

Yale University Library
Yale Divinity Library

Guide to the Robert E. and Gladys Wilson Bundy Papers

RG 141



Compiled by Shari Laist and Martha Lund Smalley

1998 - 2001

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

divinity.library@yale.edu

<http://web.library.yale.edu/divinity/special-collections>

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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 141

CREATOR: Bundy, Robert E.

TITLE: Robert E. and Gladys Wilson Bundy Papers

DATES: 1890-1983

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 3 linear feet (6 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: Letters, writings, and printed material document the missionary work of the Bundys as well as social and political events in China from 1923 to 1927. The 1926 siege of Wuchang is particularly well documented. Robert and Gladys Bundy were American Episcopal missionaries at Boone University, Wuchang, China from 1923 to 1927, and at St. Paul's University, Tokyo, Japan from 1927 to 1929.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/divinity.141>

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.141>.

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

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Paul and Catharine Ward.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Preferred Citation

Robert E. and Gladys Wilson Bundy Papers (RG 141), 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

Robert Bundy was born in Bethel, Vermont. Robert and Gladys, both graduates of Middlebury College, were married in 1917. Prior to their missionary work, Gladys taught in Barre, VT and in Puerto Rico and Robert was in business in Rochester, Vermont. Their daughter, Dorris, was adopted during their 1925-1926 furlough. Following their service in China and Japan, they returned to live in Bethel.

The Bundys served under the American Church Mission (Episcopal) at Boone University, Wuchang, China from 1923 to 1927 and at St. Paul's University, Ikebukuro, Tokyo, Japan from October 1927 to 1929.

Scope and Contents

Early correspondence of Gladys Bundy (approximately 100 letters) consists mostly of letters to "family" (actually a courtesy family, the Pinkhams, with whom she had resided). These letters discuss political conditions around Wuchang as well as their daily life at Boone University, which was part of a four-way merger of mission schools forming Central China University in 1924. Riots in Wuchang forced the closing of Boone Middle School in June of 1925.

Upon their return to China in September of 1926, after a furlough, Gladys and Dorris went to Guling (Kuling) and Robert headed for Wuchang but was prevented from getting beyond Hankou (Hankow) because the siege of Wuchang by southern troops had begun on September 1. His letters to Gladys (Sep 3-Oct 7) describe the siege, discussing the role of missionaries like Dr. Wakefield, Bishop Gilman, and Mr. Kean in negotiations and Bundy's own involvement in getting supplies to the city and evacuating the inhabitants. Newspaper accounts, reports by other missionaries, and photographs also provide day by day documentation of this episode.

The Bundys were reunited in Wuchang on October 10th, 1926 and Gladys' letters describe the student attitudes, damage to the city, and new rules and regulations under southern rule. Included in Robert's correspondence is his statement supporting neutrality on the part of foreign missionaries in China's civil wars. (1926 Dec 23)

The remainder of the papers consists of scrapbooks of newspaper clippings, station reports, and other printed material about the political, economic, and social conditions in China from 1923-1937, and other miscellaneous items. A good portion of the material in the collection is directly related to the siege of Wuchang. There is only one letter from the Bundys' years in Tokyo, 1927-1929 in the original Correspondence series, but more in the Addendum that was added in 2001. The Addendum also includes writings and notes of Robert Bundy, journals, and personal items and memorabilia.

Arrangement

- I. Correspondence, 1922-1983
- II. Writings, 1925, 1927, 1960
- III. Collected Material, 1909-1931
- IV. Addendum, 1924-1981

Collection Contents

Series I: Correspondence, 1922-1983

| | | |
|----------------|--|-----------------|
| b. 1, f. 1 | Correspondence with donors of the papers, Catharine and Paul L. Ward, including article re. Bundys | 1967, 1982-1983 |
| b. 1, f. 2-10 | Correspondence of Gladys Bundy | 1924-1926 |
| b. 1, f. 11-15 | Correspondence of Robert Bundy | 1922-1928 |

Series II: Writings, 1925, 1927, 1960

| | | |
|-------------|---|---------------|
| b. 1, f. 16 | Travel diary of Gladys Bundy, recording journey to U.S. on furlough | 1925 Jun- Jul |
| b. 1, f. 17 | Article by Robert Bundy: "The Way to Fight Bolshevism" | 1927 |
| b. 1, f. 17 | Article by Robert Bundy: "Four Months Under Communism" | ca. 1960 |

Series III: Collected Material, 1909-1931

| Photographs | | |
|------------------------|---|----------------------|
| b. 1, f. 18 | Re. siege of Wuchang | 1926 Sep 3 - Oct 10 |
| Printed material | | |
| b. 1, f. 19 | Early Chinese newspaper published in Hong Kong, "Weixin ribao" ("Reform Daily"); Book on teaching the Chinese language, by Paul Kranz | 1890, 1909 |
| b. 2, f. 20 | <i>China Tomorrow</i> | 1929 Feb 20 - May 25 |
| b. 2, f. 21 | Miscellaneous printed material: reprints, station reports, strike broadsides | 1924-1928 |
| b. 2, f. 22 | Newsclippings - general | 1926 Oct - 1927 Feb |
| b. 2, f. 23 | Newsclippings re. Wuhan flood (from <i>The North China Herald</i>) | 1931 Aug 11-25 |
| Scrapbooks | | |
| b. 2, f. 24 | "China News" | 1927 Aug |
| b. 2, f. 25 | "Last days of Reds in Wuhan" (clippings from <i>Hankow Herald</i> and <i>Japan Advertiser</i>) | 1927 Jun 8 - Jul 31 |
| b. 2, f. 26 | "The Nanking Affair/ Communism in Central China" | 1927 Feb - May |
| Wuchang siege accounts | | |
| b. 2, f. 27 | "Wuchang siege letters" by Theodore Bliss | 1926 Sep 4 - Oct 10 |
| b. 2, f. 28 | "Diary of E. Mildred Buchanan..." | 1926 Aug 26 - Oct 10 |
| b. 2, f. 29 | "Account of the First Ten Days" by Paul Wakefield | 1926 Sep 1 - 11 |

Series IV: Addendum, 1924-1981

Correspondence

| | | |
|----------------|--|----------------------|
| b. 3, f. 30-31 | Robert Bundy (RB) to Gladys Bundy (GB) | 1925 Oct-1926 May |
| b. 3, f. 32-34 | GB to family, from Japan | 1928 Jan-Jul |
| b. 3, f. 35-42 | GB to Mrs. Pinkham, from Japan | 1928 Aug-1930 Aug |
| b. 3, f. 43 | GB/ RB corres. to/from others, incl. P. Utsonomiya, Paul Ward, Mother Wilson, Arthur Lichtenberger, Logan Roots, Miss Armbruster | 1927-1959 |
| b. 4, f. 44-46 | John Coe to RB | 1925 Oct-1934 Dec |
| b. 4, f. 47 | Paul Wakefield to RB | 1927 May-Dec |
| b. 4, f. 48 | F. C. Brown, E. A. Shepherd, P. Utsonomiya | 1927 Sep-1928 Dec |
| b. 4, f. 49 | Corres. of others: Mary Coe, D. Bergamini, H. Kao | 1926-1939 |

Writings of Robert Bundy

| | | |
|-------------|---|----------|
| b. 4, f. 50 | Poem | |
| b. 4, f. 51 | "The Siege of Wuchang" | 1926 Sep |
| b. 4, f. 52 | "Wakefield of Wuchang" | |
| b. 4, f. 53 | Speech given to Laymen's Club - Boone Univ. | 1924 Nov |
| b. 4, f. 54 | "Just Visiting" by Old "We" - newspaper column - VT | |
| b. 4, f. 55 | "Can the Truth Catch Up with the Lie?" (re. Sen. McCarthy vs. Lattimore) | |
| b. 4, f. 56 | Thesis: "Some traces of the influence of the four books of the Chinese classics on the writings of Ralph Waldo Emerson" | |
| b. 4, f. 57 | Drafts. re. Emerson; Fuji no ya ma | |

Writings of others

| | | |
|--------------|--|----------|
| b. 4, f. 58 | Paul Ward: conversations with John Coe | 1981 Mar |
| b. 4, f. 59 | Paul Wakefield: Siege of Wuchang | 1926 Sep |
| b. 4, f. 59a | Unidentified: re. Emperor's coronation | |

Journals

| | | |
|-------------|-------------|----------|
| b. 4, f. 60 | RB: Japan | 1929 May |
| b. 4, f. 61 | RB: Travels | 1930 |
| b. 4, f. 62 | RB: Vermont | 1933 |

Journals (continued)

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--|-----------|
| b. 4, f. 63 | GB: Re. Dorris (daughter) | 1927 |
| Notes | | |
| b. 4, f. 64-65b. 5, f. 66-68 | College lecture notes | 1926-1929 |
| b. 5, f. 69 | Booklist | |
| b. 5, f. 70 | Notes re: American Church Mission, Hankou (Hankow) | 1926 |
| Personal Items and Memorabilia | | |
| b. 5, f. 71 | Biographical documentation; Misc. programs, etc. | |
| b. 5, f. 72 | Photographs; newspaper clipping re. 50th anniversary of GB/ RB | |
| b. 5, f. 73 | Maps, tourist notes | |
| b. 5, f. 74ab. 5, f. 74b | Collected material re. Horace, re. folklore and traditions | |
| b. 6, f. 75-78 | Japanese language study books | |

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

Missions -- China

Geographic Names

Wuchang (Hubei Sheng, China) -- Church
history

Names

Bundy, Gladys Wilson
Bundy, Robert E.

Corporate Body

Episcopal Church -- Missions -- China