

Woman's Christian Temperance Union (Ft. Smith, Arkansas) Records

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1882-1960

Title Statement

Woman's Christian Temperance Union (Ft. Smith, Arkansas) RecordsGuide to the Woman's Christian Temperance Union (Ft. Smith, Arkansas) Records Mss. Acc. 2010.780

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Mss. Acc. 2010.780

Unit ID

/repositories/2/resources/1355

Unit Date

1882-1960

Language

English

Creator

Woman's Christian Temperance Union (Ft. Smith, Arkansas)

Creator

Collins, Grace Shipley

Extent

1.00 Linear Feet

Repository

Special Collections Research Center

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access:

Collection is open to all researchers. Manuscript collections and archival records may contain materials with sensitive or confidential information that is protected under federal or state right to privacy laws and regulations, such as the Virginia Public Records Act (Code of Virginia. § 42.1-76-91); and the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (Code of Virginia § 2.2-3705.5). Confidential material may include, but is not limited to, educational, medical, and personnel records. If sensitive material is found in this collection, please contact a staff member immediately. The disclosure of personally identifiable information pertaining to a living individual may have legal consequences for which the College of William and Mary assumes no responsibility.

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Preferred Citation:

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Historical Note:

Further information about this individual or organization may be available in the Special Collections Research Center Wiki:

[http://scdbwiki.swem.wm.edu/wiki/index.php/Woman's_Christian_Temperance_Union_\(Ft._Smith,_Arkansas\)](http://scdbwiki.swem.wm.edu/wiki/index.php/Woman's_Christian_Temperance_Union_(Ft._Smith,_Arkansas))

Scope and Contents

Minutes, financial ledgers, correspondence, printed material, and religious ephemera, 1882-1960, relating to a chapter of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union in Ft. Smith, Arkansas, from the home of Grace Shipley Collins.

Related Materials:

A Guide to Women's Studies Resources in the Special Collections Research Center; Woman's Christian Temperance Union. Moira Chapter (Franklin Co., N.Y.) Minute Books (Mss. 2010.102).

Information about related materials is available at <http://guides.swem.wm.edu/content.php?pid=87496>

Keywords

Ledgers (Accounting)
Letters (correspondence)
Minutes
Printed ephemera
Publications
Clubs--United States--Minutes
Temperance--History--19th century
Temperance--History--20th century
Woman's National Christian Temperance Union

Custodial History:

According to the seller, this material was found in the bottom of a closet in the home of Grace Shipley Collins, a member of the WCTU in Ft. Smith, Arkansas, many years after her death. The seller was her granddaughter.

Physical Characteristics or Technical Requirements:

The fragile nature of this material may limit handling.

Description of Subordinate Components

Organizational Records

Unit ID id93012

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/132100

Unit Date 1882-1932

Scope and Contents

This series contains official organizational records of the Fort Smith, Arkansas, chapter of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. Included here are minute books, financial ledgers, and loose meeting minutes and newspaper clippings that seem to have been saved intentionally with the record books. A few of the minute books have missing covers or fragile binding, but the contents are otherwise in good condition.

Minute book

Unit ID id93014

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/132112

Unit Date 1882 January-1891 January

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Container 1 (Folder)

Scope and Contents

WCTU printed "President's Circular" (June 1888) tucked into front cover.

Minute book

Unit ID id93015

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/132113

Unit Date 1902 January-1906 November

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Container 2 (Folder)

Minute book

Unit ID id93016

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/132114

Unit Date 1909 October-1912 November

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Container 3 (Folder)

Scope and Contents

Front cover completely missing. Meetings often held twice a month. List of officers and members in the back.

Minute book

Unit ID id93017

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/132115

Unit Date 1912 November-1915 June

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Container 4 (Folder)

Scope and Contents

List of officers, members, dues and pledges collected.

Minute book**Unit ID** id93018**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/132116**Unit Date** 1915 July-1917 March**Mixed Materials** 1 (Box)**Container** 5 (Folder)**Scope and Contents**

Mrs. Yadon is the Recording Secretary until elected president in 1916 when job passes to Mrs. Holland.

Minute book**Unit ID** id93019**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/132117**Unit Date** 1917 August-1919 July**Mixed Materials** 1 (Box)**Container** 6 (Folder)**Scope and Contents**

At the back of the book are lists of members, dues collected by the group, and families with sons in the war. Newspaper clippings about WCTU meetings or activities are pasted into the book. Also pasted into books are personal notes to the President and the chapter, letters from politicians and printed materials.

Minute book**Unit ID** id93020**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/132118**Unit Date** 1919 October-1922 July**Mixed Materials** 1 (Box)**Container** 7 (Folder)**Scope and Contents**

A WCTU Treasurer's Book that has been adapted into the Secretary's Book. Basically a scrapbook, with membership rolls and meeting minutes but also newspaper clippings and printed materials pasted into various pages. Includes several loose notes and clippings that have been tucked into the book.

Meeting minutes**Unit ID** id93021**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/132119**Unit Date** 1882-1922**Mixed Materials** 1 (Box)**Container** 8 (Folder)**Newspaper clippings from minute book****Unit ID** id93023**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/132120**Unit Date** circa 1919-1922**Mixed Materials** 2 (Box)**Container** 1 (Folder)**Treasurer's book****Unit ID** id93024**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/132121**Unit Date** 1918-1921**Mixed Materials** 2 (Box)**Container** 2 (Folder)**Scope and Contents**

Begin with membership rolls and dues paid, then moves into other expenses and income

begins with membership rolls and dues paid, then moves into other expenses and income.

Treasurer's book

Unit ID id93025

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/132122

Unit Date 1922-1924

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 3 (Folder)

Scope and Contents

Begins with an extended members section, organized alphabetically by last name, mostly for 1922 and 1923. Then, it details expenses and income. A few letters have been tucked into the book, generally about money owed to or from the chapter.

Treasurer's book

Unit ID id93026

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/132123

Unit Date 1925-1932

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 4 (Folder)

Scope and Contents

Monies paid and taken in; membership roll in the back.

Correspondence

Unit ID id93027

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/132101

Unit Date 1907-1960

Scope and Contents

The correspondence series is divided into two distinct sections. Administrative correspondence includes notes and letters pertaining to the business of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, from details about conventions to legislators' thoughts on various aspects of the temperance campaign. In a different vein, many of the personal letters to the Fort Smith chapter are thank-you notes for the women's acts of kindness and sympathy.

Administrative correspondence

Unit ID id93028

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/132106

Unit Date 1907-1927

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 5 (Folder)

Scope and Contents

Letters to and from Mrs. F. M. Long, Corresponding Secretary of a local chapter of WCTU, Fort-Smith, Ark. Letters: from Mrs. Emily H. Thompson of Little Rock, asking Mrs. Long to send report about her Union's work on Anti-Narcotics before the Convention and from Jamie Carr Pittman giving instructions about the content of Mrs. Long's report for the state convention, to be held Oct. 24-28 in Jonesboro.

Personal letters to the chapter

Unit ID id93029

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/132107

Unit Date 1907-1960

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 6 (Folder)

Printed Materials

Unit ID id93030

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/132102

Unit Date 1888-1957

Scope and Contents

This collection also contains a number of printed materials from the end of the nineteenth century through the middle of the twentieth century. The series includes pamphlets published by the various national departments of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union as well as one handbill announcing a national prohibition rally in Fort Smith. Additionally, one can find here dozens of devotionals written mostly by Mrs. J. R. Collins for the Union's Arkansas White Ribboner in the 1950s.

Printed W. C. T. U. materials

Unit ID id93031

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/132108

Unit Date 1888-1934 and Undated

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 7 (Folder)

National prohibition rally pamphlet

Unit ID id93032

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/132109

Unit Date circa 1919

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 8 (Folder)

Devotionals

Unit ID id93033

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/132110

Unit Date 1955-1957 and Undated

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 9 (Folder)

Religious Ephemera

Unit ID id93034

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/132103

Unit Date Undated

Scope and Contents

Among the religious ephemera are Bible verses, business cards supporting the Christian temperance movement, and stickers advertising the Woman's Christian Temperance Union such as "What you see with your eyes and hear with your ears proves that the thing most responsible for sucking money away from useful business, destroying efficiency, filling divorce courts and jails, and smearing highways with human blood, is drink." The series also includes ephemera printed by the Union, such as a card to pledge abstention from alcohol and a "Matchless Book" outlining the dangers of tobacco and marijuana.

Religious ephemera

Unit ID id93035

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/132111

Unit Date Undated

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 10 (Folder)