YOUNG CITIZENS LEAGUE, 1939-1970
PAPERS, 1939-1970
Quantity 1 linear ft.

ACCESS: This collection is open for research without restrictions.

PRINTED MATERIAL: Printed Materials are located in Box 1.

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PROCESSED BY: Anne Hinseth, July 2000
History

Miss Anna S. Williams, a Minnesota teacher, created the Young Citizens League. In 1910, M.M. Guhin, superintendent of Brown County, South Dakota, established the League in Brown County. E. C. Giffen, a Brown County teacher, helped spread the organization statewide. The purpose of the organization, as stated in The Young Citizens League pamphlet by M.M Guhin, was to develop character and citizenship and to promote a sense of service and individual responsibility, essential in a self-governing nation. Each chapter was organized in any grade room or school. The League promoted democratic principles and provided children with opportunity to have self-determination in the organization.

By 1941, YCL had 7,500 chapters in South Dakota, North Dakota, Minnesota, and Colorado. The First South Dakota State Convention was held in Pierre on April 25, 1927. The South Dakota State Steering Committee, in March 1971, decided to discontinue the League as a state organization. At that time, each school system had the option to continue citizen education, but under its own direction.

Scope and Content Note

The Young Citizens League Papers consist of two Series: Printed Materials and Scrapbook.

The Printed Materials series includes the League’s Clay County Newsletters. The Newsletters contain news, stories, poetry, artwork, editorials and jokes from school children from the Clay County School Districts.

The Scrapbook series contains one scrapbook created by the LiveWire Midway Grade School, Mission South Dakota. The scrapbook includes the History and Principles of the YCL, School Pictures, YCL activities and the student’s hobbies.

Additional Resources

Clay County Schools, Richardson Collection, Special Collections, University of South Dakota


Pietz, Emil A Survey of the History and the Activities of the Young Citizens’ League. Thesis (M.A., Education)--University of South Dakota 1936

Box 1
PRINTED MATERIALS
YCL Clay County Newsletter
1939, Spring, Fall
1940, Spring, Fall
1941, Spring, Fall
1942, Spring, Winter
1943, Spring, Fall
1944, Spring, Fall, Winter
1945, Spring, Fall, Winter
1946, Spring, Fall, Winter
1947, Spring, Winter
1948, Spring, Fall, Winter
1949, Spring, Winter
1949, Fall, Winter
1950, Spring, Fall
1951, Spring, Fall, Winter
1952, Spring, Fall, Winter
1955-56, Spring, Fall, Winter
1956-57, Spring, Fall, Winter
1957-58, Spring, Fall, Winter
1958-59, Winter, Spring
1959-60, Fall, Spring, Winter
1960-61, Winter
1961-62, Spring, Fall, Winter
1962-63, Spring, Fall, Winter
1963-64, Fall, Winter
1964-65, Fall, Spring
1965-66, Fall
1966-67, Fall, Winter
1967-68, Winter, Spring
1968-69, Spring
1969-70, Winter

Box 2
OVERSIZE
SCRAPBOOK
YCL Midway Township Grades Scrapbook 1941-42

Box 3
OVERSIZE
SCRAPBOOK
School District, No. 3, Roberts County, South Dakota, Marie Berg Sather (teacher); includes photos of students. Dr. Wayne S. Knutson, USD emeritus prof. of theatre was a student at this rural school.