

Asa Orin Bishop Papers A&M 4649

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1910-1990



Title Statement

Asa Orin Bishop Papers A&M 4649

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

A&M 4649

Unit ID

[Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID

/repositories/2/resources/7049

Unit Date

1910-1990

Language

English .

Creator

Bishop, Asa Orin

Extent

6.46 Linear Feet 6 ft. 5.5 in. (5 record cartons, 15 in. each); (1 flat storage box, 2.5 in.)

Physical Location

West Virginia and Regional History Center / West Virginia University / 1549 University Avenue / P.O. Box 6069 / Morgantown, WV 26506-6069 / Phone: 304-293-3536 / URL: West Virginia & Regional History Center

Repository

West Virginia and Regional History Center

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

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Biographical / Historical

A native of Floyd, Virginia, Asa Orin Bishop began his career with Pocahontas Fuel-Consolidation Coal in 1923. Bishop went on to serve as general manager of sales for company stores until his retirement in 1969. During his 46 years with Pocahontas Fuel-Consol stores, the company expanded into an 18-store complex.

While living in Pocahontas, Virginia, just across the West Virginia border, Bishop was active in a variety of organizations and civic groups, including the Pocahontas Lions Club, the Mercer Anglers Club and the Pocahontas First United Methodist Church. He also served as a director of the Southwest Virginia National Bank and a member of the Tazewell County Advisory Council on Vocational Education.

Bishop passed away in 1988 at the age of 83.

Scope and Contents

This collection contains twentieth century records pertaining to the life and career of Asa Orin Bishop, long time general manager of sales for company stores at Pocahontas Fuel-Consolidation Coal in Virginia. Records include financial, operational and promotional materials for Pocahontas Fuel (and later, Pocahontas Fuel-Consolidation Coal) and Pocahontas United Methodist Church, as well as a variety of sales training resources. The collection features a range of materials such as photographs, newspapers and clippings, ledger books and correspondence.

This collection includes some content containing outdated, biased, and offensive language about African Americans and Indigenous people that may be harmful or difficult to view.

Organization:

The collection is organized into seven series.

Series 1. Personal Papers and Correspondence, 1920s-1980s (Boxes 1 and 2) Photos, personal correspondence, financial records, notes and other memorabilia from Asa Orin Bishop and his family members.

Series 2. Pocahontas Fuel-Consolidation Coal, 1910s-1960s (Boxes 2 and 3) Financial documents, promotional materials, annual reports, company directories, union agreements, employee rules and regulations and other records.

Series 3. Pocahontas First United Methodist Church, 1960s-1990 (Box 3) Newsletters, programs, financial documents, prayers and hymns and other records.

Series 4. Sales Education and Training, 1950s-1960s (Box 4) Sales training pamphlets such as the "Digest of Salesmanship as Applied to Retail Selling" (1951) and two binders of materials from the "National Sales Executives Advanced School of Retail Management, Rutgers University," attended by Bishop in 1955 and 1956.

Series 5. Social Clubs, Community Programs and Investments, 1960s-1980s (Box 5) Documents and correspondence from various businesses and social clubs Bishop was involved with, such as the Virginia Military Institute football team (1960s-1970s), Tazewell County Vocational Schools Advisory Committee (1979-1980), Bluefield Union Mission (1973, 1978), Philadelphia Electric, N&W Railway (1969-1970s), National Industrial Stores Association (1960s), Pocahontas Lions Club (1970s-1980), Mercer Anglers Club and Lay Witness Mission.

Series 6. Newspapers and Clippings, 1950s-1980s (Boxes 5 and 6) A variety of newspaper clippings. Complete newspapers include the Bluefield Daily Telegraph, 8th Annual Coal Progress Edition, February 27, 1977, and Bluefield Daily Telegraph, 9th Annual Coal Progress Edition, April 30, 1978, as well as a special Bicentennial souvenir edition of the Williamson Daily News, June 25, 1976.

Series 7. Miscellaneous (Box 5) Unsorted documents pertaining to Bishop, including correspondence, receipts, financial documents, notes and writings. Includes a detailed firsthand account by Harriet Eliza Lathrop of move from New York to Virginia in 1881-1885.

Keywords

Pocahontas (Va.)

Bishop, Asa Orin

Pocahontas Fuel Company

Consolidation Coal Company

Description of Subordinate Components

Series 1. Personal Papers and Correspondence

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/229922

Unit Date 1920s-1980s

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Scope and Contents

This series contains photos, personal correspondence, financial records, notes and other memorabilia from members of the Bishop family.

Series 2. Pocahontas Fuel Company

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/229923

Unit Date 1910-1960s

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Mixed Materials 3 (Box)

Scope and Contents

This series contains financial documents, promotional materials, annual reports, company directories, union agreements, employee rules and regulations and other records.

Series 3. Pocahontas First United Methodist Church

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/229924

Unit Date 1960s-1990

Mixed Materials 3 (Box)

Scope and Contents

This series contains newsletters, programs, financial documents, sermons, prayers and other records.

Series 4. Sales Education and Training

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/229925

Unit Date 1950s-1960s

Mixed Materials 4 (Box)

Scope and Contents

This series contains sales training pamphlets such as the Digest of Salesmanship as Applied to Retail Selling (1951) and two binders of materials from the "National Sales Executives Advanced School of Retail Management, Rutgers University," attended by Bishop in 1955 and 1956.

Series 5. Social Clubs, Community Programs and Investments

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/229926

Unit Date 1960s-1980s

Mixed Materials 5 (Box)

Scope and Contents

This series contains documents and correspondence from various businesses and social clubs Bishop was involved with, such as the Virginia Military Institute (1960s-1970s), Tazewell County Vocational Schools Advisory Committee (1979-1980), Bluefield Union Mission (1973, 1978), Philadelphia Electric, N&W Railway (1969-1970s), National Industrial Stores Association (1960s), Pocahontas Lions Club (1970s-1980), Mercer Anglers Club and Lay Witness Mission.

Series 6. Newspapers and Clippings

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/229927

Unit Date 1950s-1980s

Mixed Materials 5 (Box)

Mixed Materials 6 (Box)

Scope and Contents

This series contains a variety of newspaper clippings. Complete newspapers include the Bluefield Daily Telegraph, 8th Annual Coal Progress Edition, February 27, 1977, and Bluefield Daily Telegraph, 9th Annual Coal Progress Edition, April 30, 1978, as well as a special Bicentennial souvenir edition of the Williamson Daily News, June 25, 1976.

Series 7. Miscellaneous

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/229928

Unit Date 1950s-1980s

Mixed Materials 5 (Box)

Scope and Contents

This series contains unsorted documents including correspondence, receipts, financial documents, notes and writings. Includes a detailed firsthand account by Harriet Eliza Lathrop of move from New York to Virginia in 1881-1885.