

Collection #  
M 0593

## CONTINENTAL OPTICAL CORPORATION RECORDS, 1925–1928

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### COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF  
COLLECTION: 1 manuscript box

COLLECTION  
DATES: 1925–28

PROVENANCE: Dr. and Mrs. Robert W. Greenleaf, 2137 Rome Drive,  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46208, 5 June 1990

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS: None

RELATED HOLDINGS: None

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1990.0341

NOTES:

## HISTORICAL SKETCH

The Continental Optical Corporation was started in 1910 as an independent maker of optical lenses. It developed the one piece bifocal and trifocal lenses in the early 1900s. In July 1925, the operation was incorporated in Wilmington, Delaware, to manufacture, purchase, and sell optical, photographic, electrical, scientific, engineering and mathematical goods, wares, merchandise, materials, articles, specialities, instruments, apparatus, machinery, tools and supplies of every kind and description.

The corporation maintained offices in New York City and Indianapolis. In 1928 the New York office was closed and the corporation relocated entirely to Indianapolis. The corporation also operated a frame-making plant at Rochester, New York. Indianapolis remained the corporate headquarters and served as the lens-making factory for the Continental Optical Corporation until it was merged with the Shuron Optical Company of Rochester, New York, in 1962. The merged operations became the Shuron-Continental Division of Textron, Inc. The lens-making factory apparently continued to operate at its 1402 N. Capitol Avenue location until a later date.

### Sources:

*Indianapolis News*, 9 February 1957, p.12.

*Indianapolis Times*, 13 December 1962, p. 28.

Information from collection.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Materials include the Continental Optical Corporation's meeting minutes and corporate organizational records, July 1925–May 1928. Items in the minutes include the articles of incorporation, corporation bylaws, acquisition of similar businesses, contracts for employees, resolutions passed by the board of directors, including those respecting bank accounts, stocks and related financial information, the readjustment of the corporation's financial structure, and the closing of the New York office.

The minutes were originally contained in two bound volumes, but were removed for better storage. Folders 1–4 comprised the first volume, and folders 5–7 made up the second volume.

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CONTAINER

Records, July 1925	Box 1, Folder 1
Meeting Minutes, July 1925	Box 1, Folder 2
Minutes Records (Agreements), July 1925 (1 of 2)	Box 1, Folder 3
Minutes Records (Agreements), July 1925 (2 of 2)	Box 1, Folder 4
Minutes Records (Resolutions), Nov. 1925–July 1926	Box 1, Folder 5
Minutes Records (Resolutions), Aug. 1926–Mar. 1927	Box 1, Folder 6
Minutes Records (Resolutions), July 1927–May 1928	Box 1, Folder 7

## CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog: <http://157.91.92.2/>
2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.
3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.
4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, M 0593).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.