

A Guide to the Virginia Anti-Saloon League Collection, 1842-1937

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1835-1937



A Collection in University Archives, McConnell Library, Radford University SC 203
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2012

History

Processed by: Gene Hyde and Adrian Whicker

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Descriptive Summary

Collection number

SC 203

Language

English

Abstract

John Preston McConnell, first President of Radford University, was an avowed prohibitionist and served as President of the Virginia Anti-Saloon League from 1922-1930. After resigning his post as President of the Virginia Anti-Saloon League he continued as a member of its Executive Committee. McConnell served as a strong financial and moral supporter of the movement until his resignation from the office of President at Radford due to failing health. This collection contains correspondence between McConnell and various Prohibition leaders, politicians, civic and religious leaders, educators, and average citizens as well as newspaper articles, pamphlets, and other publications relating to Prohibition and the activities of the Virginia Anti-Saloon League.

Creator

McConnell, John Preston

Extent

2.5 linear feet (3 archival boxes).

Repository

University Archives, McConnell Library, Radford University

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

An appointment for research is required. The collection is open for research. No interlibrary loan.

Use Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Acquisition Information

Donated by the McConnell Family as part of the John Preston McConnell Official Papers

Processing Information

Processed by Gene Hyde and Adrian Whicker, 2012.

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[Identification of item], Virginia Anti-Saloon League Collection, McConnell Library, Radford University, Radford, VA.

Custodial History

Originally part of the John Preston McConnell Official Papers. Moved to Special Collections and processed by Gene Hyde and Adrian Whicker, 2012.

Biographical Information

John Preston McConnell, first president of Radford University, was a staunch supporter of the prohibition of alcohol. In addition to his tenure as president at Radford, he also served as president of the Virginia Anti-Saloon League, a group dedicated to the cause of Prohibition in Virginia, from 1922-1930. During his presidency McConnell corresponded with a number of Prohibition leaders and advocates; he also collected numerous books, articles, and other writings related to the cause of Prohibition. After resigning from the position of president, McConnell continued to be active in the League by donating moral and financial support, stopping only when his health no longer permitted him to continue.

Scope and Content

The Virginia Anti-Saloon League Collection contains numerous letters of correspondence between John Preston McConnell and Virginia Anti-Saloon League leaders, Prohibition leaders, civic and religious leaders, educators, and average citizens, all at local, state, and national levels. These letters reflect on McConnell's sentiments towards the prohibition of alcohol and help shape a better understanding of the activities of the Virginia Anti-Saloon League. These letters were written in the years during and following his role as president of the League and span from 1922-1937.

In addition to correspondence, the collection also contains a number of books, monographs, articles, and other publications printed by the Virginia Anti-Saloon League, the Woman's Christian Temperance Movement, and various other groups and individuals around the United States. The books and monographs span from 1835 to 1931 and discuss topics relating to alcohol consumption and the movement towards

alcohol prohibition. The collection contains pamphlets, songs, and articles published by prohibitionists that document the temperance movement and encourage sobriety and the illegalization of alcohol. Additionally, the collection includes various other ephemera relating to the Virginia Anti-Saloon League, the Woman's Christian Temperance Movement, and Prohibition in general.

Index Terms

McConnell, John Preston, 1866-1941

Anti-Saloon league of Virginia

Prohibition

Virginia, Southwest

Arrangement

Series 1: Correspondence, 1910-1937

Series 2: Printed Materials, 1835-1931

Collection Inventory

Correspondence 1910-1937

Scope and Content

Contains personal correspondence of John Preston McConnell with leaders of the Virginia Anti-Saloon League, national and regional prohibition leaders, government officials, Democratic Party officials, citizens, and ministers throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia. Also, contains publications of the Virginia Anti-Saloon League, the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Virginia and other regional and national prohibition groups, as well as newspaper clippings, and ephemera from the period 1910-1937.

Virginia Anti-Saloon League Correspondence, 1922-1927

Box 1

Folder 1

Virginia Anti-Saloon League Correspondence, 1928

Box 1

Folder 2

Virginia Anti-Saloon League Correspondence, 1929

Box 1

Folder 3

Virginia Anti-Saloon League Correspondence, 1930

Box 1

Folder 4

Virginia Anti-Saloon League Correspondence, 1931

Box 1

Folder 5

Virginia Anti-Saloon League Correspondence, 1932

Box 1

Folder 6

Virginia Anti-Saloon League Correspondence, 1933

Box 1

Folder 7

Virginia Anti-Saloon League Correspondence, 1934

Box 2

Folder 1

Virginia Anti-Saloon League Correspondence, 1935

Box 2

Folder 2

Virginia Anti-Saloon League Correspondence, 1936

Box 2

Folder 3

Virginia Anti-Saloon League Correspondence, 1937

Box 2

Folder 4

Virginia Anti-Saloon League Publications, 1922-1933

Box 2

Folder 5

Virginia Anti-Saloon League Publications, 1927-1935

Box 2

Folder 6

Virginia Anti-Saloon League Ephemera, 1914-1928

Box 2

Folder 7

Women's Christian Temperance Union Correspondence, 1929-1937

Box 2

Folder 8

Printed Materials 1842-1931

Pamphlets and Songbook, 1842-1921

The philosophy of temperance: an address before the Temperance Society of the University of Vermont, October 18, 1842 by Rev. Zena Bliss, 1842

Box 3

Folder 1

The battle cry: a new collection of temperance and prohibition songs by H.S. Taylor and Dr. J.B. Herbert , 1887

Box 3

Folder 2

Life of Charles A. Gunder: saved by the blood from a drunkard's hell, 1909

Box 3

Folder 3

Can the water be made fine? an essay on Southern politics: primaries, Prohibition, labor, the negro question and remedy by William Henry Gravely , 1921

Box 3

Folder 4

The philosophy of temperance: an address before the Temperance Society of the University of Vermont, October 18, 1842 by Rev. Zena Bliss, 1842

Box 3

Folder 5

Pamphlets and Songbook, 1835-1931

Permanent temperance documents of the American Temperance Society, 1835

The beautiful life of Frances E. Willard by Anna A. Gordon, 1898

Reminiscences of Neal Dow: an autobiography (shelved with Rare Book Collection), 1898

The law relating to intoxicating liquors by Howard C. Joyce, 1910

Frances Willard: her life and work by Ray Strachey (shelved in Rare Book Collection), 1913

Prohibition: modification of the Volstead Law by Lamar T. Beman, 1924

The evolution of Prohibition in the United States of America by Ernest H. Cherrington, 1920

Anti-Saloon League yearbooks: , 1909-13, 1915, 1917, 1920, 1922-26, 1929-31 1929

Andrew Trayton: A Novel of Modern Life by Albert O. Boschen, 1928

When at state goes dry: a brief study in law enforcement by Frederick O. Blue, State Tax Commissioner of West Virginia, 1916