

Collection #
M 1215

HOWARD FRANK MCCALLISTER PAPERS, 1865-2012

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January 2016

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 3 manuscript boxes; 1 half manuscript box, 1 photograph folder

COLLECTION DATES: 1865-2012

PROVENANCE: Pat Fenton, Minneapolis, MN

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2012.0110

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Howard Frank McCallister (September 25, 1889-January 23, 1975) was born to Smith and Mary McCallister of Bristow, Perry County, Indiana, and was the youngest of seven children. McCallister attended the Common School in Bristow and then worked in the furniture industry in Tell City until the labor strife of 1907, when he was chosen to go on the road and recruit other unions to come to the aid of the workers in Tell City. He spent two or three months on the road before returning to Tell City, where he was expected to stay at home and care for his parents into their old age since he was the youngest son. That was not to be, as McCallister left home to attend Valparaiso University and graduated in 1909 with a degree in Accounting. He stayed in Valparaiso upon graduation and taught courses in bookkeeping, accounting and penmanship, and also met and courted Opal Russell, a student at the college studying music. McCallister and Opal eloped to St. Joseph, Michigan on July 15, 1912 and no one believed them at first when they announced their marriage. After their marriage, McCallister left Opal at Valparaiso and went to Mexico, Missouri to open a Commercial College in that town. The College was ultimately not sustainable and McCallister sold out to the local high school and returned to the Chicagoland area. Soon after this, the McCallisters experienced the loss of their first child, Donald, in infancy in 1913. McCallister began working at the Englewood Business College and also served with the National Business Teachers Association. McCallister and Opal went on to have two more children, Marian and Lois.

Sources:

Materials in the collection

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection contains documents and photographs that are arranged chronologically. The majority of the collection is letters written by Howard Frank McCallister to his wife Opal Russell McCallister when they were living apart due to McCallister's business interests and his wife's schooling between the years of 1912 and 1915. The collection also contains genealogical items for Howard Frank McCallister's side of the family as well as Opal's, including charts, reminiscences, wills, pension information and family anecdotes/reminiscences.

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