

**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

Royal Performance (in the Riding School) at Buckingham Palace, March 22, 1916.  
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.

## Charles Manny Collection

### Inventory

Page 2 of 7

- 1941, May 19. Ernest C. Rolls, Hippodrome, Bristol. Thanks to Manny for use of "Madame Excuse Me" in his revue *Rhapsodies of 1941*.
- 1946, Jan. 22. Invitation to wedding of Carolyn Lynne and Bernard Delfont, London, England.
- 1952, Jan. 3. Holiday greetings from Cleo and Carl Brisson, N.Y.
- 1953, Aug. 29. Cleo and Carl Brisson, San Francisco.
- 1954, Aug. 3. Arthur Astor, London. Note with cheque for commission on "Billy Shakespeare's radio engagements."
- 1956, Apr. 17. Cleo and Carl Brisson, New York.
- 1957, Feb. 6. Sidney Burns, London, Eng. Commenting of effect of television on the theatre.
- 1957, Feb. 11. Carl and Cleo Brisson, New York.
- 1957, Mar. 8. Sidney Burns, London, Eng. Mentioning deaths of some mutual friends.
- 1961, June 23. Manager, Trocadero Restaurant, London, Eng., enclosing 2 menus and with news of an old showbiz figure's death.
- 1962, Mar. 7. Marie and Lee Don, Hollywood, Ca. Letter of sympathy to Lily re: the death of Charlie Manny.
- 1962, Mar. 12. Leslie Macdonnell. Letter of Sympathy to Lily.
- Cards: Sidney Burns (with note on reverse)

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

- 1916, Mar. British Identity book issued to Charles Manny. With endorsements thru August 3, 1954.
- 1929, Apr. 4. Assignment of performance rights for "Customs Dialogue" to C. Manny by Robert Hargreaves.
- 1930, Sept. 1. Contract for "padding of act" between Eugene Conrad, playwright, and Manny and Clay, with receipt for down payment and envelope noting bits of dialogue.
- 1931, June 29. Registration of piece of stage business, Variety Artistes Federation, London.
- 1935, July 27. Agreement between Charles Manny and Messrs. Maurice Cohen and Max Wall for Manny to act as agent.
- 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.

**Charles Manny Collection**

**Inventory**

**Page 3 of 7**

Env. #8: Manuscripts (sheet music) – 5 items

Manny and Roberts. “Arlington Buck Dance” (piano arrangement).

Arranged by Chas. F. Pearce, Lawrence, Mass. 2 pp.

“The Customs Officer”. 1 p.

Manny and Roberts. “Fifteen Cents” (piano arrangement).

Arranged by Dave Peyton, Chicago, Ill. 2pp.

Manny Charlie. “Nevertheless”. 1 pp. (see also Env. 10)

“Opera Burlesque” (piano-conductor). Orchestrated by F. Rowland

Tims, Brighton, 1919. 3 pp.

Env. #9: Sheet Music – 5 items

Porray, Edmund J. “Bring Back Those Bygone Days to Me.”

London, 1918. 3 pp.

“Mr. Lew Lake presents Manny and Roberts in the latest musical comedy, *Dardanells*, written by Joseph Hayman.”

Mann Dave. “Downhearted”. London, 1953. 2 pp.

Von Tilzer, Harry. “I’ll Lend You Everything I’ve Got Except My Wife”. New York, 1910. 3 pp.

“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.

“Go ‘Way Fly” by Michael Hodges with “Sidewalk Sammy” (same author). 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.

“Saddle 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

Charles Manny Collection

Inventory

Page 4 of 7

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

*The Fight of the Century*, by Jos. K. Watson, 1924. pp. typescript.

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.

**Charles Manny Collection**

**Inventory**

**Page 5 of 7**

“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

“The Sailor’s Return”. 2 pp. typescript.  
“Dramatic Moments”. 3 pp. typescript.  
Certified by the Lord Chamberlain.

**Charles Manny Collection**

**Inventory**

**Page 6 of 7**

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.

[1917?], April 16. Belfast. Empire. *Charlie Manny & Vic Roberts, the messenger boys.*

1919, May 26. Glasgow. Empire. *Manny & Roberts, the Messenger Boys from Broadway.*

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

1920, August 9. Boscombe. Hippodrome. *Manny & Roberts, the Messenger Boys from Broadway.*

1924, June 9. Belfast. Royal Hippodrome. *Charlie Manny & Lillian Clay in ... "Flat Love" ...\**

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" ...*

**Charles Manny Collection**

**Inventory**

**Page 7 of 7**

1928, November 5. Birkenhead. Argyle Theatre of Varieties. "*The Anglo-Americans*"  
*Charlie Manny and Lillian Clay in song, dance and story.*

1934, Week of July 16. Aston. Hippodrome. *Charles Manny presents Manny & Roberts*  
*in a fast-moving laughter revue "Samples of 1934" featuring Lillian Clay.*

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 March 31. Shepherds Bush. Empire. *Beryl Beresford & Co. in "Oh, My*  
*Aunt!" , Joe Boganny & Co. in "Fun in a Bakehouse" , Charlie Manny & Lillian Clay in*  
*"Flat Love" ... , Dan Leno, junr., comedian & dancer.* Playbill printed blue, orange and  
red on white. 764 x 255 mm.

1924, June 9. Belfast. Royal Hippodrome. *Charlie Manny & Lillian Clay in ... "Flat*  
*Love" ...* Playbill printed blue and red on white. 888 x 296 mm.

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.

1934, Week of August 20. Hull. New Tivoli. *Charles Manny presents Manny & Roberts*  
*in ... "Samples of 1934" featuring Lillian Clay.* Playbill printed blue, orange and red on  
white. 886 x 284 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  
Inventory: A. Goluska, 12 June 1981, rev.22 Oct. 1981