KIPP BROTHERS COMPANY
MINUTE BOOK, 1891-1944

Collection Information

Historical Sketch

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Contents

Cataloging Information

Processed by
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11 August 2005

Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org

COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 box

COLLECTION DATES: 1891–1944

PROVENANCE: Ruth Chernin, Indianapolis, IN, 21 January 2004

RESTRICTIONS: None
HISTORICAL SKETCH

Kipp Bros. Company, now doing business as KIPP Brothers, has been a direct importer and wholesaler of novelty items since 1880. First established by Albrecht and Robert Kipp as the Kipp Brothers Partnership, they operated out of warehouses and offices at 37–41 South Meridian Street until April 2001.

The business incorporated on 23 February 1893 as Kipp Bros. Company, with Albrecht Kipp, Robert Kipp, William F. Piel, Jr., Henry W. Piel, Charles F. Piel as the initial shareholders. Robert Kipp, Albrecht Kipp, Henry W. Piel, Charles F. Piel, and Otto Levinson the original directors of the corporation established for “the manufacture and sale of articles of leather goods, furniture, bric a brac and vertu and the manufacture and sale of fire works, toys, novelties, notions, jewelry and druggist’s and stationers sundries and the importation, buying and selling of dry goods, carpets, boots and shoes, millenery goods, fancy goods and jewelry, in connection with the manufacture of such goods and articles into any articles for which they are suitable, and the sale of such articles when they are so manufactured and to buy and sell similar products of other manufacturers and incidental to such manufacture and sale.”

Family control continued into the second generation, with Albrecht R.C. Kipp taking over for his father, Albrecht Sr., after the latter’s death in 1920. The Piel family also remained involved, in spite of the deaths of Henry W. Piel in 1904, and William F. Piel in 1924.

On 10 November 1939, Charles M. Piel, Frieda M. Kipp, Alfred R. Piel, and Albrecht R. C. Kipp resigned from their offices and the board of directors. Leon Levin took over as President and Adelaide K. Levin as Vice President.

In 2005, Bob Glenn is the owner and president of KIPP Brothers. From its new location at 9760 Mayflower Park Drive, KIPP Brothers continues as an importer and wholesaler of toys and novelties.

Sources:
http://www.kippbro.com


Materials in the collection
SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection contains one bound volume, the corporation’s minute book for the years 1893–1940, with some earlier and later notes included. Interleaved loose papers, including balance sheets, meeting minutes, and bank paperwork, have been removed from the book and filed in folders according to where they were placed. Pages 26–161 of the book contain records; the rest are blank.

The original Articles of Association and Bylaws, Certificate of Incorporation, and Bylaws are transcribed into the book, with amendments noted in the minutes.

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Items removed from pp. 166–67 Box 1, Folder 5
Items removed from pp. 250–51 Box 1, Folder 6
Items removed from back of book 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://opac.indianahistory.org/
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 0850).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.