio and Television Broadcasting; Printing; Graphic Arts; Book CollectingDATES COVERED: 1915-1977NUMBER OF ITEMS: 65,300

STATUS: (check appropriate description)

Cataloged: x Listed: x Arranged: x Not organized:       

CONDITION: (give number of vols., boxes, or shelves)

Bound: 4 v. Boxed: 169 Stored: Stack 15, Cage 23, Range 30 ← *Please Note*  
(scrapbooks) & 1 audio tape recordingLOCATION: (Library) Rare Book and Manuscript CALL-NUMBER Ms Coll/GrauerRESTRICTIONS ON USE None

DESCRIPTION: Correspondence, manuscripts, diaries, radio, television and film scripts, notes, subject files, documents, financial records, photographs, memorabilia, clippings and printed materials of Ben Grauer (born Benjamin Franklin Grauer) 1908-1977. Grauer was a radio and television announcer, reporter, commentator and host who began his show business career in 1915 as a child actor on the Broadway stage and in silent movies. After graduating from the City College of New York in 1930, he was hired by the National Broadcasting Company and became one of its most famous "voices". His voluminous correspondence, professional, personal and family, reflect his many and varied interests in radio, television, motion pictures, sound recordings, journalism, book collecting, printing, the graphic arts, and travel. Among the significant correspondents there are 43 letters from Henry Miller, 26 letters from Eric Partridge, and 10 letters from Bruce Rogers. There are numerous single letters from public figures and celebrities, many written to the author, Quentin Reynolds, who organized Grauer's 25th Anniversary in Broadcasting in 1950. Among these are George Abbott, Agnes de Mille, Samuel Goldwyn, John Hersey, Bob Hope, Lauritz Melchior, Edward R. Murrow, Anais Nin, David Sarnoff and Thornton Wilder. There are thousands of letters from fan, friends and family, including Grauer's wife, Melanie Kahane, the interior decorator. The manuscripts consist of early writings; radio, TV, film and sound recording scripts with related notes and correspondence; speeches; periodical articles; and several book manuscripts. The majority of the Scripts File are for NBC productions, but also included are scripts for the Voice of America, commercials, films and records. Among Grauer's many "firsts" in broadcasting are the first live report of Count Folke Bernadotte's assassination, the first radio show to present cash prizes ("Pot 'o Gold") and NBC TV's first live news event, the opening of the 1939 New York World's Fair. The Activities File document

not only Grauer's ubiquitous presence in broadcasting but also in other fields such as book collecting, printing and the graphic arts, travel, including the promotion of the Pan American Highway, and his membership in countless organizations. There are more than 3,000 photographs documenting his career from his years as a child actor through the more than 40 years he was associated with NBC. He was photographed with the famous men and women of his generation whose activities he covered on the air. The Publicity File contains newspaper and periodical clipping on his career. Includes one audio tape recording of "Salute to Ben Grauer", Nov. 15, 1950, an off the air recording. For a list of cataloged correspondence and a box list see FOLLOWING PAGES.

BEN GRAUER BOX LIST-1

BOX 1 Cataloged Correspondence + manuscripts :

1. Abbott, George
- Adler, Elmer
- Allen, Fred
- Angelo, Valenti
- Austin, Warren R.
- Barnett, Paul A.
- Beck, Julian
- Beebe, William
- Bernays, Edward L.
- Burnett, Whit
- Cleland, Thomas Maitland
- Couve, de Murville, Maurice
- Crouse, Russel
- Davis, Elmer
- Davison, Fredrick Trubee
- de Mille, Agnes
- Dwiggins, William Addison
- Edward, Ralph
- Eisenhower, Dwight David
- Elmarmischa
- Farley, James A.
- Goldwyn, Samuel
- Goudy, Frederic W
- Gunther, John
- Helburn, Theresa
- Hersey, John
- Hersholt, Jean
- Hope, Bob
- Hurst, Fannie
- Javits, Jacob K.
- Kaufman, George S.
- Keynes, Geoffrey
- Kilpatrick, John Reed
- Lilenthal, David E.
- McBride, Mary Margaret
- Maeterlinck, Maurice
- Melchior, Louritz
- Michener, James Albert
- Miller, Henry
- Monaghan, Frank
- Morley, Christopher Darlington
- Morse, Wayne
- Murrow, Edward R.
- Nin, Amais
- Patridge, Eric
- Ransom, Will
- Reynold, Quentin
- Rickenbacker, Edward V.
- Robinson, Jackie
- Rogers, Bruce
- Romulo, Carlos P.
- Roosevelt, Elanor (Mrs Franklin Delano)

BEN GRAUER BOX LIST-2

BOX 1 Cataloged Correspondence Cont.

1. Sarnoff, David  
Skinner, Cornelia Otis  
Smith, H. Allen  
Spaeth, Sigmund  
Stassen, Harold Edward  
Stern, Julius David  
Sullivan Ed  
Swope, Herbert Baynard  
Thomas, Lowell  
Van Vechten, Carl  
Wilder, Thornton

BOXES 2-16 Arranged Correspondence

2. Miscellaneous General 1935-1977
3. Fan Mail n.d. - 1941/1944
4. Fan Mail 1942-Current and Special Program
5. NBC Business - Radio
6. Contracts for Radio, T.V. and Other Appearances 1935-1951, with related correspondence
7. Personal: Alphabetical Announcer's Craft - Feet
8. Personal: Alphabetical Fielding Fiesta - Lorraine, Lois
9. Personal: Alphabetical Josephson, Marvin - Wiggin, John
10. Personal: Chronological 1920-1940
11. Personal: Chronological 1945-1955
12. Personal: Chronological 1945/1956 - 1949/1960
13. Personal: Chronological 1949/1960 (2) - 1970/1977
14. Personal and Miscellaneous 1940-1944, A-Z
15. Family Grauer, Adolph
16. Family Grauer, Alvin - Grauer, Zara

BOXES 17-84 Scripts File

17. A - Americano, 1948
18. Americano, 1949 - ~~Arthur~~ Speaks
19. B - Betty Crocker Magazine of the Air
20. Big Story Correspondence - Scripts 1955
21. Big Story Scripts, 1956 (Jan. - May)
22. Big Story Scripts, 1956 (June) - 1957 (Feb.)
23. Big Story Scripts, 1957 (March) - Boston Pops 1955
24. Boston Pops, 1956 - Business Trends, Interview 1968/1970
25. Business Trends, Interview 1968/1970 - Business Trends, Scripts-1968 (May)
26. Business Trends, Scripts 1968 (June) - 1969 (March)
27. Business Trends, Scripts 1969 (April - December)
28. Business Trends, Scripts 1970
29. Camel TV News - Century Edition of News, 1952 (Oct.)

BEN GRAUER BOX LIST-3

BOXES 17-84-Scripts File Cont.

30. Century Edition of News 1952(Nov.) - Citizen Union Search Light, 1952
31. Citizen Union Searchlight, 1955 - 1962
32. Citizen Union Searchlight, 1963 - 1966
33. Citizen Union Searchlight, 1967 - 1969
34. Citizen Union Searchlight, 1970
35. Color Television
36. Corporation of Queen Elizabeth II - Democratic Convention
37. Discussion - Drama is the News
38. E - Empire Builder
39. European Travel Cade Program - For Better Living
40. For This We Fight - Grauer, Ben (Scripts, 1935-1936)
41. Grauer, Ben (Scripts, 1937-1938) - Guatemala City Broadcast
42. H - HIS Series
43. Health Information Systems - High School Orchestra
44. Home Edition of News - Home is What You Make It, 1947(June)
45. Home Is What You Make It, 1947(July) - Ideas(NBC Magazine)
46. Ideas(Program) - Isreal Album
47. It's a Problem
48. It's News - It's Up To You
49. Jergens Journal - Kay Kyser Show, 1949
50. Kay Kyser Show, 1950(Jan.-March)
51. Kay Kyser Show, 1950(April-June)
52. L - Living, 1948(May)
53. Living, 1948(July) - 1949(July)
54. Living, 1949(Aug.) - 1950(Oct.)
55. Living, 1950(Nov.) - Lucky Strike Program
56. MacArthur Conference - March of Medicine
57. Medical Radio Network - Mr. Fix It
58. Modern Voices - Monitor
59. Movies/News Reels - Name The Place
60. NBC Symphony(Toscanini Concerts) - NBC University of the Air
61. New Year's Eve - "Out of the World" Series
62. P - Public Affairs
63. Q - Recital Hall
64. Recital Hall 1962/1966 - Republican Convention 1952
65. Republican Convention, 1956 - Say it with Acting
66. Seeing is Believing
67. Senor Ben Pan Am Highway - Show Train News
68. Silver Jungles on NBC - Tactics
69. Tanglewood - Tex and Jinx Show 1955(July & Aug.)
70. Tex and Jinx Show 1955(Aug.-Sept.) - Toscanini(NBC News Releases)
71. Toscanini(Revival Series) - 20th Century Records Worksheets
72. United Nations Conference - UN General
73. UN Hungarian and Suez Crisis - VOA, Scripts, E
74. VOA, Scripts, H-W
75. VOA, NY-NY Correspondence(1974-1976) - Promo Information and Publicity

BEN GRAUER BOX LIST-4

BOXES 17-84 Scripts File Cont.

76. VOA, NY-NY(Schedules, 1972-1976)
77. VOA, NY-NY(Schedules, 1975 - Scripts 1972 June)
78. VOA, NY-NY(Scripts, 1972 July - 1975 March)
79. VOA, NY-NY(Scripts, 1975 April - 1974 June)
80. VOA, NY-NY(Scripts, 1974 July - 1975 March)
81. War Workers Salute - Waverly Wavelengths, 1959(Oct.)
82. Waverly Wavelengths 1959(Oct.) - What Would you Have Done, Correspondence
83. What Would You Have Done, Scripts - Where Have You Been
84. You Asked For It - Yugoslavia (Earthquake)

BOXES 85-125 Activities File

85. A - AFRA (Election Results 1948-1950)
86. AFRA (Independence) - American Lecture Bureau, 1947
87. American Lecture Bureau 1948 - ATAS (Chairman Local Awards-Station Committee)
88. ATAS (TV Academy Library) - Barrigan, Darrell
89. Bibliographical Notes on Naturalists Library - Book Collecting(Binding)
90. Book Collecting (Bonus Book Club) - LaGuildela Levie
91. Book Collecting (Laurence, H. - Wickill, Richard)
92. Book Curios - Books to Get 1966 - 1977
93. Book Venture (Contract) - Causes
94. Citations - Crusade for Freedom, 1953
95. Crusade for Freedom (Campaign Endowment)
96. Expedition Guatemala - Free Trips
97. Gambling - Guatemala
98. Havana - Ideas (Business)
99. Ideas (Leads) - Journalism and Communication Arts Educational Advisory Committee
100. Laboratory of Antropology - Maya Corelation Prob. Material
101. Memorabilia (Broadcasting) - Music
102. Narration - National Music League
103. NBC: News Picture Book of the Year, 1967 (1)
104. NBC: News Picture Book of the Year, 1967 (2)
105. NBC: News Picture Book of the Year, 1968 (1)
106. NBC: News Picture Book of the Year, 1968 (2)
107. NBC: News Picture Book of the Year, 1969 (1)
108. NBC: News Picture Book of the Year, 1969 (2)
109. National Music League - O'Donnell Anti-Semitism
110. One Shot (Special Jobs) - OPC (Murrow Memorial Fund) (1)
111. OPC (Murrow Memorial Fund)(2) - Pan Am Highway (Corresp.)
112. Pan Am Highway (Corresp. and Contracts Highspot Speech)
113. Pan Am Highway (International Road Federation - Speech)
114. Pan Am Highway (Trans Darrier Expedition)
115. Personal Appearances - Printing (Between Hours Press:Corresp.)
116. Printing (Between Hour Press:Bernal Diaz-Christmas Cards,1)
117. Printing (Between Hour Press:Christmas Cards, 2, Printing (Surrey Fine Arts Press)

**BEN GRAUER BOX LIST-5**

**BOXES 85-125 Activities File**

- 118. Progressive Citizens of America - Radio TV Correspondence Associates
- 119. Red Channels 1
- 120. Red Channels 2
- 121. Red Channels 3
- 122. Spirt of 1967; Air Warden Auxillary - Society of Printers
- 123. Speeches: Personal Appearance Mat. - Tape Recorders and Sound Studios
- 124. Tau Delta Phi - Theatre Venture (Casting File)
- 125. Theatre Venture (Figure of a Girl) - Twentieth Anniversery in Broadcasting

**BOXES 126-129 Publicity**

- 126. Twentieth Anniversary in Broadcasting (Release and Luncheon Invitations) - Trips (Europe)
- 127. Trips (Paris, Rome) - Trips (Europe)
- 128. Trips (Europe) - Wedding Congradulations
- 129. War Fund - Xetty Newman Work

**BOXES 130-132 Diaries**

- 130. 1923, 1930, 1934, 1937-1951
- 131. 1949-1960
- 132. 1961-1971, Misc. Notes

**BOX 133 Biographical Material**

- 133. Biographical Material

**BOXES 134-157 Publicity Files**

- 134. General 1943-1944/1946
- 135. General 1945-1947
- 136. General 1947-1949
- 137. General 1950-1951
- 138. General 1952-1953
- 139. General 1953-1954
- 140. General 1955-1956
- 141. General 1957-1959
- 142. General 1960-1963
- 143. General 1964-1968
- 144. General 1969-1972
- 145. General 1973-1976
- 146. "One Shot's" 1949-1952 (1)
- 147. "One Shot's" 1949-1952 (2)
- 148. "One Shot's" 1953-1954 (1)
- 149. "One Shot's" 1953-1954 (2)

**BEN GRAUER BOX LIST-6**

**BOXES 134-157 Publicity Files**

- 150. "One Shot's" 1953-1957, 1955-1957 (1)
- 151. "One Shot's" 1955-1957, 1955-1961 (2)
- 152. "One Shot's" 1958-1961 (1)
- 153. "One Shot's" 1958-1961 (2)
- 154. "One Shot's" 1961-1965
- 155. "One Shot's" 1965-1967
- 156. "One Shot's" 1965-1970
- 157. "one Shot's" 1970-1977

**BOXES 158-160 Financial Records**

- 158. Ledgers 1935-1948
- 159. Ledgers 1949-1953
- 160. Ledgers 1954-1958

**BOXES 161-169 Photographs**

- 161. Childhood/Adolescence, Family
- 162. Activities 1920-1940
- 163. Activities 1950-1970, American Merchant Marine to Armed Forces Involvement
- 164. British Refugee Children to Mitchell Field Air Show; NBC: Photos of Grauer at work
- 165. NBC: Photos of Grauer; Show(Atlantic Spotlight-Victory Am and Breadfast); Misc. A-Letterpress Forum)
- 166. NBC: Misc.(Personal-Wichell, Walter); Personal - Publicity
- 167. Overseas Press Club - United Nations
- 168. Memorabilia
- 169. Printed Materials

**BOOKS 1-4 Scrapbooks**

- 1. Scrapbook 1930-1942
- 2. Scrapbook 1937-1938
- 3. Scrapbook 1943-1946
- 4. Scrapbook 1947

**AUDI TAPE RECORDING**

- 1. "Salute to Ben Grauer", 15 Nov. 1950, 1 reel