Guide to the J. F. Rowny Press Records

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Collection number: Printers Mss 12

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Descriptive Summary
Title: J. F. Rowny Press Records,
Date (inclusive): ca. 1912-1967
Collection Number: Printers Mss 12
Creator: Rowny (J. F.)
Extent: 2 linear feet (5 document boxes)
Repository: University of California, Santa Barbara. Library. Department of Special Collections
Santa Barbara, California 93106-9010
Physical Location: Del Sur
Language: English.
Access Restrictions
None.

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Preferred Citation

Acquisition Information

Biography
Joseph F. Rowny was born in Austria-Hungary in 1882. By 1916, he was living in Los Angeles, California, where he founded the J. F. Rowny Press, which sought to promote works on non-sectarian religion. His company masthead advertised "Philosophical, Metaphysical, Mystic, and the New Age Literature." In the mid-1920s, he began to buy property in Santa Barbara from real estate broker Harold S. Chase. Then, in 1932, he relocated the Press to his new address in Santa Barbara,
and continued to operate it there until his death in 1976 at the age of 93. After his death, a Rowny Foundation was established, which eventually deeded his estate to the Religious Studies Department at the University of California Santa Barbara, which created two chairs in his honor.

**Scope and Content of Collection**

The collection contains records of the Santa Barbara-based J. F. Rowny Press, publishers of works on religion and metaphysics. It includes incoming and some outgoing correspondence (arranged alphabetically), financial records, galleys and typescript drafts of submissions for publication, and some miscellaneous files, including pamphlets and flyers from other authors and publishers of similar kinds of material, many located in California.

Related Rowny publications have been cataloged separately and may be searched on Pegasus, the UCSB Libraries online catalog.

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<tr>
<th>Series 1. Correspondence</th>
<th>Scope and Content Note</th>
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<td><strong>Mainly incoming</strong></td>
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| Box 1: 1 A | Abstract: [incl. Academy of Equilibrium - Los Angeles; American Buddhist Society - Portland, OR; American Institute of Culture - Santa Barbara, CA; Aquarian Ministry - Santa Barbara, CA; Aquarian Institute of Philosophy - Minneapolis, MN; AUM - The Spiritual Life Magazine - Highway highlands, CA] |

| Box 1: 2 B | Abstract: [incl. Buddhist Society - London] |

| Box 1: 3 C | Abstract: [incl. Carey-Perry School of the Chemistry of Life - Hollywood, CA; Chapel of Truth - Germantown, PA; Christ-Way College of Occult Science Los Angeles; Church of Divine Truth - Indianapolis, IN; Church of Light - Los Angeles; College of Mental Science - Santa Monica, CA] |

| Box 1: 4 D | Abstract: [incl. Dharma Book Club - San Francisco, CA] |

| Box 1: 5 E | Box 1: 6 F | Abstract: [incl. First Temple and College of Astrology, Inc. - Los Angeles; Folklore Studio, Los Angeles] |

| Box 1: 7 G | Abstract: [incl. Goya Movado - Lakeside, CA] |

| Box 1: 8 | Box 1: 9 | Box 1: 10 H | Abstract: [incl. Harmonization Fellowship Foundation - Portland, OR; Higher Thought Digest - Kenmore, NY; Holmes' Lectures on Psychology and Metaphysics - Santa Monica, CA] |

| Box 1: 11 I | Abstract: [incl. Infinite Science - Los Angeles; Inner Culture: The Magazine of India - Los Angeles; Institute for the Advancement of Cultural and Spiritual Values - Chicago] |

| Box 1: 12 J |                         |
| Box 1: 13 | Jarvis, Stinson |
| Box 1: 14 | K |
| Box 1: 15 | L |
| Box 1: 16 | Littlefield, George Elmer |
| Box 1: 17 | M |
| Box 1: 18 | Mind Digest |
| Box 1: 19 | N |
| Box 1: 20 | Norden, Max |
| Box 1: 21 | O |
| Box 1: 22 | P |
| Box 2: 1 | Q-R |
| Box 2: 2 | Riley, Frank L. |
| Box 2: 3 | S |
| Box 2: 4 | T |
| Box 2: 5 | Trine, Ralph Waldo |
| Box 2: 6 | U-V |
| Box 2: 7 | W |
| Box 2: 8 | Miscellany/Unidentified |
| Box 2: 9 | Outgoing |
Series 2. **Publications**

Scope and Content Note
drafts, proofs, some related correspondence

- **Box 2: 10**
  - Muschell, Helen - *Oasis in the Cosmos*, 1967

- **Box 2: 11 - 12**
  - Reed, Frederick S. - *Life: In Our World, Continuous Through Eternity*, published 1953

- **Box 3: 1 - 7**
  - Reed - *Life*

  Abstract: [cont.]

- **Box 4: 1 - 3**
  - Romayne, H. Y. - *Anthropos: A Mystery-Play*, published 1953

- **Box 4: 4**
  - Stimson, John Ward - *The Gate Beautiful*, ca. 1925 - 1930

- **Box 4: 5**
  - Stimson, John Ward - *Wandering Chords: Poems*, published 1927

- **Box 4: 6 - 8**
  - Unidentified, n.d.

Series 3. **Miscellany**

- **Box 5: 1**
  - Day Book, n.y.

  Abstract: [receipts and disbursements, including printing jobs]

- **Box 5: 2**
  - Ephemera

  Abstract: [incl. flyers, newsletters, pamphlets, prospectuses, mainly from other authors and publishers of similar kinds of material]

- **Box 5: 3**
  - Financial, ca. 1912 - 1939

  Abstract: [orders, returns, personal finances]

- **Box 5: 4**
  - "The Hermetick Romance; Or Chymical Wedding", n.d.

  Abstract: [typescript, apparently Rosicrucian, author unknown]

- **Box 5: 5**
  - Hope Ranch Park Homes, 1928 - 1929

  Abstract: [financial dealings with Santa Barbara realtor Harold S. Chase, re Rowny purchasing property in Hope Ranch]

- **Box 5: 6**
  - J. F. Rowny Press letterhead stationery, n.d.

- **Box 5: 7**
  - Journal, ca. 1914

  Abstract: [aphorisms, short essays, correspondence - some material laid in]

- **Box 5: 8**

  Abstract: [series of lessons]

- **Box 5: 9**
  - Seton, Julia, n.d.

  Abstract: [biographical sketch of a healer]