2011

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
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
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Business Documents April—Aug. 1910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Business Documents Sept.—Dec. 1910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Business Documents 1911</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Business Documents 1912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>Business Documents 1913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>Business Documents 1914-1920</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SUB-SERIES V: Tanning**

**FOLDER LIST**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Hoffman, J.G., Undated 19(?)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>Hoffman, J.G. 1906-1909</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>Hoffman, J.G. 1910-1912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>Hoffman, J.G. 1913-1920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>Pocahontas Tanning Company 1906-1909</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Pocahontas Tanning Company 1910-1912</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SUB-SERIES VI: Timber and Natural Resources**

**FOLDER LIST**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>Alleghany Brick Co., Inc. 1909</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>Alleghany Improvement Co., 1911</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>Barnett W.H. 1910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>Burning Mountain Oil &amp; Gas Co. 1910-1911</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>Carrell, R.C. 1910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>Cassidy, M.J. 1910-1911</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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.
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(?).