

The New York Public Library - Stephen A. Schwarzman Building
Manuscripts and Archives Division

Guide to the

New York Times Company records. Amory H. Bradford papers

1946-1975

MssCol 17807

Compiled by Leslie Reyman, April 2011

Summary

Creator: New York Times Company

Title: New York Times Company records. Amory H. Bradford papers, 1946-1975

Size: 1.26 linear feet (3 boxes)

Source: New York Times Company, 2007

Abstract: Amory Bradford was a vice president and general manager of *The New York Times* during the 1950s and early 1960s. The bulk of the papers consist of his office diaries, 1959-1963, and files concerning his lawsuit against the *Times* following his resignation in 1963.

Access: Unrestricted

Preferred citation: New York Times Company records. Amory H. Bradford papers, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

Creator history

Amory Howe Bradford (1912-1998) was a vice president and general manager of *The New York Times* during the 1950s and early 1960s. He joined the *Times* in 1947 as a special assistant to the publisher Arthur Hays Sulzberger, and over the next 16 years became an important member of management. Bradford allied himself with Orvil E. Dryfoos, who became publisher in 1961, and was expected by some to be his successor. Bradford was also chairman of the New York City Publishers Association and became its chief negotiator during the 1962-1963 the printers' union strike.

Two months after the strike, Dryfoos died, and Arthur Ochs Sulzberger was named president and publisher of the *Times*. Bradford resigned; issuing a statement saying he was "not in agreement with the proposed plan of reorganization".

When he became an executive of Scripps-Howard Newspapers in 1964, the *Times* found him in violation of its Incentive Compensation Plan and withheld stock awarded to him because he had joined a competitor. Bradford brought a lawsuit against the *Times*, but was unsuccessful.

Scope and content note

As with other collections from the New York Times Company Records, the Bradford papers are divided into two series: People and Subjects. While the papers contain various biographical and personal materials, including some correspondence, clippings, memos, and photographs, the bulk of the papers consist of his office diaries, 1959-1963, and files concerning his lawsuit against the *Times*. The office diaries provide a detailed accounts of his meetings and other daily activities. However, there are no diaries for for the period of the newspaper strike December 8, 1962- April 1, 1963.

Arrangement

The New York Times Company records. Amory H. Bradford papers are organized into the following series:

- I. People
- II. Subjects

Key terms

Subjects

Covenants not to compete -- United States
Newspaper publishing -- New York (State) -- New York

Titles

New York times

Names

Bradford, Amory
New York Times Company

Special formats

Diaries
Photographs

Container list

I. People

- Bancroft, Harding F.
See: Litigation, Incentive Compensation Plan, Depositions, 1969
- b.1 f.1 Catledge, Turner, 1972
Mr. Catledge's recollection of the events of June 6, 1963, leading to the nomination of Arthur Ochs Sulzberger as publisher of *The Times*, and the resignation of Bradford.
Cox, Francis A.
See: Litigation-Incentive Compensation Plan, Depositions, 1969
Lane, Charles C. (See: Postal Rates, 1949-1958)
- b.1 f.2 Olson, John B., 1963
Case involving the agreement not to compete under the Incentive Compensation Plan. This case was used as background material in the Bradford case.
Sulzberger, Arthur Ochs
See: Litigation, Incentive Compensation Plan, 1958-1975; Litigation, Incentive Compensation Plan, Depositions, 1969

II. Subjects

- Access to Public Records (See: *New York Post*, 1955)
- b.1 f.3 Articles About Bradford Family, 1954-1970
- b.1 f.4 Biography
- b.1 f.5 Bowater Paper Co., 1946-1961
Correspondence and signed contracts for newsprint.
Communism
See: Staff, Senate Investigation, 1955-1956
Deferred Compensation
See: Litigation, Incentive Compensation Plan, 1958-1975
- b.3 f.1-8 Diaries, 1959-1963 (Daily journals of Amory Bradford)
Executive Compensation
See: Litigation, Incentive Compensation Plan, 1958-1975
- b.1 f.6 Free Press and Fair Trial, 1960
Records regarding Mr. Bradford's participation in the Judicial Conference Panel on Free Speech and Fair Trial.
Free Speech and Fair Trial (See: Free Press and Fair Trial, 1960)
Litigation (See also: *New York Post*, 1955)
Incentive Compensation Plan (4 folders. see also: Olson, John B., 1963)
- b.1 f.7-12 1958-1975, 1958-1975
Background records relating to the resignation of Bradford from *The Times* in disagreement over the nomination of Arthur Ochs Sulzberger as Publisher and the ensuing lawsuit by Bradford seeking to recover some retirement units awarded to him under the Incentive Compensation Plan. *The Times* has withheld those units on the grounds that Bradford, by going to work for a competitor failed to hold himself available as a consultant as required by the Incentive Compensation Plan. Of special interest: Correspondence regarding the general principles underlying the Incentive Compensation Plan (ICP) (1958). Sequence of events leading to Bradford's resignation (1963). Association of Bradford with Scripps-Howard Newspapers and discontinuance by *The Times* of payments to Bradford of the ICP. Suit by Bradford (1967-1974). Copy of *The Times* Incentive Compensation Plan as amended 1959 Dec. 17. History of Incentive Compensation Plan. Proposed revision of *The Times* Incentive Compensation Plan in light of the Bradford case (1974). Articles on deferred compensation.

II. Subjects (cont.)

Litigation (cont.)

Incentive Compensation Plan (cont.)

- b.2 f.1 Depositions, 1969
Deposition of the defendant, *The New York Times* by Arthur Ochs Sulzberger. Outline of testimony by *Times* executives, including H. Bancroft and F. A. Cox.
- b.2 f.2 Interrogatories, 1968-1971
Interrogatories from Bradford's lawyers and *The Times*' answers. Determination of who *The Times* competitors are. This was one of the crucial issues in the lawsuit against *The Times* by Bradford. Policy of *The Times* not to accept advertising from the *Herald Tribune*. Photocopies.

Long Island Press

See: Litigation, Incentive Compensation Plan, Interrogatories, 1968-1971

Management Changes

See: Litigation-Incentive Compensation Plan, 1958-1975

- b.2 f.3 Memoranda to the Staff, 1961
Regular reports on matters of general interest to the staff.
- b.2 f.4 Miscellaneous Papers, 1948-1958
Letter to the Editor re: records of insurance and retirement plan, contribution to Neediest cases, etc.
- b.2 f.5 *New York Herald Tribune*, 1963-1972
Memoranda relating to talk about a possible joint venture or merger of the *Herald Tribune* and *The New York Times*.. See also: Litigation-Incentive Compensation Plan, Interrogatories, 1968-1971
- b.2 f.6 *New York Post*, 1955
Papers regarding a suit by *The New York Post* to obtain the transcript of a public trial.
- b.2 f.7 Newsprint (See: Bowater Paper Co., 1946-1961)
- b.2 f.7 Photographs (Portraits of Bradford and family)
- b.2 f.8 Postal Rates, 1949-1958
Appearance before congressional committees on Post Office and Civil Service by Bradford, Ivan Veit and C.C. Lane.

Scripps-Howard Newspapers, Inc.

See: Litigation, Incentive Compensation Plan, 1958-1975

Staff

Compensation

See: Litigation, Incentive Compensation Plan, 1958-1975

- b.2 f.9 Senate Investigation, 1955-1956
Bradford's memoranda and handwritten notes on the hearings of the Senate Subcommittee investigating communist infiltration of newspapers.

Veit, Ivan B. (See: Postal Rates, 1949-1958)