

Perry Northern Jester CollectionMS-60

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1870-1963

Title Statement

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

MS-60

Unit ID

/repositories/4/resources/150

Unit Date

1870-1963

Language

English

Abstract

This collection contains documents and scrapbooks concerning Perry Northern Jester's time working in the United States Foreign Service between 1928 and 1963.

Extent

7 Linear Feet

Repository

University of Richmond

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

There are no restrictions on accessing material in this collection. Researchers should note the content warnings on several of the scrapbooks.

Conditions Governing Use

Copyright restrictions may apply. Unpublished manuscripts are protected by copyright. Permission to publish, quote, or reproduce must be secured from the repository and the copyright holder.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Collection donated by a family member.

Preferred Citation

[Box Number], MS-60, Perry N. Jester Collection, Book Arts, Archives, & Rare Books, Boatwright Memorial Library, University of Richmond, Richmond, Virginia

Biographical / Historical

Born 20 January 1902 – died July 1982.

According to a 1908 article in the Atlanta, Ga., *The Golden Age* (24 December 1908), Perry Northern Jester was named in honor of his mother's family and former Georgia governor William J. Northern. Perry Northern Jester's parents were John Roberts Jester (1875-1965), former secretary of the Georgia Baptist Education Board and later President of Baptist College of Oklahoma, and Annie Allen Perry Jester (1878-1970), daughter of noted pastor Dr. J.W. Perry of Winder, Georgia. Noted in the University of Richmond (UR) yearbook as being from Winston-Salem, North Carolina, Perry Northern Jester attended the University of Richmond for his first three years of college working towards a Bachelor of Science degree between 1921 and 1924. During his time at UR, he participated in numerous student organizations, including Tri Phi, YMCA, Glee Club & the College Quartet, and the Globe Trotters. After his junior year, Jester transferred to the University of Virginia where he graduated.

Newspaper articles from the time offer conflicting information about Jester's education. Note that a 1928 article in the Washington, D.C. *Evening Star* (13 May 1928) reports that "Perry Northern Jester came to Washington from Bailey Military Institute in Greenwood, Ga., and studied law in the George Washington University and then entered the foreign service. He will go to Hongkong, China." A 1935 article in the Accomac, Va. *Peninsula Enterprise* (19 January 1935) reported that "Jester, 32, University of Richmond graduate, was promoted by the President from an unclassified grade to grade eight. He is now vice-consul in [b]arbados, British West Indies. He began his service in Hong Kong." Additional records indicate he was married to Olive Willie Webster (b. 12 June 1889) who died on 13 July 1963 in Charlottesville, Virginia, and on 18 August 1964, he married Edith Maude Brundrett Hyder (1900-1995) in Williamsburg, Virginia.

Jester worked in the diplomatic corps of the United States for most of his career. After completing foreign service school in 1927, he was assigned as vice consul in Hong Kong (1928-1931). As noted in the *Richmond News Leader* (6 March 1951), "Consul-General Perry N. Jester, formerly of this city, and Mrs. Jester are living in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, where he has taken over duties as head of the United States Consulate. Mr. Jester, who attended the University of Richmond, has served in consulates in Central America, Hong Kong, Barbados, England, Nigeria, Ceylon, and Dakar." An alumni note under Class of 1924 in the *UR Alumni Magazine* (Spring 1952) indicated that "Perry N. Jester took charge as Consul General in Hamilton, Canada, in February 1951, and reports that the best feature of his position is being near the United States."

As determined by general records and Jester's notes, his diplomatic service was as follows:

- 1928-1931?, Vice Consul, Hong Kong
- 1934-1936, Vice Consul then Consul, Barbados
- 1937-1939?, Consul, Southampton, England
- 1940-1942, Consul, Lagos, Nigeria
- 1942-1947, Washington D.C., including Acting Chief of Foreign Service Training (1946)
- 1947-1949, Consul, Colombo, Ceylon/Sri Lanka
- 1949-1950, Consul, Dakar, Senegal
- 1951-1953, Consul, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada
- 1953-1955, Consul, Barbados
- 1955-1963, Bonnie Highlands (residence), Charlottesville, VA
- Either 1961 or 1963, retired from Foreign Service

Scope and Contents

This collection is a series of scrapbooks documenting the diplomatic service of Perry Northern Jester between 1928 and 1963. The scrapbooks include both personal and more formal, work-related materials, often capturing the scenery, local populations, landscapes, and special events. Please be aware of the specific content warnings noted below for some scrapbook content in Box 3 and Box 4.

Keywords

Scrapbooks

Hong Kong (China)

Barbados

Panama

China
Nigeria
Sri Lanka
Diplomatic and consular service United States

Arrangement

The collection is arranged in a single series by content/subject.

Description of Subordinate Components

Views of Hong Kong

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/7930

Unit Date 1870-1930

Mixed Materials 1 (box)

Container 1 (object)

Diplomatic Passport - no. 1092

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/7931

Unit Date 1928

Realia 1 (box)

Container 2 (object)

Diplomatic Passport - number illegible

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/7932

Unit Date 1932

Realia 1 (box)

Container 3 (object)

Diplomatic Passport - no. 6403

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/7933

Unit Date 1950

Realia 1 (box)

Container 4 (object)

China, A Water Trip Around Hong Kong, Shipboard Honolulu West to Frisco

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/7934

Unit Date ca. 1928-1931

Mixed Materials 2 (box)

Container 1 (object)

Views of Canton, Macao, and South China

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/7935

Unit Date ca. 1928-1931

Mixed Materials 3 (box)

Container 1 (object)

Scope and Contents

Content Warning – Some material in this scrapbook contains images of torture, execution, and corpses.

Views of Philippine Islands, Indo-China, & Siam

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/7936

Unit Date unknown

Mixed Materials 4 (box)

Container 1 (object)

Scope and Contents

Content Warning – Some material in this scrapbook contains images of mummified bodies/corpses.

Turn to the East by Caroline Singer and C. LeRoy Baldrige

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/7937

Unit Date 1926

Books 4 (box)

Container 2 (object)

Barbados

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/7938

Unit Date 1953-1955

Mixed Materials 5 (box)

Container 1 (object)

San Salvador and Panama

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/7939

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 6 (box)

Container 1 (object)

Service in Lagos, Nigeria

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/7940

Unit Date 1940-1942

Mixed Materials 6 (box)

Container 2 (object)

Assorted scenes of local countries and of the diplomatic life

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/7941

Unit Date 1942-1963

Mixed Materials 7 (box)

Container 1 (volume)

Scope and Contents

Red Scrapbook – Hong Kong, London, St. Ives, Lagos/Nigeria

Assorted scenes of local countries and of the diplomatic life

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/7942

Unit Date 1942-1963

Mixed Materials 7 (box)

Container 2 (volume)

Scope and Contents

Green Scrapbook – Ceylon/Sri Lanka, Bermuda, Barbados, Russia, Virginia