INDIANA SCHOOLMEN'S CLUB
RECORDS, 1922-1980

Collection #:
M 0371

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Processed by
Charles Latham, 1983
Reboxed, February 1998

COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 3 manuscript boxes, 2 card file boxes

COLLECTION DATES: 1922-1980

PROVENANCE: Indiana Schoolmen's Club, Brownsburg, Indiana, 1982

RESTRICTIONS: None

REPRODUCTION RIGHTS: Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the Indiana Historical Society.

ALTERNATE FORMATS: None

OTHER FINDING AIDS: None

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1982.0224

NOTES:

HISTORICAL SKETCH
The Indiana Schoolmen's Club was an organization of public school administrators and teachers and of college professors of education. It began informally in 1918 as an ad hoc group to talk to Indiana legislators about the impact on the public schools of a proposed new method of assessing taxes. It slowly became more formal; minutes of meeting were first taken in 1921, and a formal constitution was adopted in 1924. The stated purpose of the organization was "to promote a high standard of fellowship and professional ethics and efficiency and to promote the educational welfare of the youth of the state". Membership grew from about 18 in the beginning to 124 in 1924. Though there was stated limits on membership, they were constantly increased, and by 1945 there were nearly 600 members.

The group does not seem to have worked for any particular causes or lobbied for any particular bills. The principal activity was to have four meetings a year, usually in April, May, October, and December. The original format of meetings was an all-day working session. There would be morning and afternoon working sessions, and a luncheon with speaker, all directed toward nuts-and-bolts educational topics. By 1940 the club had changed to a general policy of using half its meetings for more general topics in national or foreign affairs; these more general meetings usually convened at 6:30, with dinner and a single speaker. Over the years, the educational topics also became more general, such as 'Education for Tomorrow's World'.

Fellowship was enhanced by dining together and by group singing. Sometimes there was a musical offering by a group from a college or high school Beginning about 1970, there was a joint meeting each year with the Indiana Schoolwomen's Club.

During the 1970's membership and attendance dwindled, and in 1980 the Club was disbanded and its records given to the Indiana Historical Society.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The papers are the typical working papers of an organization of this kind. There are four books of minutes, both of general meetings and of the executive committee, covering the years 1922-1973. There is a small amount of general correspondence, usually about organizational matters. There follows material about meetings during the last thirty years of the club's existence: correspondence with speakers, panelists, and honored guests; programs and menus. A separate folder of biographies of speakers gives some idea of the organization's tone and taste in its latter years. This is followed by the treasurer's records, which largely deal with dues, and with the expense of printing newsletters and programs. The collection also contains membership and dues records of the Club; dues ran from $2 to $5 a year. New members were proposed before each meeting and voted on at the meeting. Members of 25 years' standing were given honorary status.

**BOX AND FOLDER LIST**

**BOX 1: Minutes, 1921-1973; General Correspondence, 1947-1965; Meetings**

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<td>Minutes 1929-1952</td>
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General Correspondence 1973
Meetings--Arrangements and Correspondence 1956-1958
Meetings--Arrangements and Correspondence 1959-1961
Meetings--Arrangements and Correspondence 1962-1965

BOX 2: Meetings, Financial Records, Membership

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2  Biographies of Speakers 1957-1974
3  Recognition of Treasurer, O. H. Greist, 1927-1945
4  Treasurer's Book 1945-1972
5  Treasurer's Reports 1955-1966
6  Bonds at ISTA
7  Financial Reports 1973-1977
8  Treasurer's Reports 1973-1980
9  Treasurer's Audit Reports 1955-1961
10  Liability Insurance 1974-1979
11  Tax Exemption
12  Yearbook 1972
13  Newsletters 1974-1978
14  Newsletters 1978, 1979
15  Lists of Officers 1922-1961
16  Handbook 1946
17  Obituaries of Members
18  Membership proposals and correspondence 1955-1966
19  Old Member's Survey 1973
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BOX 3: Members and Dues Paid

BOX 4: Members and Dues Paid

BOX 5: Membership and Meetings

FOLDER CONTENTS

1 Notebook on dues payments 1959-1979
2 Dues payments (recorded on printed membership Lists) 1975, 1978-79
3 Printed membership lists 1957, 1964
4 Notebook lists of members 1970, 1972
5 (Printed) membership list 1975
6 Reservations for meetings (meals) 1975-1978
7 Stationery Samples

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
2. Click on the "Local Catalog" icon.
3. Search for the collection by its call number, using the letter or letters designation and four digits (e.g., M 0715, SC 2234).
4. When you find the collection, go to the "Holdings" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.

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