

McLean County Museum of History
Reiner - Bennett Collection

Collection Information

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	1 box
COLLECTION DATES:	1919-1970
RESTRICTIONS:	
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

Bloomington-born William C. Reiner (1882-1945) worked as an upholsterer for the Alton Railroad for 40 years, also running his own upholstery business for many years. He married twice and had daughter Stella by his first marriage.

Raymond B. Bennett (1910-1992) was born in Indiana and graduated Normal Community High School. He became an upholsterer's apprentice in the Chicago and Alton Railroad shop. About 1938 he entered business with his father-in-law as "Reiner and Bennett Upholsterers" at 1220 N. Center St in Bloomington. He continued to operate the business under that name after Reiner's death in 1945. He wed Stella Reiner in 1933.

Stella Reiner Bennett (1912-1992) graduated Brokaw Hospital School of Nursing in 1934. She held many nursing jobs, including dental clinic nurse for District 87, part time Brokaw Hospital nurse supervisor and industrial nurse, plus other jobs in public health. She worked for Red Cross doing home nursing and mother and childcare. She also became a volunteer advocate for senior citizens.

Scope

This collection contains day books and notebooks, upholstery tags, stationery, etc. from the Reiner and Bennett upholstery business. Also included are personal bank books, Stella's school composition books, Stella's visiting nurse notebooks, and miscellaneous items.

Box and Folder Inventory

Folder 1: Reiner and Bennett Business Items

- 1.1 Advertising novelty: Bridge and 500 Score Book, undated but at after April 1935.
- 1.2 Business cards, 3.
- 1.3 Upholstery tag, undated.
- 1.4 Upholstery tag, undated. This item **only** donated in 2015 by Broerman Upholstery of Saunemin, IL.
- 1.5 Time cards, 2.
- 1.6 Advertising postcard for furniture repair or upholstery, stamped but unused and undated.
- 1.7 The Seng Handbook Furniture Facts presented by J. Stern Furniture Co of Bloomington, 1946. 136 pp.
- 1.8 1/2 page stationery, 3.
- 1.9 Unused customer statements, 3.
- 1.10 Unused envelopes with Reiner and Bennet return address. 4.
- 1.11 Form letter from accountant of Payne and Company of Dayton, OH, to "Customer requiring sales tax exemption certificate, Jun 1966. Envelope.
- 1.12 Illinois Retailers' Occupation Tax Bulletin, c. 1941.
- 1.13 Retailers' Occupation Tax Monthly Tax Return, Jan 1946 and March 1947.
- 1.14 Chair of Building Committee of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church to Reiner and Bennett regarding upholstery church kneelers, 15 Sep 1955. Envelope.
- 1.15 Purchase Order from Bloomington Board of Education for furniture repairs for Bent Junior High, 1 Jun 1956. Envelope.
- 1.16 Two sheets of notes on repairs, etc., undated. On backs of unused Corn Belt Bank deposit slips.

Folder 2: Bank Books

Corn Belt Bank unless otherwise indicated.

- 2.1 M/M R. B. Bennett, December 1933-March 1948
- 2.2 M/M R. B. Bennett, March 1948 – July 1961
- 2.3 (Daughter) Sharon Bennett by Mrs. R. B. Bennett, Nov 1944 -Nov 1960
- 2.4 (Daughter) Sandra Bennett (who became Sandra Maesky), Feb 1937-Jul 1959.
- 2.5 Bloomington Federal Savings and Loan Assn Christmas Club account book for Mrs. Stella R. Bennett, Dec 1961-Nov 1962(?)

Folder 3: Stella Reiner School Composition Books

- 3.1 Handwritten lists of words, 1922.
- 3.2 Handwritten lists of words, 1925. Grade 8A.

Folder 4: Visiting Nurse Notebooks of Stella Reiner Bennett

- 4.1 Five books, 1940-early 1950s
- 4.2 Receipt book, 1940-41.

Folder 5: Miscellaneous

- 5.1 Pages of diary, August 1928, January 19??
- 5.2 "Memorandum" notebook with list of officers and other items, undated. Stella lists as Secretary.
- 5.3 R.B. Bennett dues book, for Blooming Grove Camp No. 110 at Bloomington covering 1931-1940.
- 5.4 Stand up advertisement for Electronic Protection Services Security Systems of Normal, IL, undated.
- 5.5 Ink blotters: Lang-Fuller Printing Company of Bloomington, undated. 2.
- 5.6 Air-Way Operating Manual, 1929. 40 pp. Includes Guaranty Bond from Air Way to Mrs. Chas. Miller of Bloomington.
- 5.7 Pay envelope, National Bank of Bloomington, undated.
- 5.8 Business card, H.C. Fisher of Bloomington for wood working, etc.
- 5.9 General Telephone ruler/phone directory line finder, undated. Plastic.
- 5.10 Invoice from C. W. Frey & Sons Automotive Necessities, Bloomington, to Joe Bennet of Normal, Feb 1929.
- 5.11 Photocopies of three crude comics, undated.

Loose Books

Day Account Books:

1919
1938-1941
1942-1950
1950-1958
1959-1970

Upholstering Notebooks (10) 1934-1964