

Yale University Library
Yale Divinity Library

Guide to the Bright Family Papers

RG 130



Compiled by Leah Kidwell and Martha Lund Smalley

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409 Prospect Street
New Haven, CT 06511
(203) 432-5301

divinity.library@yale.edu

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Yale Divinity Library
409 Prospect Street
New Haven, CT 06511
(203) 432-5301
divinity.library@yale.edu
<http://web.library.yale.edu/divinity/special-collections>

CALL NUMBER: RG 130

CREATOR: Bright, J. Calvin

TITLE: Bright Family Papers

DATES: 1911-1989

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 8 linear feet (19 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: J. Homer and Minnie Bright, their son J. Calvin Bright, and his wife Harriet Bright, were American missionaries in China from 1911 to 1951, serving under the Church of the Brethren mission. The elder Brights served in Shao Yang and Ping Ting, Shansi province. J. Calvin and Harriet Bright served in Chengdu, Sichuan (Chengtú, Szechwan) province. This record group also contains material related to Daniel and Jane Dye, who taught at the West China Union University in Chengdu (Chengtú). J. Calvin and Harriet Bright were Church of the Brethren ministers in Indiana and Illinois after 1951.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/divinity.130>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use on site, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/divinity.130>.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of the Bright family

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Preferred Citation

Bright Family Papers (RG 130), Special Collections, Yale Divinity School Library.

Processing Information

Place names were modernized in the description, with the name originally used in the collection material or in an older version of the finding aid in parenthesis: e.g. "Beijing (Peking)" or "Benin (Dahomey)".

Biographical / Historical

J. Homer and Minnie Bright, their son J. Calvin Bright, and his wife Harriet Bright were American missionaries in China from 1911 to 1951, serving under the Church of the Brethren mission. J. Calvin and Harriet Bright were Church of the Brethren ministers in Indiana and Illinois after 1951.

Scope and Contents

- [I. Papers of J. Homer Bright](#)
- [II. Papers of Minnie Bright](#)
- [III. Papers of J. Calvin Bright](#)
- [IV. Papers of Harriet Bright](#)
- [V. Collected Material](#)
- [VI. Photographs](#)

These papers provide valuable information about the work of the Church of the Brethren in China. They complement the papers of other Church of the Brethren missionaries that are held at the Yale Divinity Library, including the Ikenberry Papers (Record Group No. 168) and the Daryl and Martha Neiderhiser Parker papers in Record Group No. 8. J. Calvin and Harriet Bright were close colleagues with Daniel and Jane Balderston Dye while serving in West China and the Bright Papers contain correspondence with Daniel Dye and other materials that complement the Dye Papers of Record Group No. 22. Two boxes of Dye correspondence received with the Bright Papers have been transferred to the Dye Papers.

Arrangement

- I. Papers of J. Homer Bright
- II. Papers of Minnie Bright
- III. Papers of J. Calvin Bright
- IV. Papers of Harriet Bright
- V. Collected Material
- VI. Photographs

Collection Contents

Series I: Papers of J. Homer Bright

Family Correspondence		
b. 1, f. 1-2	Letters to/from family	1915-1916
b. 1, f. 3-6	Letters to/from family	1920-1925
b. 1, f. 7-19	Letters to/from family	1928-1940
b. 1, f. 20-23	Letters to/from family	1949-1961, n.d.
General Correspondence		
b. 2, f. 24	American Consular Service	1925-1936
b. 2, f. 25	Beggs, Gertrude	1935
b. 2, f. 26	Beggs, Gertrude	1936
b. 2, f. 27	Fitz to G. Beggs	1937
b. 2, f. 28-31	Bonsack, Chas	1935-1941
b. 2, f. 32	Bridger, F.C.	1940
b. 2, f. 33	Bowmaw, Rufus	1949
b. 2, f. 34	Brubaker, Leland	1942
b. 2, f. 35	Caxton Press	1935
b. 2, f. 36-38	Culp, Clyde	1935-1939
b. 2, f. 39	Culp, Clyde to M. Myers	1935
b. 2, f. 40-41	Dye, D.S.	1949, 1952
b. 2, f. 42	Flory, Wendell to L. Brubaker	1946
b. 2, f. 43	Griggs, K.	1936
b. 2, f. 44-45	Grimes, A.C.	1935-1936
b. 2, f. 46	Grimes, A.C. to F.C. Bridger	1935
b. 2, f. 47	Heoff, E.B.	1928
b. 2, f. 48	Hillmer, Helen	1951
b. 2, f. 49	Koo, T.K.	1941
b. 2, f. 50	Lund	1933
b. 2, f. 51	McCoy, L.M.	1949
b. 2, f. 52-55	Mackenzie, Hugh	1929-1939

General Correspondence (continued)

b. 2, f. 56	McCann, James	1925
b. 2, f. 57	Mow, Anetta	n.d.
b. 2, f. 58-63	Myers, Minor	1935-1941
b. 2, f. 64	Oriental Luggage Factory	1936
b. 2, f. 65	Pettus, W.B.	1939
b. 2, f. 66	Smith, Russell J.	1925-1927
b. 2, f. 67	Smith, W.H.	1926
b. 2, f. 68	Snapper, Dean	1939
b. 2, f. 69	Sollenberger, O.C. to Leland Brubaker	1948
b. 2, f. 70	Thomson, Lillian	1938
b. 2, f. 71	Tucker, E.B.	1958
b. 2, f. 72	Wampler, R.C.	1951
b. 2, f. 73	Westernport Church of the Brethren	n.d.
b. 2, f. 74	Winger, Otho	1938
b. 2, f. 75	Yin, Peter C.T.	1940
b. 2, f. 76	misc.	n.d.

Series II: Papers of Minnie Bright (wife of J. Homer Bright)

Family correspondence		
b. 3, f. 77-85	Letter to/from family	1911-1919
b. 4, f. 86-98	Letters to/from family	1920-1931
b. 5, f. 99-106	Letters to/from family	1932-1938
b. 6, f. 107-110	Letters to/from family	1939-1951, n.d.
General Correspondence		
b. 6, f. 111	Brother Danner	1939
b. 6, f. 112	Coomb, J.C.	1936
b. 6, f. 113	Daryl	1939
b. 6, f. 114	Hsing, Y.T.	1940
b. 6, f. 115-116	Mackenzie, Hugh	1938, 1940
b. 6, f. 117	Mow, Anetta	1938
b. 6, f. 118	Mow, Anetta	1948
b. 6, f. 119	Yen, Chang Kiang	1930
Writing/Papers		
b. 6, f. 120	Miscellaneous	n.d.
b. 6, f. 121	Letters re: Minnie Bright's illness	1939
b. 6, f. 122	Minerva Metzger Memorium	1942
b. 6, f. 123-124	Writings	n.d.

Series III: Papers of J. Calvin Bright

Family Correspondence: JCB to family		
b. 6, f. 125-139	JCB to family	1925-1973
b. 7, f. 140-141	JCB to family	1975, n.d.
Family Correspondence: Family to JCB		
b. 7, f. 142-147	Family to JCB	1933-1965, n.d.
Correspondence with Daniel S. Dye		
b. 7, f. 148-162	DSD to JCB	1950-1964
b. 8, f. 163-172	DSD to JCB	1965-1977, n.d.
b. 8, f. 173-187	JCB to DSD	1949-1977, n.d.
Correspondence with Portia Mickey		
b. 8, f. 188-191	JCB to PM	1958-1961, n.d.
b. 8, f. 192-197	PM to JCB	1956-1961, n.d.
Other general correspondence		
b. 9, f. 198	Beaver, Rufus	1971
b. 9, f. 199	Beggs, Gertrude	1936-1937
b. 9, f. 200	Blacklock, Jeannie	1934
b. 9, f. 201	Bowman, Rufus	1948
b. 9, f. 202	Bright Easter letter	1953
b. 9, f. 203	Brubaker, Leland	1947-1951
b. 9, f. 204	Cowan, Celia / Knettler, Ed and Jean	n.d.
b. 9, f. 205	Crim, Bessie / Harvey, Earl	n.d.
b. 9, f. 206	Edwards, Robert / Moncrieff, Jesse	n.d.
b. 9, f. 207	Edwards, Theodore	1975
b. 9, f. 208	Erickson, Alma / Van Meter, Herbert	n.d.
b. 9, f. 209	Graham, David	1949
b. 9, f. 210-211	Huggins, Margaret	1961, 1965
b. 9, f. 212	Kilborn, Leslie and Jean	1953
b. 9, f. 213	King, Rufus / Bowman, Loren	1959
b. 9, f. 214	Klepinger / Kiracofe / Wogaman	1949

Other general correspondence (continued)

b. 9, f. 215	Lambert, Lyle	1951
b. 10, f. 216	Lee, Carl Q.	1969
b. 10, f. 217	Li, J.T.	1934
b. 10, f. 218	Martin, Rose S.	1936
b. 10, f. 219	McCoy, Lewistine	1951
b. 10, f. 220	Manlore, Donald	1956
b. 10, f. 221	Moncrieff, Jessie	1964
b. 10, f. 222	Morris, Raymond P	1971
b. 10, f. 223	Outerbridge, Ralph	1956
b. 10, f. 224	Overbridges, R	n.d.
b. 10, f. 225	Parsons, Maud	1960
b. 10, f. 226	Proctor, Orvia	n.d.
b. 10, f. 227	Quale, G. Robina	1956
b. 10, f. 228	Robertson, Marjorie	1962
b. 10, f. 229	Robinson, A. G.	1935
b. 10, f. 230	Rosen, Steven	1973
b. 10, f. 231	Russell, Harl	1951
b. 10, f. 232	Ryding, Stanley W.	1952
b. 10, f. 233	Salem Church	1950
b. 10, f. 234	Shull, Merlin	1951
b. 10, f. 235	Stockwell, Olin	1953
b. 10, f. 236	Studabaker, Ben	1947
b. 10, f. 237	Taylor, Walter to Charles Zunkel	1951
b. 10, f. 238	Tucker, Emma	1958
b. 10, f. 239	Walmsley, Lewis C.	1957
b. 10, f. 240	Winens, Edward	1960
b. 10, f. 241	Yang, Jeanne	1989
b. 10, f. 242-243	Miscellaneous	n.d.
Writings/papers		
b. 10, f. 244	Calvin's New Testament	n.d.

Writings/papers (continued)

b. 10, f. 244a	Message from prison	1951
b. 10, f. 244b	Biography	n.d.
b. 10, f. 244c	Financial papers	1949-1951
b. 10, f. 244	Medical history	n.d.
b. 10, f. 244e	Article about Gladys Aylworth	n.d.

Series IV: Papers of Harriet Bright

Correspondence		
b. 10, f. 245-248	Various	1947-1950
b. 10, f. 249	Parsons, Maud	1951
b. 10, f. 250	Miscellaneous	n.d.
Writings/papers		
b. 10, f. 251	Obituary	1982
b. 10, f. 252	Miscellaneous	n.d.

Series V: Collected material

China mission materials (primarily Church of the Brethren)

b. 12, f. 290	Map showing distribution of missionaries	n.d.
b. 12, f. 291	Report of Friends West China Mission	1925
b. 12, f. 292	English Service at Bright home	1933
b. 12, f. 293	American Consular Service	1935
b. 12, f. 294	Death of Sister Cripe	1935
b. 12, f. 295	Report of Shouyang Station	1939
b. 12, f. 296	H. Bright to Field Committee	1940
b. 12, f. 297	Committee on East Asia	1941
b. 12, f. 298	Wampler, Ernest	1942
b. 12, f. 299	General Mission Board - Church of the Brethren	1942
b. 12, f. 300	Report on Special Mission to China	1946
b. 12, f. 301	Field Committee Meeting	1948
b. 12, f. 302	Parker family	1948
b. 12, f. 303	Letters from missionaries	1948
b. 12, f. 304	C. Bright to Annual Conference	1948
b. 12, f. 305	H. Rothrock to China friends	1949
b. 12, f. 306	D. Phelps to University Community Church	1950
b. 12, f. 307	Beijing (Peking) Conference	1951
b. 12, f. 308	C. Bright to Commission on Ministry and Missions	1960
b. 12, f. 309	Biography of Dr. Frances Tucker	1957
b. 12, f. 310	Church of the Brethren Organization	n.d.
b. 12, f. 311	Report of the General Brotherhood Board	1957
b. 12, f. 312	Letter about state of China at start of Communist rule	n.d.
b. 12, f. 313	Building plans	n.d.
b. 12, f. 314	Brethren General Health Cooperative Plan	1939
b. 12, f. 315	Brethren Rural Service Center	1947
b. 12, f. 316	Pamphlet - General Mission Board / Church of the Brethren	n.d.
b. 12, f. 317	Courageous Statemanship in Missions, Alexander McLeish	n.d.

China mission materials (primarily Church of the Brethren) (continued)

b. 12, f. 318	Experiences in Quest of a New Field	1948
b. 12, f. 319	Weaving in Chengdu (Chengtu)	undated
b. 12, f. 320	Trinity Theological College	1961
b. 12, f. 321	The Japan International Christian University Foundation	n.d.
Mission finance		
b. 12, f. 322	Statements	1931-1934
b. 12, f. 323	Miscellaneous	1918-1936
b. 12, f. 324	Financial Report	1924
b. 12, f. 325	Advance Statement	1930
b. 12, f. 326	Yearly Treasurer's Report	1930
b. 12, f. 327	Misc.	1933-1935
b. 12, f. 328	Authorized Payroll	1935-1936
b. 12, f. 329	Financial Papers, Shouyang Relief	1938-1939
b. 12, f. 330-332	Miscellaneous	1939-1940, n.d.
North China American School		
b. 12, f. 333	Alumni Bulletin	1924
b. 12, f. 334	Commencement Exercises	1936
b. 12, f. 335	Statements	1936
Church of the Brethren (general)		
b. 12, f. 336	Annual Conference	1958
b. 12, f. 337	God's Quiet Heroes	1959
b. 12, f. 338	For the Pastor's Corner	n.d.
b. 12, f. 339	Indianapolis, Indiana	1955
b. 12, f. 340	Wabash, Indiana	n.d.
b. 12, f. 341	Cripe, C.C.	1952
Weaving materials of Harriet Bright		
b. 13	Weaving samples and miscellaneous	n.d.
b. 14	Weaving samples and miscellaneous	
b. 15	Weaving samples and miscellaneous	
Miscellany		

Miscellany (continued)

b. 16, f. 342	Cards, postcards	n.d.
b. 16, f. 343	Telegrams	n.d.
b. 16, f. 344	Misc. letters	n.d.
b. 16, f. 345	Hotel Du Tcheng Tai	1936
b. 16, f. 346	Tali Funeral Rites by Yung-Ch'un Ts'ai	1947
b. 16, f. 347	China newspaper clippings	n.d.
b. 16, f. 348	China Connection	n.d.
b. 16, f. 349	The Far Eastern Travellers Gazette	1933
b. 16, f. 350	The China Monthly	1945
b. 16, f. 351	The Battle for the Bible - The Word of God in and out of the Eclipse	1979
b. 16, f. 352	Autobiographical essay	n.d.
b. 16, f. 353	Chinese letters, characters, etc.	n.d.
b. 16, f. 354	Lectures notes, misc.	n.d.
b. 16, f. 355	Cloth picture of cats	n.d.
b. 16, f. 356	Psalms	n.d.
b. 16, f. 357	The Cross or Vicarious Suffering in the Christian Message	n.d.
b. 16, f. 358	Greater than the greatest of the Prophets	n.d.
b. 16, f. 359	Newspaper articles	n.d.
b. 16, f. 360	Books of pictures	n.d.
b. 16, f. 361	Dried plants / Chinese Ink Drawings	n.d.
b. 16, f. 362	Book of pictures	n.d.
b. 16, f. 363	Incised Designs, Phillips, W.J.	1950
b. 16, f. 364	Chinese Designs	n.d.
b. 16, f. 365	Articles	n.d.
b. 17, f. 366	Map	n.d.
b. 17, f. 367	Invitation to Homer and Minnie Bright's 50th wedding anniversary	n.d.
b. 17, f. 368	Chengtou News Bulletin (Chengdu)	undated
b. 17, f. 369	Archaeology	1949
b. 17, f. 370-371	Miscellaneous	n.d.

Series VI: Photographs, n.d.

b. 17, f. 372	Wellwood, Robert	n.d.
b. 17, f. 373	Mrs. Jane Dye	1937
b. 17, f. 374	Negatives from China	n.d.
b. 17, f. 375	D.S. Dye	n.d.
b. 17, f. 376	Negatives	n.d.
b. 17, f. 377	Bright family	n.d.
b. 17, f. 378	Museum Exhibit Pictures	n.d.
b. 17, f. 379	Friends Yearly Meeting	1916
b. 17, f. 380	D.S. Dye	n.d.
b. 17, f. 381-383	Miscellaneous	n.d.
b. 17, f. 384	Negatives	n.d.
b. 18	China / Mission photos	
b. 19	China/ Landscape and Architecture photos	
b. 11	China/ Mission photos	

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Missionaries
Missions -- China
Women missionaries

Corporate Body

Church of the Brethren. General Mission Board

Contributors

Bright, J. Calvin
Bright, Harriet
Bright, J. Homer
Bright, Minnie Flory