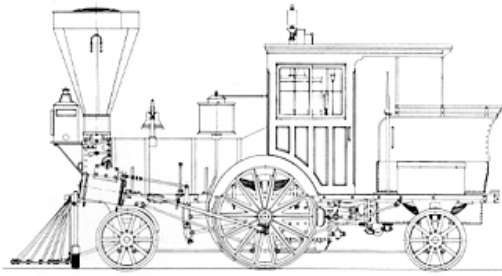


The "PIONEER"



LIGHT PASSENGER LOCOMOTIVE OF 1851

Guide to

MS 291

Conrey Bryson Papers

Dates 1938-1988

5 feet (linear)

Processed by Bobbi Sago
January 1999

Citation: Conrey Bryson Papers 1938-1988, MS 291, C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department. The University of Texas at El Paso Library.

C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department
University of Texas at El Paso

Biography

Conrey Bryson, a news broadcaster, author, and historian, was born in Cleveland, Utah on October 13, 1905, the son of Samuel C. Bryson, a farmer and miner, and Clara E. (Davis) Bryson. He arrived in El Paso, Texas in 1929 with a theater company. After the company went bankrupt, he began working for Western Union Telegraph as a courier. In 1936 Karl O. Wyler, the founder and owner of KTSM Radio, hired him, and Bryson worked for KTSM Radio until 1954 when he became a news anchor for KTSM TV, channel 9. He worked there until 1964, and many of his broadcasts focused on El Paso history and lifestyle. During his time at KTSM Radio and TV he also worked as a writer, producer and special events coordinator. He was a member of the El Paso Public Service Board from 1952 to 1964. From 1959 to 1964 he was an instructor at the University of Texas at El Paso where he received his BA and MA degrees in 1954 and 1959, respectively. In 1965 he went to Washington, D.C. to work for Congressman Richard C. White as an administrative assistant, a position he held until 1972 when he retired.

Upon returning to El Paso, Bryson focused his full attention on writing. His publications include *The Land Where We Live*, Aniversario-El Paso Committee, 1973; *Dr. L.A. Nixon and the White Primary*, Texas Western Press, 1974; *Down Went McGinty: El Paso in the Wonderful Nineties*, Texas Western Press, 1977; and *Winter Quarters*, Deseret Book Co., 1986. He was also a contributing editor of *Password*, the Journal of the El Paso County Historical Society, and was working on a book about the Memphis, El Paso, and Pacific Railroad.

In 1977 Bryson received the Sonnichsen Award from Texas Western Press, and he was inducted into the El Paso Herald-Post Authors Hall of Fame in 1990. He was a member of the Western Writers of America and the Mormon History Association. His community involvement included the El Paso County Historical Society where he was the president in 1963-1964 and 1974, the University of Texas at El Paso Heritage Commission, and the El Paso Westerners Corral.

He was married to Pearl (Pat) Hale on May 15, 1935; she died in 1972. He married Fay Gardener on August 20, 1974. In 1993 he married Marzilla Wright Anderson. He had two children, Beth (Mrs. D.E. Hurst) and Maurice C. Bryson. Conrey Bryson died May 24, 1994.

Series Description

The Conrey Bryson papers are arranged in four series: Series I. Publications; Series II. Unpublished Manuscripts; Series III. KTSM Radio Scripts; and Series IV. Personal.

Series I. Publications. Arranged by publication title.

Series II. Unpublished Manuscripts. Arranged alphabetically by title.

Series III. KTSM Radio Scripts. Arranged by subject.

Series IV. Personal. Arranged roughly chronologically.

Scope and Content Notes

The papers of Conrey Bryson, newscaster, author, and historian in El Paso, Texas, contain manuscripts and research for Bryson's books, several unpublished manuscripts, radio scripts from KTSM, and personal papers which include speeches from Easter services and Christmas letters. The **Publications** series includes materials for *Down Went McGinty*, published in 1977, and *Winter Quarters*, published in 1986. The files for *Down Went McGinty* consist of notes, manuscripts, layout, proofs, a galley and an article from the *Prospector*, the University of Texas at El Paso student newspaper. The series also contains materials for *Winter Quarters*, including correspondence with the publishers, drafts, research, and speeches and presentations. The **Unpublished Manuscripts** series contains notes and a manuscript for a book on the Memphis, El Paso, and Pacific Railroad; background for a proposed book on Mount Franklin; an article on Boss Shepard; and radio scripts and a manuscript on the Emphasis El Paso series from the early 1960s. The **KTSM Radio Scripts** series consists of typescripts of broadcasts aired on KTSM Radio. The **Personal** series contains a diverse array of material including correspondence and ephemera from 1965 relating to Engine #1 on display at the Centennial Museum at the University of Texas at El Paso; speeches given in 1965, 1977, and 1981; *Goals for El Paso* position paper from approximately 1975; family newsletters and Christmas correspondence (including poems and stories written by Conrey and Fay Bryson); and several other pieces of ephemera.

Provenance Statement

The Conrey Bryson Papers were a gift to the University of Texas at El Paso Library by Mr. Conrey Bryson. The initial gift of 4.5 feet of material was received in 1989 and contained the manuscripts. The remaining material containing the radio scripts was received in 1991.

Restrictions

No access restrictions.

Literary Rights Statement

Permission to publish material from the Conrey Bryson Papers, MS 291, must be obtained from the C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, University of Texas at El Paso Library.

Notes to the Researcher

The KTSM Radio Scripts and the Emphasis El Paso Radio Scripts are on very fragile paper. Please handle with extreme care.

Related Collections

Texas Western Press Records, MS 366, and the KTSM "Builders of El Paso" Radio Scripts, MS 039.

Container List

Series I. Publications

Box Folder

1	1	<i>Down Went McGinty</i> - article in the <i>Prospector</i> , Dec. 9 1977
1	2	<i>Down Went McGinty</i> - notes and supporting information
1	3	<i>Down Went McGinty</i> - notes and supporting information
1	4	<i>Down Went McGinty</i> - original manuscript, 1 of 2
1	5	<i>Down Went McGinty</i> - original manuscript, 2 of 2
1	6	<i>Down Went McGinty</i> - layout
1	7	<i>Down Went McGinty</i> - proof
2		<i>Down Went McGinty</i> - proof
3		<i>Down Went McGinty</i> - galley
4	1	<i>Winter Quarters</i> - correspondence with publisher; Deseret Book
4	2	<i>Winter Quarters</i> 1st Draft Chapters 1-3
4	3	<i>Winter Quarters</i> 1st Draft Chapters 4 - 10
4	4	<i>Winter Quarters</i> 1st Draft summary, notes, and sources
4	5	<i>Winter Quarters</i> Draft as submitted to publisher, Dedication through Chapter 5
4	6	<i>Winter Quarters</i> Draft as submitted to publisher, Chapter 6 through Suggested Appendix
4	7	<i>Winter Quarters</i> - Notebook
5	1	Roots at Winter Quarter
5	2	<i>Winter Quarters...More than a Valley Forge</i> , presentation to the Mormon History Association, 1983
5	3	<i>And Should We Die - Deaths at Winter Quarters</i>
5	4	Ezra T. Benson Papers
5	5	Margaret Cowan Bryson Dunlap
5	6	<i>A City of Zion</i> Organization at Winter Quarters
5	7	Come to Zion - Origins
5	8	Lawrence D. Clark Papers
5	9	Joseph Fielding
5	10	The Indians
5	11	Heber C. Kimbell
5	12	Ms. History - Winter Quarters
5	13	The Mormon Battalion
5	14	W.W. Phelps
5	15	A pleasant place - <i>Winter Quarters</i>
5	16	John Pulsipher
5	17	Zera Pulsipher
5	18	<i>Rebirth</i> , Florence and the hand cart companies

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	
5	19	Willard Richards
5	20	Patty Sessions
5	21	Mary Fielding Smith
5	22	<i>Some Who Stayed</i> , Reorganized and others
5	23	Some Who Stopped at Winter Quarters - Kane; Oliver Cowdery
5	24	Orson Spencer
5	25	We'll Find the Place - Destinations
5	26	We'll Make the Air with Music Ring (Recreation)
5	27	Why Should We Mourn - Iowa
5	28	Ms. History of Brigham Young
5	29	Winter Quarters

Series II. Unpublished Manuscripts

Box Folder

6	1	Boss Shepard's Second Career
6	2	Memphis, El Paso, and Pacific Railroad - Manuscript
6	3	Memphis, El Paso, and Pacific RR
6	4	Memphis, El Paso, and Pacific RR - 1845-1848
6	5	The Memphis, El Paso, and Pacific Railroad - Manuscript
6	6	Memphis, El Paso, and Pacific Railroad - Manuscript
6	7	Emphasis El Paso - Manuscript
6	8	Emphasis El Paso Radio Scripts, 1960-1962
6	9	Emphasis El Paso Radio/TV Scripts, 1960-1963
6	10	Emphasis El Paso Radio/TV Scripts - Weather and Water, 1962-1964
6	11	Emphasis El Paso Radio/TV Scripts - Names on the Land, 1963
6	12	Emphasis El Paso Radio Scripts, 1963-1964
6	13	Emphasis El Paso Radio/TV Scripts, 1964
6	14	Emphasis El Paso Radio/TV Scripts - El Paso Historical
6	15	Emphasis El Paso Radio Scripts - Feasts and Fiestas
7	1	Memphis, El Paso, and Pacific RR - (1849 Memphis)
7	2	Memphis, El Paso, and Pacific RR - 1850-1853
7	3	Memphis, El Paso, and Pacific RR - 1853-1860
7	4	Memphis, El Paso, and Pacific RR - 1861-1865
7	5	Memphis, El Paso, and Pacific RR - 1866 - 1868
7	6	Memphis, El Paso, and Pacific RR - 1869-1871 France
7	7	Memphis, El Paso, and Pacific RR - 1872-1881
7	8	Background material for proposed book on Mount Franklin

Series III. KTSM Radio Transcripts**Box Folder**

7	9	KTSM Radio Transcripts, Fort Bliss Centennial
7	10	KTSM Radio Transcripts, Pathfinders of Medicine, 1 of 2
7	11	KTSM Radio Transcripts, Pathfinders of Medicine, 2 of 2
7	12	KTSM Radio Transcripts, Pathfinders of Medicine
7	13	KTSM Radio Transcripts, Magoffin
8	1	KTSM Radio Transcripts, 25th Anniversary, 1 of 2
8	2	KTSM Radio Transcripts, 25th Anniversary, 2 of 2
8	3	KTSM Radio Transcripts, El Paso Electric "Gifts of the Season" 1948-1949
8	4	KTSM Radio Transcripts, El Paso Pays Tribute, 1-22-1952 to 3-11-1952, 1 of 4
8	5	KTSM Radio Transcripts, El Paso Pays Tribute, 4-1-1952 to 5-26-1952, 2 of 4
8	6	KTSM Radio Transcripts, El Paso Pays Tribute, 12-18-1951 to 11-6-1951, 3 of 4
8	7	KTSM Radio Transcripts, El Paso Pays Tribute, 11-27-1951 to 1-21-1952, 4 of 4
8	8	KTSM Radio Transcripts, Farm Reporter, 1 of 2
8	9	KTSM Radio Transcripts, Farm Reporter, 2 of 2
8	10	KTSM Radio Transcripts, Special Programs, 1 of 4
9	1	KTSM Radio Transcripts, Special Programs, 2 of 4
9	2	KTSM Radio Transcripts, Special Programs, 3 of 4
9	3	KTSM Radio Transcripts, Special Programs, 4 of 4
9	4	KTSM Radio Transcripts, Masters of Music A-L, 1 of 2
9	5	KTSM Radio Transcripts, Masters of Music M-W, 1945-1946, 1 of 2
9	6	KTSM Radio Transcripts, Masters of Music M-W, 1945-1946, 2 of 2
9	7	KTSM Radio Transcripts, Men of Vision M-Z, 1 of 2
10	1	KTSM Radio Transcripts, Men of Vision M-Z, 2 of 2
10	2	KTSM Radio Transcripts, Masters of Music A-L, 2 of 2
10	3	KTSM Radio Transcripts, Over SW Trails
10	4	KTSM Radio Transcripts, Voice of El Paso
10	5	KTSM Radio Transcripts, Southern Union Gas Co. Industry at the Pass of the North, 1 of 3
10	6	KTSM Radio Transcripts, Southern Union Gas Co. Industry at the Pass of the North, 2 of 3
10	7	KTSM Radio Transcripts, Southern Union Gas Co. Industry at the Pass of the North ,3 of 3
10	8	KTSM Radio Transcripts through the Years, 1 of 2
11	1	KTSM Radio Transcripts through the Years, 2 of 2
11	2	KTSM Radio Transcripts, Special Programs, 1944-1948

Series IV. Personal

Box Folder

11	3	Engine #1
11	4	Speech Easter Sunrise Service, 1965
11	5	Speech at Family Practice Convention, 1977
11	6	<i>Contemporary Civil Rights Issues Affected by Events in El Paso</i> , Presentation Texas State Historical Association, 1981
11	7	<i>Goals for El Paso</i> - Position Paper...Local Government
11	8	Description El Paso First Ward Chapel
11	9	Brief History of the Cavalry Museum
11	10	Family Newsletter and Christmas Greetings