

The Home News

This collection contains letters written mostly by Joseph Benjamin Ivey (1864-1958), the founder of Ivey's Department Store in Charlotte, with some by his son George M. Ivey ("the Charlotte Reporter") and other family members. The letters were written between 1925 and 1963 give news of Mr. Ivey's family, neighbors, church, business, and travels. They were written at first for his two daughters who had married and moved away, but the list of recipients grew to include other family members and friends.

- Letters are ordered by date
- Until 1958 author is J.B. Ivey unless indicated otherwise. From 1958 on, author is George Ivey unless indicated otherwise
- When other documents besides Home News letters are included with the file, they are included at the end of the month in which they occur.

1925

January 7
December 29

1926

January 14, 21
February 25
March 4 (George Ivey), 11 (George Ivey), 18 (George Ivey)
April 1, 9
May 6 (George Ivey), 10 (George Ivey), 28
June 5, 10, undated
July none
August none
September none
October undated, 22, 28
November 4, 11, 22, 27
December 3, 9, 30

1927

January 7, 20, 27
February 25
March undated (Note in margin dates it as "Feb or Mar 1926", but snowstorm reference places it in 1927)
undated (Note in margin says 1926, but reference to new theater places it in 1927)
undated (George Ivey) (Note in margin says 1926, but it follows on from previous letter.)
19 (Note in margin says 1926, but death of Addie Caldwell - 3/16/1927 - is mentioned in letter.)
April none
May 31 (George Ivey)

June 9
July none
August none
September none
October 20
November 21
December 6,
13 (first page missing) (Note says 1928, but mention of death of Annie
Cole - 12/13/1927 - places it in previous year)
28

1928

January 4, 10, 17, 24
February undated (Marginal notes says 1928. Internal evidence points to early
February.)
8
15
undated (George Ivey) (Note says "March 21", but reference to "Father and
Daisy travelling" puts letter in February.)
March 10, 15
April 10, 19
May 1, 8, 16, 22, 28
June 6, 14, 21, undated
July 3, 10
August none
September 21, 28
October 4, 18, 26, 31
November 5, 15
December 4, 12, 16?

1929

January 19, 18-29 (George Ivey)
February 6-26 (George Ivey)
March 14, 21, 30 (Ella Ivey)
April 1, 11, 18, 25
May 3, 11, 26
June 6, 28
July 8, 31
August 6
September 3, 12
October 8, 16, 22, 30
November 8, 16, 25
December 3, 11, 18, 24

1930

January 1
February 13, 19
March 6, 15, 21, 29
April 2, 3, 5, 11, 19, 25
May 5, 10, 12, undated (Marginal note says "Spring, 1930"), 26, 31
June 9, 16, 22, 30
July 7, 14, 21, 28 (letter is dated "June 28, 1930", but content indicates the correct date is July.)
August 4, 9 (undated - Note says only "August."), 19
September 1, 27
October 13, 26
November 4, 10, 17, 25
December 9, 15, 29

1931

January none
February none
March 3, 10, 24, 31
April 7, 21, 28
May 12, 20, 26
June 2, 9, 16
July 8
August none
September none
October 10, 17, 31
November 9
December 3, 9, 17, 31

1932

January 7
February
March 1, 11, 15, 22, 31
April 14
May 2, 11, 17, 23, 30
June 6 (undated, but death of Rachel Crisp - 6/5/1932 - mentioned in letter),
11 (Note says "June 11, 1926". Year is wrong, but day seems about right.)
22
29
July 13, 19
August 30
September 10, 19
October 13, 25
November 2, 12, 18, 23
December 2, 8, 15

1933

January none
February 7
March 17
25
undated (Note says "Spring 1934", but references to bank moratorium and
"State Fair" with Will Rogers place it in 1933.)
April 8, 26
May 8, 18
June 23
July 7, 12, 21
August none
September 2, 15
October 20, 28
November 8, 21
December 4, 12, 22, 30

1934

January 6, 15, 30
February 6, 14, 20, 27
March 6, 13
April
May 5, 21, 28
June 30
July 6, 19, 23, 31
August
September 7, 15
October 9, 17, 31
November 9, 28
December 8

1935

January 7, 14,
February 5, 12, 19, 27
March 7, 14, 22
April 2, 8, 15, 30
May 6, 23,
June 10, 17, 30
July 8, 14, 22, 29
August 7, 20, 29
September 13
October 9, 31
November 7, 15, 23
December 7, 21

1936

January 11, 18, 25
February 1, 8, 17, 24, 29
March 10, 17, 26
April 13, 21
May 22
June 2, 21, 28
July 6, 12, 19, 26
August 17
September 2, 13, 21
October undated, 24, 30
November 14, 21, 28
December 9, 16, 23

1937

January 7, 19, 27
February 18, 27
March 13, 22, 31
April 12, 30,
May 21 (marginal note says May 19)
June 10
July 20
August undated
September 17
October 4, 15, 23
November 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
December 6, 13, 21

typescript copies of articles for Charlotte Observer about trip to California

1938

January 3, 10, 18, 31
February 11, undated, 19
March 8, 19, 29
April 15
May 4, 14, 20
June 4, 13, 20,
July 1, 9, 17, 24, 31
August 10, 24
September 1, 13, 26
October 7, 17, 25
November 8, 30
December 9, 13, 22

1939

January 4, 14, 20, 27
February 4, 25
March 9, 27
April 3, 11, 14, undated
May 5, 20
June 2, 12, 19, 28
July undated, 6, 18, 28
August 8, 25
September 7, 13, 29
October 7, 15, 23
November 1, 11, 24
December 11, 28

typescript copy of JB's letter to the Charlotte News of a trip to California in 1906.

1940

January 8, 15, 22, 29
February 5, 12, 21
March 12, 20, 30
April 1, 9, 17, 23, undated
May undated, 15, 30
June 6, 13, 20, 28
July 5, 13, 23, 29
August 9, 14, 19
September 3, 11, 24
October 2, 12, 21, 29
November 9, 15, 23
December 3, 11

1941

January 1, 15
February 23
March 2, 11, 20
April 14, 28
May 6, 12, 22, 28
June 5, 12, 20, 26
July 14, 30
August 7, 13, 28
September 19
October 2, 9, 17, 25
November 1, 24
December 1, 8, 16, 30

1942

January 5, 12, 19, 26
February 8, 15
March 2, 8, 13 (by George Ivey), 15, 23, 31
April 7, 13, 20
May 11, 18, 25,
June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
July 7, 14, 21, 28
August 4, 11, undated, 24
September 1, 14, 21, 30
October 6, 12, 19, 26
November 2, 9, 23, 30
December 7

1943

January 3, 26
February 2, 8
March 8, 15, 25, 29, undated Spring 1943
April 5, 12, 19, 26
May 3, 10, 25, 31
June 8, 14, 21, 28
July 6, 13, 19, 27
August 1, 16, 23, 31
September 7, 13, 20, 27
October 4, 11, 18, 25
November 1, 8, 22, 26, 29
December 6, 13, 27

1944

January 1, 10, 17, 22, 24, 31
February 15, 21
March 6, 13, 20, 27
April 4, 11, 19, 24
May 1, 8, 16, 22, 29
June 5, 12, 16 (George Ivey), 19, 27, 30 (George Ivey)
July 7, 13, 18, 24
August 1, 10 (Ella), 14, 21, 28
September 13, 19, 25
October 2, 8, 16, 23, 30
November 6, 15, undated poem (Mary Clare Ivey), 20, 27
December 4, 9, 11, 26, undated December 1944

1945

January 8, 15, 22, 29 (George Ivey)
February 5 (includes undated "Gleanings by the Charlotte Reporter"), 12, 19, 26
March 6, 12, 19 (includes undated "Gleanings by the Charlotte Reporter"), 26

April 2 (includes undated "Gleanings by the Charlotte Reporter"), 25
May 1, 9, 14, 21, 28
June 5, 11 (George Ivey), 12, 18, 25
July 2, 9, 17 (George Ivey), 18, 23 (George Ivey), 24, 29, 30 (George Ivey)
August 5, 17, 19
September 3, 9, 11 (George Ivey), 17, 23, 29 (George Ivey)
October 1, 8, 14 (George Ivey), 15, 22, 29
November 5, 13 (George Ivey), 19 (George Ivey), 20, 26 (George Ivey)
December 3, 10, 17, 31

1946

January 7, 13, 15 (George Ivey), 21, 22 (George Ivey), 28, 29 (George Ivey)
February 3, 5 (Clara Ivey; George Ivey), 10, 11 (George Ivey), 17, 19 (George Ivey), 25, 26 (George Ivey)
March 4, 11, 12 (George Ivey), 23, 26 (George Ivey), 30
April 1 (George Ivey), 7 (George Ivey), 8, 15, 29
May 8, 13, 17 (J.B. Ivey & Helen Carter), 27
June 3, 10, 17, 24, 28 (George Ivey)
July 2, 8 (George Ivey), 10, 22, 24 (George Ivey), 30
August 5, 13, 15 (George Ivey), 19, 26
September 3, 9, 16, 23
October 1, 8, 14, 17 (J.B. Ivey & Helen Carter), 21, 29
November 4, 11, 18, 25, undated November 1946 (J.B. Ivey & Helen Carter)
December 2, 9, 23, 30

1947

January 6, 14, 15 (George Ivey), 17, 19 (George Ivey), 20, 27
February 3 (George Ivey), 10, 18, 24 (George Ivey), 25
March 2 (George Ivey), 3, 8 (George Ivey), 10, 15 (George Ivey), 17, 22, 24, 27 (George Ivey), undated, 31
April 5 (George Ivey), 7, 14, 21, 28
May 5, 19, 26
June 2, 9, 14 (George Ivey), 15 (George Ivey), 16, 22 (Virginia), 23, 30
July 7, 14 (George Ivey), 15, 21, 28
August 18, 24, 25
September 1, 2 (George Ivey), 8, 15, 22, 29
October 6, 14, 20, 27
November 3, 17, 22 (J.B. Ivey & Helen Carter), 24
December 1, 8, 15, 22

1948

January 5, 10, 12
February 2, 16, 23
March 1, 8, 15, 23 (George Ivey), 24, 29

April 5, 12, 19, 26, 30 (J.B. Ivey & Helen Carter)
May 3, 10, 17, 25
June 7, 14, 21, 28
July 3, 6 (George Ivey), 11, 13 (George Ivey), 20, 26
August 2, 9, 16, 23, 24 (George Ivey), 30
September 20, 21 (George Ivey)
October 4, 5 (George Ivey), 11, 12 (George Ivey), 18, 25
November 2, 8, 15, 22, 29
December 6, 13, 20, 27

1949

January 3, 11 (Ralph Conner), 17, 20 (George Ivey), undated (Ella Ivey Litaker), 31
February 1 (George Ivey), 7, 8 (George Ivey), 14, 15 (George Ivey), undated (Ella Ivey Litaker), 21, 23 (George Ivey), 28
March 1 (George Ivey), 7, 9 (George Ivey)
April 3 (Ella Ivey Litaker), undated (Ella Ivey Litaker), 5, 18, 25, 30 (J.B. Ivey & Helen Carter)
May 2, 9, 16, 22 (Ella Ivey Litaker), 24, 30
June 5, (Ella Ivey Litaker), 6, 12 (Ella Ivey Litaker), 13, 19 (Ella Ivey Litaker), 20, 27
July 5, 11, 12 (George Ivey), 18, 19 (George Ivey), 25, 26 (George Ivey)
August 8, 15, 22, 29, 31
September 6, 12, 26, 30 (Erv Jr.)
October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
November 7, 14, 21, undated (J.B. Ivey & Helen Carter), 28
December 5, 12, 19, 27

1950

January 3, 9, 16 (George Ivey), 23, 28, 29
February 4, 6 (George Ivey), 9, 13 (George Ivey), 17, 20 (George Ivey), 27
March 6, 13, 20
April 1, 3, 10, 19, 24, 27
May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
June 7, 12, 19, 26, 28
July 3, 12, 15-31 (Mary Clare Ivey), 17
August 1, 2 (Mary Clare Ivey), 7, 7-14 (Mary Clare Ivey), 14, 21, 28
September 3, 10, 18, 25
October 2 (J.B. Ivey & Helen Carter), 3, 7, 16, 23, 30
November 6, 13, 20, 27
December 11, 18, 26

1952

January 14, 17 (George Ivey), 21, 28
February 4, 11, 11 (George Ivey), 18, 26 (2 copies)

March

Home News - 3, 10, 17, 31,
Other Correspondence - 31 (G F Ivey to Howard Wilkinson)

April 7, 14, 21, 28

May

Home News - 5 (2 copies), 6 (Helen Carter and J. B. Ivey) 12 (2 copies), 19 (2 copies), 26
Other Correspondence - 3 (George Ivey to Howard Wilkinson) 5 (Howard Wilkinson to Mr. and Mrs. Ivey), 6 (G. F. Ivey to Howard Wilkinson), 15 (Ella Litaker to Howard Wilkinson) 23 (Howard Wilkinson to Oliver Litaker)

June 2, 9, 17, 24 (2 copies) 30 (George Ivey)

July

Home News - 1, 8, 8 (George Ivey), 14 (Robert Litaker), 15, 21, 22 (George Ivey), 28, 29 (George Ivey)
Other Correspondence - 15 (Ervin Jackson, Jr. to Howard Wilkinson)

August 4, 7 (George Ivey), 11, undated (Virginia Ivey), 18, 25, 27 (George Ivey)

September

Home News - 1, 2, (George Ivey), 8, 9 (George Ivey), 15, 16 (George Ivey), 22, 30, 30 (George Ivey) undated (Corey Jackson) undated (Helen Carter and J. B. Ivey)
Other Correspondence - 5 (Howard Wilkinson to Mrs. Ivey)

October

Home News - 6, 13, 20, 27
Newspaper Clipping - 2 (obituary of George F. Ivey)
Other Correspondence - 2 (Nita & Howard Wilkinson to J. B. Ivey), 8 (J. B. Ivey to Friends), 10 (Mary Clare's wedding invitation)

November

Home News - 3, 6, 17, 26 (George Ivey & J. B. Ivey)
Other Correspondence - 9 (Howard Wilkinson to Mrs. Ivey)

December

Home News - 1 (J. B. Ivey & George Ivey), 8, 16 (J. B. Ivey & George Ivey), 19 (George Ivey), 22, 26 (George Ivey), 29 (J. B. Ivey & George Ivey)
Other Correspondence - 9 (J. B. Ivey to Howard Wilkinson)

1953

January 3 (George Ivey), 5, 9 (George Ivey), 12, 19 (J. B. Ivey & George Ivey), 26 (J. B. Ivey & George Ivey)

February

Home News - 2, 5 (George Ivey), 10, 17, 23
Other Correspondence - 16 (George Ivey to Katherine Jackson)

March

Home News - 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, undated ("Report from Ella")
Other Correspondence - 27 (J. B. Ivey to Howard Wilkerson [sic])

April 3 (Ella Litaker), 6, 13 (J. B. Ivey & Ella Litaker), 20, 27 (J. B. Ivey & Ella Litaker)
May 4 (2 copies), 11, 18, 25

June
Home News - 1, 15, 16 (George Ivey), 22, 30
First Methodist Church program - 14

July 6, 8, 14, 20, 27
August 3, 10, 17, undated "A Visit to Fort Jackson, South Carolina" (George Ivey),
20 (George Ivey), 25, 31
September - undated Fall 1953, 7, 14, 21 (including "A Trip To The Greenbrier
Hotel" (George Ivey) [2 copies]), 28
October 5, 12, 13 (George Ivey), 19, 26
November 2, 9, 13 (George Ivey), 16, 23
December 1, 7, 14, 21, 28

1954

January 5, 11, 18 (J. B. Ivey & Clara H. Phillips), 25 (J. B. Ivey & Ella Litaker)

February
Home News - 1, 8, 15, 22
Other Correspondence - 19 (J. B. Ivey to Howard Wilkinson)

March 1, 11 (George Ivey), 15, 22, 30
April 5, 12, 19, 26

May
Home News - 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 (Mrs. J. B. Ivey), undated (Mary A. Clark, Ila G.
Campbell, Helen Carter)
Other Correspondence - 24 (George Ivey to Howard Wilkinson)

June
Home News - 7 (Mrs. J. B. Ivey), 15, 24, 29
First Methodist Church program - 6
Other Correspondence - 14 (J. B. Ivey to Howard Wilkinson), 16 (Howard Wilkinson
to J. B. Ivey)

July 5, 13 (George Ivey), 17 (George Ivey), 26 (George Ivey)
August 2 (George Ivey), 10 (George Ivey), 16 (George Ivey), 24 (George Ivey), 28
(George Ivey; 2 copies), 30 (J. B. Ivey; 2 copies)
September 4 (George Ivey), 8, 11 (George Ivey), 14, 20, 29
October 12, 18 (Mrs. J. B. Ivey & George Ivey), 28 (George Ivey)
November 3 (Mrs. J. B. Ivey), 9 (J. B. Ivey & Mrs. J. B. Ivey), 16, 23, 30

December
Home News - 7, 14, 21, 28

Other Correspondence - 29 (J. B. Ivey to Howard & Nita Wilkinson)

1955

January 4, 11, 18, 25
February 1, 8, 15, 22
March 1, 8, 6 (George Ivey), 13 (George Ivey), 15, 22, 29
April 5, 12 (2 copies), 19, 26
May 3, 10, 16 (2 copies), 18 (George Ivey; 2 copies), 24, 25 (George Ivey), 30 (2 copies)
June 7, 14 (2 copies), 21 (2 copies), 27, 28 (George Ivey)
July 4, 5 (George Ivey), 11, 25, 26 (George Ivey), 18
August 1, 2 (George Ivey), 8, 9 (George Ivey), 15, 16 (George Ivey), 22, 23 (George Ivey), 29
September 5, 11 (George Ivey), 12, 19, 20 (George Ivey), 25
October 3 (J. B. Ivey, George Ivey & George Ivey, Jr.), 8 (George Ivey), 11, 17, 24 (George Ivey), 28, 31 (George Ivey; 2 copies)
November 2 (2 copies), 3 (Mrs. J. B. Ivey), 8 (2 copies), 14 (2 copies), 15 (2 copies), 22 (George Ivey), 23, 30 (George Ivey)
December
Home News - 1, 7 (2 copies), 13, 20, 27, 28 (George Ivey)
Other - undated "The Meditation Room at Ivey's"

1956

January
Home News - 4, 10, 17, 18 (George Ivey), 25, 31
Other Correspondence - 6 (J. B. Ivey to Nita & Howard Wilkinson)

February
Home News - 7, 15 (2 copies), 21, 29
Other Correspondence - 15 (Clarence McArthur to Howard Wilkinson)

March 7 (2 copies), undated "Special Announcement", 13 (2 copies), 14 (George Ivey; 2 copies), 21 (2 copies), 29
April 3, 18 (George Ivey)
May 3 (2 copies), 17

June
Home News - 5, 12 (2 copies), 19, 20 (George Ivey), 28 (George Ivey; 2 copies), 30
Other Correspondence - 22 (Robert Litaker to Uncle George Ivey)

July 3, 5 (George Ivey), 10 (George Ivey), 17 (George Ivey), 23
August 6, 14, 28
September 4 (George Ivey; 2 copies), 14 (George Ivey), 24 (George Ivey)
October 2 (George Ivey), 8 (George Ivey & George Ivey Jr.), 22 (George Ivey), 31 (George Ivey)
November 6 (George Ivey), 13 (George Ivey), 20
December 6 (George Ivey), 18 (George Ivey), 27

1957

January

Home News - 14 (George Ivey), 28 (George Ivey)

Other Correspondence - 2 (J. B. Ivey to Nita & Howard Wilkinson), 3 (Howard Wilkinson to J. B. Ivey)

February 11 (George Ivey), 25 (George Ivey & George Ivey Jr.)

March 6 (George Ivey), 13 (George Ivey)

April

May

June

July 8 (George Ivey, Ella Ivey Litaker, Mrs. Fan Lentz, & Virginia Hord)

August 5 (George Ivey, Virginia Hord, Ella Litaker, Leigh McArthur, & Lucille Barrett)

September 6 (George Ivey, Virginia Hord, Ella Litaker, Margaret Boling, & Fan Lentz), 9 (George Ivey)

October 9 (George Ivey, Virginia Hord, Ella Litaker, Margaret Boling, Fan Lentz, & Lucille Barrett)

November 8 (George Ivey, Virginia Hord, Ella Litaker, Margaret Boling, & Fan Lentz)

December 10 (George Ivey, Virginia Hord, Ella Litaker, & Lucille Barrett)

1958

January

February

March

April

Other Correspondence - 25 (B. W. Barnard to George Ivey, Ella Ivey Litaker, Mrs. C. R. Walker, Mrs. Ervin (Katherine) Jackson, Mary G. Yokley), 30 (George Ivey to Ella Ivey Litaker, Mrs. C. R. Walker, Mrs. Ervin (Katherine) Jackson, Mary G. Yokley)

May

Other Correspondence - 7 (Robert M. Gantt to Mrs. Ervin (Catherine [sic]) Jackson - includes Gantt's May 1 letter to Dr. Kenneth Goodson)

June

July

August 27 (Ella Litaker, Virginia Hord, Clara Fraley, Lucille Barrett, & George Ivey) - name change to "The Charlotte Reporter"

Other Correspondence - 1 (George Ivey to Mrs. C. R. Walker, Mrs. Oliver (Ella) Litaker, Mrs. Ervin (Katherine) Jackson, Mrs. Oscar (Mary) Yokley), 6 (George Ivey to Mrs. C. R. Walker, Mrs. Oliver (Ella) Litaker, Mrs. Ervin (Katherine) Jackson, Mrs. Oscar (Mary) Yokley)

September

October

November

December

1959

January
February undated "Itinerary", 2-12, 13-22, 23-28

March 1-7, 7-13, 20-26, 27-31
Other Correspondence - 5 (George Ivey to Ervin & "Kat" Jackson)

April 1-4
May
June
July
August
September
October

November
Other Correspondence - 10 (Leon S. Ivey to "The Tribe")

December

1960

January
February
March
April
May
June
July
August 16-25
September
October
November
December

1961

January
February undated "Itinerary to South America", 10, 17, 22, 27
March 3 (George Ivey & Groves Ivey), 8
April
May undated "Itinerary of George M. Ivey," 7-11, 11-14, 15-20, 21-25, 27-31
June 1-4, 5-11, 12-16, 17-24
July
August
September
October
November
December

1962

January
February
March
April
May 9-18 (George Ivey & Groves Ivey)
June
July
August
September
October
November
December

1963

January 18-31
February 1-28
March 1-31
April 1-24
May
June
July
August
September
October
November
December