

Collection #
M 0031

HILTON U. BROWN PAPERS, 1853–1958

[Collection Information](#)

[Biographical Sketch](#)

[Scope and Content Note](#)

[Series Contents](#)

[Cataloging Information](#)

Processed by

Paul Brockman

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Manuscripts and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF
COLLECTION: 7 manuscript boxes, 1 folder of photographs

COLLECTION
DATES: 1853–1958

PROVENANCE: Butler University Library, 4600 Sunset Ave., Indianapolis, IN,
November 1978

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE
FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: William Henry Smith Papers (M 0258); Charles Fairbanks
Papers (M 0100); Delavan Smith Papers (M 0255)

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1978.1109

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Hilton Ultimus Brown (1859–1958) was born in Indianapolis and graduated from Butler University with a B.A. in 1880 and an M.A. in 1882. After one year as principal of Oaktown Academy, he began his career with the *Indianapolis News*, which spanned 77 years. Starting as a reporter, Brown subsequently became city editor, managing editor, secretary-treasurer, and a member of the board of directors. Brown was named vice-president of Indianapolis Newspapers Inc., when it was formed in 1948. Over his career, Brown covered the Treaty of Versailles and served as an escort for Queen Marie of Romania during her Indianapolis visit in the 1920s. He received national recognition for his series of articles on Russia and post–World War I Europe's economic plight.

In addition to his newspaper responsibilities, Brown served as a trustee for Butler University from 1885–1955. He also served as the university's president for 52 years. Brown was a member of the board of directors of the American Newspaper Publishers Association from 1903–35 and was active in the town of Irvington and the Disciples of Christ.

Sources:

Encyclopedia of Indianapolis, pp. 359–60.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection consists primarily of Brown's scrapbooks, which include clippings of newspaper articles he wrote while serving as a correspondent in the Soviet Union (1926). There also are clippings regarding World War I and the U. S. Army in Mexico (1916–19). One of Brown's sons, Hilton U. Brown, died during the war. Additional subjects include clippings and papers relating to Brown's civic and personal affairs. Also included is Brown's family and personal correspondence (1898–1953). Correspondence includes letters from his sons in the U. S. Army during World War I (1916–18), papers relating to Butler University, and materials relating to the operations of the *Indianapolis News* under the ownership of William Henry Smith, Delavan Smith, and Charles W. Fairbanks (1893–1922). The collection also contains papers relating to the estate of William Henry Smith (1896–98).

Photographs in the collection include tintypes and cartes de visites of family members, friends, and students at Butler College and Indianapolis High School. There are also portraits of Hilton U. Brown and photographs of soldiers in Mexico.

SERIES CONTENTS

Series 1: Correspondence, 1853–1953

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Correspondence, 1853–1920	Box 1, Folder 1
Correspondence, 1928–31	Box 1, Folder 2
Correspondence, 1932–34	Box 1, Folder 3
Correspondence, 1935–36	Box 1, Folder 4
Correspondence, 1937–53	Box 1, Folder 5
Family Correspondence—Illness & Death of Phillip Brown, 1898–99	Box 1, Folder 6
Brown Brothers in Service, 1915–18	Box 1, Folder 7
General Correspondence, n.d.	Box 1, Folder 8
General Printed Items, n.d.	Box 1, Folder 9
<i>Indianapolis News</i> Transfer, 1892–1919	Box 1, Folder 10
<i>Indianapolis News</i> Transfer, 1920–22	Box 1, Folder 11
William H. Smith Estate, Records & Will, 1896–98	Box 1, Folder 12
Delavan Smith Correspondence, 1895–1922	Box 1, Folder 13

Series 2: Scrapbooks

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Letters of Sympathy on Death of Phillip Brown, 1899	Box 2, Folder 1
Dedication of General Henry Lawton Monument by President Theodore Roosevelt, 30 May 1907	Box 2, Folder 2
Mexican Border, 1916–17	Box 3, Folder 1
Letters of Sympathy & Related Materials on Death of Hilton U. Brown, Jr., 1918–19	Box 3, Folder 2
Brown's Civic & Social Activities, Brown Family, Butler University, ca. 1920s–30s	Box 4, Folder 1
Brown as Correspondent in Russia, 1926	Box 4, Folder 2
Jesse M. Brown Scrapbook & Sketchbook, n.d.	Box 5, Folder 1

Series 3: Publications

CONTENTS

Loose Clippings, 1914–58

American Bible, Rob Roy (miniature books), n.d.

Loose Cards, 1910s–30s

Programs & Events, Butler University, 1917–44

Congressional Record, 1944

Chicago Tribune Luncheons, 1932–48

CONTAINER

Box 5, Folder 2

Box 5, Folder 3

Box 5, Folder 4

Box 5, Folder 5

Box 5, Folder 6

Box 5, Folder 7

Series 4: Miscellaneous

CONTENTS

Chicago Tribune Luncheons, 1949–54

"Authors" Card Game (sets 1 & 2), n.d.

Bill (L. A. Burnett), Terre Haute, to Hanah, 1865

Photographs (family members, friends, students, soldiers)

CONTAINER

Box 6, Folder 1

Box 6, Folder 2

Box 6, Folder 3

Visual Collections

CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog: <http://157.91.92.2/>
2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.
3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.
4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, M 0031).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.