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### 0784: L. D. Fowler Papers, 1900-1920

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**REGISTER  
OF THE  
L. D. FOWLER COLLECTION**

**Accession Number: 2011/04.0784**



Special Collections Department

James E. Morrow Library

Marshall University

Huntington, West Virginia

2011

James E. Morrow Libraries  
Marshall University

L.D. FOWLER COLLECTION,  
1900-1920

Accession Number: 2011/04.0784

Processed by: Lauren Angel and Kristen Tibbs

Date Completed: April 19, 2011

Location: Special Collections Department, Morrow Library

Corporate Name: N/A

Date: 1900-1920

Extent: 1 ½ linear feet

System of Arrangement: The collection is organized into two series. Series One is the Business Records Series and Series Two is the Personal Records. Series One includes six sub-series.

Restrictions on Access: None

ACQUISITION OF THE COLLECTION

This collection was donated by Dr. Robert Alexander as part of his Drinko Fellows Project (1999-2000) "Timber: The Times and the Life at Cass, WV." The L.D. Fowler Papers were donated as part of a larger collection that included: material related to the Durban Mercantile Store in Durbin, WV; oral interviews collected by Dr. Alexander; and other materials related to the "Timber: The Times and the Life at Cass, WV" project.

ABSTRACT

Collection consists primarily of correspondence (letters, telegraphs, and postcards), business receipts, business cards, diaries, popular culture items, and other materials concerning L.D. Fowler's employment with Pocahontas Tanning Company and correspondence with his family while residing in Durbin, WV 1900-1920.

## HISTORICAL NOTE

L.D. Fowler was an employee of Wheeling West Virginia's Pocahontas Tanning Company. He rented a room in the Durbin Mercantile Store in Durbin, WV. This room is where Dr. Alexander located Fowler's papers and other materials. These include letters and other materials dated 1900-1920, indicating the probable period of Fowler's employment with Pocahontas Tanning Company. Many letters concern the lumber and tanning industries. As a popular cash crop in the area at the time, several letters include requests to gather ginseng on lands associated with L.D. Fowler and the Pocahontas Tanning Company.

Although most of these materials are professional in nature, some personal letters are included. Fowler appears to have had a daughter named Lara and a wife named Lizzie. Because he received letters from these family members, it appears that he and his immediate family lived separately from 1900-1920.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT OF THE COLLECTION

The papers in this collection are both the professional and personal records of L.D. Fowler from 1900-1920 while working out of Durbin, WV. As an employee of the Pocahontas Tanning Company, L.D. Fowler's business papers relate primarily to timber and the acquisition of bark associated with the tanning process. Among the type of materials included in the collection are correspondences (i.e. letters, telegraphs, and postcards), well-documented business transactions with a wide range of business partners, business cards, diaries, maps, popular culture items (calendars, etc.), and materials related to legal issues and political affiliations.

This collection is divided into two overarching series: **The Business Records Series (Series I)** and **The Personal Records Series (Series II)**.

### SERIES

**The Business Records Series (Series I)** consists of correspondences between L.D. Fowler with business associates from surrounding timber companies, administration at the Pocahontas Tanning Company, and concerning business matters of a variety of natures. Because this series constitutes the majority of the collection, the business records are further broken down into six sub-series: Engineering and Railroad, Investment and Finance, Legal, Miscellaneous Business Records, Tanning, Timber and Natural Resources.

**The Personal Records Series (Series II)** contains correspondences with various family members, private diaries, and a variety of documents unrelated to business. This series contains letters to and from L.D. Fowler's daughter Lara, wife Lizzie, siblings, unidentified friends and/or family members, and certain popular culture items like calendars.

Within both Series I and Series II, files are organized alphabetically by name/subject. Within individual files, material is organized chronologically in ascending order. If materials are undated, then they are placed in front of the chronological material. If possible, undated material is alphabetized.

#### PROCESSING NOTE

Because original order was not kept in place when the records were initially taken from L.D. Fowler's room at Durbin Mercantile, the Marshall University Special Collections received the papers in plastic binders arranged in an order unrelated to how they were actually found. The papers for the entire collection were divided into appropriate subject groups and consistently organized within each folder by chronological order. Researchers should be aware of this collection's lack of original order. Additionally, all efforts were made to identify which materials appropriately belonged in the L.D. Fowler collection and which materials should be housed with the Durbin Mercantile, the "Timber: The Times and the Life at Cass, WV" collection, and the collection of oral interviews donated with these materials.

## SERIES I

These business records are divided into sub-series, folder titles within each sub-series arranged by alphabetical order, and the documents arranged within each folder are placed in chronological order whenever possible. Undated materials are organized together in the front of the appropriate folder, in alphabetical order if possible.

### SUB-SERIES I: Engineering and Railroad

#### FOLDER LIST

- Folder 1      Baxter, A.O., 1908-1911
- Folder 2      Baxter, A.O., Maps 1908(?)-1911(?)
- Folder 3      Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Co., 1908-1911
- Folder 4      Ross Engineering Company, 1910
- Folder 5      Western Maryland Railroad Co., 1909

### SUB-SERIES II: Investment and Finance

#### FOLDER LIST

- Folder 6      Adamson & Donohoe Real Estate Insurance, 1909
- Folder 7      Arbogast, E.M., 1909
- Folder 8      Bankers Mortgage and Trust, 1913
- Folder 9      Boe, James, 1909
- Folder 10     Bowman Realty Company, 1909
- Folder 11     Carpenter, Clyde, 1911
- Folder 12     Cassler, H.H., 1910
- Folder 13     Corhram & Sherrick, 1910-1912
- Folder 14     Dubuque Insurance Company, 1909
- Folder 15     Harm, L.V. 19(?)

- Folder 16 Mitchell, Frank B. Investments, 1910
- Folder 17 Newcomer & Wolf, 1908
- Folder 18 Nicholas-Ritter Realty and Financial Company, 1911
- Folder 19 Southern Development Corporation, 1910
- Folder 20 Whitman, L.B., 1910

SUB-SERIES III: Legal

FOLDER LIST

- Folder 21 Bird, Uriah Justice of the Peace, 1908-1912
- Folder 22 Bratton, W.A., 1910
- Folder 23 Callaghan, D.M. Attorney at Law, 1909
- Folder 24 Pifer, J.C. Law Office, 1910
- Folder 25 Sharp, W.B., Attorney at Law, 1909-1914
- Folder 26 Talbott & Hoover, Attorneys at Law, 1909-1920

SUB-SERIES IV: Miscellaneous Business Correspondence

FOLDER LIST

- Folder 27 Business Cards (Misc.), 19(?)
- Folder 28 Undated Business Material (Misc.), 19(?)
- Folder 29 Business Documents 1904-1907
- Folder 30 Business Documents 1908
- Folder 31 Business Documents Jan.—June 1909
- Folder 32 Business Documents July—Dec. 1909
- Folder 33 Business Documents Jan.—March 1910

- Folder 34 Business Documents April—Aug. 1910
- Folder 35 Business Documents Sept.—Dec. 1910
- Folder 36 Business Documents 1911
- Folder 37 Business Documents 1912
- Folder 38 Business Documents 1913
- Folder 39 Business Documents 1914-1920

SUB-SERIES V: Tanning

FOLDER LIST

- Folder 40 Hoffman, J.G., Undated 19(?)
- Folder 41 Hoffman, J.G. 1906-1909
- Folder 42 Hoffman, J.G. 1910-1912
- Folder 43 Hoffman, J.G. 1913-1920
- Folder 44 Pocahontas Tanning Company 1906-1909
- Folder 45 Pocahontas Tanning Company 1910-1912

SUB-SERIES VI: Timber and Natural Resources

FOLDER LIST

- Folder 46 Alleghany Brick Co., Inc. 1909
- Folder 47 Alleghany Improvement Co., 1911
- Folder 48 Barnett W.H. 1910
- Folder 49 Burning Mountain Oil & Gas Co. 1910-1911
- Folder 50 Carrell, R.C. 1910
- Folder 51 Cassidy, M.J. 1910-1911



Folder 52 Deer Creek Lumber Company, Inc. 1910

Folder 53 Diller, W.D. Timber & Coal Lands 1910

Folder 54 Dilley's Mill WV 1909-1910

Folder 55 Droney Lumber Company 1907-1911

Folder 56 Duncan, J.C. 19(?)

Folder 57 Flint, Erving, & Stoner Co. Whole Sale Lumber 1909-1911

Folder 58 Hamilton, J. 1909

Folder 59 Hardesty, O.F. 1913

Folder 60 Harter Brothers Lumber 1909

Folder 61 Haught, J.B. 1912

Folder 62 Hollywood Lumber & Coal Co., 1911

Folder 63 Hosterman Lumber Co., 1908

Folder 64 Kryder & McElfresh Lumber, 1909

Folder 65 Lutz, D.E. 1909

Folder 66 Magee, W. T. 1910

Folder 67 Miller, A.V. 1909-1913

Folder 68 Moore, A.C. 1909

Folder 69 Moore & Co. 1910

Folder 70 Moss, E.M. 1908

Folder 71 Musgrave, William 1909

Folder 72 Noon, John J., 1909(?)-1910

Folder 73 Norton, Henry H. 1909

Folder 74 Pendleton, Sherrick 1909

Folder 75 Perry, John 1910

Folder 76 Pitts, W.A. 1909

Folder 77	Pittsburgh Timber Company 1908
Folder 78	Poling Dry Goods 1909-1910
Folder 79	Reid, P.J. 1910
Folder 80	C.J. Richardson & Company 1910
Folder 81	Sherrick, W.D. 1907-1910
Folder 82	Standard Oil Company 1910
Folder 83	Star Oil & Natural Gas Company 1906
Folder 84	G.G. Stitzinger & Co. 1911-1912
Folder 85	Stotze, J.C. 1908-1909
Folder 86	Talbott & Hoover 1908-1913
Folder 87	Taylor, W.S. 1908
Folder 88	Thornwood Lumber Company 1911-1912
Folder 89	Timber Lands 1908-1909
Folder 90	U.S. Department of Agriculture 19(?)
Folder 91	The Warn Lumber Company 1910-1920
Folder 92	Wildell Lumber Company 1910
Folder 93	Woodell, B.F.E. 1909
Folder 94	Yeager & Parrish 1908-1912
Folder 95	Young, W.H. 1910-1911

## SERIES II

This series of personal records is organized by related types of materials, folder titles are arranged by alphabetical order, and the documents within each folder are placed in chronological order whenever possible. Undated materials are organized together in the front of the appropriate folder, in alphabetical order if possible.

## FOLDER LIST

Subject Headings: Fowler, L.D., ginseng, Hoffman, J.G., natural resources, tanning, timber industry, West Virginia.

- Folder 96      Blank Postcards 19(?)
- Folder 97      Fowler, Lara 1908(?) - 1911(?)
- Folder 98      Fowler, Lizzie 1910(?) - 1911
- Folder 99      Personal Accounts & Records 19(?)
- Folder 100     Popular Culture Items 1909(?) - 1910(?)
- Folder 101     Post Office Box Receipts 1909 - 1916
- Folder 102     Sibling Correspondence 1910
- Folder 103     Unidentified Personal Correspondence 1910(?)