

Collection #  
M 0528  
OM 0122

## PLEASANT JENKINS FAMILY PAPERS, 1881–1967

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May 1989  
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June 1994  
Updated 24 January 2005

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## COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 3 manuscript boxes, 1 oversize manuscript folder, 1 photograph folder, 1 PAB photograph album, 1 OVA photograph box

COLLECTION DATES: 1881-1967

PROVENANCE: A gift from R. Donald Tyler, Indianapolis, IN and Forrest B. Tyler, College Park, MD, 25 July 1984

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1984.0707

NOTES: Booklets were transferred to Printed Collections.

## **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES**

Pleasant Jenkins (1869-c1930) was born in Georgetown, Indiana, outside New Albany, the son of Leroy and Charlotte (Baylor) Jenkins. He was educated in local one-room schools, and in 1888, after completing work at No. 9, took courses at Central Normal School in Danville, Indiana.

He began teaching at Lanesville in 1889, then moved to Corydon, where in 1903 he became Harrison County Superintendent of Schools. By 1907, when he transferred his certificate back to Floyd County, Jenkins had attended six terms of normal school. He continued to teach there into the 1920s, and at the same time managed the farm inherited from his father.

In 1896 Jenkins married Lizzie K. Johnson, daughter of Harvey and Nancy (Byerly) Johnson of Georgetown. Their daughter, Velsie Jenkins Tyler (1904-c1970), was educated in the local one-room schools, and graduated from Georgetown High School in 1920. After attending one summer term of college, she taught for three years, then married.

From 1929 to 1935 Mrs. Tyler worked as saleswoman in a department store. In 1937 she worked on the Federal Writers Project of WPA as an historical writer supervised by Ross Lockridge. After a period as a social worker (the first in Floyd County), she joined the Indiana State Employment Office in 1943, and served there more than 25 years. Beginning in 1954, she was active in the local organization of Business and Professional Women. She married Wallace Tyler and had two sons, R. Donald Tyler, an executive at the Allison engine plant in Indianapolis, and Forrest B. Tyler, a psychologist.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection, filling three manuscript boxes, contains letters, papers and licenses, short historical articles, photographs and programs. It is arranged by correspondent, and chronologically within correspondent.

Box 1 contains the papers of Pleasant Jenkins, covering the period 1881-1923. The bulk of the correspondence is from the years 1888-1896, and 1902-1907. The personal correspondence (1888-1896) relates to Jenkins's long courtship (1888-1898) of Lizzie Johnson, descriptions of life at Central Normal School, arrangements for meetings, and occasional misunderstandings. All this gives a picture both of the beginnings of a rural teaching career and of the restrictions of a rural courtship at a time when a 'date' consisted of a long walk home from church. The correspondence from 1902-1907 involves Jenkins' position as Superintendent. This material includes bills and advertisements for school supplies as well as professional correspondence between Jenkins and others concerning school matters. Also included are a number of Jenkins's teacher's licenses, and some of his notebooks.

The next two boxes contain the papers of Velsie Jenkins Tyler. Box 2 contains some correspondence, along with material from her involvement with the Indiana Employment Office and with the Business and Professional Women; also, medical notes from her period of service as a social worker. Box 3 contains the short historical sketches which she wrote for the Federal Writers Project: material on Floyd County and New Albany and has material topically arranged under such headings as Customs, Morgan's Raid, Tales and Legends, and Underground Railroad.

Box 3 also contains material on R. Donald Tyler and his work at Allison; two psychological monographs of which Forrest B. Tyler is a co-author; and a number of programs, especially of dramatic productions at Speedway High School in the 1960s in which Donald Tyler's son took part.

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### BOX 1: Pleasant Jenkins - Correspondence, Personal and Professional

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Personal Correspondence, 1887	Box 1, Folder 2
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Personal Correspondence, May-December, 1888	Box 1, Folder 4
Personal Correspondence, January-June, 1889	Box 1, Folder 5
Personal Correspondence, July-December, 1889	Box 1, Folder 6
Personal Correspondence, 1890	Box 1, Folder 7
Personal Correspondence, 1891	Box 1, Folder 8
Personal Correspondence, 1892	Box 1, Folder 9
Personal Correspondence, 1893	Box 1, Folder 10
Personal Correspondence, 1894	Box 1, Folder 11
Personal Correspondence, 1895-1896	Box 1, Folder 12
Personal Correspondence, 1897-1898	Box 1, Folder 13
Personal Correspondence, 1903	Box 1, Folder 14
Personal Correspondence, 1906-1908	Box , Folder 15
Personal Correspondence, 1921-1924	Box 1, Folder 16
Personal Correspondence, n.d.	Box 1, Folder 17
Professional Correspondence, Programs (Commencement and Teachers Association) 1890, 1893, 1896, 1897, 1900	Box 1, Folder 18
Professional Correspondence, 1902	Box 1, Folder 19
Professional Correspondence, Publishers/supplies 1902	Box 1, Folder 20

Professional Correspondence, January-July 1903	Box 1, Folder 21
Professional Correspondence, August-December 1903	Box 1, Folder 22
Professional Correspondence, Publishers/supplies, January-June 1903	Box 1, Folder 23
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**BOX 2: Pleasant Jenkins Correspondence, Professional cont.,; Velsie Jenkins Tyler**

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Professional Correspondence, Publishers/Supplies, January-June, 1906	Box 2, Folder 4
Professional Correspondence, Publishers/supplies, August 1906	Box 2, Folder 5
Professional Correspondence, Publishers/supplies, September-December 1906	Box 2, Folder 6
Professional Correspondence, 1907	Box 2, Folder 7

Professional Correspondence, Publishers/supplies, 1907	Box 2, Folder 8
Miscellaneous/undated material	Box 2, Folder 9
Clippings	Box 2, Folder 10
Teacher's licenses 1891 - 1923	Box 2, Folder 11
Cards 1919, 1926 & n.d.	Box 2, Folder 12
Notebooks	Box 2, Folder 13
Photographs, 1906 and n.d.	Visual Collection: OVA Photographs, Box 1, Folders 1-8
Velsie Jenkins Tyler, Biographical	Box 2, Folder 14
Velsie Jenkins Tyler, Correspondence, 1921-1936	Box 2, Folder 15
Velsie Jenkins Tyler, 1960-1970	Box 2, Folder 16
Velsie Jenkins Tyler, Organizations - New Albany Business and Professional Women	Box 2, Folder 17
Velsie Jenkins Tyler, Indiana State Employment Office	Box 2, Folder 18
Velsie Jenkins Tyler, Medical and Physiological Notes	Box 2, Folder 19
Velsie Jenkins Tyler, Medical and Physiological Notes	Box 2, Folder 20
Velsie Jenkins Tyler, Medical and Physiological Notes	Box 2, Folder 21
Velsie Jenkins Tyler, Medical and Physiological Notes	Box 2, Folder 22
Velsie Jenkins Tyler, Medical and Physiological Notes	Box 2, Folder 23

**BOX 3: Vessie Jenkins Tyler cont., Tyler Family, Miscellaneous**

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Historical and folklore sketches written for Federal Writers Project Floyd County I	Box 3, Folder 2

Floyd County II	Box 3, Folder 3
Floyd County Flora and Fauna	Box 3, Folder 4
Floyd County General Topography	Box 3, Folder 5
New Albany-- Places of Interest	Box 3, Folder 6
New Albany	Box 3, Folder 7
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Photographs Velsie Jenkins Tyler Banquets & Award Presentations ca. 1957-62	Visual Collection: Photographs, Folder 1
R. Donald Tyler	Box 3, Folder 22
Forrest B. and Bonnie Tyler	Box 3, Folder 23



Photo album Pleasant Jenkins family photograph album

Visual Collection: PAB  
Photograph Album

Georgetown High School "Broadcast" 1940

Box 3, Folder 24

Speedway High School dramatics 1963-1967

Box 3, Folder 25

Miscellaneous programs

Box 3, Folder 26