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file
Harris J. Ryan
In permanent record folder
July 10, 1931
RECORD
FOLDER

Mr. Shungo Furui,
Victor Talking Machine Co. of Japan, Ltd.,
P.O. Box 43,
Yokohama, Japan

Dear Mr. Furui:

Your letter of June 19th asking for information regarding Professor Harris J. Ryan has been received during Mr. Henline's absence, and I take pleasure in sending you herewith the following documents:

1. Clipping from the Journal of this Institute of February 1927, containing a general outline of Professor Ryan's career.
2. Printed document dated October 9, 1929, issued by Professor Ryan and containing a brief description of the high voltage laboratory at Stanford University.
3. Printed sheet also issued by Professor Ryan under date of April 18, 1931, containing a description of additions to the laboratories since 1929.
4. A typewritten statement embodying replies to various questions, as given in your letter. Certain questions have not been replied to because the data is not available at this writing, but we hope to write you further in regard to these matters later.

Trusting that the information which we are enclosing will be of service to you, I am

Very truly yours,

National Secretary.

FLH:LMW

Enclosures

Answers to questions embodied in letter of
June 19, 1931 from Mr. Shungo Furui
Victor Talking Machine Company of Japan
regarding

Professor Harris J. Ryan

1. Date of his birth. January 8, 1866
 2. Place of his birth. Powells Valley, Pa.
 3. His parent's name. Charles William Ryan and Louisa
Mary (Gollier)
 4. His early education. Baltimore City College and
Lebanon Valley College
 6. Degrees M. E. in E. E., Cornell University
1887. Doctor of Laws, University
of California, March 23, 1925.
 7. Name of professional societies (See clipping from A.I.E.E.
to which he is connected. Journal)
 13. Mrs. Ryan's maiden name. Katherine E. Fortenbaugh
 14. Date of their marriage. September 12, 1888.
 15. Place where they married. Halifax, Pa.
-

EXECUTIVE OFFICES
120 BROADWAY, NEW YORK

INTERNATIONAL

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GENERAL  ELECTRIC
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SCHENECTADY, N. Y., U. S. A.

9th July, 1931.

IN REPLY REFER TO

Mr. F. L. Hutchinson,
National Secretary, A.I.E.E.,
33 West 39th Street,
NEW YORK CITY.

Dear Mr. Hutchinson:-

I was very much interested to receive your letter of July 7th, enclosing copy of a letter from Mr. Shungo Furui and a clipping from the A.I.E.E. Journal of February 1927, all referring to the proposed visit of Professor Ryan to Japan next October.

I very much regret that I am unable to be of very much assistance in this connection but I am enclosing two clippings from the Daily Palo Alto Times of May 29 and 30 with reference to Professor Ryan's coming retirement on September 1st of this year. These clippings were handed to me by mutual friends and acquaintances who have recently returned from the Pacific Coast and you may find them of possible interest.

Questions 4 and 5, referring to his early education and scholastic honors, seem to be fairly well covered by the information given in the clippings. I am also enclosing herewith a description of the Harris J. Ryan High Voltage Laboratory, and from which you will be able to obtain a partial list of publications on high voltage investigations in answer to questions No. 8 and 9.

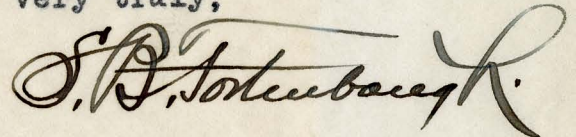
Unfortunately I am unable to give you any authoritative information in regard to Professor Ryan's lineage as requested in questions No. 10 and 11 and I am rather inclined to believe that Prof. Ryan is not particularly "strong" in the investigation and publication of this subject. I can speak with more assurance, however, in regard to Mrs. Ryan's "lineage", questions No. 12 and 13 and about the only thing that I can suggest authoritatively, in answer to these questions, is that she is the sister of a "poor but hopeful" engineer now employed by the General Electric Company.

A list of prominent, American, electrical engineers who have received their education from him, question No. 16, would be a long one and can best be answered by a reference to the engineering graduates from Cornell and Stamford since 1889 and 1895 respectively.

For your own personal, entirely unofficial, information, I would like to add that I had a letter from Professor Ryan about a month ago in which he stated that they had practically decided not to make the Japanese trip this fall. It seems that Professor Ryan feels that he is very much in need of absolute rest and quiet for some time and that the trip to Japan has therefore been more or less indefinitely postponed. This statement should be considered as confidential and not for transmission in any way to the Japanese officials who are preparing for his expected visit in October. I feel that any such decision should come direct from Professor Ryan himself, and hence this request.

I am returning herewith the clipping from the A.I.E.E. Journal, as requested, and very much regret that I am unable to be of any further assistance in connection with this matter.

Yours very truly,



SBFortenbaugh:B

Encl.

July 7, 1931

Mr. S. B. Fortenbaugh,
General Electric Company,
Transportation Engineering Dept.,
Schenectady, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Fortenbaugh:

We have received a letter from Mr. Shungo Furui, Victor Talking Machine Company of Japan, Ltd., under date of June 19th, copy of which we are enclosing herewith.

You will note that the Japanese Reception Committee, which is to act in connection with Dr. Ryan's visit to Japan in October, desires to receive answers to the questions embodied in the enclosed letter. We can supply answers to a number of these as indicated by our notes on the letter. Can you help us by supplying answers to as many of the other questions as possible, letting us have these within a few days whether complete or not so that we may make a prompt reply to our correspondent in Japan?

We are enclosing a clipping from our February 1927 Journal giving an outline of Dr. Ryan's career. We will, of course, send a copy of this to Japan, but will be glad if you will read it over and return the clipping to us with any comments that you care to make.

Very truly yours,

National Secretary.

RSH:LMW
Enclosures

JUL 6 1931

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Victor Talking Machine Company of Japan, Ltd.

日本ビクター蓄音器株式会社
YOKOHAMA

June 19th, 1931.

Mr. H. H. Henline,
Assist. National Secretary,
American Institute of Electrical Engineers,
33 West 39th Street,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Henline:

I believe you are already informed that Professor Harris J. Ryan has accepted the first Iwadare Fund Lectureship and is coming to Japan during next October to deliver a series of lectures on electrical engineering subjects.

The Institute of Electrical Engineers of Japan has recently formed the Professor Ryan's Reception Committee to deal with various working programs relating to his receptions, lectures, inspection trips, sight-seeings, etc., and Mr. M. Shibusawa has been appointed the Chairman.

Being a member of the Committee, I am asked to secure and report to our Chairman those data relating to the personal history and works of Professor Ryan. In fact, it is considered that this is a good opportunity to make known more of Professor Ryan's personal history and works here in Japan. Furthermore, we must be prepared to furnish every bit of information and pleasing anecdotes to our press and people when they are asked for at the time when Professor and Mrs. Ryan will arrive at Yokohama.

I shall, therefore, appreciate your kindness if you will let me know about the following particulars at your earliest convenience.

1. Date of his birth. *Jan. 8, 1866*
2. Place of his birth. *Powells Valley, Pa.*
3. His parent's name. *Charles Wm. Ryan & Louisa Mary (Bollier)*
4. His early education.
5. Scholastic honors.
6. Degrees. *M.E. in E.E. Cornell Univ. 1887*
7. Name of professional societies to which he is connected. *(see slides in bag)*

8. List of his publications:-
 - (a) books.
 - (b) technical papers.
 - (c) miscellaneous.
9. Invention.
10. His father's lineage.
11. His mother's lineage.
12. Mrs. Ryan's maiden name. *Katherine E. Fortenbaugh*
13. Mrs. Ryan's lineage.
14. Date of their marriage. *Sept. 12, 1888*
15. Place wherethey married. *Halifax Pa.*
16. List of prominent American electrical engineers (and their positions) who received their education from him.
17. Anecdotes.
18. Others.

Thanking you for your kind favor in advance and wishing you for your good health and success.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

Shungo Furui
VICTOR TALKING MACHINE COMPANY
OF JAPAN, LTD.

SF:SM