

# A Guide to the Women's Christian Temperance Union of Virginia Papers

Women's Christian Temperance Union of Virginia Papers 1882-1958  
1882-1958

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A Collection in the Special Collections Department 1750  
Special Collections Department, University of Virginia Library  
1997

## History

**Processed by:** Special Collections Staff  
**Date Completed:** 1997  
**Encoded by:** Gavin Watson

## Title Statement

A Guide to the Women's Christian Temperance Union of Virginia Papers

**Subtitle:** Women's Christian Temperance Union of Virginia  
Women's Christian Temperance Union of Virginia.

**Collection:** 1750

**Author:** Processed by Special Collections Dept. staff; machine-readable finding aid created by Gavin Watson

**Sponsor:** Funded in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

## Publication Statement

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Funded in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

## Profile Description

**Creation:** Machine-readable finding aid derived from WordPerfect. [Date of source: 1997.]

**Language Usage:** Description is in English.

## Revision Description

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**Feb 27, 2004** converted to conform to eadVIVA.dtd by vivastrict.xsl

## Descriptive Summary

**Unit ID**

Collection number 1750

**Language**

English

**Extent**

365 items

**Repository**

University of Virginia. Library. Special Collections Dept.

Alderman Library  
University of Virginia  
Charlottesville, Virginia 22903  
USA

## Administrative Information

**Access Restrictions**

Collection is open to research.

**Use Restrictions**

See the [University of Virginia Library's use policy](#).

**Acquisition Information**

This collection (# 1750) was put on deposit 1938-1953.

**Funding Note**

Funded in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities

**Preferred Citation**

Women's Christian Temperance Union of Virginia Papers, Accession 1750, Special Collections Department, University of Virginia Library

## Scope and Content

This collection consists of 365 items (3.5 Hollinger boxes, ca. 1.5 linear shelf feet), 1882-1958, papers of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union (Women's Christian Temperance Union) of Virginia, a women's organization whose purpose was to prevent the sale and consumption of alcohol in Virginia. The collection is arranged in three series: I. Correspondence and History File, II. Convention Programs and Proceedings, Publications, Photographs, Memorabilia, and Scrapbook, III. Bound Volumes and Printed Materials.

The correspondence includes letters to Amy C. Weech, Director of the Virginia Women's Christian Temperance Union Evangelistic Department and Mrs. Mrs. Walter [Maude] H. Page, Vice-President of the Virginia Women's Christian Temperance Union during the period in which the 18th amendment was repealed and includes a letter from Governor John Garland Pollard. The history file includes a Governor's Proclamation of Youth Temperance Education Week by Governor William A. Tuck. The major portion of the collection consists of minute books of state conventions and local union business meetings from 1882-1958. The scrapbook consists of Women's Christian Temperance Union literature produced by the Fair and Exhibits Department.

**Organizational History**

The Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Virginia was founded January 2, 1883, five years after the first local union was organized at Lincoln, Virginia. The object of the Women's Christian Temperance Union was to organize local unions throughout the state in order to eliminate liquor sales and production. The first efforts of the Women's Christian Temperance Union were to secure legislative adoption of the Local Option Law to enable localities to individually vote on the sale of liquor in each. The Virginia Women's Christian Temperance Union successfully agitated for the Scientific Temperance Instruction Law which mandated a temperance curriculum in state public schools. The Women's Christian Temperance Union worked for National Prohibition which occurred with the passage of the Eighteenth Amendment in 1920. Though dismayed by the repeal of Prohibition in 1933, the Virginia Women's Christian Temperance Union continued to work for temperance, especially among Virginia's youth, and broadened its reform program beyond temperance, taking stands against gambling, poor working conditions, and smoking through educational and legislative activities.

Alderman Library holdings include a variety of collections on the Virginia Women's Christian Temperance Union. Provenance: See individual accession numbers for provenance information.

**Virginia Women's Christian Temperance Union State Presidents**

Mrs. William H. Pleasants, 1883, Jan.-Oct.

Mrs. Rebecca D. Wilson, 1883-1866.

Mrs. William H. Pleasants, 1886-1888.

Mrs. R. H. Jones, 1888-1898.

Mrs. Howard M. Hoge, 1898-1938.

Mrs. Amy C. Weech, 1938-1942.

Mrs. Herbert W. Phillips, 1942-1950.

Mrs. Roy T. Jarrett, 1950-1958.

## Container List

### **SERIES I: CORRESPONDENCE AND HISTORY FILE**

#### **Correspondence of Amy C. Weech>, Director, Va. Women's Christian Temperance Union Evangelistic Dept.**

**Unit Date** 1930-1936, n.d.

**Container** Box 1

#### **Correspondence of Mrs. Walter H. Page, Vice-President of Virginia Women's Christian Temperance Union**

**Unit Date** 1935-1937, n.d.

**Container** Box 1

#### **History File of Virginia Women's Christian Temperance Union**

**Unit Date** 1882, 1905, 1917, 1937-1949, n.d.

**Container** Box 1

### **SERIES II: CONVENTION PROGRAMS AND PROCEEDINGS, PUBLICATIONS, PHOTOGRAPHS, MEMORABILIA, AND SCRAPBOOK**

#### **Convention Programs of Virginia Women's Christian Temperance Union**

**Unit Date** 1903-1958

**Container** Box 1

#### **Fifty-ninth Annual Convention of Virginia Women's Christian Temperance Union, Miscellaneous material, Report, Minutes**

**Unit Date** 1941

**Container** Box 1

#### **Sixtieth Annual Convention of the Virginia Women's Christian Temperance Union, Copy Proof of Report and Minutes**

**Unit Date** 1942

**Container** Box 1

#### **Publication: Union Signal(>National Women's Christian Temperance Union)**

**Unit Date** 1912, 1915

**Container** Box 1

**Local Union Directory, Pamphlets and Newsletter, Prize Essays**

**Unit Date** 1943-1947, 1957, n.d.

**Container** Box 1

**Photographs, Virginia Women's Christian Temperance Union**

**Unit Date** 1895, 1936-1942, n.d.

**Container** Box 1

**Memorabilia**

**Unit Date** n.d.

**Container** Box 1

**Women's Christian Temperance Union Scrapbook, prepared by Director of Fairs and Exhibits**

**Unit Date** ca.1940-1942

**Container** Box 2

**Material removed from Women's Christian Temperance Union Scrapbook**

**Unit Date** ca.1940-1942

**Container** Box 2

**Anti-Monroe Doctrine Society**

**Unit Date** 1945-1948

**Container** Box 2

**SERIES III: BOUND VOLUMES AND PRINTED MATERIAL**

**Bound Vol. 1: Minutes, Richmond, Virginia Women's Christian Temperance Union**

**Unit Date** 1882-1885

**Container** Box 2

**Bound Vol. 2: Minutes, Virginia Women's Christian Temperance Union Convention**

**Unit Date** 1883

**Container** Box 2

**Bound Vol. 3: Minutes, Virginia Women's Christian Temperance Union Convention**

**Unit Date** 1887

**Container** Box 2

**Bound Vol. 4: Minutes, Newport News, Virginia Women's Christian Temperance Union**

**Unit Date** 1903-1906

**Container** Box 2

**Bound Vol. 5: Minutes, Central Union, Women's Christian Temperance Union**

**Unit Date** 1906-1908

**Container** Box 2

**Bound Vol. 6: Minutes, Marshall/Woodward Union, Women's Christian Temperance Union**

**Unit Date** 1906-1909

**Container** Box 3

**Bound Vol. 7: Minutes, Woodard Women's Christian Temperance Union**

**Unit Date** 1909-1910

**Container** Box 3

**Bound Vol. 8: Minutes, Bridgewater, Virginia Women's Christian Temperance Union**

**Unit Date** 1911-1917

**Container** Box 3

**Bound Vol. 9: Minutes, Central Union (Roanoke, Virginia) Women's Christian Temperance Union**

**Unit Date** 1912-1916

**Container** Box 3

**Bound Vol. 10: Minutes, Charlottesville, Virginia Women's Christian Temperance Union**

**Unit Date** 1936-1942

**Container** Box 3

**Bound Vol. 11: Minutes, Charlottesville, Virginia Women's Christian Temperance Union**

**Unit Date** 1942-1945

**Container** Box 3

**Bound Vol. 12: Minutes, Elizabeth City-Warwick Bi-County Women's Christian Temperance Union**

**Unit Date** 1942-1952

**Container** Box 3

**Bound Vol. 13: Minutes, Tri-City Women's Christian Temperance Union**

**Unit Date** 1957-1958

**Container** Box 3

**Except from Memories of the Crusade by Mother Stewart**

**Unit Date** 1889

**Container** Box 4

**Statue of Miss Frances E. Willard (Proceedings of Dedication)**

**Unit Date** 1905

**Container** Box 4

**Virginia Call**

**Unit Date** 1931-1939

**Container** Box 4

**The Light-house: A History of Richmond-Henrico County Women's Christian Temperance Union 1882-1935**

**Unit Date** 1938

**Container** Box 4

**Reports and Minutes, Virginia Women's Christian Temperance Union  
Convention**

**Unit Date** 1948

**Container** Box 4

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