



The New York Public Library  
Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture,  
Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division

Guide to the

**Charles H. Bynum papers**

1905-1996

Sc MG 784

## Summary

**Creator:** Bynum, Charles H. (Charles Hudson), 1905-1996

**Title:** Charles H. Bynum papers

**Date:** 1905-1996

**Size:** 0.83 linear feet (2 boxes)

**Source:** Gift of Dianne H. McDonald, 2008.

**Revision History:** Finding aid updated by Lauren Stark.

**Abstract:** Charles H. Bynum was best known for his directorship of Intergroup Relations for the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis (now the March of Dimes), from 1944 to 1971. The Charles H. Bynum papers document his work with the March of Dimes as well as other activities.

**Preferred citation:** [Item], Charles H. Bynum papers, Sc MG 784, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, The New York Public Library

**Language of the Material:** English

**Processing note:** Accessioned by Artis Q. Wright, June 2008.

**Separated Materials:**

Transferred to the General Research and Reference Division: calendars and book

Transferred to the Photographs and Prints Division: photographs

## Creator History

Charles H. Bynum was best known for his directorship of Intergroup Relations for the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis (now the March of Dimes), from 1944 to 1971. He is credited for raising millions of dollars in support of patient care, vaccination programs, scholarships for people of color, and a model for involvement of Black national organizations and community leaders in the

solution of major health problems.

## **Scope and Content Note**

The Charles H. Bynum papers document his work with the March of Dimes as well as other activities. The Biographical series includes an interview with Bynum done in 1988. The March of Dimes series contains scattered documentation concerning his work on behalf of the organization, including a travel planner that documents the range and extent of his work and names of individuals and Black institutions that received scholarships and grants to conduct research on infantile paralysis/polio. The Capitalization of "Negro" series consists principally of letters to editors of Texas newspapers advocating for the capitalization of the word during the 1930s.

**Arrangement:** Collection organized into three series: I. Biographical; II. March of Dimes; and III. and Capitalization of "Negro"

## **Key Terms**

### **Subjects**

African American men  
Authors, Black  
Child welfare -- United States -- Societies, etc.  
Diseases  
Health education -- African Americans  
Infants -- Diseases  
Poliomyelitis

### **Geographic Names**

United States -- Race relations

### **Names**

Bynum, Charles H. (Charles Hudson), 1905-1996  
March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation  
National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis  
Tuskegee University

## Container List

### Biographical 1905-1996

- b. 1 f. 1 Birth certificate 1905
- b. 1 f. 2 Family background on Theodore Bynum undated
- b. 1 f. 3 Resume
- b. 1 f. 4 Transcripts undated  
Includes transcripts for Lincoln University and University of Pennsylvania Graduate School.
- b. 1 f. 5 Scrapbook 1923
- b. 1 f. 6 Interview with Gabriel Stickle 1988
- b. 1 f. 7 Funeral program and obituary 1996
- b. 1 f. 8 Masons meritorious certificate, Lodge 24
- b. 1 f. 9 Phi Delta Pi reunion correspondence 1982-1988
- b. 1 f. 10 Reveille Club of New York, Inc. active membership 1992
- b. 1 f. 11 Bynum, Charles. "Research Projects (Unpublished)" undated
- b. 1 f. 12 Kinston Teachers Unit Annual Professional Meeting 1955
- b. 1 f. 13 European Tour of Presbyterian Laymen 1952

### March of Dimes 1938-1996

- b. 1 f. 14 National Foundation of Infantile Paralysis, awards and grants to institutions  
1938-1958
- b. 1 f. 15-16 Travel planner 1944-1971
- b. 1 f. 17 Report of the Consultant to the Director of Interracial Activities 1946
- b. 2 f. 1 Memorandum on interracial activities 1948
- b. 2 f. 2 Tuskegee Project memorandum 1954
- b. 2 f. 3 National Committee for a Salute to Charlie 1970-1972
- b. 2 f. 4 Letter to President Basil O'Conner 1971
- b. 2 f. 5 "A Salute to Charlie and Reunion of National Foundation March of Dimes  
Workers" program 1972
- b. 2 f. 6 Scrapbook of retirement congratulatory letters 1972
- b. 2 f. 7 Retirement news clippings 1972
- b. 2 f. 8 Retirement party thank you letter 1972
- b. 2 f. 9 Tuskegee Institute Certificate of Appreciation 1972
- b. 2 f. 10 Friends who honored Charlie ca. 1972
- b. 2 f. 11 Retirement benefits letter 1977
- b. 2 f. 12 Bynum memorial press release from March of Dimes 1996
- b. 2 f. 13 "Ghetto Involvement and Birth Defects Prevention" undated

### Capitalization of "Negro" 1934

- b. 2 f. 14 *Letter to managing editors of Dallas Dispatch, Dallas Morning News, and  
Times-Herald* 1934
- b. 2 f. 15 Letter to Dr. R. R. Moton of Tuskegee Institute 1934
- b. 2 f. 16 *Letter to Jimmy Lovell regarding Amos 'n Andy* 1934
- b. 2 f. 17 Affirmative brief capitalizing the word "Negro" undated
- b. 2 f. 18 Miscellaneous undated