

Agence Havas news reports

Print Coll. 29

Finding aid prepared by Clémence Scouten.

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University of Pennsylvania, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts

2015 October 7

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Summary Information

Repository	University of Pennsylvania: Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts
Creator	Agence France-presse.
Title	Agence Havas news reports
Call number	Print Coll. 29
Date [bulk]	1847-1848
Date [inclusive]	1845-1848
Extent	0.33 linear feet (1 box)
Language	French
Abstract	The international news agency Agence Havas, ancestor of Agence France-Presse (AFP) Reuters, was founded in 1832 by Charles-Louis Havas (1783-1858), who translated reports from foreign papers and distributed them to Paris and provincial newspapers. This collection consists of 101 lithographed news reports from 1845 to 1848, though most of the reports are from 1847. The reports focus primarily on economic and political news of the time, specific to Spain, Italy, and France.

Cite as:

Agence Havas news reports, 1845-1848 (bulk: 1847-1848), Print Coll. 29, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts, University of Pennsylvania

Biography/History

The international news agency Agence Havas, ancestor of Agence France-Presse (AFP) Reuters, was founded in 1832 by Charles-Louis Havas (1783-1858), who translated reports from foreign papers and distributed them to Paris and provincial newspapers. Havas spent the first decade of the 19th century as a trader and supplier of colonial materials (wheat, cotton, sugar and cocoa) to the various Napoleonic armies, a profession that generated significant wealth for him. During this period Havas was also exposed to news reporting for the first time.

By the 1920s, after a difficult stint as a banker and experiencing financial troubles, Havas returned to the reporting business. Through the influence of a long-time mentor, Gabriel-Julien Ouvrard, Havas was hired to work for Ouvrard's trading company and headed a reporting operation focused on economic and financial news exclusively for Ouvrard's benefit.

Eventually Havas launched himself fully into his own news translation service, first named the Bureau Havas and culminated in the creation of Agence Havas in 1835. Havas also wrote for various French papers including the *Constitutionnel*. The business grew through acquisition of other reporting agencies which provided Havas with a strong and broad network of reporting infrastructure. Havas obtained the state's support of his agency in providing news to state administrative offices throughout the country.

Havas began recruiting foreign reporters in Holland, Belgium, Germany and Great-Britain.

By 1840, Havas and his business partner Delaire, produced four news sheets: one of a political nature for the provincial administration, one for the regional papers, one for elected officials summarizing the prior evening's news, and lastly, one for bankers and businessmen which listed stock prices as well as summaries and excerpts of other papers.

Havas's significant network of papers and reporting earned him the reputation of heading a monopoly, a charge directly made by Balzac in 1840. Growth of the business continued, and by 1845, Havas had correspondents as far as St. Petersburg. The strength of his reputation enabled him to recruit some of the best reporters of his time, including Bernhard Wolff, the eventual founder of the Berlin-based agency Wolff; and Paul Julius Reuter, founder of Reuters.

Havas was considered a pioneer in innovation in the rapid transmission of the news. Homing pigeons played a significant role delivering stock quotes and war news updates daily from England and Belgium. Havas is believed to have had about 25,000 pigeons. Havas' news was also transmitted through the telegraph and by trains and couriers from all over France to Paris and other European countries. The year Havas retired is also the year he integrated the management of selling ad space into the management of the paper itself; an idea that his two sons would build upon and convert into an advertising monopoly in less than a decade.

Works cited:

https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles-Louis_Havas

"La presse au 19ème siècle : un précurseur, Charles Louis Havas," Bernard Vassor

<http://www.paperblog.fr/1304831/la-presse-au-19-siecle-un-precurseur-charles-louis-havas/>

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of 101 lithographed news reports from 1845 to 1848, though most of the reports are from 1847. The reports focus primarily on economic and political news of the time, specific to the country in question. Some additional information about cultural and special events is also present, especially in the Paris news series.

The collection is composed of three series, News from Spain (October 24, 1846 to April 28, 1848), News from Italy (September 8, 1848 and August 23 1848) and Paris news (February 18, 1845 to March 5, 1848). The News from Spain and News from Italy series are both uniquely focused on economic and political news of their respective countries. While some ancillary information about other current events appears, it is minor. The Paris news series is broader. In addition to the political and financial reports covering the capital as well as various French regions, there are transcripts of political speeches, short reports on foreign countries (like Spain, Germany, England, Algeria and the United States), reporting of specific industries such as agriculture, and reporting of cultural events such as exhibits at the Louvre. The Agency Havas became the world's first true news agency by translating foreign news reports and aggregating them into one publication. Papers cited for the reports on Spain include *El Tiempo*, *Eco del Comercio*, *La Gazetta de Madrid*, *Heraldo*, *El Clamor Publico*, *Fomento de Barcelona*, and *L'Español*. Papers cited for the reports on Italy include *Patria*, *Concordia*, *Gazette de Milan* and *Il Constitutionale*. French papers include *National*, *Le Commerce*, *L'Epoque*, *Le Siècle*, *L'Esprit Publique*, *La Presse*, *Le Journal du Départ*, *L'Echo Agricole*, *Le Courier Français*, and *Le Constitutionnel*.

Most of the collection covers 1847, a year of historical significance in and of itself, and leading up to the revolution of 1848. In France, there is coverage of the *Chambre des Pairs* one of the chambers of government reinstated about twenty-five years after its abolition in 1789, but which was about to be abolished again in 1848. Spain was also undergoing political turmoil at the time and the News from Spain reports provide many mentions of the events related to the Spanish Carlist Wars.

Administrative Information

University of Pennsylvania, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts

2015 October 7

Finding aid prepared by Clémence Scouten.

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Source of Acquisition

Purchase from Susanne Schulz-Falster Rare Books, 2015

Controlled Access Headings

FORM/GENRE(S)

- News bulletins

GEOGRAPHIC NAME(S)

- France--Politics and government--19th century
- Italy--Politics and government--19th century
- Spain--Politics and government--19th century

PERSONAL NAME(S)

- Havas, Charles, 1783-1858

SUBJECT(S)

- Journalism--France
- News agencies--France--19th century

Collection Inventory

SERIES I. NEWS FROM SPAIN, 1846-1848 (BULK, 1847) .

	Box	Folder
1846 October 24.	1	1
1847 January 18.	1	1
1847 February 27.	1	1
1847 March 3.	1	2
1847 March 6.	1	2
1847 March 7.	1	2
1847 March 9.	1	2
1847 March 12.	1	2
1847 March 16.	1	2
1847 March 19.	1	2
1847 March 21.	1	2
1847 March 22.	1	2
1847 March 28.	1	2
1847 April 4.	1	3

1847 April 12.	1	3
1847 April 18.	1	3
1847 April 24.	1	3
1847 April 30.	1	3
1847 May 1.	1	3
1847 May 2.	1	3
1847 May 11.	1	3
1847 May 16.	1	3
1847 May 30.	1	3
1847 June 1.	1	4
1847 June 3.	1	4
1847 June 6.	1	4
1847 June 12.	1	4
1847 June 15.	1	4
1847 June 17.	1	4
1847 June 18.	1	4
1847 June 20.	1	4
1847 June 30.	1	4
1847 July 7.	1	4

1847 July 10.	1	4
1847 July 13.	1	4
1847 July 20.	1	4
1847 July 21.	1	4
1847 August 8.	1	5
1847 November 3.	1	5
1847 November 15.	1	5
1847 November 17.	1	5
1848 January 5.	1	5
1848 January 21.	1	5
1848 April 28.	1	5

SERIES II. NEWS FROM ITALY.

	Box	Folder
1848 September 8.	1	6
1848 August 23.	1	6

SERIES III. PARIS NEWS.

	Box	Folder
partial page, undated.	1	7
Chambre des Députés, Nouvelles et faits divers, 1845 February 18.	1	7
Revue des Journaux, Faits Partial, 1846 December 22.	1	7
Revue des Journaux, Nouvelles diverses, 1847 February 1.	1	7
Revue des Journaux, Nouvelles et faits divers, Bulletin de l'Etranger, 1847 February 1.	1	7
Chambre des Députés, Nouvelles et faits divers, 1847 February 9.	1	7
Chambre des Pairs, Bulletin de l'Algérie, Nouvelles et faits divers, 1847 February 16.	1	7
Miscellaneous political summary, Revue des Journaux, Nouvelles diverses, 1847 February 21.	1	7
Revue des Journaux, Faits - Paris, 1847 February 27.	1	7
Chambre des Députés, Revue des Journaux, Faits - Paris, Bulletin de l'Etranger, 1847 February 28.	1	7
Revue des Journaux, Faits - Paris, Nouvelles et faits divers, 1847 March 20.	1	7
Revue des Journaux, Nouvelles et faits divers, Variétés, Bulletin de l'Etranger, 1847 March 27.	1	7
Revue des Journaux, Nouvelles et faits divers, Exposition de 1847, Bulletin de l'Etranger, 1847 March 31.	1	7
Revue des Journaux, Faits - Paris, Nouvelles diverses, Exposition de 1847,	1	8

Bulletin de l'Etranger, 1847 April 2.

Nouvelles diverses, summary of a speech at the Académie des sciences morales et politiques, Bulletin de l'Etranger, 1847 April 3. 1 8

Nouvelles et faits divers, Bulletin de l'Etranger, 1847 April 5. 1 8

Agriculture, Nouvelles et faits divers, 1847 April 5. 1 8

Chambre des Députés, Revue des Journaux, Nouvelles et faits divers, 1847 April 8. 1 8

Faits - Paris, Nouvelles et faits divers, Bulletin de l'Etranger, 1847 April 8. 1 8

Chambre des Députés, Revue des Journaux, Nouvelles et faits divers, Faits - Paris, 1847 April 16. 1 8

Chambre des Pairs, Chambre des Députés, Nouvelles des Etats-Unis, Revue des Journaux, 1847 April 17. 1 8

Chambre des Députés, Nouvelles des Etats-Unis, Faits - Paris, Nouvelles et faits divers, 1847 April 18. 1 8

Chambre des Pairs, Chambre des Députés, Nouvelles du Mexique, 1847 April 20. 1 8

Chambre des Pairs, Chambre des Députés, Revue des Journaux, Nouvelles Diverses, Faits - Paris, 1847 April 29. 1 8

Nouvelles et faits divers, Variétés, Bulletin de l'Etranger, 1847 May 3. 1 9

Cours des Pairs, Bulletin Industriel, Bulletin de l'Etranger, 1847 May 8. 1 9

Chambre des Députés, Revue des Journaux, Faits - Paris, 1847 May 9. 1 9

Chambre des Pairs, Faits - Paris, Bulletin Industriel, Bulletin de l'Etranger, 1847 May 11. 1 9

Exposition du Louvre, Bulletin de l'Etranger, 1847 May 13.	1	9
Chambre des Députés, Revue des Journaux, Faits - Paris, 1847 May 16.	1	9
Revue des Journaux, Nouvelles et faits divers, Faits - Paris, Bulletin de l'Etranger, 1847 June 7.	1	10
Faits - Paris, Nouvelles d'Espagne, Bulletin de l'Etranger, 1847 June 9.	1	10
Bulletin de l'Algérie, Ordre Général pour l'Armée et la Marine, Nouvelles et faits divers, Bulletin de l'Etranger, 1847 June 11.	1	10
Revue des Journaux, 1847 June 14.	1	10
Nouvelles et faits divers, Bulletin de l'Etranger, 1847 June 16.	1	10
Revue des Journaux, Faits - Paris, Bulletin de l'Etranger, 1847 June 29.	1	10
Bulletin de l'Algérie, Agriculture, Faits Divers, Bulletin de l'Etranger, 1847 June 30.	1	10
Chambre des Pairs, Chambre des Députés, Revue des Journaux, Faits - Paris, 1847 July 1.	1	10
Nouvelles et faits divers, Bulletin de l'Etranger, 1847 July 6.	1	10
Bulletin de l'Algérie, Revue des Journaux, Faits Divers, 1847 July 19.	1	10
Chambre des Députés, Revue des Journaux, 1848 January 30.	1	11
Revue des Journaux, 1848 February 3.	1	11
Revue des Journaux, 1848 February 6.	1	11
Revue des Journaux, 1848 February 18.	1	11
Revue des Journaux, 1848 February 16.	1	11

Chambres des Pairs, Chambre des Députés, 1848 February 18.	1	11
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Circulaire du Ministre des Affaires Etrangères, 1848 March 5.	1	11
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