

Harold J. Chance papers, 1938-1964
HC.Coll.1214
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Finding aid prepared by Finding aid prepared by Leslie O'Neill and Forrest Wright

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Haverford College Quaker & Special Collections

2009.12.22

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Summary Information

Repository	Haverford College Quaker & Special Collections
Creator	Chance, Harold J., 1898-1975
Title	Harold J. Chance papers
Date [inclusive]	1938-1964
Extent	13.0 containers
Language	English
Abstract	<p>Harold J. Chance (1898-1975) worked for peace education through the American Friends Service Committee, the Peace Caravans, the Youth Section of the Emergency Peace Campaign, the Institute of International Relations, and the Friends Peace Service from 1934-1964. Included in the Harold Chance papers are correspondence, journals, writings, mailings, reports, and materials on the Friends Peace Service. Also included are Harold Haines Brinton's (1884-1973) lectures and course notes on topics such as history and religion, mysticism in various religions, religion and social change, and the philosophy of pacifism. Researchers will find this collection is especially rich in Quaker history, specifically relating to the discussion of the use of the Quaker voice by individual Friends' groups, in the mid 1950's.</p>

Preferred Citation note

Haverford College Library, Haverford, PA, Quaker Collection, Harold J. Chance papers, Coll. No. 1214

Biographical note

Harold Chance was born in 1898 to John and Mabel Wood Chance of Hardin County, Iowa. Chance served in varying capacities for the American Friends Service Committee, beginning in 1932 as Secretary for the New England Institute of International Relations, eventually advancing to Director of the Friends Peace Service by 1942 (Biographical Sketch). He also served as a delegate to the Friends World Conference held in Oxford, England, in 1952.

Chance traveled throughout the United States lecturing and speaking on the Peace Movement. He authored several books including: *Bases of a Spiritual Peace Ministry*, 1944; *A Report on Friends Intervisitation*, 1944; *For the Consideration of Friends: a Survey of the Society*, 1945; *Toward Fellowship with God and Man*, 1948; and *Tradition and Challenge: The Historic Peace Testimony of the Religious Society of Friends*, 1952.

Chance also collected course and lecture notes by Howard Haines Brinton (1884-1973), a 1904 graduate of Haverford College and a professor of religion at Mills, Earlham, Guilford, Bryn Mawr and Haverford colleges. Brinton worked with the American Friends Service Committee in Europe and Japan and was a director, with his wife Anna, of Pendle Hill from 1936-1950. In addition to his many other activities, Brinton served as the first editor of the *Friends Bulletin*.

Harold Chance died on November 25, 1975 in Lake Wales, Florida at the age of 76. At the time of his death, he was survived by his wife Wannitta Allee (whom he married in 1926), his son Norman, and daughter Carmen Mayer.

Bibliography:

The Friends Journal 22 (April 1, 1976): 211.

“Harold Chance: Biographical Sketch” (Box 1).

Scope and Contents note

The Harold J. Chance papers is divided into the following seven series: “Biographical Material;” “Correspondence;” “Collected Lecture Notes of Howard Haines Brinton;” “Friends Peace Service: American Friends Service Committee;” “Writings and Lectures by Harold Chance;” “Journal Entries;” and “Collected Material.” The collection is comprised largely of documents, such as loose journal pages (both typed and handwritten), correspondence, newsletters, notes, and reports.

The first series, "Biographical Material," contains biographical sketches regarding Chance, and timelines and accounts of his life and work. Before beginning a review of this collection, researchers may wish to consult this series first.

The second series in the collection is "Correspondence." "Correspondence" is divided into two subseries: "Chronological," and "Friends Peace Service: American Friends Service Committee mailings." "Chronological" contains correspondence from 1938 to 1963, organized by the individual year, as well as undated letters. Within "Friends Peace Service: American Friends Service Committee mailings," researchers will find Friends Peace Service mailings from 1944 to 1962. Of particular interest in this subseries is correspondence regarding Mary Champney, as well as correspondence concerning Friends Peace Service reaction of Quaker G.I.'s to military service.

The "Collected Lecture Notes of Howard Haines Brinton" series contains selected lecture notes spanning from Brinton's time as a professor at Mills, Earlham, Guilford, Bryn Mawr and Haverford colleges. These are arranged in alphabetical order based on the subject of the lecture. Also included in the series are several of Brinton's speeches and articles, which may be found at the end of the series.

Chance's work and efforts for Quakerism are represented in the series "Friends Peace Service: American Friends Service Committee." This series contains material specifically pertaining to Friends Peace Service (FPS), such as its history, education material, projects, reports, and correspondence. Of note in this series, is the subseries "Denver and Texas Controversy." The Texas material, includes letters, statements, and reports detailing the 1956 Texas Quakers Act, in which members of the Religious Society of Friends in Texas voted to disown the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC). The Denver Controversy, is represented through letters and reports from 1955 to 1956, in which the Denver Friends held unprogrammed meetings and made unauthorized statements using the "Friends" name.

The "Writings and Lectures by Harold Chance" series contains published magazine articles by Chance, as well as notes used for his books and lectures. They are arranged by title of the publication or lecture.

The series "Journal Entries," consists of Chance's loose journal pages, from 1938 to 1955, organized by the individual year. Also within the series are Chance's journal entries entitled, "Maintaining a Great Tradition."

The final series in the collection "Collected Material," holds items Chance saved over his career. Included in this series are the following subseries: "The Church Peace Mission;" "Historical Association;" and "Poems, Quotes, and Biblical Verses."

Researchers will find this collection is especially rich in Quaker history, specifically relating to the discussion of the use of the Quaker voice by individual Friends' groups in the mid 1950s. For those studying Howard Haines Brinton, they will find Chance's collection of Brinton's lectures and notes from his career as a professor to be extremely concise and comprehensive.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Haverford College Quaker & Special Collections 2009.12.22

Conditions Governing Access note

This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use note

Copyright restrictions may apply. Please contact the Archives with requests for copying and for authorization to publish, quote or reproduce the material.

Processing Information note

The processing of this collection was made possible through generous funding from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, administered through the Council on Library and Information Resources' "Cataloging Hidden Special Collections and Archives" Project.

This collection was *minimally processed* in 2009-2011, as part of an experimental project conducted under the auspices of the Philadelphia Area Consortium of Special Collections Libraries to help eliminate processing backlog in Philadelphia repositories. A minimally processed collection is one processed at a less intensive rate than traditionally thought necessary to make a collection ready for use by researchers. When citing sources from this collection, researchers are advised to defer to folder titles provided in the finding aid rather than those provided on the physical folder.

Employing processing strategies outlined in Mark Greene's and Dennis Meissner's 2005 article, *More Product, Less Process: Revamping Traditional Processing Approaches to Deal With Late 20th-Century Collections*, the project team tested the limits of minimal processing on collections of all types and ages, in 23 Philadelphia area repositories. A primary goal of the project, the team processed at an average rate of 2-3 hours per linear foot of records, a fraction of the time ordinarily reserved for the arrangement and description of collections. Among other time saving strategies, the project team did not extensively review the content of the collections, replace acidic folders or complete any preservation work.

Related Materials

Related Archival Materials note

Friends Historical Library, Swarthmore College: Harold Chance journals, reports and evaluations of Friends Peace Service Work; and Peace Collection, Swarthmore College: Harold Chance collection

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- American Friends Service Committee.
- Emergency Peace Campaign (U.S.).
- Friends Peace Service.
- Institute of International Relations.
- Society of Friends.

Genre(s)

- Correspondence.
- Diaries.
- Lecture notes
- Minutes
- Speeches.

Personal Name(s)

- Brinton, Howard Haines, 1884-1973
- Chance, Harold J., 1898-1975

Subject(s)

- Pacifism
- Quakers
- Religion—Study and teaching

Series I. Biographical material

Collection Inventory

Series I. Biographical material	Box
Series II. Correspondence	
Subseries a. Chronological	
	Box
1938	1
1939	1
1940	1
1941	1
1942	1
1943	1
1944	1

Subseries a. Chronological

1945	1
1946	1
1947	1
1948	1
1949	1
1950	2
1951	2
1952	2
1953	2
1954	2
1955	2
1956	2

Subseries b. Friends Peace Service: American Friends Service Committee mai...

1957	2
1958	2
1959	2
1960	2
1961	3
1962	3
1963	3
undated	3
Subseries b. Friends Peace Service: American Friends Service Committee mailings	
	Box
1942-1956	3
1944-1945	3

Subseries b. Friends Peace Service: American Friends Service Committee mai...

1947-1948	3
1949	3
1950-1951	3
1953	3
1957	3
1958 (2 folders)	3
1961	3
1962	3
Correspondence 1942-1956	3
Regarding Mary Champney 1950	3
Regarding Friends Peace Service Reaction of Quaker G.I.s to Military Service 1947-1948	3

Series III. Collected lecture notes of Howard Haines Brinton

Series III. Collected lecture notes of Howard Haines Brinton	
	Box
Community, Philosophy of History undated	4
Christianity and Quakerism undated	4
Eighteenth Century undated	4
Equality undated	4
Group Communities undated	4
History of Religion undated	4
Krishna, Buddha and Christ undated	5
Meeting for Business undated	5
Prayers and Meditation undated	5
Mysticism undated	5

Series III. Collected lecture notes of Howard Haines Brinton

Nineteenth Century undated	5
Philosophy of Community (First Term Course) undated	5
Philosophy of History undated	5
Philosophy of Pacifism undated	5
Philosophy of Religion undated	5
Quaker History undated	5
Quakerism and Education undated	6
Quakerism (2 folders) undated	6
Religion and Psychology undated	6
Religion and Science undated	6
Tillich and Existentialism undated	6
Twentieth Century Quakerism undated	6

Series IV. Friends Peace Service: American Friends Service Committee

Western versus Eastern Religions undated	6
Yoga undated	6
Speeches and Reviews undated	7
Quaker Journal Forms undated	7
Articles and Notes undated	7
Second Term Course Notes undated	7
Unidentified (2 folders) undated	7-8
Series IV. Friends Peace Service: American Friends Service Committee	
	Box
History of Friends Service Committee undated	8
American Friends Service Committee Relationship to Society of Friends 1955-1960	8
American Friends Service Committee Material 1949-1960	8

Series IV. Friends Peace Service: American Friends Service Committee

Friends Peace Service Material undated	8
Friends Peace Service Education Material 1943-1946	8
Friends Peace Service Meeting Reports, Notes, Minutes, and Agendas 1947-1961	8
Friends Peace Service Council 1953-1962	8
Friends Peace Service Projects (written by Harold Chance) undated	8
Friends Peace Service Advisory Committee Records undated	8
Friends Peace Service Situation Reports 1949-1959	9
Friends Peace Service Evaluation 1953	9
Friends Service Committee Survey 1953	9
Report on a Retreat-Conference on "Peace Concerns and the Spiritual Life" January 1953	9
Friends Mission to Russia 1949	9

Series V. Writings and lectures by Harold Chance

Friends Peace Service Statements and Correspondence 1943-1951	9
Denver and Texas Controversy (2 folders) 1955-1956	9
Friends Peace Service Confidential Reports 1947-1962	9
Notes on Friends undated	9
Series V. Writings and lectures by Harold Chance	
Subseries a. Magazine articles 1942-1957	Box 10
Subseries b. Titled speeches and papers	
	Box
"Conquest: A Study in Contrast" undated	10
"Peace Education in the Local Church" undated	10
"Religious Mysticism" 1955	10
"Tuesday Afternoon" undated	10

Subseries c. Alphabetical by title

Subseries c. Alphabetical by title	
	Box
B undated	10
C undated	10
D undated	10
E undated	10
F undated	10
H undated	10
I undated	10
J undated	10
M undated	10
N undated	11

Series VI. Journal entries

P undated

11

Q undated

11

R undated

11

S undated

11

T undated

11

V undated

11

W undated

11

Unidentified (2 folders) undated

11

Series VI. Journal entries**Box**

1938-1939

11

1940-1941

11

Series VI. Journal entries

1942	11
1943	11
1943-1949	11
1944	11
1945	11
1946	12
1947	12
1947-1955	12
1948	12
1949	12
1950	12
1951	12

Series VII. Collected material

1952	12
1953	12
1954	12
1955	12
1956	13
1957	13
1958	13
1959	13
Regarding "Maintaining a Great Tradition" 1955	13
Series VII. Collected material	
	Box
The Church Peace Mission 1960-1962	13

Series VII. Collected material

Historical Association undated

13

Poems, Quotes, and Biblical Verses undated

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