Charles Manny Collection  
(1905-1962)  
Inventory

Includes photographs, programs, a scrapbook, sheet music, original vaudeville scripts and routines, playbills and correspondence documenting Mr. Manny’s career as a vaudeville performer in North America and in England. Included is material on the Arlington Comedy Four, a group with which he began his show business career at age 15; also items relating to Manny and Roberts (his later performing partnership with Ashley Roberts, also of the Arlington Four), and his wife Miss Lillian Clay. He was also active as a talent agent in England for vaudeville and music hall performers.

2 boxes: .21 linear metres; 13 playbills  
(includes Manny Collection, Part II)

Box #1

Env. #1: Photographs, Charles Manny – 5 items (some dups.)

Env. #2: Photographs, Arlington Four – 12 items (some dups.)

Env. #3: Photographs, Misc. – 2 items

Sammy Lewis and Patti Moore (presentation copy)  
Bert Wheeler and Robert Woolsey (presentation copy)

Env. #4: Programs – 3 items

Manny and Roberts, on bill with Grock and George Robey.

St. Martin’s Theatre, Jan.9, 1944. Benefit performance under Patronage of Her Highness the Princess Marie Louise and the Marquess of Queensbury. “All-star Matinee”.  
(Committee chairman, Mrs. Charles Manny). With note from Ellen Hudson conveying the best wishes of Princess Marie Louise for the success of the performance, and her pleasure to become a patroness (15-12-43).

Env. #5: Correspondence (1931-1962) – 15 items

1931, June 2. George Schrer, New York. Acknowledgment of Manny’s receipt of Boogy Caught Short script, with suggestions for latter and stage business.


1952, Jan. 3. Holiday greetings from Cleo and Carl Brisson, N.Y.


Cards: Sidney Burns (with note on reverse)

Env. #6: Legal documents, etc. – 8 items


1929, Apr. 4. Assignment of performance rights for “Customs Dialogue” to C. Manny by Robert Hargreaves.


1943, Sept. 2. Receipt for donation to “Big Brother Fund” of the Grand Order of Wat Rats, with note from Georgie Wood.

Env. #7: Receipts, etc. – 5 items

2 Letters and 3 receipts from royalty payments to Connie Russell, 1939-1942, from the Phonographic Performance Artists Fund.
Env. #8: Manuscripts (sheet music) – 5 items

“The Customs Officer”. 1 p.
Manny Charlie. “Nevertheless”. 1 pp. (see also Env. 10)

Env. #9: Sheet Music – 5 items

“Mr. Lew Lake presents Manny and Roberts in the latest musical comedy, Dardanells, written by Joseph Hayman.”
“Just For Tonight”. Chicago, c.1914. 3 pp. (missing cover and first page)
Manny, Charlie. “Waiting (Honey I Feel Blue)”. Chicago, 1911. 2 pp. and cover, (missing conclusion). “As introduced and sung with tremendous success by the ‘Arlington Four’”.

Env. #10: Miscellaneous Lyrics – 8 items

“Cheer Up Keep Smiling”. 1 p. typed.
“Good Bye Darling” by Michael Hodges. 1 p. typed.
“My Girl is a Sweet Young Thing”. 1 p. handwritten.
“Naughty But Nice” by Grace and Jack Stern. 1 p. typed.
“Nevertheless,—I’ll Stay”. 1 p. handwritten, 1 p. typed with notes.
“Scaddle dee Mooch”. 1 p. (2 sides) handwritten, with “Grass is Getting Greener”: I Miss the Old Folks Now” and dialogue for Manny and Roberts act.
“You Say You are Wise—That I’m Telling Lies…” 1 p. typed and handwritten.

Env. #11: Accident Policy Routine – 3 items

Variant #1: 1 p. handwritten
Variant #2: 2pp. and 3 pp. (2 copies with slight additions to one). handwritten.

Env. #12: Chicago Routine – 2 items

3 pp. typed, with penciled notes (2 copies)

Env. #13: Customs Routines – 17 items

(This act evolved over the years, with changes made reflecting the audiences played to.) Variant #1: “Custom’s Officer Routine” (Hargreaves material), 1929 (see Env. #6). lyrics of song and 4 mss. pages of dialogue. Variant #2: “An Old American Custom” by Eugene Conrad, 1930. (see Env. #6) 9 typed pp. with penciled changes. Variant #3: “An Old English Custom” (revision of Conrad’s “Old American Custom”) n.d., 8 typed pp. with penciled changes. Variant #3a: variant of above, 5 typed pp. (2 carbon copies). n.d. Variant #3b: variant of above, Palace Theatre Reading, 1931, pp. signed and witnessed by Teddy Carleton, manager, as part of Fine and Dandy Show. Original and copy, with penciled dialogue on cover). Miscellaneous: “Customs” material. 9 items typed and handwritten. some duplication. 24 sides.

Env. #14: Eggs, Toast and Coffee Routine – 5 items

Lyrics of song by Blanche Merrill. 1 p. handwritten variant. Letter from Dora Maughan with permission to use material (Oct.20, 1929) Dialogue: 2 typed pp. with penciled notes (Dora/Walter); 2 typed pp. with penciled notes---variant (Charlie/Lily)

Env. #15: Script – 1 item


Env. #16: Script – 1 item

Fine and Dandy, a variety road show by Charlie Manny et al. Copy certified by Lord Chamberlain, May 9, 193-. 34 pp. Typescript with handwritten notes; 4 sheets of handwritten notes laid in. Includes following routines: Gretna Green; an episode of 1860. 1 p.
“Samples” of 1934; a misunderstanding. 1 p.
Chicago. 2 pp.
An Accident. 2 pp.
Crossing the Line. 1 p.
Manny & Clay in An Old English Custom. 5 pp.
The Rivals. 1 p.
A Quiet Nursing Home. 3 pp.
Madame X-cuse Me. 10 pp.
A Chicago Episode. 3 pp.
A Bench in the Park. 1 p.

Env. #17: Script – 1 item

Flat Love, by Leon Kimberly. 7 pp. typescript with notes.

Env. #18: Golf Routine – 2 items

Variant #1: “Golfs”, 12 pp. typescript with notes.
Variant #2: “Golfs” (revised copy), 7 pp. typescript.

Env. #19: Madame X-cuse Me – 3 items

Variant #1: “Madame [sic] x” 7 pp. typescript.
Variant #2: “Madame X-cuse Me” 9 pp. typescript with notes.
Variant #3: “Madame X-cuse Me” (revised copy) 6 pp. typescript.

Env. #20: Married Man Monologue – 1 item

5 pp. typescript.

Env. #21: Script – 1 item

The Real Estators, by Jos. K. Watson. 1923. 10 pp. typescript.

Env. #22: Samples of 1934 – 2 items

“Dramatic Moments”. 3 pp. typescript.
Certified by the Lord Chamberlain.
Env. #23: The Sex of Today – 2 items
3 pp. typescript (2)

Env. #24: Theatre Manager Routine – 1 item
Incomplete typescript, pp. 5-11 only.

Env. #25: Miscellaneous Scenes, jokes and dialogue – 14 items
Various clippings of jokes and bits of dialogue; book of jokes, etc.

Env. #26: Playbills (facsimiles) – 10 items
These photographs are of original playbills in the collection of Mr. Clifford Manny. Starred items are duplicate playbills donated by Mr. Manny to the Toronto Reference Library, and are filed with oversize playbills (see below). See also Charles Manny Collection, Part 2.


1919, June 16. Liverpool. Empire. Manny & Roberts, the Messenger Boys from Broadway.


1924, Week of June 16. Ardwick Green. Empire. Charles Manny & Lillian Clay in ... “Flat Love” ...*

1924, September 8. Birmingham. Grand. Charlie Manny (late Manny & Roberts) & Lillian Clay in “Flat Love” ...


1934, Week of August 20. Hull. New Tivoli. Charles Manny presents ... “Samples of 1934” ...

**Oversize Playbills** (see also Charles Manny Collection Part 2)


1924, Week of June 16. Manchester, Ardwick Green. Empire. Charles Manny & Lillian Clay in... “Flat Love”... Playbill printed blue, black and red on white. 760 x 256 mm.

1934, July 30. Coventry. Hippodrome. Manny and Roberts in “Samples of 1934”.
Playbill printed black and red on yellow. 884 x 283 mm.


**Box #2: Scrapbook (Oct. 9, 1905 – August 1910)** – 1 item

Documenting the engagements of the Arlington Four in the United States and Canada. Includes newspaper clippings, programs and photographs. 139 pp. Of Canadian interest are clippings and programs for performances at Bennett’s Theatre, Quebec (wk. of Oct.5, 1908, p. 75 & 77); Bennett’s Montreal (wk. of Oct. 12, 1908, p.77); Bennett’s, London Ont. (wk. of Oct.19, 1908, p.75 & 77); and Bennett’s Hamilton (wk. of Nov. 16, 1908, p.78)

Gift of Clifford Manny (son of Charles and Lily Manny)
Scarborough, Ont., May 1981