

World War II Ration Books 1942-1945

World War II Ration Books, 1942-1945

1942-1945



A Collection in Thomas Balch Library SC 0121

Thomas Balch Library

2016

History

Processed by: Mary Zell Galen

Title Statement

World War II Ration Books 1942-1945

Subtitle: World War II Ration Books

Collection: SC 0121

Author: Mary Zell Galen

Publication Statement

Date: © 2016 By Thomas Balch Library. All rights reserved.

Publisher: Thomas Balch Library

Profile Description

Creation: Machine-readable finding aid derived from MARC record, created by Laura Christiamsem, 20 December 2016

Language Usage: Description is in English

Descriptive Summary

Collection number

SC 0121

Language

English

Abstract

This collection contains ten World War II ration books belonging to five Leesburg, Virginia residents: Hannah Brown di Zerega, James Gasques di Zerega, Bruce McIntosh, Daisy Pleasant McIntosh, and Mary Louise Titus.

Collector

Karen Titus, Ellijay, GA

Physical Characteristics

Less than 0.33 cubic feet.

Repository

Thomas Balch Library

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Collection open for research.

Use Restrictions

No physical characteristics affect use of this material.

Acquisition Information

Karen Titus, Ellijay, GA

Processing Information

Processed by Mary Zell Galen, 5 July 2016

Preferred Citation

World War II Ration Books (SC 0121), Thomas Balch Library, Leesburg, VA.

Accruals

2002.0004

Alternative Form Available

None

Adjunct Descriptive Data

Related Material

Vaughan Family Papers, 1943-1946 (M 007), Thomas Balch Library, Leesburg, VA.

Bibliography

Ancestry.com. 1940 United States Federal Census [database online]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2012, accessed 5 July 2016.

"Hannah Brown M di Zerega Obituary," Loudoun Times-Mirror, 11 February 1988, accessed 5 July 2016.

"James G di Zerega to Wed Hannah B McIntosh," Loudoun Times-Mirror, 30 August 1923, accessed 5 July 2016.

World War II Ration Books (SC 0121), Thomas Balch Library, Leesburg, VA.

"World War II Rationing on the U.S. Homefront," Ames Historical Society, accessed 5 July 2016, <http://www.ameshistory.org/content/world-war-ii-rationing-us-homefront>.

"World War II Ration Books," Bridgeport Library: Bridgeport History Center, accessed 6 July 2016, <http://bportlibrary.org/hc/bridgeport-at-war/world-war-2-ration-books/>.

Other Finding Aid

None

Technical Requirements

None

Historical Information

During World War II, the US military prioritized sending available food and supplies to Europe and the Pacific. In order to conserve limited supplies and prevent price inflation on the home front, consumer goods were federally regulated. By order of the US Office of Price Administration, rationing throughout the United States began in the spring of 1942. A series of four ration books were issued between 1942 and the end of 1943. Several different methods of rationing, including uniform coupon rationing, point rationing, differential coupon rationing, and certificate rationing were used across the country. Besides ration books, ration coins were introduced in 1944 to allow shopkeepers to issue change for ration coupon purchases. By 1945, almost all consumer goods, with the exception of dairy and eggs, were limited by rationing. Sugar rationing continued until 1947 in parts of the United States. In an show of patriotism, many businesses promoted the rationing program, even if the company did not sell consumer products.

The ration books in this collection belonged to Bruce McIntosh (1874-1966), wife Daisy Pleasant McIntosh (1874-1958), daughter Hannah Brown di Zerega (1899-1988), son-in-law James Gasques di Zerega (1899-1950), and sister-in-law Mary Louise Titus (1889-1985). During the 1940s, the family lived together in Leesburg.

Scope and Content

This collection contains ten World War II ration books belonging to five Leesburg, Virginia residents: Hannah Brown di Zerega, James Gasques di Zerega, Bruce McIntosh, Daisy Pleasant McIntosh, and Mary Louise Titus. One book from the War Ration Book One series (issued 1942), four books from the War Ration Book Three series (issued in October 1943), and five books from the War Ration Book Four series (issued in late 1943) are included in the collection. Each book consists of sheets of stamps inside a paper cover. The collection also contains one ration book paper folder sponsored by the People's National Bank in Leesburg, VA and one ration book faux-leather wallet produced by an unknown source. Additionally, the collection contains one paper post office shipping receipt from 1943.

Arrangement

Folder: Item

Contents List

SC 0121

Box 1

Folder 1: Ration Books Issued to Hannah Brown di Zerega

Folder 2: Ration Books Issued to James Gasques di Zerega

Folder 3: Ration Books Issued to Bruce McIntosh

Folder 4: Ration Books Issued to Daisy Pleasant McIntosh

Folder 5: Ration Books Issued to Mary Louise Titus

Folder 6: Ration Book folders and Receipt