Frederick Biehl papers

Date Range: 1907-1989
Bulk Dates: 1916-1950
Quantity: 10 LF, 32 boxes

Creator
Biehl, F.

Biographical Note
Raised Episcopalian, Frederick Wagner Biehl openly questioned accepted beliefs concerning Christianity by the time he enrolled at the U.S. Naval Academy in 1918. After graduation from the Academy in 1922, Biehl accepted a commission as a lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps. During the 1920s, he continued to affirm his attraction to Eastern religions by studying the Bhagavad-Gita, and the Krishmaji. At the same time, the young officer began his association with the secret order of the Rosicrucians, which had a significant influence on his approach to religion.

By 1930 Biehl had left the service to attend the Unitarian Ministry School in Berkeley, California. After his graduation in 1932, he went on to teach “Divine Science,” and continued to explore other faiths, including the Society of Friends (Quakers), and the Baha’i. In 1933, Biehl was invited to attend the Chicago World Fellowship of Faith where he presented his ideas of “Integration.” These ideas included the incorporation of multiple religions into one’s philosophy, seeking a “truth” above the constraints of tradition, and can be further explained in Box 12. His presentation can be found on page 816 of the official congress publication: International Congress of the World Fellowship of Faiths (1st: 1933-1934: Chicago and New York). World Fellowship: Addresses and Messages by Leading Spokesmen of all Faiths, Races and Countries / edited by Charles Frederick Weller. New York: Liveright Pub. Corp. c1935. SpC. 200 I61w1935

After World War II, Biehl took a job as a claims examiner with the state Unemployment Agency office in Galion, Ohio. Biehl spent the rest of his life in Galion, living in the home once occupied by his parents. He wished to concentrate his physical and mental efforts on spiritual matters. The last forty years of Frederick Biehl’s life were spent writing, with a great deal of his energy focused on the creation of the William Montgomery Brown Cultural Center. In the mid 1980s, he was befriended by Craig Harmon, who would later bring his papers to DePaul University. For a more complete account of the relationship between the two men, see Box 32. For an autobiographical account of the first thirty years of Frederick Biehl, refer the paper A Son of the West Awakens, located in Box 8.

Scope
Spanning nearly a century, the papers of Frederick Biehl contain his correspondence, various spiritual discourses, research material, religious memorabilia, and photographs. Included in the collection are materials linking Biehl with the excommunicated Episcopalian Bishop William Montgomery Brown; George Grimm, author of The Doctrine of the Buddha, The Religion of Reason and Meditation and the international spy I.T. Trebitsch Lincoln.
Arrangement
The Frederick Biehl papers are organized into six series: 1. Correspondence; 2. Discourses; 3. Institutions/Organizations; 4. Miscellaneous; 5. Bishop Brown Collection; 6. Craig Harmon Editions. The organization reflects the efforts of Craig Harmon’s arrangement of the materials after the death of Frederick Biehl.

Provenance
Donated by Craig Harmon, Accession 1996.28

Location:
4/2/I

Restrictions:
This collection is open for research use.

Language:
In English

Processed: CT, SS, CB, 1997

Container List
Box 1  Correspondence
1916   Letters Home
1917   Letters Home
1918   Letters Home
1919   Letters Home
1920   Letters Home
1921   Letters Home
1922   Letters Home
1923   Letters Home

Box 2  Correspondence
1924   Letters Home
1925   Letters Home
1926   Letters Home
1927   Letters Home
1928   Letters Home
1929   Letters Home
1930   Letters Home
1931   Letters Home
1932   Letters Home

Box 3  Correspondence
1922   Naval Academy
1922 - 1923  Marine Corps
1925 - 1927  Marine Corps
1929 - 1932  Marine Corps
1926  Kathryn Northup  (September - December)
1927  Kathryn Northup  (January - July)
1928  Kathryn Northup  (February - August)
1929  Kathryn Northup  (June - December)
1930  Kathryn Northup  (March - May)
1927 - 1930  Law School
1928  Trebitsch Lincoln
1929  Trebitsch Lincoln
1930  Trebitsch Lincoln
Trebitsch Lincoln - Biography and Information
1927 - 1931  Margot
1927 - 1928  General Correspondence
[1928 - 1932]  General Correspondence
1929  General Correspondence
1930 - 1931  General Correspondence
1932  General Correspondence
1947 - 1948  General Correspondence

Box 4  Correspondence
1907 - 1918  General Correspondence
1920 - 1929  General Correspondence
1930 - 1939  General Correspondence
1940 - 1949  General Correspondence
1950 - 1950  General Correspondence

Box 5  Correspondence
1960 - 1964  General Correspondence
1965 - 1969  General Correspondence
1970 - 1974  General Correspondence

Box 6  Correspondence
1975 - 1979  General Correspondence
1980 - 1989  General Correspondence
[n.d.]  Greeting Cards

Box 7  Correspondence
[n.d.]  Greeting Cards
[n.d.]  General Correspondence

Box 8  Discourses
[n.d.]  Miscellaneous Discourses
[n.d.]  Miscellaneous Discourses - Spiritual Experiences
[n.d.]  The Services - USMC Ohio Unemployment
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<th>Box 9</th>
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<td>1922-1926</td>
<td>Miscellaneous Discourses - VA., Haiti, RI</td>
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<td><em>Personality in Perspective</em> and other writings</td>
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<td>1951</td>
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<td>1951</td>
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<td>1969, 1976</td>
<td>Harold Institute Discourses and Galion School Board</td>
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<tr>
<td>1977</td>
<td>Personality in Perspective Galion, Ohio</td>
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<td>1977 - 1985</td>
<td>Spheres of Personality Galion, Ohio</td>
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<td>1981 - 1984</td>
<td>Outlook and Insight Galion, Ohio</td>
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<th>Box 14</th>
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<td>1928-1932</td>
<td>Buddhist Correspondence</td>
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<th>Box 15</th>
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<td>Correspondence</td>
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<td>Newsletters</td>
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Box 15A  Institutions/ Organizations - Baha’I
           Pamphlets

Box 16  Institutions/ Organizations - Universal Brotherhood
        I - XCIX  Instruction
        C - CXCIX  Instruction
        CLI - CCXI  Instruction

Box 17  Institutions/ Organizations - Universal Brotherhood
        1923  Correspondence
        [n.d.]  History
        [n.d.]  Instruction and Miscellaneous Documents

Box 18  Institutions/ Organizations [n.d.]
        Education Discourses and Memos
        Job Training and Employment
        Miscellaneous discourses
        Personal Reflections and Miscellaneous Correspondence
        Poems and Prayers
        Political/ Civic Memos
        Religious/ Spiritual Memos

Box 19  Miscellaneous [n.d.]
        Discourses/ Memos
        Extracts

Box 20  Miscellaneous
        [n.d.]  Discourses
        [n.d.]  Notes
        [n.d.]  Small Notes (in date order)
        [n.d.]  Small Notes  No date

Box 21  Miscellaneous [n.d.]
        Address Books
        Journals

Box 22  Miscellaneous Writings/ Scrolls [n.d.]

Box 23  Miscellaneous Photographs [1920-?]

Box 24  Negatives [n.d.]

Box 25  Bishop Brown Collection
        1923 - 1932  Correspondence
        1924  Bishop’s Court
Biographical Information, Memorial Library Correspondence, Articles, Court Proceedings

Box 26    Bishop Brown Collection
The Bankruptcy of Christian Supernaturalism
Vol. I    Trial
Vol. II   Science
Vol. III  History
Vol. IV   Philosophy

Box 27    Bishop Brown Collection
The Bankruptcy of Christian Supernaturalism
Vol. V    The Bible
Vol. V    Sociology
Vol. VII  Other Heretics in the Episcopal Church

Box 28    Bishop Brown Collection
Communism: The New Faith for a New World: Bishop Brown’s Appeal to Chicago’s World Parliament of Religion
Communism and Christianism
The Fascist and Communist Dictatorships
Teaching of Marx for Girls and Boys

Box 29    Bishop Brown Collection
Heresy: Bishop Brown Lectures
No. I     The American Race Problem
No. II    The Pope’s Crusade Against the Soviet Union
No. II    The Science of Moscow and the Superstition of Rome
No. IV    The Godly Bishops and the Godless Bolsheviks
No. V     The Bishop’s Belief in God and their Disbelief in Birth Control
No. VI    The War - Vampire and the Churches
No. VII   The Vindication of my Heresies
No. VIII  Can the Old Church Adapt Itself to the New World
No. IX    Recent Science and Materialism

Box 30    Bishop Brown Collection
Heresy: Bishop Brown Lectures
No. X     Aliens and Criminals
No. XI    The Communist Way Out
No. XII   Why I am a Communist
No. XIII  The Christian Way Out: A Criticism
The Human Meaning of Christian Doctrine
My Heresy: The Autobiography of an Idea

Box 31    Bishop Brown Collection


Bishop Brown’s Fight (Brief of the Trials) Galion: Bradford-Brown Educational Company, 1924.


- No. I Before the Trial (March, 1924)
- No. II During the Trial (Sept., 1924)
- No. III Between the Trials (Jan., 1925)
- No. IV Proceeding of the Review Court (Jan., 1925)


**Box 32  Craig Harmon Editions**

Biography Portfolio
Memorabilia