Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: Special Collections & Archives
Title: Thomas A. Butler Collection
Creator: Butler, Thomas A., 1910-2001
Identifier/Call Number: OCH.TBC
Extent: 1.21 linear feet
Date (inclusive): circa 1930-2001
Date (bulk): circa 1930-1948
Abstract: Thomas (Tom) A. Butler was an editor for the English-language *North China Daily News* in Shanghai from the early 1930s until 1948, when he and his family fled from Communist forces to Hong Kong. The collection consists of a selection of editorials written by Butler while at the *North China Daily News* on a variety of current issues, two news articles written about Butler upon his retirement and passing, and eleven silver trophies won by Butler as a member of the Shanghai Bowling Club.

Biographical Information:
Thomas A. (Tom) Butler was born in Clonmell, Ireland in 1910. He immigrated to the United States in 1923, where he attended high school in Pittsburgh and then joined the United States Marines. Butler was stationed in China, and he stayed there after his time in the Marine Corps, becoming a radio announcer, a foreign war correspondent for the *London Daily Telegraph*, and an editor for the English-language newspaper *North China Daily News*. While living in Shanghai, Butler married Cecilia dos Remedios, and they had two daughters, Cathy and Patricia. In 1948, upon hearing that Chinese Communist forces were incarcerating journalists, Butler fled with his family to Hong Kong, where he became the night editor of the *South China Morning Post* until 1955, when the family moved to Vancouver, Canada. Butler then worked as the news editor of *The Vancouver Sun* for 20 years until his retirement in 1975. He passed away at the age of 91 in 2001.

Scope and Contents
The *Thomas A. Butler Collection* mostly consists of news articles and memorabilia related to Butler's life and career in Shanghai during the 1930s and 1940s. The collection is arranged into two series: *Editorials and News Articles* (circa 1930-2001), and *Shanghai Bowling Club Trophies* (1934-1947).

Series I, *Editorials and News Articles*, consists mostly of editorials written by Butler during his tenure as editor of the *North China Daily News* on international current events, including commentaries on World War II diplomacy efforts, major events in Southeast Asia, local Shanghai concerns, and elections in the United States. Also included in the series are two newspaper articles written about Butler upon his retirement and passing.

Series II, *Shanghai Bowling Club Trophies*, consists of eleven silver trophies won by Butler as a member of the Shanghai Bowling Club.

Arrangement of Materials:
Series I: Editorials and News Articles, ca. 1930-2001
Series II: Shanghai Bowling Club Trophies, 1934-1947

Conditions Governing Access:
The collection is open for research use.

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

Preferred Citation:
For information about citing items in this collection consult the appropriate style manual, or see the Citing Archival Materials guide.

Processing Information:
Jessica Geiser, 2013
Subjects and Indexing Terms

Documents

Series I: Editorials and News Articles, ca. 1930-2001

Box 1, Folder 1  
North China Daily News Editorials, ca. 1930-ca. 1949

Box 1, Folder 2  
Vancouver Sun Articles on Tom Butler, 1975, 2001

Series II: Shanghai Bowling Club Trophies, 1934-1947

Box 2, Item 1  
Mens Singles - Duck Pin Championship, 1934

Box 2, Item 2  
Ten Pin - Runner Up, 1935

Box 2, Item 3  
Ten Pin - High Triple, 1935

Box 2, Item 4  
Ten Pin - High Single, 1935

Box 2, Item 5  
Ten Pin - Mixed Doubles Championship, 1938

Box 2, Item 6  
Foreign YMCA, 1939

Box 2, Item 7  
Mens Doubles, 1939

Box 2, Item 8  
Mens Doubles, 1940

Box 2, Item 9  
YMCA Ten Pin, 1941

Box 2, Item 10  
Singles Championship, 1941

Box 2, Item 11  
Duck Pin - Mens Doubles, 1947