UQFL96
James George Drake Collection

Size 2 boxes, 1 parcel

Contents Manuscripts, typescripts, photocopies, photographs and painting. Correspondence, essays and articles; material associated with Drake's publishing activities; invitations, programmes and commemorative souvenirs, etc. newspaper cuttings and cuttings books, notebook and miscellaneous material.

Date range 1875 to 1929

Biography Journalist and publisher, politician and lawyer. Arrived in Australia from England 1873. Worked as a journalist and barrister. Elected to Queensland Parliament as member for Enoggera 1888 to 1899 and to Queensland Legislative Council 1899 to 1901. Entered federal politics in 1901 as senator for Queensland. Was Postmaster-General 1901 to 1903, Minister for Defence August to September 1903 and Attorney General 1906. In 1910 he became Crown Prosecutor for Central Queensland and from 1921 was engaged in private legal practice. Drake’s publishing activities include his association with the following newspapers The Boomerang, Progress and Commonwealth: an Australian national journal. Partners in the Boomerang Newspaper Company were initially William Lane, Alfred Walker and James George Drake. Drake was also editor and proprietor of Progress (1899 to 1901) and Commonwealth (1906).

Notes Unrestricted access
The collection was rehoused in 2015 and box numbers were reallocated. Refer to the chart at the end of this listing to convert old box numbers to new numbers.

Box 1

1 Drake, James George, 1850-1941
Letter 7th October 1904, the Senate, Melbourne (to A.) St Ledger. Letter comments on political coalition.


3 – 89 Correspondence, 1875 to 1908, chiefly concerning Drake’s political activities. Letters (from Gresley Lukin) refers to his publishing activities:
- 4: Australian Department of External Affairs
- 5 – 8: Australia: Governor General
- 9: Australia: Prime Minister
- 10 – 27: Barton, Edmund
28: Biggs, Arthur
29: Bonython, Sir John Langdon
30: Brabant & Co.
31: Buswell, William R
32: Chamberlain, Joseph
33 – 34: Chermside, Herbert Charles
35: Chermside, Geraldine
36: Cornwall, Duke of (Prince George Frederick Ernest Albert)
37: Deakin, Alfred
38: Douglas, John
39: Earle, Horace (Secretary, Johnsonian Club, Brisbane)
40: Evans, George Essex
41: Fisher, Walter
42: Garno, J.D.
43 – 45: Gay, William
46: Holden, J.W.
47: Henniker-Heaton, J.
48 – 50: Hutton, Sir Edward
51: Imperial Russian Consulate (Melbourne)
52: Kidston, William
53: Lamington, Charles
54: Lamington, May
55: Lilley, Charles
56: Linlithgow, Hersey (Hersey Hopetown)
57 – 60: Lukin, Gresley
61: Miller, Granville
62: Mount Morgan Federation Committee
63: Neddon, C
64: O’Connor, Judge Richard Edward
65: Prince of Wales (George Frederick Ernest Albert)
66: Quick, John
68: Queensland Defence Force
69 – 70: Rawson, Harry H
71 – 73: Reid, George
74: St. Ledger, A.
75: Seabrook, G.
76: South Australia. Agent General (London)
77: Tennyson, Lady Audrey
78: Thynne, A.J.
79 – 83: Walrond, W.H.
84: Western Australia Governor
85: Wise, Bernhard Ringrose
86 – 88: Unidentified Correspondents

Location of the Australian capital city: a stumbling block in the way of federation. Article. 1894.

The federal post office [and] first Commonwealth stamp. Article. [n.d]

A flying trip to Sydney (James G. Drake. – n.d.). About a train trip to Sydney from Brisbane and about his appointments there with newspaper editors.

The search for a federal capital (James G. Drake, n.d.). Manuscript contains various drafts of essay later titled, The search for a federal capital.

The search for a federal capital (James G. Drake, n.d.)


Sir G. Hardfist: first federal treasurer / by James G. Drake, 1926. Article from The Sun 13 Jul 1926. Article is about Sir George Turner, first Federal Treasurer.

Starting a new department: brush with Mr Crick (and) P.M.G. without any post offices / by J.G. Drake, 1926. Articles from The Sun (Sydney) 8 May 1926.

Random recollections: past and future, number 1/ James G. Drake. Essay contains recollections of a meeting on the eve of the Federation Referendum in N.S.W, of George Reid and of politics in early years of the Commonwealth.


Drake, James George, 1850-1941
[Material associated with the Boomerang Newspaper Company]. Contains notes on term of agreement; agreements dated 1887; minutes of meetings 28 Nov 1890 to 4 Apr 1892; forms appointing proxy votes. Partners in the Boomerang Newspaper Company were William Lane, Alfred Walker and James George Drake.

Brisbane Courier
The Boomerang, extract from the Brisbane Courier, Saturday 21 Mar 1931. Boomerang newspaper ran from 1887 to 1892. It was edited originally by William Lane and James G. Drake and was later edited by Gresley Lukin.

Drake, James George, 1850-1941
Agreement between James George Drake and Charles Moffatt Jenkinson regarding Drake selling to Jenkinson all title and interest in and to the paper, Progress- 4 Oct 1901. The full name of the paper was: Progress, a journal devoted to the advancement and property of Queensland as a colony and as a state of the Australian Commonwealth 1899 to 1901. Proprietor and editor was James George Drake.

Material associated with the newspaper, Commonwealth: an Australian national journal, proprietor and editor James G. Drake, 1905 to 1906. Contains issues of Commonwealth 6 Jan 1906 to 30 Jun 1906 [2 sets]; certificate of registration in the Supreme Court; letter from Drake to W. Keid indemnifying him against libel charges;
gouche painting, Commonwealth, used as design for front cover of the journal (housed separately). William Keid was printer of Commonwealth.

122 – 125 **Drake, James George, 1850-1941**
Invitations, programmes and commemorative souvenirs, etc, 1902 to 1929. Menu, Parliament House luncheon 13 Oct 1902, entrée card, Parliament House, 12 June 1939; Invitation, reception for American Naval visit 1925; Toast list, first Queensland (the Moreton regiment) reunion, 10 Aug 1929.

**Box 2**

126 – 129 Invitations, programmes and commemorative souvenirs, etc: the opening of the first Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia, Melbourne, 9 May 1901. Contains Programme; form of prayer; speech delivered by His Royal Highness the Duke of Cornwall and York at the opening of parliament; official directory of invited guests.


144 – 146 **Drake, James George, 1850-1941**
Cuttings on Drake’s political activities, 1887 to 1893. Contains cuttings on: Drake’s participation in elections in the Enoggera electorate 1887 to 1893; include letters to the editor; speeches; meetings attended by Drake and his participation in parliament, Queensland politics.

147 – 148 Cuttings on Polynesian labour in Queensland, 1892 to 1893. Contains cuttings on the Polynesian (Kanaka) labour question in Queensland and related political debates.

149 – 151 Cuttings on Queensland politics, Sir Thomas McIlwraith, land and village settlement, industrial conciliation and labour and lectures by Drake, 1892 to 1895.

152 **Telegraph (Brisbane)**
Mr Drake’s speech at Red Hill: the Enoggera election, 2 Sep [1888]. Extract from the Telegraph, 2 Sep 1888: Telegraph’s account of Drake’s speech.

153 **Drake, James George, 1850-1941**
Newspaper cuttings. Contains cuttings on Drake’s political activities and activities as Crown Prosecutor and other miscellaneous cuttings.

154 English Speaking Union (notebook), 1923 to 1926. Contains aims and rules of the English Speaking Union; notes; newspaper cuttings; lecture notes; verse and extracts from books. Drake was president of the English Speaking Union in 1923.


161 **Griffith, Sir Samuel Walker, 1845-1920**
A speech delivered by the Honourable S.W. Griffith, Q.C., M.L.A. at the Town Hall, Brisbane on Tuesday 8th May 1883.
162  Macgregor, Peter Balderston
Extract from Queensland Parliamentary debates 6th September 1921; address in reply speech on the proposed retirement of Drake as Crown Prosecutor on account of having reached the age limit (1921).

163 – 165  Drake, James George 1850-1941
Miscellaneous material. Contains pencil and ink sketch of James George Drake, publications on Japanese postage.

Parcel 1
1 photo and 1 sketch of Reverend James O’Quinn, first bishop of Brisbane
Framed picture with words “Commonwealth – unity is strength” (Cover for journal Commonwealth)

Catalogued to Fryer main run
James G. Drake : an address, Sydney: A.B.C., 1938 (1 sound cassette (18 min.), call number DU116.D7A5 1938)

Box number conversion chart

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<th>Old no.</th>
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<td>3 (part) – 5</td>
<td>Box 2</td>
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<td>Parcel 6</td>
<td>Parcel 1</td>
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<td>Parcel 7</td>
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