

McLean County Museum of History

Old People's Picnic Association

Processed by
Michael Quigg
Fall 2025

Collection Information

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	1 Box
COLLECTION DATES:	1894-1946, mostly 1907-1930
RESTRICTIONS:	None
PROVENANCE:	
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the McLean County Museum of History
ALTERNATIVE FORMATS:	None
OTHER FINDING AIDS:	None
LOCATION:	Archives
NOTES:	

Brief History

Beginning in 1894, the Old People's Picnic Association met once a year to eat, converse, celebrate life, and honor members who died during the previous year. Events were held in parks around Bloomington, where flowers would be given to the oldest men and women of the group and obituaries would be read out loud. The association met for the final time in 1930.

Scope

The collection largely includes the resolutions and obituaries shared during annual meetings. The collection also includes the signed constitution and bylaws of the group, written accounts of various meetings, newspaper clippings of obituaries and coverage of association events, letters, and receipts.

Box and Folder Inventory

Folder 1: Papers 1894-1908

- 1.1 Handwritten list of attendees and birth dates, September 1894.
- 1.2 "Resolutions" report signed by W. B. Carlock for the 14th annual meeting, 1907.
- 1.3 Obituaries and Resolutions report signed by W. B. Carlock for the 15th annual meeting, 1908.

Folder 2: 1909-1910

- 2.1 Letter from J. F. Humphrey to W. C. Frink, 14 September 1909.
- 2.2 Typed statement, "Meeting of Executive Committee "Old People's Association", 1909.
- 2.3 Typed statement on committee appointments and event planning, signed by W. B. Carlock, 1909.
- 2.4 Report of committee on Obituaries and Resolutions, signed by W. B. Carlock, 1909.
- 2.5 Resolutions, 1909-1910.

Folder 3: 1910-1911

- 3.1 Constitution and by-laws, signed by W. B. Carlock, N. M. Campbell, and W. C. Frink, 1910.
- 3.2 Resolutions report, 1910.
- 3.3 Resolutions report, 12 September 1911.
- 3.4 Miscellaneous clippings of handwritten and typed resolutions and motions.
- 3.5 Receipt for payment addressed to Lillian Dael.
- 3.6 List of association members signed by W. B. Carlock.
- 3.7 Various obituaries, 1911.

Folder 4: 1912-1915

- 4.1 Report of committee on obituaries and resolutions, 1912.
- 4.2 Report of committee on obituaries and resolutions, 1913.

- 4.3 "Girls and Boys of Illinois" poem by Mrs. William Hill, 9 April 190(1)3?
- 4.4 Resolutions report, 1914.
- 4.5 Obituaries, 20 Aug 1914.
- 4.6 Resolutions on death of members, 1915.

Folder 5: 1916-1930

- 5.1 Report of committee obituaries, 31 August 1916.
- 5.2 Letter from Col. (???) to the Old Peoples Association, 31 August 1916.
- 5.3 Report of committee on obituaries w/ separate list of deceased, 1917.
- 5.4 Obituaries report for 25th annual meeting, n.d.
- 5.5 Obituaries and historical sketches for deceased members for 26th annual meeting, 1919.
- 5.6 Handwritten letter to Mr. Carlock from Mrs. W. C. Frink w/ stamped envelope, 16 August 1920.
- 5.7 Deaths report at 27th annual meeting, 4 September 1920.
- 5.8 Obituaries for the 28th annual meeting, n.d.
- 5.9 Handwritten booklet of meeting summary, 10 September 1925.
- 5.10 Letter from Mrs. A. Y. Barnard on donating association records to the McLean County Historical Society, 25 September 1930.

Folder 6: Handwritten Obituaries, 1921-1922

- 6.1 1921-1922.

Folder 7: Handwritten Obituaries, 1922-1926

- 7.1 1923.
- 7.2 1924-1926.

Folder 8: Newspaper Obituaries (*Pantagraph*, unless noted)

- 8.1 "Mrs. Laura E. Rhoads Died Last Evening" obit clipping and copy, source unknown, January 21, 1927.
- 8.2 "Old Peoples Picnic an Enjoyable Event" clipping and copy, 1923.
- 8.3 "Mrs. Franklin is Taken by Death" obit and copy, October 19, 1926.
- 8.4 "Ebenezer Craig, Leroy Resident, is Called by Death" obit clipping and copy, October 29, 1926.
- 8.5 "Mrs. M. S. Packard Called by Death" obit clipping and copy, November 12, 1924.
- 8.6 "Mrs. Elizabeth Leech to Be 90 on Monday" clipping and copy, source unknown, October 9, 1926.
- 8.7 "Leroy Woman is 90 Years of Age" clipping and copy for Frances L. Lawrence, source unknown, n.d.
- 8.8 "Scott Price is Taken by Death" obit clipping and copy, August 16, 1926.
- 8.9 "Mrs. Lee Walter, Old Resident, is Called by Death" obit clipping and copy, December 3, 1924.
- 8.10 "Well Rounded Life" obit clipping and copy for Rev. Thomas Tighman Holton, September 24, 1925.
- 8.11 "Final Tribute is Paid to Memory of Rev. T. T. Holton" obit clipping and copy, source unknown, n.d.
- 8.12 "George Knapp is Taken by Death" obit clipping and copy, August 31, 1925.

- 8.13 "Death Lays Claim to Rev. Thomas T. Holton: Fruitful Career Ends" obit clipping and copy, source unknown, September 23, 1925.

Folder 9: Misc. Receipts 1907-1946

- 9.1 Miscellaneous handwritten receipts.

Folder 10: Lists of Collection Items

- 10.1 Handwritten list.
10.2 Typed, shorter list.

Loose Items

1. Booklet w/ receipts, cover damaged, n.d.
2. Composition book w/ handwritten lists of members, 1915-1921.
3. Notebook w/ member lists and receipts, including a loose letter and newspaper clipping of event, 1909-1926.
4. Scrapbook of newspaper clippings glued onto notebook paper, 1908-1921. Includes lists of members.
5. Journal w/ handwritten records of meetings and other notes, 1906-1929.