

# **Guide to the Women's History Sources in the Oberlin College Archives**



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**Pamela Kirwin Adams, Alexandra Weil, and Roland M. Baumann, *Compilers*  
Roland M. Baumann, *Editor***



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History Sources  
in the  
Oberlin College Archives



Dedicated to  
Gertrude F. Jacob (1908-1989)  
Oberlin College Class of 1929

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Roland M. Baumann, *Editor*

Gertrude F. Jacob Archival Publications Fund  
Oberlin College,  
Oberlin, Ohio  
-1990-

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*The photographs are from the files of the Oberlin College Archives.*

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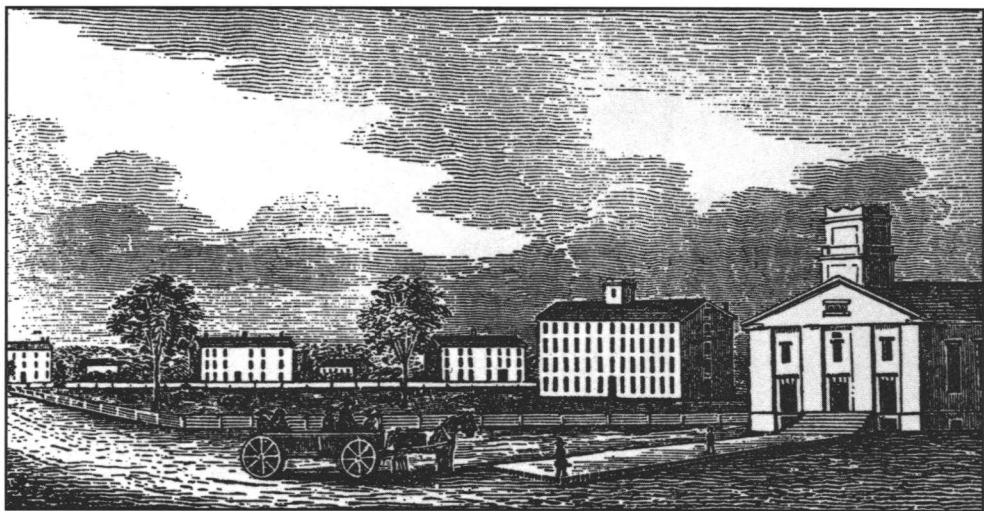
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The Meeting House, Tappan Square and Oberlin Institute Buildings –1846  
From a drawing made by Henry Howe, published  
in his *Historical Collections of Ohio* (Cincinnati, 1848)

# Foreword

In March 1834, Oberlin founder John Jay Shipherd committed the fledgling institution to work on behalf of the “elevation of female character, bringing within the reach of the misjudged and neglected sex, all the instructive privileges which hitherto have unreasonably distinguished the leading sex from theirs.” *The Guide to Women’s History Sources in the Oberlin College Archives* is a fitting continuation of Shipherd’s mission. Its publication makes more accessible over 140 collections of significant historical documents from both the college and the community where pioneers undertook efforts on behalf of coeducation and new gender roles over 150 years ago.

Oberlin’s achievements in women’s history have received widespread recognition. The first American institution to open its doors to women students and one of the first to admit blacks, Oberlin has maintained its preeminent role as an educator of women from its founding to the present. The collections described in this guide illuminate the environment that produced so many women graduates of distinction, including Lucy Stone, abolitionist and feminist orator; Antoinette Brown Blackwell, the first woman ordained in the regular Protestant ministry; Mary Jane Patterson, the first black woman to receive the bachelor’s degree in the United States; Mary Church Terrell, black suffragist, club woman, and educator; and Doris Stevens, militant suffragist. Yet less well-known are Oberlin’s contributions to the social history of American women.

This history—encompassing women students, faculty and staff members, and townspeople—has profound implications. Materials on student regulations and culture, perceptions and aspirations, curriculum and faculty, diversity and decorum, offer the opportunity to document the particular circumstances at the institution that introduced sweeping innovations, with important reverberations for women in American society. Oberlin’s records not only permit the careful evaluation of our individual case, but also present possibilities for understanding larger questions. Most broadly, 19th-century social historians will delight in the wealth of materials about the lives of women in Oberlin College, the Oberlin Academy, and in the town. More specifically, researchers on voluntary associations will find untapped resources on women’s clubs and associations both on and off campus. Students of the place of women in the academy will be fascinated both by the rich material on women in the faculty and administration and by the interchange between town and gown documented in personal and organizational records. Historians of women and religion will discover rich documentation of the role of women in missionary work, including those who served and those who, as wives, supported men who carried Oberlin’s sense of mission overseas. Scholars of sexual mores will find in the records relating to student life voluminous materials detailing shifts in social norms and the social relations of the sexes. And those with more contemporary interests, including the development of the field of women’s studies, will discover a vast range of materials permitting new types of inquiry.

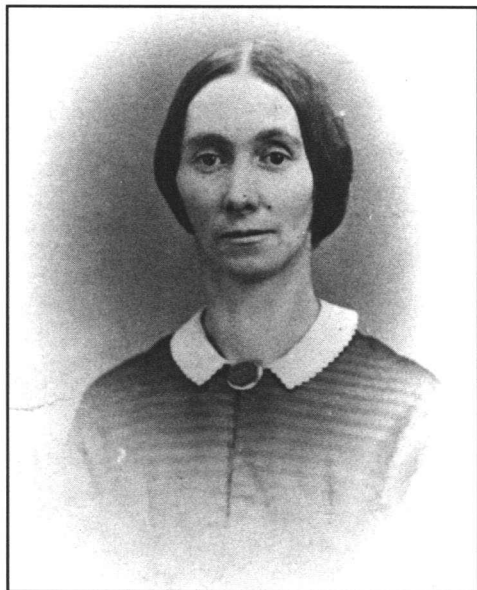
This guide, then, provides information on an extensive range of materials that will assist the documentation of the history not only of Oberlin, but also of the larger issues for scholars in education, social history, and women’s studies. Oberlin has always sought to influence, for the good, the larger community; it is my hope that this publication will continue an aspect of Oberlin’s laudable tradition.

*Carol Lasser,*  
*Associate Professor of History, Oberlin College*

## **The First Coeds, Class of 1841**



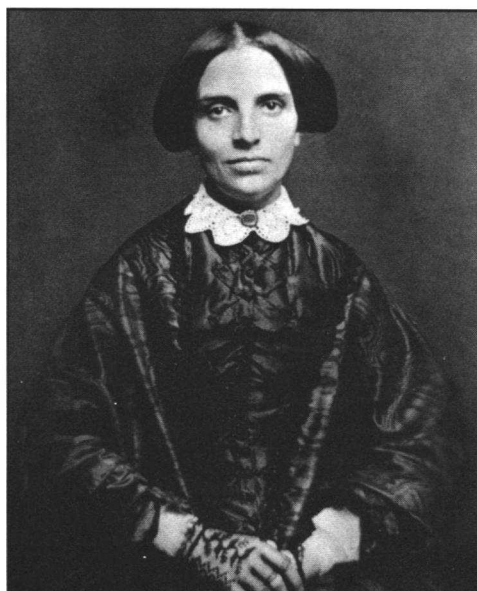
**Mary Hosford, c. 1841**  
(Mrs. C. E. Fisher)



**Mary Fletcher Kellogg**  
(Mrs. James H. Fairchild)



**Elizabeth Smith Prall, c. 1841**  
(Mrs. W. P. Russell)



**Caroline Mary Rudd, c. 1841**  
(Mrs. George N. Allen)

# Introduction

The purpose of this subject guide is to assist researchers in locating records (institutional and noninstitutional) within the Oberlin College Archives that relate to women's history from the 1830s to the present. For the most part, this guide is based on an examination of box listings developed between 1966 and 1989, as well as on a review of the more than 400 groups of records themselves. Although some isolated files or documents concerning women can be found in other sources, they have not been included in this guide because there is no practical way of identifying them. Thus, this guide is not a comprehensive listing of every document relating to women's history in the holdings of the Oberlin College Archives. For example, the archives maintains the nonrestricted files of Alumni and Development records of deceased women graduates and former students. This group, which covers over 20,000 women students, is not reported here. Nor does this guide report on the restricted student files received from the Office of Residential Life. Finally, the guide does not incorporate the holdings of the Department of Special Collections, administered by the Oberlin College Library, which houses Oberliniana and printed works of a rare and valuable nature.

The Oberlin College Archives contains the permanently valuable records of the institution as well as those of individuals, families, and organizations affiliated with Oberlin College and/or the town of Oberlin. The records are housed in the Oberlin College Library, Mudd Center, Room 420, on the Oberlin College campus.

Under a classification scheme devised in the late 1960s, all college records are assigned to numbered groups. A group most frequently consists of the records of a single College office or department, such as the Office of the Provost (#4), the Public Relations Department (#18) or the Women's Department (#42). Records are sometimes brought together on the basis of similar type, medium, or other relationship. Examples of collective groups are Student Life (#19), Committees (#33), and Motion Pictures and Tape Recordings (#37). The current archival holdings consist of approximately 3,400 linear feet of records organized around 53 record groups. The table of contents is not only a listing of the contents of this subject guide, but also a hierarchical view of the record groups.

The Oberlin College Archives attempts to maintain institutional records in the order in which they were organized by the creating college department or unit. It is believed that this strategy best preserves their integrity and interrelationships. Researchers must realize that college filing systems were designed for administrative purposes and not for the benefit of future users. A major reason for the preparation of this guide is to assist subject-oriented researchers in clarifying complex relationships among collections or groups of papers and in identifying material of interest among vast quantities of records.

Each numbered entry in this guide includes a collection title in boldface type, with inclusive dates and quantity figures in linear feet or inches. Following the title is an Administrative History or Biographical Note depending upon whether the entry reports on a departmental unit in the institution or on the personal papers of an individual or family. In cases where a detailed administrative history sketch is lacking, a Historical Note is provided. Finally, each entry has a notation concerning

Scope and Content, which summarizes the extent and depth of the group or collection. Directly or indirectly, these notes report on the strengths and weaknesses of a collection, and they provide a skeletal outline of the series descriptions, when available, and folder listings.

Although this guide is arranged in order of record-group numbers, the names and subjects in the index are keyed to the bracketed entry number appearing before each entry title, not to pages or to the classification number assigned to the group. For example, in the index, the number 23 associated with the Young Women's Missionary Society refers to the entry and not to the page number.

Many staff members of the Oberlin College Archives have helped with this publication. The descriptive work prepared between 1966 and 1986 by William E. Bigglestone, the first archivist, provided an important starting point in the compilation of the subject guide. Special reference is made here to his unpublished "Guide to the Oberlin College Archives," which covers between three percent and five percent of the noninstitutional holdings, plus a number of preliminary inventories. Acknowledgement is also due to former staff members Anne Pearson, who checked various loose ends for the project, and Lisa Pruitt, who rearranged a number of institutional record groups around records series, thus making these records easier to describe for this guide; to Patricia K. Delewski for typing the final manuscript; to Carol Lasser, associate professor of history and chairwoman of the Women's Studies Program, for her interest and cooperation; to Sam C. Carrier, provost, for having provided College resources for a reinvigorated College Archives; to Dana interns Pamela Kirwin (now Adams) and Alexandra (Alex) Weil, both of whom worked with me to prepare the individual entries that comprise this guide; and to the Dana Foundation for supporting the work of the interns. We also gratefully acknowledge the support of Marlene Deahl Merrill for her encouragement throughout the project as well as her helpful comments in improving the manuscript. Anne C. Paine, publications editor at Oberlin College, and D. Mark Gabel, graphic designer at Oberlin College, provided invaluable assistance in preparing the manuscript and mechanicals for the printer. Finally, special thanks to the friends of Gertrude F. Jacob, who contributed to an archival publications fund bearing her name; this fund has underwritten the publication of this subject guide. It is fitting that we dedicate this guide to the memory of Gertrude F. Jacob (1908-1989), who devoted the last 23 years of her life to the work of the Oberlin College Archives.

*Roland M. Baumann,  
Oberlin College Archivist and Adjunct Professor of History  
December 1, 1989*







Second Ladies Hall, Exterior and Interior Views, ca. 1870s

# **RECORDS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES (Group 1)**

## **[1] Records of the Board of Trustees, 1833-1978, 44 ft.**

### **Administrative History**

Under the 1834 charter (an Act to Incorporate the Oberlin "Collegiate Institute"), 12 persons were authorized to serve on the board of trustees. The president of the College was made an ex-officio member in 1834. In 1850 the charter was amended so that the name of the institution could be changed to Oberlin College. The number of trustees was increased in 1874 to 18 and in 1878 to 24, divided into six classes of four, elected to serve for six years. Four of the additional members were elected in 1878, the others in 1880.

In 1878 the trustees authorized participation by the alumni in the selection of one trustee each year. Until 1892, candidates were selected by the alumni, but election was by vote of the trustees. Since then alumni have elected their representatives directly. The membership of the board was expanded to 28 in 1970.

Mrs. Adelia A. Field Johnston, professor of medieval history at Oberlin College, became the first woman to be named to the board in 1901-02. Between 1900 and 1960 only six other women were elected. They were Harriet Louis Keeler, who served from 1915 to 1924; Katharine Wright Haskell (1924-1929); A. Beatrice Doerschuk (1926-1955); Cliffe Johnson Merriam (1930-1936); Adena Miller Rich (1934-1960); and Kathryn Louise Hopwood (1956-1968). During the next 30 years the number of women on the board tripled.

### **Scope and Content**

The records of the board of trustees consist mainly of the following records series: charter and bylaws (printed), 1903-1966; minutes of meetings, 1834-1965 (1834-1964 on microfilm); minutes of the executive committee, 1924-1967; document files supporting the minutes of meetings of the board, 1833-1968; and committees. Committee records include those of the Presidential Committee, 1878-1961; Investment Committee, 1892-1894, 1903-1973; Budget Committee, 1892-1959; Presidential Search Committees, 1945-46, 1959, 1970, and 1975. Indexes exist for the meetings of the board of trustees and the Prudential Committee, but they only cover the years of 1834 to 1904.

Records making up the early years of the document files give the appearance of having been informally kept or of having been recreated after they had been dispersed. Some of the pre-Civil War documents (e.g., student labor accounts of the 1830s) may have been selected for this file by Robert S. Fletcher during his research into the history of Oberlin College. Material of the 1830s, including that on the subject of coeducation, is random in nature. Some documents for the years 1853-1863 and 1864-1869 are in the records of the Office of the Treasurer. There are no items for the years 1875-1878, one item for 1879, and none for 1880, 1882-83 and 1887-1891. It is likely that a fire in 1903 destroyed many of the records, because several items of the 1870s are charred and stuck together as if they had been drenched by water.

Around 1893 the documents are more formal in nature and complete in scope. On June 25, 1900, the file numbers begin with DF197, and from that point on they continue in chronological and numerical order. (Prior to 1899 the College treasurer also served as its secretary. The first secretary—George M. Jones—began his duties in September, and he may have begun the document numbering system.) Documents dated after June 7, 1968, are in the Office of the Secretary of the College.

Subjects relating to women's history may be identified by researchers through the available indexes (name and subject). A firm grasp of the institution's history is necessary if one is to interconnect the records of the board of trustees with the women's history subjects.

By way of illustration, index entries exist for Women's Board of Managers (Ladies' Board); Women; Women's Department; Mrs. Pelton (endowment for the female department); literary societies; missionaries; Mrs. Mary L.P. Kinney; and Mrs. Adelia A. Field Johnston. The board acted on such issues as the status of women, women's athletic association, Women's Club, women's gym, women's day of prayer, and women's studies.

## RECORDS OF THE PRESIDENTS (Group 2)

### [2] Papers of Charles G. Finney, 1817-1875, 4 ft. 6 in.

#### Biographical Note

Charles G. Finney (1792-1875), a key figure in the Second Great Awakening, and his wives, Lydia R. Andrews (1804-1847, m. 1824), Elizabeth Ford Atkinson (1801-1863, m. 1848) and Rebecca A. Rayl (1824-1907, m. 1865), helped to expand the religious role of women during the 19th century. After his emotional conversion, Finney abandoned a career in law and committed his life to awakening others spiritually through his revivals, teachings, and writings on "Oberlin Perfectionism."

Finney's evangelical methods inadvertently led to women taking a leadership role in religious life. During his popular revivals he encouraged women to pray and exhort while in the company of men. Women's groups, organized by Finney's wives, often sustained these successful but controversial revivals. Finney not only employed these methods during the 1820s in his major revivals throughout the New England and middle Atlantic states, but he also continued to support the role of women after assuming the pastoral responsibilities of the Chatham Street Chapel (1832-1835) in New York City.

After his health failed, and with the urging of Arthur Tappan (1786-1865) and Lewis Tappan (1788-1873), Finney took up residency in Oberlin, first as pastor of the Congregational Church in Oberlin (1835-1872) and professor of theology (1835-1851), and later as the second president of Oberlin College (1851-1866) and member of the Oberlin board of trustees (1846-1866). Many students came to Oberlin to study under Finney, but they were disappointed—he was away from Oberlin for long periods of time because of his revivals, held in both the United States and England. However, he was present while Antoinette Brown Blackwell (1825-1921) attended classes at the Oberlin Theology Department and, unlike many of his colleagues, allowed her to recite and to share her religious experiences in his classes. Such practices made Finney a controversial figure.

All three of Finney's wives were active in various women's organizations in Oberlin. Lydia, and after Lydia's death, Elizabeth, reported on the religious state of communities through their correspondence. All three led the Maternal Association, the Infant School, and the Oberlin Female Moral Reform Society. Lydia was involved in the formation of five organizations, including the Ohio Ladies Anti-Slavery Society. Even before her marriage to Finney, Rebecca contributed to the education of female students, serving as assistant principal of the Ladies Department at Oberlin between 1856 and 1865. Rebecca aided Finney with his writings, especially on the subject of antimasonry. Among Finney's publications are *Lectures on Systematic Theology* (1846); *Memoirs of Rev. Charles G. Finney, Written by Himself* (1876); and *The Character, Claims, and Practical Working of Freemasonry* (1869); along with many published sermons on various topics such as prayer meetings and views of sanctification.

## Scope and Content

Divided into two main groups—personal papers and family business papers—the Finney collection spans six decades of the family's activities. It contains no institutional records. This collection is calendared in two volumes and an index. The personal papers (1817-1875) contain correspondence and manuscripts. The correspondence, arranged in chronological order, is mainly addressed to Charles G. Finney or his wives, although Elizabeth and Lydia are also correspondents. Female writers discussed revival activities, child rearing, antismasonry, and the state of their own spiritual lives, and they engaged Finney in religious debates. Included among the family's correspondents are Catherine Beecher (1800-1878); Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Lamson; Alice and James Barlow; and Theodore Weld (1803-1895). In addition to the correspondence, the personal papers contain manuscripts of Finney's memoirs and articles, as well as the outlines of numerous sermons. Finney's family and business papers (1833-1875) consist of receipts (1840-1875), an expense account book (1844-1847); deeds of land, copyright agreements, and a record of money owed (1833-1871); and marriage licenses, Lorain County (1839-1875).

## [3] Papers of James Harris Fairchild, 1835-1903, 12 ft. 3 in.

### Biographical Note

James Harris Fairchild (1817-1902) received the A.B. degree in 1838 and the B.D. degree in 1841 from Oberlin College. In 1841 he married Mary Fletcher Kellogg (1819-1890), one of the first four women to enter the College Course at Oberlin College. They lived in Oberlin where Fairchild was a College professor from 1842 to 1858. During Charles G. Finney's tenure as president (1851-1866), Fairchild assumed most of the administrative duties of the presidency. Upon Finney's resignation in 1866 Fairchild was elected the third president of Oberlin College, serving until 1889. After his retirement, Fairchild remained involved with the College. He was acting president and a member of the board of trustees.

Throughout his career, Fairchild was a national leader in the coeducation movement, and he directly influenced a number of colleges and universities in their decision to become coeducational. Although an abolitionist, Fairchild was very much opposed to women's suffrage. He was one of Oberlin's earliest historians, writing *Oberlin: The Colony and College* in 1883. Other publications in the files include pamphlets titled "Coeducation of the Sexes" (1868) and "Women's Right to the Ballot" (1870), along with two lectures, "Woman's Rights and Duties" (1849) and "Joint Education of the Sexes" (1852).

### Scope and Content

The collection includes annual reports, writings, trip diaries (1870-71, 1884), and correspondence (1852-1903 and undated). The calendared correspondence (mostly incoming) is arranged chronologically. Correspondents frequently focused on issues of coeducation, including the physical condition of college women, the status of women in a coeducational school, the interaction between the sexes, the necessity of special courses or cultural events for women, the effect of coeducation on students' scholarship, the composition of literary societies (single sex or combined), and the rules governing students. Fairchild's opinion on coeducation was sought by many institutions of higher education. Editors of publications, including *The Advance*, requested Fairchild to write articles on coeducation and suffrage. His correspondents included Susan B. Anthony (1820-1906) and Lucy Stone (1818-1893). The most extensive correspondence (1838-1841), however, is between Mary Kellogg and James Fairchild. (Typescript is available.) Subjects covered are social life at Oberlin, Mary Hosford, and Charles G. Finney. Among Fairchild's manuscripts are "Oberlin College and Colony,"

"College Governance," "Relations of the Pastor to the Women of his Church and Congregation," "The Disturbing Forces of Home Life," and "Our College Social Life."

## **[4] Papers of Henry Churchill King, 1897-1934, 58 ft. 2 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Henry Churchill King (1858-1934) received his undergraduate education at Oberlin College (A.B. 1879, B.D. 1882). Except for the time he studied at Harvard University (A.M. 1883) and in Berlin (1893-94), King taught mathematics, philosophy, or theology at Oberlin from 1879 until 1902. King was a nationally known educator when he was appointed president of Oberlin College in 1902; he held that position until 1927. While president, King's idealistic moral philosophy contributed to his role as an international academic statesman. His most notable contribution came at the end of World War I, when he served on the Inter-Allied or King-Crane Commission in Europe and the Near East (1919). This commission studied the question of what to do with the people of Syria and Turkey and the lands of the former Ottoman Empire, and it made recommendations to the Peace Conference. One of the many organizations chaired by King was the American Missionary Association. In recognition of his career as an educator, theologian, and administrator, King received nine honorary degrees.

### **Scope and Content**

The collection is arranged in four categories: calendared correspondence (1897-1927); topical (1903-1934), filed alphabetically by name of organization or subject; uncalendared correspondence (1902-1927); and transcripts, notes, and manuscripts of King's travels, lectures, class notes, and writings. The correspondence covers various topics: sororities, temperance, tobacco, women's suffrage, student living conditions, and Oberlin's participation in the war effort. Among those who corresponded with King were Katharine Wright Haskell (1874-1929), Mary Church Terrell (1863-1954), Kathryn Newell Adams (1876-1966), and Frances T. Densmore (1867-1957). Although there are letters from such notable educators as Jane Addams (1860-1935), Ellen Pendleton (1864-1936), Mary Woolley (1863-1947), M.L. Burton (1874-1925), and Charles Beard (1874-1948), the correspondence mainly concerns arranging visits and speeches of dignitaries, as well as conferring honorary degrees. The topical file covers a wide range of subjects from departmental budget requests (1927-28) to Oberlin's tobacco legislation (1918-1923). King's manuscripts and notes relating to women are "The College and the Thoughtful Man" (an address King gave at the inauguration of Ellen Pendleton as president of Wellesley College in 1911); "Womanhood" (1914); "The Opportunity and Obligations of Friendship" (1915); and "Mothers and Sons" (1915).

## **[5] Papers of Ernest Hatch Wilkins, 1927(1927-46) -1953, 70 ft. 4 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Ernest Hatch Wilkins (1880-1966) was educated at Amherst College (B.A. 1900, M.A. 1903) and Harvard University (Ph.D. 1910). While establishing himself as an authority on the works of Dante and Petrarch, he became professor of romance languages at the University of Chicago (1912-1927). He was president of Oberlin College from 1927 to 1946, one of Oberlin's greatest periods of development, and he steered the College through the Depression and recruited foreign students. After retiring from Oberlin, Wilkins, the consummate academi-

cian, returned to teaching and writing with an appointment as a visiting lecturer at Harvard University (1947-1950).

## Scope and Content

This collection is arranged in three categories: a general file (1927-1946) with subseries; a faculty file (1927-1953); and a war service correspondence (1941-1946). The general file is organized around the following nine series: 1) alphabetical correspondence; 2) special matters, Oberlin, 1928-1941, and elsewhere, 1928-1945; 3) miscellaneous, 1936-1946; 4) Peace Institute, 1936-1937; 5) Commission on the Coordination of Efforts for Peace, 1928-1933; 6) appointment books; 7) talks and writings; 8) old buildings files, 1926-1943; 9) building files; and Peace Organizations, printed materials 1914-1947. Included in the 85 boxes of incoming and outgoing correspondence are letters from and about the following individuals and organizations: Kathryn Newell Adams (1876-1966), Florence Snell (1861-1949), Mildred McAfee (b. 1900), the American Association of University Women, and American Social Hygiene Association. Among the topics covered are scholarships, questionnaires, organizational reports, coeducation, and smoking. Institutional papers include memoranda concerning the building of the women's gymnasium (Hales); the General Faculty's revision of rules for women; confidential reports to Wilkins from various members of the College community, and curriculum reviews. The War Service Correspondence contains incoming and outgoing letters between Wilkins and men and women in the armed services; this correspondence discusses education, peace, and other world events.

## [6] Papers of William E. Stevenson, 1926 (1946-59) -1960, 48 ft. 3 in.

### Biographical Note

William E. Stevenson (1900-1985)—Olympic gold medalist, lawyer, public servant, diplomat, and educator—was the eighth president of Oberlin College. A Rhodes Scholar, Stevenson received his education at Princeton University (A.B. 1922) and Oxford University (M.A. 1925), and he received three honorary degrees. From 1925 until World War II, Stevenson practiced law in New York state. Stevenson and his wife, Eleanor Bumstead Stevenson (1902-1987), received the U.S. Army's Bronze Star medal for organizing Red Cross operations in England and North Africa during World War II. As a result of her war experiences, Mrs. Stevenson wrote *I Knew Your Soldier* (1946).

Stevenson's administration at Oberlin College (1946-1959) was marked by the return of the Department of Religion in the college, the enlargement of the faculty of the Graduate School of Theology, and the establishment of vesper services (which Stevenson led). The student cooperative dining halls and dormitories, still in existence today, were started while Stevenson was president. During this period, Mrs. Stevenson was actively involved in the civil rights movement and served on the board of the Fund for the Republic. She gave the first nationally broadcast speech on behalf of Planned Parenthood.

In 1961 Stevenson was appointed ambassador to the Philippines, a post he held until 1964. During the late Sixties he headed the Aspen Institute of Humanistic Studies, and Mrs. Stevenson served on the Music Associates of Aspen Committee.

## Scope and Content

The collection is divided into four sections, consisting of a subject file (boxes 1-69); alphabetical file (boxes 70-92); personal file (boxes 93-98); and an administrative file (boxes 98-104). Included in the subject and alphabetical files are letters from and about Mary Church Terrell (1863-1954), the League of Women Voters (1952-1958), and the American Association of

University Women (1947-1959). Stevenson's papers contain annual reports (1954-1959); records of appointments (1944-1958); and records of promotions and salaries (1931-1959). The collection includes compiled lists of assembly speakers, the titles of speeches (1937-1958), and honorary degree recipients (1928-1957). The building of women's dormitories and women students' opinions on housing are also documented (1947-1950).

## **[7] Papers of Robert K. Carr, 1925 (1960-70) -1977, 27 ft. 1 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Robert K. Carr (1908-1979) received his education at Dartmouth College (A.B. 1929) and Harvard University (A.M. 1930, Ph D. 1935). While teaching political science at the University of Oklahoma and Dartmouth College, he became a recognized authority on civil liberties.

Carr was inaugurated as the ninth president of Oberlin College in 1960. The decade of the Sixties at Oberlin was an era of capital fund raising, educational experimentation, new construction (15 buildings were added), revision of student rules, and governance reorganization. New administrative positions created during the Sixties included the dean of students, provost, director of financial aid, director of administrative services, personnel officer, and publications director. Functions of other offices were also redefined, transferred, or eliminated (e.g., Office of the Secretary, Business Manager, and the Prudential Committee of the board of trustees). One of the major changes was the closing of the Oberlin Graduate School of Theology, which merged with the Divinity School at Vanderbilt University in 1966. During the Vietnam War years, Carr clashed with students as he tried to provide an "institutional definition of the proper role and tactics of social protest and dissent in the academic community." After his resignation in 1970, Carr was named a board member of the American Council on Education (1970-1975).

### **Scope and Content**

This collection is arranged around three major accessions: a general file with three sections, 1932 (1960-1970) 1975, each arranged alphabetically; the personnel file (1960-1970), arranged alphabetically; and the administrative file (1937-1977), arranged chronologically and alphabetically. Reports and lists to and from the president include annual reports (1958-1968); budgets (1960-1967); faculty salary scales (1949-1965); the Report by the Subcommittee on Dorms and Housing (1968); suggested recipients of honorary degrees (1959-1964); and a list of faculty members (1951-52; 1954-1956; 1960-1966; 1968-69). The work of faculty committees, which led to the changes in women's regulations, marriage rules, and housing, is well documented. Documentation also exists on the student demonstrations in the 1960s, which caused Carr to issue policy statements, design strategies, and correspond with parents, alumni, and friends of the College. Carr's correspondence with leaders of various civil rights organizations, including Oberlin Action for Civil Rights and the Ohio Civil Rights Commission, also is included.

## **[8] Papers of Robert W. Fuller, 1970-1974, 11 ft. 2 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Robert W. Fuller (b. 1936) attended Oberlin (1952-1955) and Princeton University (M.A. 1959, Ph.D. 1961), and he received an honorary degree from Oberlin (A.B. 1971). Before



assuming the presidency of Oberlin, Fuller was assistant professor of physics at Columbia University and Barnard College, a fellow at the Center of Advanced Studies at Princeton and the Battelle Seattle Research Center, and dean and faculty member at Trinity College.

Fuller's presidency (1970-1974) fostered a greater awareness of issues affecting blacks and women. This was exemplified by the formation of various ad hoc committees, such as the Ad Hoc Committee on the Status of Women and the Education Commission. Greater emphasis also was placed on theater and dance, resulting in the formation of a new academic program. During Fuller's administration the curriculum and the governance of the college were evaluated. His views on these matters ultimately led to his resignation in 1974.

Ann L. Fuller (b. 1936), the wife of President Fuller, was also involved in the women's movement at Oberlin. She worked to redefine the role of faculty wives, and she also was active in the Oberlin's Women's Group and the Ad Hoc Committee on the Status of Women. She was an assistant professor of mathematics at Oberlin in 1972-73.

Since his resignation from Oberlin College, Fuller has been a self-employed consultant and a senior researcher at the Worldwatch Institute. He also has been involved in building television space bridges between the United States and the Soviet Union.

## **Scope and Content**

This collection consists of general and personal files of Robert Fuller. Included are preliminary reports, progress reports, and recommendations from the Education Commission and its subcommittees, 1971, covering student life, female faculty, and equal opportunity. Contained among the Governance Commission papers are the minutes (1971-1973) and four progress reports (1972-73). Other series include personnel actions, 1968-1974; development, 1970-1973; and budget, 1971-1973. Also in the collection is a 1972 paper (typescript) titled "Liberating the Administrator's Wife," given to the American Council on Education by Ann L. Fuller.

## **RECORDS OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ASSISTANTS (Group 3)**

### **[9] Papers of William F. Bohn, 1910 (1913-44) -1953, 20 ft. 6 in.**

#### **Biographical Note**

William F. Bohn (1878-1947) received three degrees from Oberlin (A.B. 1900, B.D. 1905, and A.M. 1908) and an honorary doctor of divinity degree from Bates College (1921). During the administrations of Presidents Henry C. King and Ernest H. Wilkins, Bohn was secretary to the president (1905-1913) and assistant to the president (1913-1944). His primary duties were raising funds for scholarships and new buildings and strengthening the endowment through the annual-fund drive and the Capital Campaign of 1923. He helped develop several academic departments, including the Department of Physical Education for Women and the Department of Religion. Bohn was a trustee of the First Church in Oberlin and the Oberlin Shansi Memorial Association and president of the Oberlin Village Improvement Society.

#### **Scope and Content**

The Bohn papers, which primarily span three decades, are divided into eight series. Documentation on Bohn's fund-raising activities during the administrations of King and Wilkins is found in the general files (correspondence) and the series fund raising (covering the 1923 campaign). Bohn was responsible for funds given by and in memory of such women as

Mrs. Elisabeth Severance Allen Prentiss (1865-1944). Some gifts were earmarked for uses benefitting women, such as scholarships, buildings, and lecture series (e.g., the Nellie Heldt Lecture Fund). Women's issues—including the changing role of women, segregation in dormitories, the Oberlin Shansi Memorial Association, and the Women's Physical Education Department—are detailed in the annual reports and the correspondence series. The Bohn papers contain significant documentation on the celebration of coeducation, as well as transcripts of two chapel talks given by Mildred McAfee (b. 1900), dean of women at Oberlin at the time. (She went on to become president of Wellesley College.) There also is information on Kathryn Newell Adams (1876-1966), who was president of Constantinople Women's College from 1924 to 1931. Other materials include lists of black graduates prominent in public affairs and education; honorary degrees given between 1911 and 1932; freshman honors lists for some years between 1911 and 1934; the percentages of men and women graduating Phi Beta Kappa, 1838-1912; an occupational distribution of graduates, 1924-1934; the number of men and women involved in missionary work, 1833-1912; and the amount of financial aid received by students, 1930-1952.

The Bohn files also contain Oberlin printed materials covering such topics as drinking, dancing, smoking, dating, and the religious attitudes of the Oberlin community. There is an article by Bohn titled "Oberlin and Suffrage" (1915).

## **[10] Papers of Charles Whiting Williams, 1904-1912, 5 ft. 2 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Charles Whiting Williams (1878-1975) was awarded the A.B. degree in 1899 and the A.M. degree in 1911 from Oberlin College. He was assistant to President Henry C. King (1858-1934) from 1904 to 1912. He was named executive secretary of the Federation of Charity and Philanthropy (later the Cleveland Welfare Federation) in 1912, a position he held from 1913 to 1917. Thereafter, Williams held a variety of other posts; his experiences as an author and lecturer in the field of social work and industrial labor relations drew on this earlier work.

### **Scope and Content**

This collection, arranged alphabetically, consists of correspondence and records pertaining to donations, organizations, and the student body. A list of donors (1908-1911) includes the names of women who funded various college needs, including scholarships for female students, the library, the art museum, the Living Endowment Fund, and different college divisions. Also included is information about the Camp Fire Girls and the YWCA. Reports concerning women include an analysis of the course work completed by the student body and a list of specific scholarship recipients.

## **[11] Papers of Harold S. Wood, 1942 (1944-48) -1953, 2 ft. 5 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Harold S. Wood (b. 1898), was awarded the A.B. degree from Oberlin College in 1923, the A.M. degree from Ohio State University in 1937, and an honorary A.M. degree from Wesleyan University in 1939. Before serving as assistant to Presidents Ernest H. Wilkins (1880-1966) and William E. Stevenson (1900-1985) from 1944 to 1948, he was a member of Ohio State University's Department of Physical Education (1926-1937) and chairman of Wesleyan University's Department of Physical Education (1937-1944). His responsibilities at Oberlin

were mainly financial, including the development of funds for new dormitories. He became a vice president at Beloit College after leaving Oberlin.

### **Scope and Content**

The correspondence and reports in this administrative file concern gifts, residential life, postwar plans for Oberlin, and alumni. The gifts were for scholarships and money given by and for women. Residential life files include information on conditions in and regulations of women's dormitories and on smoking legislation (1933-1946), as well as a list of women's dormitories and the minutes of the Residences and Dining Halls Committee. The alumni reports include a list of graduates working in government service in 1943-44, statistics on blacks enrolled at different times, and a list of alumni working in the media compiled in 1953.

## **[12] Papers of Bayley F. Mason, 1971-1974. 4 ft. 7 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Bayley F. Mason (b. 1930) received the A.B. degree from Harvard University in 1951. Before his appointment as administrative vice president to President Robert W. Fuller (b. 1936), Mason was employed by Harvard in various capacities. Between 1971 and 1974 his main duties at Oberlin included the development and management of college resources and the supervision and coordination of the administrative activities of the business office, development department, and public relations with alumni. Mason left Oberlin in 1974 to become vice president of resources at Boston University.

### **Scope and Content**

The collection, arranged chronologically and alphabetically, contains information a number of topics, including the status of women, standards for women in higher education, affirmative action, the Oberlin Women's Service Center, funds restricted for use by women, and student life. One file contains biographical data on participants of a program for Native American women students. The Placement and Graduate Counsel's Report (1971-1973), the Class of 1973 Occupational Summary, and an occupational summary of College and Conservatory graduates for the years 1968 to 1973, also contain useful statistical data.

## **RECORDS OF THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY (Group 5)**

## **[13] Records of the Office of the Secretary, 1860-1973, 86 ft.**

### **Administrative History**

In 1899 a committee of the board of trustees reported that the duties of the secretary-treasurer had "long ago exceeded the ability of a single officer." Because the secretary's correspondence could no longer be handled in a piecemeal fashion, and because the treasurer needed to devote full attention to managing investments and property, the committee recommended the creation of a new position to handle correspondence and to prepare notices of appointments and degrees conferred, keep records, and distribute catalogs and other publications. Some persons considered hiring a woman as assistant secretary to the secretary-treasurer if "a

suitable lady could be found to do the work for less compensation.” However, the committee’s desire to have the secretary serve as an outside representative of the College and to do “broader work” led them to appoint George M. Jones (1870-1948).

The duties of the Office of the Secretary, as constituted in the 1904 Bylaws of the College, fell into two categories. First, he served as secretary for the board of trustees (of which he was not a member) and the Prudential Committee (of which he was a member), and as clerk or secretary for various College groups, including the General and College faculties. In these capacities, the secretary kept records of members present and proceedings of all meetings, and he supervised all faculty and trustee elections. The second area of responsibility was external affairs or public relations. He corresponded with prospective students and high school officers and operated an employment service for seniors and graduates looking for teaching positions. The secretary also implemented the recommendations of all scholarship committees, maintained detailed financial records on scholarships and loans, and oversaw the publications of catalogs, bulletins, and other documents deemed necessary by the president or General Faculty.

Under George Jones the secretaryship came to revolve primarily around two functions—keeping the records of the trustees, Prudential Committee, and General Faculty, and serving as chief historian/statistician of the College. The Office of the Secretary became a powerful and influential unit within the institution. Jones was succeeded by Donald M. Love (1894-1974), who served as secretary from 1938 to 1962. Love carried out the responsibilities of secretary in much the same tradition as his predecessor, maintaining and perhaps even widening the power and influence of the office. During Love’s tenure, the responsibilities of the secretary as set forth in the bylaws remained unchanged, although specific duties evolved with the times. By 1955, the secretary became responsible for administrative affairs concerning foreign students.

In 1960 Robert K. Carr (1908-1979) assumed the presidency of Oberlin College. His tenure was marked by major administrative changes. With the retirement of Donald Love, the responsibilities of the secretary were scaled back considerably, with a corresponding reduction in the office’s influence. The secretary’s office retained its responsibility for the permanent records of the institution, as well as its secretarial functions for the board of trustees and the General and College faculties. The secretary was an ex-officio member of the Graduate School of Theology and the Conservatory faculties, with secretarial duties for those bodies. The secretary also continued to carry out a multitude of activities relating to trustee and faculty elections, reporting and questionnaires, and commencement. During the 1960s and 1970s five different individuals held the secretary’s position. From 1970 until 1983 the position was only part-time. With the presidency of S. Frederick Starr (b. 1940), the secretary returned as a full-time officer of the College. In addition to serving as secretary to the board of trustees, the three faculties, and numerous committees, the secretary was is now responsible for conducting elections, supervising and planning commencement and other academic celebrations, and maintaining official College records. As assistant to the president, the secretary prepares reports and correspondence, completes questionnaires, and offers general advice and support.

## Scope and Content

The records of the Office of the Secretary, which are organized as a general file, document the activities of the secretary and other College divisions and departments. The annual reports of the secretary, the faculty, and the administration address various women’s concerns, including dancing, smoking, and the YWCA. Some of the annual reports are written by women, including zoology Professor Hope Hibbard and Dean Florence Fitch. The financial records of the College contain information about the charges for and costs of women’s activities and tuition. The College’s response over the years to tuition remission for faculty children and spouses is also documented. Among the records of the office are various statistical files concerning women, including lists of foreign students, immigrants, and

enrollment figures. The secretary maintained salary statistics and a list of all college employees (including their sex and employment status). Among the transcripts of assembly speeches and other talks are addresses given by women and concerning women's issues. Questionnaires provide reminiscences of alumni of their years at Oberlin. The records of the Office of the Secretary also contains copies of publications by Oberlin faculty members, including articles written for the centennial celebration of coeducation.

## **RECORDS OF THE OFFICE OF THE TREASURER (Group 7)**

### **[14] Records of the Office of the Treasurer, 1822-1950, 50 ft.**

#### **Administrative History**

The first financial officer of Oberlin College was Eliphalet Redington (d. 1848), who was treasurer in 1834-35. The treasurer also initially served as secretary (or corresponding secretary) to the board of trustees. In addition to preparing the board's correspondence, the secretary-treasurer maintained records of donations, expenditures, fees collected, and loans and scholarships, and he managed the College's property and investments. From the beginning, the College's financial matters were governed under guidelines established by the board of trustees and/or a trustee committee appointed to oversee investments.

In 1899, the secretary's responsibilities were separated from those of the treasurer. Under the 1904 Constitution and Bylaws, the treasurer was responsible for "funds, securities, investments, muniments of title, indicia of ownership, assets, property, choses in action, accounts and items of credit and things receivable by or belonging to the College." From 1915 to 1933 the treasurer worked with an investment company, and after that with an investment officer. The office maintained account books of assets and liabilities, receipts and expenditures, financial and property transactions, and trust funds, and it prepared the annual balance sheet and financial report for the board of trustees. Budget planning and resource allocation also were fixed duties. Finally, from 1925 to 1959 the treasurer was ex-officio treasurer of the board of managers of Allen Memorial Hospital.

The next significant step in the evolution of the financial management of the College occurred in 1939-40 under Treasurer Henry Wade Cargill (1874-1971). A special committee recommended that the offices of the Treasurer, Investment Executive, and Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds (responsible for plant maintenance and operations) continue to report directly to the president. However, two recommendations were adopted to consolidate the responsibilities of the treasurer and investment executive and to establish a high-level executive office to oversee all financial operations.

Thus in 1942, the board of trustees unified the offices of Treasurer (William Potter Davis) and Investment Executive (Vincent Seldon Hart) by asking the treasurer to manage investments and by naming the investment executive to the treasurer's staff. The treasurer was replaced as secretary of the Investment Committee by the investment executive. In 1954, the position of business manager was created to oversee all financial operations and to supervise and coordinate the administration of all nonacademic departments. Consultant Lewis R. Tower was the first business manager (1954-1971); he was succeeded by Dayton E. Livingston (1971-1976). Livingston was later named vice president for business and finance. As the institution's chief financial officer, Livingston reported directly to the president. Beginning in 1958 the position of controller (responsible for general accounting procedures) reported to the vice president of business and finance. Under the reorganization of the 1960s nine other offices reported to the enlarged Office of the Vice President for Business and Finance.

Between 1958 and 1984 the downsized Office of the Treasurer was directed by Karl H. Aughenbaugh (1958-1969) and Roger S. Cooper (1970-1984). When Cooper retired, the office's responsibilities were again redefined to focus upon supervising the endowment investment program. Many of the treasurer's former duties (e.g., receiving tuition, fees, gifts, and donations; overseeing student accounts and loans; and supervising the finances of student organizations) were transferred to the bursar, Barbara Pitts (b. 1931). Pitts, named assistant treasurer under Cooper in 1969, was the first woman to hold such a high post in the male-dominated office. The treasurer's position went unfilled for five years, and the vice president for business and finance continued to supervise the endowment.

When Dayton E. Livingston retired in 1988, the position of vice president for business and finance was abolished. In its place was created an Office of Vice President for Operations, with responsibility for supervising grounds and land planning, the Oberlin College Inn, the physical plant, purchasing and auxiliary services, security, and personnel. (Donna M. Raynsford (b. 1942) was named to this post, making her the College's highest-ranking woman administrator and its first woman vice president). In this restructuring, the provost was made the chief budgetary and planning officer and was appointed supervisor of the controller.

In 1989, Charles Tharp (b. 1950) was named treasurer, and once again the position was redefined as a senior executive officer reporting to the president. The new treasurer's responsibilities were broadly conceived in the areas of evaluating and initiating investment policy; monitoring the activities of the Capital Ventures Office (now separate from the Development Office) in relation to policy guidelines established by the Investment Committee; negotiating lines of credit; and preparing materials and reports on these operations for the Trustee Investment Committee and the College administration.

## Scope and Content

The records of the Office of the Treasurer date from 1822 to 1950. They include incoming and outgoing correspondence (1822-1907 and 1836-1895, respectively); bills and receipts, 1832-1862 (under "Miscellaneous Archives"); records of student manual labor and teacher pay, 1834-1869; student account and scholarship records, 1833-1946; files and ledgers documenting gifts and bequests; and financial statements of student organizations, 1921-1950. Topics covered in these records include the establishment, organization, and funding of Oberlin College; biographical and financial information on individual students; antislavery agitation; aid to blacks; education of blacks and women; temperance; and evangelical religious activities. Of special interest is the printed material on the Ipswich Female Seminary, the biographies of female students (1834-1836), the annuity correspondence of Rebecca Finney (1885-1891), and 19th-century marriage licenses. The records of Manual and Domestic Labor and Teacher Pay, 1834-1869, include receipts for labor performed by students reporting the name of the student, the type of work done, the rate of pay or number of hours, total pay, and the name of person for whom work was performed. The receipts for teaching give each individual's name, number of hours, hourly rate, and total, 1837-1869. Both subseries are arranged chronologically.

Finally, not to be overlooked is the extensive correspondence of women's rights sympathizer Timothy B. Hudson and the single file bearing the name of Emily P. Burke, who was principal of the Oberlin Female Department. Portions of this record group have been microfilmed and indexed. The records were not interfiled when received, so the five series generally reflect the individual accessions which make up the group.

# RECORDS OF THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES (Group 9)

## [15] Records of the Department of Physical Education for Women, 1886-1963, 11.3 ft.

### Historical Note

Oberlin College was a leader in the field of women's physical education during the first half of the 20th century. Delphine Hanna, M.D. (1854-1941) was instrumental in establishing a physical education department for women at Oberlin. Called the Department of Physical Training for Women from 1887 to 1903, it subsequently was named the Teacher's Course in Physical Education for Women from 1904 to 1955 and the Department of Physical Education for Women from 1955 to 1970. A progressive advocate and director of the women's physical education program, Hanna was the first woman in the United States to hold a college professorship in physical education. She conducted classes for women students and faculty members and for public school children.

By 1896 the department had adequate facilities to offer a major in physical education. In 1902, the first woman in the country to graduate from a four-year physical education program enrolled at Oberlin. In 1911 physical education, now constituted as a teacher's course, became part of the curriculum for all Oberlin women. Another dimension of the program was the physical education camp. Along with the college and the department, faculty members and friends purchased land on Lake Erie to build the Oberlin College Beach Association and the Hanna Camp.

Most notable among the women who continued Hanna's work was Gertrude Moulton, M.D. (1880-1964), director of the camp and director of physical education for women from 1923 to 1945. Both Hanna and Moulton strove to integrate physical activities with the total well-being of students. Moulton succeeded in improving the physical plant of the department. With the development of Galpin Field, the department encouraged outdoor sports—the College built tennis courts, a golf course, and field hockey fields. The completion in 1938 of Hales Gymnasium for Women provided much-needed space and equipment. Although the two-year mandatory program was reorganized on a skill-level basis in 1954, the department continued in the tradition of Hanna and Moulton. Of significance is the large role female instructors played in teaching physical education, because most of their male associates coached sports.

The Oberlin College General Faculty voted in 1970 to consolidate the men and women's departments of physical education. Oberlin women also began competing in intercollegiate events during the 1970s. In 1985, on the recommendation of the physical education department and the Education Plans and Policy Committee, the General Faculty eliminated the physical education major. In 1989 the General Faculty voted to reorganize the larger program as an administrative department within the College of Arts and Sciences. Renamed the Department of Athletics and Physical Education, it is now administered by a director.

### Scope and Content

This subgroup, which contains 13 records series, covers the concerns and interests of the physical education training program/department for women. Included are: minutes of staff or department meetings, 1925-1942, 1966-1982; departmental correspondence, 1951-1982; committee files, c. 1966-1981; Director Gertrude Moulton's files, c. 1927-1964; Delphine Hanna Foundation, n.d.; curriculum, 1927-1943, 1969-1973; alumni files of physical education graduates, 1886-1963; anthropometric charts, c. 1893-1912; Women's Athletic Associa-



**Baseball Team, Conservatory, 1923**



**Basketball Team, Class of 1916**



tion, 1911-1945, 1949, 1962-63; facilities, 1914-1944 (covers Hales Gymnasium, Hanna Camp, Galpin Field, etc.); general alumni file, 1914-1918, 1955-1957; women's basketball, 1905-1917 (record book); and printed material, c. 1893-1963, 1966-1981. There is also a photograph group that measures eight inches.

## **[16] Records of the Women's Studies Program, 1974-1989, 3 ft. 4 in.**

### **Administrative History**

Initiatives to incorporate women's studies into the Oberlin curriculum began in the early 1970s. Following a 1971-72 recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Status of Women, the College Faculty developed additional courses relating to women's studies within the respective College departments. Three developmental phases followed: early curricular and governance initiatives, 1973-74; the Women's Studies Committee, 1974-1982; and the Women's Studies Program, 1983 to the present.

During the first phase, four women—three wives of faculty members and one part-time faculty member—taught five women's studies courses: Children's Literature, Women and the Arts, A History of the 19th-Century American Woman, The Rhetoric of Social Movements, and an Advanced Creative Writing Workshop. The Oberlin Women's Studies Planning Collective (a subcommittee of the Committee on the Status of Women), the Women's Advisory Council, and a Women's Studies Planning Committee were responsible for developing a curriculum and gaining financial support for women's studies. Between 1972 and 1974 these committees worked with three women who were responsible for developing an interdisciplinary approach to women's studies—Ellen Langenheim Henle Lawson (b. 1944), an interim special consultant in women's studies, and associate deans Zara Wilkenfeld (b. 1938) and Paula Goldsmid (b. 1943).

In 1974 the Women's Studies Committee, now a standing committee of the College Faculty, was made responsible for "coordinating curricular offerings in the area of Women's Studies, including the possibility of developing guidelines for a major in Women's Studies." From 1974 to 1976 the committee membership included four representatives from the College Faculty, four students, the associate dean responsible for women's concerns, and two other individuals interested in women's studies. The latter were appointed by the first nine members and approved by the College Faculty. In the spring of 1976 the committee's composition consisted of seven faculty members (five women and two men) and seven students.

Using external grants the Women's Studies Committee developed continuing-education opportunities and public programs. For example, the committee interacted with the Great Lakes College Association (GLCA) women's studies programs. Gerda Lerner (b. 1920) gave a symposium in 1977 titled "Placing Women in American History," with a response by William Scott. In 1978 Florence Howe (b. 1929) was appointed visiting scholar in women's studies. Howe organized the first interdisciplinary faculty seminar on women's studies and assisted the committee in long-range planning.

The committee achieved a major goal when the Educational Plans and Policy Committee passed a resolution in 1982 making women's studies a program. By this time a program coordinator had been in place for several years, and the curriculum included 27 core courses (not all taught annually) and 41 related courses. These cross-listed courses were taught mostly by tenured or tenure-track faculty members. The introduction of Women's Studies 100 in 1981-82 constituted the program's first class offering. Although this step did not end the financing and staffing problems that plagued the Women's Studies Program from the beginning, it did establish a niche in the curriculum.

## Scope and Content

This record group is organized into two subgroups: an administrative file and an affiliate associations file. The records of the administrative file are divided into 12 series. Included are various drafts of the charter (no dates); minutes of the Women's Studies Collective, February-April 1974, the Women's Studies Committee, 1974-1982, and the Women's Studies Program Committee, 1982-1989; correspondence concerning curriculum, programs, and participation in the National Women's Studies Association, 1974-1989; and annual reports, 1978, 1982-1988. The program review of 1985 provides an overview of the program from its inception. The financial records, 1974-1983, include the budget for a National Endowment for the Humanities consultancy (1981) and the program budget for 1982-83. The other series contain curriculum and advising information, 1973-1988; seminars, conferences, and lectures concerning women's studies, 1975-1983, 1987-88; surveys and questionnaires, 1972 and 1978; program development; publications, 1976-1978, 1988; and a historical file, 1976-1978.

The affiliate association subgroup documents Oberlin's major involvement with other organizations concerned with the development of women's studies. The Great Lakes Colleges Association, 1976-1983, contains information on Oberlin's participation in the women's studies section of the GLCA through correspondence, some of which documents Florence Howe's 1978 Oberlin appointment; brochures; lists of speakers; consultants; reports; and films. The second series deals with Oberlin and the National Women's Studies Association, 1976-1983, 1985. This series includes correspondence, questionnaires, and newsletters. The third and fourth series addresses Oberlin's role in the North Central Women's Studies Association, 1977-1982, and the Northern Ohio Women's Studies Consortium, 1977-1979, respectively.

## RECORDS OF THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY (Group 11)

### [17] Records of the Graduate School of Theology, 1841-1966, 28 ft.

#### Historical Note

In 1834 tensions climaxed between the students and the board of trustees at Lane Seminary in Cincinnati, Ohio, when the trustees voted to prohibit antislavery agitation. As a result the Lane Rebels, including students, Trustee Asa Mahan (1799-1889), and Professor John Morgan (1802-1884), left the Cincinnati school. These explosive events caught the attention of Arthur Tappan (1786-1865) and John Jay Shipherd (1802-1844), financial agent and founder, respectively, of the Oberlin Collegiate Institute. Since the theological students were financially backed by Tappan, Shipherd seized the opportunity to solve Oberlin's fiscal problems by inviting the rebels (including Mahan and Morgan) to come to Oberlin. This they did under three conditions: that Oberlin accept students regardless of color, that Oberlin respect students' freedom of speech, and that Oberlin not "interfere with the internal regulation of the school."

As a result of the merger, in the fall of 1835 the Oberlin Collegiate Institute opened a new theology school with Asa Mahan as president, Charles G. Finney (1792-1875) as professor of theology, and the Lane Rebels among the first theology students. In 1844 the catalog mentions the Oberlin Theological Seminary for the first time, replacing the old theological department. Other significant changes in the seminary during the 19th century involved the inclusion of women and minorities. During the 1840s Antoinette Brown Blackwell (1825-1921), the first woman ordained a minister, was a "resident graduate, pursuing the Theological Course." Although Oberlin did not award its first B.D. degree to a woman, Juanita

Breckenridge-Bates (1860-1946), until 1891, it was still the first school to do so.

During the later half of the century the Slavic department was formed with the financial support of the American Home Missionary Board, making the Oberlin Theological Seminary the only school in the United States that prepared candidates to minister to the Polish, Bohemian, and Hungarian (Slovak) populations. By 1900 the seminary had 11 departments covering the necessary curriculum for master's and doctoral degrees in religion.

Until 1904 the president of Oberlin College also served as head of the seminary. With the creation of seminary dean, the dean, not the president, shaped the policies and mission of the seminary. Under the first dean, Edward Increase Bosworth (1861-1927), the seminary was renamed the Graduate School of Theology (GST). During Bosworth's tenure the seminary employed its first part-time female instructor, Frances Gertrude Nash (1871-1961), who taught elocution. (Nash also was dean of women of the Conservatory of Music from 1914 to 1937, and she was professor of dramatic expression.) Under Dean Thomas W. Graham (1882-1971), the first female recorder, Charlotte J. Ormsby (1871-1947), was hired, and later, when the title changed to registrar, Gertrude F. Jacob (1908-1989) filled this position. Jacob also served as the first executive secretary of the GST.

Many women taught and participated in the Graduate School's summer sessions (1949-1960). These courses were well attended by ministers and others interested in religious education.

Since Oberlin was a nondenominational graduate school, enrollment was never consistent. However, enrollment increased when Leonard Stidley (1898-1958), the dean of the GST between 1949 and 1958, arranged with the Ohio Conference and the Northeast Ohio Conference to make Oberlin a training school for Methodist theological students. Enrollment also expanded in 1954 when the Schauffler College of Religious and Social Work of Cleveland closed its undergraduate division and moved its graduate program and students to Oberlin. With the arrival of the Schauffler Division of Christian Education and its professor Ruth Lister (b. 1917), the Oberlin Graduate School of Theology appointed its first permanent female faculty member. During the 1950s a Methodist seminary was established in Ohio, and Oberlin's enrollment once again declined.

Despite the earlier interest of President William E. Stevenson, the GST was increasingly seen as a financial drain on the institution, as well as an academic program that had outlived its usefulness on the campus. Therefore, in 1965, the board of trustees of Oberlin College voted to discontinue professional graduate instruction in theology on the Oberlin campus. In September 1966, six faculty members and 22 students joined the Divinity School of Vanderbilt University as part of a merger agreement. Thus ended Oberlin's 130-year commitment to the education of ministers.

## Scope and Content

This collection spans the period from 1844 to 1967 and documents Oberlin's religious commitment. Most of the documents constitute the files maintained by dean of the graduate school. In the executive correspondence of Edward Increase Bosworth, information exists on the Slavic department's effort to train missionaries around the world and on the Kyrias School for girls in Albania. There also are printed materials, minutes of faculty meetings (1884-1966), correspondence (1887-1897), and the GST Alumni Association records (1961-1967). Course materials covering various religious subjects (1941-1951) are available, as is the summer school curriculum (1942-1966). Records of various organizations include those for the Leaven Club (1900-1948, 1960-1962, 1963-1966), a club for women faculty members and students and wives of faculty members and students. Included in these files of the associations are constitutions, bylaws, amendments, and lists of membership. In the control file there is a list of all the women who attended the GST and received the B.D. degree. Tape recordings of speeches (1959-1966) also exist.

# **RECORDS OF THE DEAN OF STUDENTS (Group 12)**

**[18] Records of the Dean of Students, 1935 (1967-82)-1985,  
29 ft. 9 in.**

## **Administrative History**

In 1964, the board of trustees created the Office of the Dean of Students to direct and to coordinate all offices concerned with student services. The dean of students reported directly to the president. Prior to the creation of the office, the functions of the dean of students were carried out by various offices throughout Oberlin College's history.

From 1836 to 1894, women students were under the direction of the Ladies' Board of Managers, which was mainly composed of professors' wives. In 1894, the positions of dean of Conservatory women and dean of College women were created. Over the years such women as Adelia Field Johnston (1837-1910), Florence Fitch (1875-1951), and Mildred McAfee (b. 1900) filled the post of dean of College women. The almost simultaneous resignation in 1935 of both women deans allowed the positions to be reorganized and combined into one office with two positions, a dean and an assistant dean of women. The dean of women, elected by the board of trustees, was responsible to the Women's Board, a body under the General Faculty. The duties of the office included the administration of social regulations, the guidance of women's activities, the selection and guidance of matrons (house directors), the formulation of housing plans, and the determination of campus employment for female students.

In 1971, another major reorganization of the administration of student affairs took place. The dean of students continued to provide policy leadership and administrative supervision to all offices involved with student affairs, but the Offices of the Dean of Men and the Dean of Women were eliminated. These responsibilities were redistributed along functional rather than gender lines. Two associate deans and two assistant deans replaced the deans of men and of women. One associate dean managed such campus affairs as the student government and the student judicial system, and the second selected, trained, and evaluated dormitory staff. One assistant dean was responsible for overseeing housing and dining facilities, while the other worked to provide dormitory programs to enrich student life. Although the names of some of the positions within the Office of the Dean of Students changed between 1971 and 1988, no significant changes were made in the overall functions of the office until 1989. With the retirement of Dean George H. Langelier (b. 1927), the Office of the Dean of Students and the Office of Student Services were merged under the Office of Student Life and Services.

## **Scope and Content**

The records of the Office of the Dean of Students document the activities of the dean and his staff, including the activities of the dean of women. Consisting mostly of Dean George H. Langelier's correspondence, the records document the turbulence that existed on campus in the late 1960s and early 1970s. Topics include abortion, cohabitation, racism, and the Vietnam War. Various documents, including financial records, minutes and notes of meetings, and annual reports, contain information regarding the Office of Dean of Women and women students. There also are records on the Health Plan Board, which organized and reviewed the Oberlin College Student Health Plan.

# **RECORDS OF THE OBERLIN SHANSI MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION (Group 15)**

**[19] Records of the Oberlin Shansi Memorial Association, 1881-1987, 44 ft. 6 in.**

## **Administrative History**

The Oberlin Shansi Memorial Association (OSMA), a private foundation housed on the Oberlin College campus, has its roots in the fervor for foreign missions that characterized the United States in the late 19th century. In 1881, the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions (ABCFM) accepted 12 students primarily from the Oberlin Theological Seminary to serve as missionaries in the Shansi province of China. (These 12 students called themselves the Oberlin Band.) Some 30 missionaries from Oberlin served between 1882 and 1900. Several women, known as associate missionaries, were part of this group. Instrumental in reaching the female population in Shansi, these women missionaries visited Chinese women in their homes and introduced them to Christianity. Many of these women, such as Mrs. Lydia Lord Davis (1867-1952), were committed to education. In establishing girls' schools in Fenzhou-fu and Rencun, Mrs. Davis overcame both Chinese resistance to Western learning and the Chinese belief that education was only for males.

The work of the Oberlin Band was stopped by the Boxer Rebellion, which took the lives of many missionaries and their converts. Between 1900 and 1908, Oberlin sought ways to commemorate the Oberlinians who had died in the Boxer uprising. In 1903, the Memorial Arch at Oberlin College was dedicated to the Oberlin martyrs. A strong desire persisted, however, to memorialize the martyrs further by continuing their educational work in Shansi. This led to the formation of the OSMA in 1908 under the leadership of Oberlin College President Henry Churchill King (1858-1934), the YWCA and YMCA secretaries, and Mrs. Davis and Mrs. Alice Moon Williams, widows of two Oberlin martyrs. Oberlin graduate Kung Hsiang-hsi (1880-1967), a former student in the Taiku missionary school and a friend of the martyrs, returned to Taigu in 1908 to head OSMA's educational work. A school, Ming Hsien, was built on the land ABCFM received as restitution for the rebellion. This school was originally for boys, but it became coeducational when it merged with the girls school, Bei Lu.

During the 1920s and 1930s the aim of OSMA and Ming Hsien evolved from evangelism into one of Christian service to China. Using the endowment from the Charles Martin Hall estate, OSMA incorporated under the laws of the State of Ohio. In 1926 Mrs. Davis was named OSMA's first executive secretary, responsible for coordinating the organization's efforts in China and the United States. OSMA appointed representatives to teach, coach athletics, and lead other extracurricular activities at Ming Hsien. After Ming Hsien became a coeducational and secular school at the primary and secondary level, the program was expanded to include an agricultural department, an industrial school, and rural service.

The invasion of northern China by the Japanese in 1937 forced Ming Hsien to relocate in the Szechuan province, 1,300 miles to the southwest. Here the school prospered until 1951. OSMA withdrew from the country when the United States ended diplomatic relations with China.

The end of Oberlin's commitment in China caused OSMA to modify and expand its program in other parts of Asia. Margaret (Peg) Leonard (b. 1914) oversaw the evolving OSMA, serving as the organization's executive secretary from 1943 until 1981. She was succeeded by Carl Jacobson (b. 1947). New emphasis was placed on student and faculty exchange programs with institutions in Japan, India, Taiwan, Thailand, Indonesia, South Korea, Hong Kong, Afghanistan, and the Philippines. In the early 1980s, OSMA returned to China.

Administered by a board of trustees, a student committee, and an executive director, OSMA's purpose is to foster international respect and understanding through educational exchange with Asia. Graduating seniors and first-year alumni of Oberlin College can live and work in an Asian culture for two years as Oberlin Shansi representatives. In addition to sending representatives abroad, OSMA offers fellowships and support for Asian-related programs and events at Oberlin to Asian and Oberlin faculty members and students. Each year, the Shansi Student Committee and trustees select up to seven representatives to travel to Asia. In general, representatives receive support from OSMA and affiliated institutions in Asia for teaching English and for language study. For a time during the 1960s and 1970s, a limited number of representatives devised their own programs of work and study in an experimental program that did not necessarily involve teaching English.

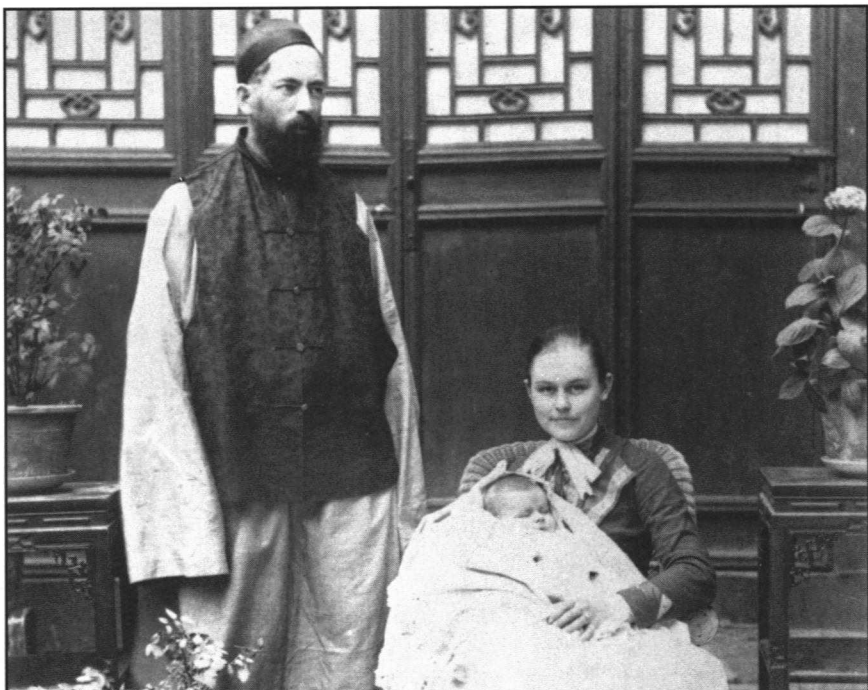
## Scope and Content

Divided into six subgroups, the OSMA records document the activities of Oberlinians in Asia. The first group records the missionary activities of the Oberlin Band, 1882-1899. Among the records is the recording secretary's book, 1882-1885. Correspondence 1883-1958—which includes letters by Lydia Lord Davis, reminiscences of the Oberlin Band's work in China, and handwritten and typewritten notes—summarizes the history of the Oberlin Band.

The administrative records, which comprise the bulk of the collection, primarily document the founding and operation of primary and middle schools, and later a college, in Shansi province, 1908 (1920-1950) 1987. Among the items included in this group are the constitution of OSMA; the minutes of the association, 1907-1940; minutes of the executive committee, board of trustees, 1944-1987; and minutes of the advisory council, 1950. Among the reports, 1907-1980, are the annual reports of the OSMA, 1907-1933. The administrative correspondence details the role of cultural exchange in both higher education and international relations. The correspondence of OSMA, 1904-1986, documents OSMA activities, including its work with the ABCFM, the East-West Association (and its director, Pearl Buck), and the United Boards for Christian Colleges in China and Christian Higher Education in Asia. The records of the student committee are among the committee records. The financial records, 1903-1978, 1980-1986, include annual financial reports and budgets, 1910-1941; reports and correspondence of the treasurer, 1936-1980; records of the finance committee, 1980-1986; and information on scholarship applications and awards, 1919-1971. The general file, 1918-1984, includes materials produced and collected by OSMA or related to the association, including reports, essays, and notes for Susan Hinman's history of the OSMA.

Program Areas, 1907-1987, documents OSMA's programs in Asian educational institutions. Among the documents are administrative records; correspondence with exchange students and faculty members and with exchange institutions; and a small amount of printed matter and students' work from Asian schools.

The experiences of individual OSMA representatives are documented for 1933-1987. The reports and correspondence provide insight into the lives of both the Chinese people in this era and the American men and women living and working in China. These people observed and reported on such political events and social issues in China as the founding of the Nationalist government, the invasion by the Japanese and the ensuing Sino-Japanese War, and the eventual triumph of the Communist forces.



**Lydia and Francis Davis, China Missionaries, ca. 1893**



**Alice Moon Williams, Missionary to China, late in life**

# **RECORDS OF THE OBERLIN COLLEGE LIBRARY**

## **(Group 16)**

**[20] Records of the Oberlin College Library,  
1815(1950-75) -1988, 25 ft.**

### **Administrative History**

The Oberlin College Library was formed in 1833 at the same time the college was incorporated. Until Azariah Smith Root (1862-1927) became the librarian in 1887, the library played a secondary role in the College, since classroom assignments were based on textbooks and not on other reading. As librarian, Root moved the library from a relatively low-profile department to a prominent institution on campus, a reflection of his own prominence in the library profession. During Root's tenure the library's collection experienced phenomenal growth. By 1910 Oberlin's was the largest academic library in Ohio; by 1923 it was the largest college library in the country. The library had become a place where a large part of all the work of the students was done. A new library building (Carnegie Library) was constructed in 1908 to accommodate the library's changing role.

Julian S. Fowler (1890-1975) succeeded Root in 1927. For 28 years Fowler worked to improve the library's collection and services. During his tenure, the endowment also grew from \$250,000 to \$436,000. Fowler emphasized quality over quantity in the library. The book collection was even made available to alumni, including those overseas. In 1940, an extensive addition containing six stories of stacks greatly expanded Carnegie Library.

Fowler was succeeded as librarian by Eileen Thornton (b. 1909), who served from 1956 to 1971. During her tenure, Thornton broadened the scope of the collection, improved services, and planned and secured funding for a new, multimillion-dollar library building (Mudd Center). In addition to presiding over a 20 percent increase in the library's holdings, Thornton developed a major music library to serve the Conservatory, a chemistry and biology branch library in the Kettering Hall of Science, a separate College archives, and a collection to support the East Asian studies program. Subject-specialist librarians were also added in music, art, and science. By the time she retired in 1971, there were 18 professional librarians on the staff.

Herbert E. Johnson (b. 1934) was director of the libraries between 1971 and 1978. He oversaw the construction, equipping, and move into the Mudd Learning Center (now Mudd Center). He presided over major budget cuts during the mid-Seventies, the result of fiscal stringency necessitated by a national economic recession and hard times at Oberlin.

When William A. Moffett (b. 1933) was named Oberlin's director of libraries in 1979, he faced the challenge of improving the library's funding and collection-management practices. The first online circulation system was installed in 1978. Between 1982 and 1986, under the direction of Systems Librarian Katherine A. Frohberg (b. 1949) and others, the card catalog was converted to machine-readable records and, in 1984, an automated acquisition and serials control system was implemented. The second online circulation system with an online catalog was purchased in 1986. The Oberlin Bibliographical Information System (OBIS) became operational in 1989.

### **Scope and Content**

These records (1815-1988) are organized around four subgroups. The administrative file, which consists of 13 record series, documents many aspects of the administration of the library at the levels of both the directors and the individual departments. The material also reflects the prominence women played in the administration of the library. The annual



reports, 1887 (1919-1988), of the director, branch librarians, and department heads summarize the goals, objectives, activities, and accomplishments of each year. Minutes and/or agenda of the Library Council and the Education Commission are available for 1902 (1956-1974). Correspondence of most directors, 1908-1988, including Eileen Thornton, covers library administration, collection development, building programs, and the relationship between the Oberlin College Library and the Oberlin Public Library. Financial records, 1938-1974, document budget development, in particular efforts to build endowments and seek outside financial support. Personnel matters, 1956-1974, includes information on benefits, professional development, faculty status, salaries, working conditions, and staff organization and unions. Library departments and collections, 1884-1983, contain documents related to the operation and management of various departments and collecting areas within the library. Records of the library's support of particular College programs, 1959-1969, among which was the Peace Corps Training Program, are available. The files on exhibits reflect the varying interests and concerns of the Oberlin community. There are records concerning the establishment of the Oberlin College Archives, 1947-1971, and the Oberlin Public Library, 1888 (1910-1970). Among the records of the Ohio College Library Center, 1965-1988, are files accumulated by Eileen Thornton. The subgroup of records pertaining to the planning and constructing of facilities, 1963-1976, covers Carnegie Library and the Seeley G. Mudd Center. Publications (subgroup III) of the Oberlin College Library, 1940 (1965-1988), include its newsletter, special collection catalogues, and bibliographies of women's studies holdings. Materials documenting the history of the library, 1815-1970, are located in subgroup IV.

## **RECORDS OF THE PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT (Group 18)**

### **[21] Records of the Centennial of Coeducation, 1936-37, 2 ft. 7 in.**

#### **Historical Note**

Oberlin was the first coeducational college in the United States, and it celebrated a century of coeducation in 1937. Many academic and political dignitaries gathered at Oberlin to honor the College and the four women students—Mary Hosford (1821-1884), Mary Fletcher Kellogg (1817-1890), Elizabeth Smith Prall (1816-1868) and Caroline Mary Rudd (1820-1892)—who were the first to enroll in the College Course. Former Dean of Women Mildred McAfee (b. 1900) gave the keynote address. The public relations department worked closely with President Ernest H. Wilkins (1880-1966) and his assistant to ensure the event was appropriately covered. Oberlin received national attention as NBC radio covered the events.

#### **Scope and Content**

Among the correspondence in the collection are letters of greetings and congratulations from officials at numerous educational institutions, as well as their responses to invitations. Both President Wilkins and Dr. William F. Bohn (1878-1947) communicated extensively with various people concerning preparations for the centennial event. They attempted to persuade Mdm. H. H. Kung, wife of the Chinese minister of finance and an Oberlin graduate, who in her own right was an important figure in the Chinese government, to attend. The college also invited Mdm. Kung's sisters, Mdms. Sun Yat-sen and Chiang Kai-shek, to participate in the centennial events. The public relations department gathered lists of coeducational schools and information pertinent to coeducation. Included in this file are printed materials, addresses, radio scripts, news releases, photographs of the event, a list of delegates, and all the articles printed about Oberlin and coeducation during that year.

## Centennial of Co-education, 1937



Pageant, Centennial of Co-education, 1937



Left: Miss Clare M. Tousley, class of 1911  
Right: Miss Mildred McAfee, President of Wellesley and  
former Dean of Women at Oberlin  
(Portrait of Caroline Mary Rudd, one of the first coeds, is  
in the background)

## **RECORDS OF STUDENT LIFE (Group 19)**

### **[22] Records of the Oberlin Band of Student Volunteers for Foreign Missions, c. 1886-1927, 2 in.**

#### **Historical Note**

The Oberlin Band of Student Volunteers was one of several Oberlin student organizations that supported Protestant missionary endeavors at home and abroad. This coed organization, sponsored by the YMCA and YWCA, prepared its members for missionary work and spread the missionary zeal among others for over three decades. At meetings, members listened to missionaries tell of their efforts and of the lands where they labored, heard missionaries' letters read, discussed the work of the various missions, and gave support by donating money. Young women who became Oberlin missionaries included Rowena Bird (d. 1900, Lit. 1890, A.B. 1895), Tinnie D'Etta Hewett (Thompson, d. 1899, A.B. 1888), Alice Moon Williams, Lydia Lord Davis, and Alice Cowles Little.

#### **Scope and Content**

The collection, consisting of three volumes and two folders, includes minutes and deputation committee records, plus personal information that student members supplied about their own backgrounds. These completed questionnaires also report on parents' names and addresses. Membership lists contain not only the name of each member, but also his or her mission location and date of withdrawal from the organization. A scrapbook from the 1920s contains photographs and clippings from Oberlin and abroad.

### **[23] Records of the Young Women's Missionary Society, 1879-1894, 2 in.**

#### **Historical Note**

Organized in 1879 as the Young Ladies Missionary Society, the Young Women's Missionary Society was one of several Oberlin student organizations that supported Protestant missionary endeavors at home and abroad. Its activities included educating members, financing designated missions, and sending missionaries and helpers into the field. This group supported mission work among the Slavic immigrants of Cleveland. After finishing college, quite a number of the society's members became missionaries.

#### **Scope and Content**

The collection, consisting of four volumes and one folder, includes minutes (two volumes) and financial and membership information (two volumes). The group's focus on women missionaries is illustrated by the secretary's report on letters from, information about, and talks by female missionaries. A folder holds documents from several women missionaries: a letter dated 1888 from Luella Miner (A.B. 1884), who was working in China, and two letters (c. 1890) regarding Josephine Barnaby's work with American Indians in North Dakota.

## **[24] Records of the Ladies' Literary Society, 1850 (1904-52)-1952, 1 ft. 2 in.**

### **Historical Note**

In 1835 nine women founded the Young Ladies' Association of the Oberlin Collegiate Institute. The first literary society for women in the United States, its purpose was to improve the "intellectual and moral" character of its members through "the promotion of Literature and Religion." At meetings women practiced public speaking and mastered parliamentary procedures. Membership in the association especially benefitted several early members who later achieved public prominence, including Lucy Stone (1818-1893), Antoinette Brown Blackwell (1825-1921), Josephine Penfield Bateham (1829-1901), and Mary Sheldon (1825-1887). Soon after Stone's graduation in 1847, the association went into decline. Lucy Stanton (1831-1910) responded by reorganizing the association, renaming it the Young Ladies' Literary Society, and giving it a new objective. By focusing on "Writing, Speaking, and Discussion," the association once again attracted young women.

Although the name of the literary organization changed throughout the second half of the 19th century, the content of meetings remained the same. By 1852 the size of the organization promoted differences among the women. The more progressive women withdrew that year and formed the Young Ladies Lyceum (later called the Aelioian). In keeping with their liberal views, they made the oration a regular part of their program. The conservative Young Ladies' Literary Society maintained the more feminine essays. In 1867 the original organization once again changed its name to the Ladies Literary Society (LLS). By 1878 LLS members considered the name too old fashioned, and LLS came to mean *Litterae laborum solanem*. Women still presented papers and debated topics that reflected their interests. In the early years essays and debates focused on religion and women's role in the religious sphere. The antislavery movement was another popular topic before the Civil War. Throughout the group's history, lighter debates were also conducted (e.g., "Resolved: that two little trunks are preferable to one large one"). In the late 19th century, the LLS theme was Victorian authors. The study of contemporary authors continued into the 20th century until topics of national and international scope became popular.

The LLS alumnae in New York formed a permanent organization in 1903 to "renew old ties, (and) to become acquainted with the younger graduates." Additional alumnae groups were formed in other cities, resulting in the establishment of a national LLS Alumnae Association.

The LLS and the Aelioian continued to be integral parts of the Oberlin community until World War I. At that time, when so many male students were committed to the war effort, women faced new responsibilities and opportunities and were unable to devote time to literary societies. After the war LLS once again attracted women's interest. By 1948, with membership declining, the Aelioian and the LLS were forced to merge. In the following year the alumnae organizations of these groups also united. This new union lasted only four years. In 1952, at separate meetings, the student and alumnae organizations of the LLS-Aelioian dissolved, declaring that "the purposes for which the literary societies were created have been fulfilled; their work is done."

### **Scope and Content**

This collection contains records of the activities of the LLS. Most materials prior to 1850 were lost in a fire. Included are minutes of student meetings, 1904-1948, and alumnae meetings, 1907-1952. Three volumes contain the recording secretary's book, 1846-1948; corresponding secretary's book, 1875-1905; and a list of members. Reports were written by the president, 1935 and 1937; the secretary, 1908 and 1909; and treasurer, 1874-1910. The director's book summarizes events for the years 1911 to 1934. The alumnae correspondence, 1919-1949,

covers sexual discrimination, the Equal Rights Amendment, research in China, and reminiscences of a meeting with Antoinette Brown Blackwell. There are completed questionnaires concerning the activities of the alumnae fellows during and after their studies. Lists of student and alumnae members, 1907-1941, also exist. Among the printed materials are programs of events for the years 1850 to 1935 and various constitutions and bylaws, 1874 and 1940. The photograph series contains organization pictures, 1893-1936, and photographs of individuals, including Adelia A. Field Johnston.

The Aelioian collection contains the constitutions, bylaws, and lists of members, 1883; 1886; and 1890. There are programs for the inclusive years of 1856-1907.

## **[25] Records of the Women's Center, 1971-1987, 10 in.**

### **Historical Note**

The Student Senate chartered the Women's Center in February 1971 to act as a liaison between the different groups and committees on campus concerned with women. The center, which is governed by volunteer officers, is open to all women. Students' activity fees support the center. On April 26, 1989, the Student Life Committee changed the name from the Women's Center to the Women's Information and Resource Center.

The center presently operates as a clearinghouse of information on women's concerns on the campus, in the community, and at the national level. The center maintains its own library; it subscribes to various women's magazines and newspapers, purchases books, and collects pamphlets.

In its capacity as liaison, the center handles publicity for women's events and provides a meeting place. It also sponsors and cosponsors workshops, conferences, seminars, lectures, and a film series on women's issues.

### **Scope and Content**

This collection, consisting of eight record series, documents the role of the Women's Center as a liaison and library for the Oberlin College campus. Included are a charter and a statement of purpose, 1971 and 1988; minutes, 1982-1984; correspondence, 1974-1987 inclusively; financial records, 1974-75, 1978-79, and logbooks or notebooks, 1976-1983; information on campus events, 1973, 1975, 1981, n.d.; surveys and questionnaires, 1976, 1985, which cover the results of the survey on rape and sexual harassment; and a general file which contains information on a variety of activities on campus, locally and nationally.

## **[26] Records of the Oberlin Association of Women Students, 1958-1966, 2 in.**

### **Historical Note**

The Oberlin Association of Women Students (OAWS), a governing body for women, emerged in 1958 after a review by the Women's Self-Government League the previous year. The OAWS remained the primary women's governing body until 1965, when the Student Life Committee reorganized student government.

In forming the OAWS it was assumed that women students were mature enough to make and to abide by their own rules. The membership of the OAWS, which included all women students of Oberlin College, elected 12 representatives to the legislature. Beside serving in one of the other branches (executive or judicial), the representatives also served on

various subcommittees, including the Nominations Committee and Standing Committee. Three OAWS members served on the Joint Subcommittee.

The campuswide governance of women was handled by the legislature of the OAWS, while dormitory governance was under the control of individual house councils. Passing legislation was a two-step process; both the student representatives and the faculty Women's Board had to approve all legislation. During the tenure of the OAWS, representatives and house council officers addressed issues concerning social changes. The most popular topic was visitation privileges.

## Scope and Content

This collection documents the governance of women at Oberlin College from the late 1950s through the mid-1960s. The constitution file contains the constitutions of the Women's Self-Government League and the OAWS. The minutes of the Women's Board, the OAWS legislature, the Judicial Board, and the subcommittees of the OAWS are incomplete for the years 1958-1965. Among the reports is one by the OAWS chairman for 1961 and reports of various subcommittees and the ad hoc Student Council Committee. The correspondence deals mainly with the structure of the OAWS, 1961, and State Day, which Oberlin hosted in 1961. The financial reports consist of fiscal records of the subcommittees, the Women's Self-Government League, and the OAWS; the dates are inclusive, 1958-1965. The questionnaire of 1958, the bulk of the series, addressed concerns such as noise, late minutes, and participation in house councils. The proposals primarily address women's concerns with visiting hours. The compiled lists document the members of the women's government for various years between 1958 and 1965.

## [27] Records of the Oberlin Peace Society, 1930-1940, 8 in.

### Historical Note

The students, faculty, and administration organized the Oberlin Peace Society in the fall of 1930. Membership was open to all members of the Oberlin community who agreed with the aims of the society. The goals of the society were fourfold: to encourage members to take a public stand for peace; to demonstrate on behalf of peace; to participate in a scientific investigation concerning the real causes of war and the means for its removal; and to use Oberlin opinion as an agent to promote public goodwill.

The organization sponsored activities related to the peace movement. In addition to lectures and study groups, the organization sent delegates to conventions and conducted its own peace assemblies. The society corresponded with politicians and with representatives from other peace organizations. By the end of the first year, 750 people (including such women as Barbara Wells, Kay Hunt, and Joy Coombs) had joined the society and participated in its activities. President Ernest H. Wilkins, who was active in the international peace community, was among the society's members and regular speakers. Finally, in cooperation with other campus groups, the society published the *Peace Society Bulletin*.

The society merged in the spring of 1940 with the Public Affairs Society to form the Peace and Public Affairs Forum. The purpose of the forum, which was established to eliminate "the conflict and inefficiency which resulted from the separation of the two organizations," was to provide Oberlin students the opportunity to discuss current national and international affairs.

## **Scope and Content**

The records of the Oberlin Peace Society document the group's efforts to achieve peace in the world. The minutes of the executive board were recorded between October 1935 and March 1940. The secretary's recording notebook includes newspaper clippings concerning the society. Correspondence with congressmen and other officers of peace organizations covers various peace-related topics. Manuscripts of society speeches cover such topics as "Students against War" and "The U.S. Senate's Reservations to the World Court Protocol." Membership lists are arranged alphabetically within class year. Printed materials include bibliographies compiled by the Oberlin Peace Society and articles about the society, 1931-1937. Programs document the various events in which the society participated, 1931-1940.

## **[28] Scrapbooks and Diaries—Papers, 1864-1936, 9 ft. 2 in.**

### **Administrative Note**

The Oberlin College Archives has acquired scrapbooks and diaries from students since 1966.

### **Scope and Content**

This collection, consisting of 56 diaries and scrapbooks, captures student life at Oberlin from 1853 to 1937. Some students created class scrapbooks with different memorabilia, photographs, and printed material from their senior year. Both daughters of Henry Schauffler (1837-1905)—Grace (1894-1982) and Margaret (b. 1896)—wrote memory books for their classes, 1915 and 1918, respectively. Individuals also kept records of their own activities. Elizabeth Patchin Moyer (b. 1895?) kept an excellent "memory book" (1914-15) about her activities as a freshman woman. The scrapbook includes numerous pictures of friends and activities. Programs documenting campus events—including recitals, dances, football games, and afternoon socials—are also in the files. Maida J. Buckley Franke (b. 1898) compiled a memory book (1916-1918) with Conservatory programs and comments upon the recitals. Others memory books worth noting include Ruth Bullock Boynton, Class of 1908; Martha A. Ely Doolittle, 1905-1907; and Martha Jeannette Nichols Phillips, for 1875.

## **[29] Student Notes—Papers, 1860-1907, 2 ft. 6 in.**

### **Scope and Content**

Oberlin students' notes cover various topics, from science courses to art courses. In the files are 30 sets of notes taken by Charlotte Allen Jeffers (1843-1908), Class of 1865, on Dr. James Dascomb's chemistry lectures. Other records include notes taken in 1905 by Elizabeth Rodhouse Creglow (1882-1970) on Dr. Charles H.A. Wager's course, "Quotes on the Theory of Poetry by Dr. Wager"; and notes taken during the 1870s and 1880s by Grace (1857-1893) and James T. Fairchild (1862-1947), including notes from classes in art and chemistry. Students' notes from lectures on the history of painting given by Adelia A. Field Johnston (1837-1910) also exist.

## **[30] Records of the Mock Conventions, 1936-1968, 10 ft.**

### **Historical Note**

The purpose of the Oberlin mock convention was to educate students on the intricacies of political life and campaigns. Students prepared themselves to make informed and intelligent decisions on the platform and about the candidates every four years by participating in various activities for the convention.

The first mock convention was held in 1860. The conventions were managed by the men's literary societies from 1860 through 1908. After 1916 the convention was supervised by the Men's Senate and the Student Council. The traditional parade was started in 1904 and became an important part of the planned events. The mock convention did not support women's suffrage until 1908.

Women students were not allowed to participate until 1872, when the Ladies' Board finally agreed to allow women to "sit modestly in the gallery." In 1916 women held their own convention, at which they advocated a liberal platform, including women's suffrage and minimum-wage laws for women. In the 1920 convention 75 women participated as delegates. By the 1928 convention, over half the delegates were women. Over the years the women and men shared similar views on the platform and candidates.

### **Scope and Content**

These records consist of files created by students as part of the mock convention activities. The great bulk of the files date from 1948. Included are the records of convention committees and state delegations; platform planks; correspondence with political figures; fund-raising records; and photographs. The records also document actions of subcommittees and their results through minutes, reports, correspondence, platform decisions, and transcripts of speeches. For example, records include executive committee minutes and progress reports of the different subcommittees, including public relations. The final reports of the various subcommittees document their responsibilities and actions. The convention organizers corresponded with various politicians and dignitaries, including U.S. Senator Wayne L. Morse of Oregon (1900-1974), U.S. Senator Irving M. Ives of New York (1896-1964), and U.S. Supreme Court Justice Harold H. Burton (1888-1964). Among the speakers and permanent chairmen were James Roosevelt (b. 1907), and former President Gerald Ford (b. 1913). Many of the speeches given during the conventions were transcribed.

## **RECORDS OF THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (Group 20)**

### **[31] Records of the Alumni Association, 1839-1990, 42 ft.**

#### **Historical Note**

The Association of Alumni of the Oberlin Collegiate Institute was organized in 1839 "to cultivate and strengthen friendly feeling among its members—to perpetuate the purity and prosperity of the constitution from which they have graduated—and to secure mutual aid and sympathy in carrying forward efficiently and successfully the great object of our being." The first women elected to this association were the first women to receive the A.B. degree from Oberlin in 1841: Mary Hosford Fisher, Elizabeth Prall Russell, and Caroline Rudd Allen. During the first decades of its existence the association had modest contact with the College.



The association's activities amounted to yearly reunions with an oration from an alumni member. In 1903 Harriet Keeler was the first woman to present a speech at an annual meeting.

The purpose of the Alumni Association evolved to include more contact with the College administration during the late 19th and 20th centuries. In 1878, the Oberlin College board of trustees agreed to have trustees serve on the board for six years. Those eligible to vote for these alumni trustees included all graduates of the College, the Graduate School of Theology, the Literary Department, and the Conservatory of Music. In 1900 the association again broke with the past when it established a fund to aid the College. In 1905, the Alumni Magazine Publishing Company was formed with the purpose of "printing and publishing the *Oberlin Alumni Magazine* and other literary matters of interest to Alumni of Oberlin College." Louis Lord and Helen White Martin published the magazine with involvement from Oberlin alumni. Although the association held no direct responsibility for this endeavor, many members were active in it. The Alumni Association took control of the Alumni Magazine Publishing Company in the early 1920s, and the *Oberlin Alumni Magazine* became the official bulletin and publication of the association. The first woman editor was Dorothy Hall, named to the position in 1932.

In the 1920s the Alumni Magazine Publishing Company and the Alumni Association reorganized, and the association's mission changed to the promotion of Oberlin College interests. The administrative management of the organization was vested in an elected Alumni Council. A full-time secretary of the Alumni Association was appointed in 1937 to assist the Alumni Council and oversee the activities of the association, including the alumni fund and the alumni magazine. Virginia Van Fossen served in this post from 1935 to 1938. In 1957 the title of executive secretary was changed to executive director of the Alumni Association.

Throughout the second half of the 20th century the Alumni Association became more and more involved with College affairs through various committees, including the committees on admissions and academic affairs. Alumni focused on student life and on how the College responded to student issues and attitudes. In addition to supporting student activities, the association developed extended educational seminars and trips for its members. Duira Baldinger Ward '34 (b. 1913), the first woman president of the association, was elected in 1971.

## Scope and Content

The records (1839-1979) of the Alumni Association document the evolving purpose of organization from "cultivating friendly feeling" to focusing on the needs of the College. Annual reports and minutes, 1839-1979, from the secretary span the history of the association and provide information on the role of women in the association. There are also files on individual committees of the association. Information regarding women includes the results of an alumni questionnaire (1934-35), which notes the occupations of women, information on family life, and the value of an Oberlin education. The records also highlight the role of the Alumni Association in the centennial of coeducation (1936-37). Records exist for the Cleveland-Oberlin Women's Club, 1949-1976. Included in this subseries are annual reports, lists of officers, scrapbooks, and notes on the effects of the merger between the Cleveland-Oberlin Women's Club and the Cleveland-Oberlin Men's Club.



**Oberlin Kindergarten- Primary Training School, 1900**



**Schauffler College of Religious and Social Work, 1890s**

## **RECORDS OF THE OBERLIN FILE, WRITINGS BY AND ABOUT (Group 21)**

**[32] Records of the Oberlin File, Writings By and About, 1833-1988, 8 ft. 3 in.**

### **Historical Note**

The Oberlin file consists of historical material received piecemeal and from sources that do not fit into existing groups. Some items may be alienated documents. The contents of these files lack organic relationships except in the broadest sense, and they run the gamut from manuscripts to printed or otherwise duplicated materials. Included are letters, essays, poetry, notes, memoranda, legal documents, articles, talks, recollections, clippings, tracts, reports, drawings, etc.

### **Scope and Content**

This collection is divided into three areas: writings by Oberlin people, writings about Oberlin people, and other types of writings concerning Oberlin. Subjects cover Oberlin life for women throughout the years, as well as abolition, Charles G. Finney, the Wellington Rescue, temperance, the Underground Railroad, and the Graham Diet. There are writings by black Oberlin women students and autobiographical accounts of female students, including educator and lecturer Florence May Snell (1861-1949), Class of 1893. Accounts of women missionaries to China, India, and other nations also exist. The graduation essays and addresses by and about women are among the richest items. This file offers excellent supplemental documentation for other Oberlin archival collections.

## **RECORDS OF THE OBERLIN KINDERGARTEN AND PRIMARY-TRAINING SCHOOL (Group 24)**

**[33] Records of the Oberlin Kindergarten and Primary-Training School, 1894-1933, 9 ft. 3 in.**

### **Historical Note**

Aided by Nancy Squire of the Mutual Benefit Association, 13 women organized themselves to establish a kindergarten-teacher training school in 1894. At a public meeting, a committee known as the Oberlin Kindergarten Association (OKA) was appointed to secure funds and to develop a kindergarten and a teacher training school. This goal was achieved within a year by creating two kindergartens and by naming Beade Goodman principal. Students of the training school were interns in the two Oberlin kindergartens and in neighboring school districts. Graduates of the training school taught in many states, as well as in foreign countries. By 1933, when the last class graduated, graduates numbered over a thousand. Although the Oberlin Kindergarten Training School (OKTS) still drew large numbers of students, changing state standards in kindergarten and primary education forced a merger with Oberlin College. These new state regulations required the training school to become a four-year school in order to remain a separate institution. Instead, the OKTS board decided to merge the school with Oberlin College. The Alumni Association of Oberlin College voted to extend membership to the graduates and former students of the OKTS.

## Scope and Content

The collection, which is divided in seven records series, documents advancements in the training of kindergarten and primary-school teachers during the late 19th century and the first quarter of the 20th century. The details of the creation and maturation of the kindergarten and primary schools are in the minutes of the Oberlin Kindergarten Association, 1894-1932. Financial records exist for the years 1900 to 1932. Among the reports, 1899-1916, is one to the president of the association stating the status of graduates and discussing the problems facing the OKTS and kindergarten-teacher training in the United States. Three reviews written about the training school during the 1920s are in the files. There are also compiled lists of presidents of the OKA, 1894-1914, and a list of training-school graduates, 1896-1933. Although the files typically concern the graduates of the OKTS, 1896-1933, the collection also contains several manuscripts of Clara May (1872-1957), an 1894 graduate of Oberlin College who became principal of the OKTS. May translated G. Sergi's "Some Ideas on Education" from *Nuova Antologia*, and she wrote "The Montessori System" and bibliography, 1916. Also included are documents covering Clara May's teaching methods and her correspondence with Helen H. Parkhurst (d. 1959), the United States Montessori supervisor.

## RECORDS OF THE YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION (Group 29)

### [34] Records of the Young Women's Christian Association, 1899 (1940-58) -1962, 6 ft. 9 in.

#### Historical Note

The Oberlin YWCA was formed in 1894, when Lucy Wilson (1862-1925) led a group of young women to request the leadership of the weekly prayer meeting. This role formerly had been left to the dean of women. Three years later, Florence Fitch (1875-1951) directed Oberlin into the national Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) movement.

The governance of the YWCA rested with an elected executive board and with committees responsible for various activities. The YWCA reported to the Women's Board and an advisory board. The latter was composed mainly of female faculty members and wives of faculty members. By 1904, a general secretary was hired to handle the administrative tasks of the organization.

During the next 70 years the YWCA was active in many town and College activities. Over the years the YWCA worked with the YMCA on many social functions. Although during its early years membership was restricted to women who had an evangelical-church background, in the late 1920s the YWCA opened membership to any woman of Christian faith. The membership was consistently large and peaked in 1945 with 706 women. By 1953 the YWCA had developed five commissions to oversee the various functions of the organization: Religious Emphasis, Campus Life, Community Service, Public Affairs, and Publicity. With the closing of the Graduate School of Theology, the YWCA and YMCA took on the responsibility of religious life at Oberlin. During President Robert K. Carr's administration, the board of trustees expanded religious activities on campus and established an Office of Chaplains, which among other responsibilities, oversaw the YWCA. In 1973 the YMCA/YWCA became defunct.

## Scope and Content

The collection documents the purpose and activities of the YWCA. Among the minutes of the organization are those of the advisory board (1928-1944, 1958-1961) and those of the cabinet

and executive meetings (1941-1958). Included in the reports are the annual reports of the Oberlin YWCA, 1923-1929, 1944-1947; reports of the president, 1941-1955; reports of the executive secretary, 1941-1950, 1961-1962; the treasurer's reports and budgets, 1938-1957; and the reports of the advisory board, 1940, 1942. Financial records also exist for 1899-1904. Among the compiled lists is a membership list of advisory board, 1954-1960; and statistical data on membership for virtually the group's entire history.

## **PAPERS OF OTHER INDIVIDUALS (Group 30)**

### **[35] Papers of George A. Adams, 1846-1903, 9 in.**

#### **Biographical Note**

In 1852 Emily M. Higgins Adams (d. 1862) married frontier preacher George Athearn Adams (1821-1903), Oberlin College Class of 1847. Their ten-year marriage produced six children. Although we know that George Athearn Adams was a graduate of Andover Seminary, that he was ordained to the Presbyterian ministry in Bowling Green, Ohio, in 1852, and that he held abolitionist leanings, we know very little of Emily M. Higgins Adams. She and her husband had a four-year courtship that was more romantic than businesslike. She grew up in Rochester, New York. Emily corresponded with Lucy Mahan, wife of Oberlin College President Asa Mahan.

#### **Scope and Content**

The 13 folders consist primarily of the correspondence between George A. Adams and Emily M. Higgins Adams, dating from 1846 to 1858. These letters document their courtship, 1846-1851. Letters written by Emily also document the reading habits of a young lady, as well as the development of her mental culture and her social and religious views. One letter (Nov. 27, 1851) makes reference to her decision not to join the Anti-slavery Society in Rochester, and several others offer glimpses into her attitudes towards black Americans. A second letter, dated March 19, 1852, and addressed "To my Sabbath School Class" in Rockville, Indiana, reveals her deep-seated religious commitment. In the file "Letters from Classmates and Professors" are letters from Lucy Stone and Elvira Mack.

### **[36] Diaries of Phoebe Haynes Ainsworth, 1863-1875, 2 in.**

#### **Biographical Note**

Phoebe Haynes Ainsworth (1838-1928), came to Oberlin with her family in 1853. She studied in the Preparatory Department and College from 1854 to 1858 but did not graduate. Instead she followed her musical interests, specializing in voice and devoting her life to teaching and studying music throughout the United States and in Germany. In 1866-67 she taught in the Oberlin Conservatory with music professors John Paul Morgan (d. 1879) and George W. Steele (d. 1902). After Daniel Ainsworth—her husband of 12 years—died in 1922, she made her home in Oberlin with her sister, Angeline (Mrs. Henry O.) Swift, and her niece, Cora L. Swift.

## **Scope and Content**

The diaries consist of six small volumes, 1866-1870, 1875, and loose sheets, 1863-1867. They cover a trip to New York and New Jersey in 1866, a stay at the home of the Rev. Lyman Abbot in New York City in 1869, and periods when Ainsworth was in Oberlin. The diaries are devoted to her musical activities and interests and to the activities of her friends. A few of Phoebe's recollections and diary entries from her college days are included in the collection.

## **[37] Papers of Kathryn Reinhard Albrecht, 1928-1948, 4 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Kathryn Reinhard Albrecht (1889-1950), a life-long resident of Lorain County, Ohio, was born in Amherst Township and moved to Russia Township after her marriage to Clarence Albrecht. She was a member of St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Amherst, the Woman's Club, the North Russia Needle Guild, and the Russia Township Farm Women's Club.

### **Scope and Content**

The papers, consisting of three scrapbooks dating from 1928 to 1948, contain obituaries of area residents. There is also a folder labeled "Miscellaneous Items" that contains newspaper clippings (mainly wedding announcements) about local individuals.

## **[38] Papers of George Nelson Allen, 1820-1894, 1 ft. 2 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Caroline Mary Rudd (1820-1892, A.B. 1841) of Huntington, Connecticut, was one of the first three women in the United States to receive a college degree. In 1841 she married George Nelson Allen (1812-1877, A.B. 1838), who was well known in Oberlin as a professor of geology and natural history (1846-1871) and music (1841-1864). Two of their daughters, Carrie and Alice (Lit. 1867), studied in the Oberlin Conservatory and literary course and then taught music in Cincinnati.

### **Scope and Content**

This collection, largely correspondence, documents the daily life of Caroline and George, including their household routines and her relationship with George N. Allen and with other women. Information also exists on the family in general and on their daughter Carrie in particular. Caroline Mary Rudd Allen, known as Mary, wrote 35 letters to George Allen, 1840-1858, regarding their engagement, her religious concerns, and family news. Four folders of George's letters to Mary, 1840-1855, report on their courtship and their close married relationship. Correspondence between Mary and her daughters, especially from Mary to Alice, 1871-1883, concerns Mary's routine activities, her visits to her children, and news and commentary on family and friends. An 1836 letter from Mary's Aunt Sally Rudd discusses arrangements for Mary to come study at Oberlin. Ten letters dated 1836 to George Nelson Allen from Pamela Seabury and four letters dated 1839 from M.A. Eells reveal the spiritual struggles and Christian conversion of these two women. Six letters to Carrie from Mary P. Ament, 1891-1894, regarding her missionary work in Peking contain news about her "Auntie" and her children, and a discussion of religious issues in missionary work. Also included is a

notebook, 1849-1852, that Helen Finney (Cochran) Cox kept on the growth and activities of her son William Cochran, who later married Rosa, another of the Allen daughters. A three-page essay by Li Ting Jung on Chinese foot binding is dated 1894. An important collection of photographs, daguerreotypes, tintypes, and ambrotypes of members of the family and other prominent Oberlin personalities also is included.

### **[39] Genealogy of Archibald McCullum Ball and Sarah A. Curtis Ball, compiled 1956-1960, 3 in.**

#### **Biographical Note**

Sarah A. Curtis, from Genesee, Michigan, was a student at Oberlin from 1840 to 1843. Her husband and classmate, Archibald McCullum Ball, received the A.B. degree in 1844 before they were married by President Asa Mahan (1799-1889). Ball then continued studying in the Oberlin Seminary. Irene Ball (b. 1815), Archibald's sister, preceded him at Oberlin, attending in 1836-37. She left school to marry Alabama abolitionist William Allen. Sarah Curtis' sister Elizabeth was also being educated during those years (1835-1838) at the Middlebury Female Seminary in Connecticut. Sarah Bedell Ball (b. 1880), a granddaughter of Sarah and Archibald Ball, compiled this genealogy of six generations of descendants of the Ball-Curtis family and of ancestors going back to the Mayflower and Arbella.

#### **Scope and Content**

The genealogy fills 12 three-ring notebooks, with an accompanying volume that contains an introduction and an index. In addition to the genealogical information, the notebooks include letters and documents of family members, plus historical and biographical sketches. Significant components of the collection are letters by Irene Ball (Allen), 1836-1842, describing life as a student in early Oberlin and as the wife of an abolitionist minister in Illinois; an eight-page typescript of a notebook written by Elizabeth Curtis covering the four years before to her marriage to Orrin Safford in 1839 and containing poems to friends and writings on education, Catherine Beecher, and the Bible; several letters between the sisters Sarah, Elizabeth, and Salome Curtis; and information on Sophia Smith's ancestors, some of whom were related to the Ball family. Also included are early family photographs and Sarah Bedell Ball's own reminiscences.

### **[40] Papers of Willard L. Beard, 1910-1925, 2 1/2 in.**

#### **Biographical Note**

Phebe Beard (1895-1925) was the daughter of Willard L. Beard (1865-1947) and Ellen Kinney Beard (1868-1953), both Oberlin students in the 1890s. Phebe was born in Foochow, China, where her parents were missionaries from 1907 to 1947. She returned to the United States for her secondary education in 1910, and she received the A.B. degree from Oberlin in 1919. At Oberlin Phebe Beard was active in the Oberlin Band of Student Volunteers for Foreign Missions. In 1921 she was commissioned by the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions (ABCFM) to teach at the Girls' School in Ponasang, Foochow. She died there in 1925.

## Scope and Content

The collection consists primarily of letters between the Beard parents and children, 1910-1925. There also are some photographs of the family and China, as well as some printed materials regarding the children in their high school and church in Oberlin. Many of the letters are from Phebe Beard, 1920-1925, and report on the period right before and during her missionary years in China. In these letters she writes of her thoughts and apprehensions about being a missionary, as well as of daily news and family matters. Some letters from other sisters and brothers also are included.

## [41] Papers of Dan Beach Bradley, 1800-1888, 1960s, 1 ft. 11 in.

### Biographical Note

Emilie Royce Bradley (1811-1845) traveled to Siam (Thailand) with her husband, Dan Beach Bradley (1804-1873), in 1835 to join the new mission station there. Both had been strongly influenced by Charles G. Finney's liberal doctrine of sanctification, which later resulted in their mission's break from the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions (ABCFM).

Before her marriage, Emilie Royce had been educated at the Clinton Female Seminary, which was conducted by her three aunts in Oneida County, New York. She began teaching there when she was 15, and four years later she left to become preceptress of the female seminary in Manlius, Onondaga County, New York.

Emilie Royce Bradley bore five children after leaving for Siam, two of whom died as infants. She died in 1845, after 10 years in the missionary field. Dan Bradley's second wife, Sarah Blachly (A.B. 1845) shared his religious convictions and missionary aspirations. They married in 1848 and returned to Bangkok, where they had five children. Dan Bradley was active as a medical missionary (credited with the introduction of surgery and vaccination to Siam), as a preaching missionary, and as a printer and publisher of a newspaper and religious tracts. Both Emily Royce Bradley and Sarah Blachly Bradley, along with the few other Western women at the mission, taught and spread the Gospel among the women of the Siamese court and among the servant class, in addition to maintaining their families and households. After her husband's death, Sarah Blachly Bradley remained in Siam with her daughter, Irene, until her own death in 1893.

### Scope and Content

Journals, family letters, and business correspondence relating to the Bradleys' missionary work in Siam are significant in their revelation of information about the lives of missionary families in the early and mid-19th century. Emilie Royce Bradley's papers figure prominently in the collection. Two of her diaries, covering the years 1831-1833 and 1834-1836, discuss her spiritual struggles, the journey to Siam, and her experiences there. Another journal-style letter of 1834 describes the voyage to Siam. A notebook contains a record of letters Emilie wrote and notes on their content—primarily major events, births, and deaths. A diary, covering the years 1840 and 1842, contains information and advice to be passed on to her daughters in the event that she did not survive an illness, as well as a description of the illness and death of her baby daughter, Harriet. Verses and thoughts written for Emilie in other hands fill another undated notebook. Two sketches of the life of Emilie R. Bradley by her husband are included in his journal and in his letter to the Rev. Lyman B. Peet, both dated August 1845.

Correspondence includes the letters of Sophia Bradley MacGilvary (daughter of Emilie and Dan Bradley) to her parents and sisters, 1865-1888, and business and family correspon-



dence of the Bradley family, 1832-1873. A calendar with summaries of the latter group of letters and an index are provided. Correspondents include Emilie R. Bradley, Sarah B. Bradley, Sarah J. (Mrs. Lewis) Tappan, Dan Bradley, Mrs. Stephen Johnson (another Siam missionary), Mary Royce of Clinton, New York, other female members of the Royce and Blachly families, Sophia Cobb of Brooklyn, New York, Maria C. Robinson of Seward Seminary in Rochester, New York, Sophia Bradley, George Whipple, and Anna Leonowens (a missionary in Bangkok and author of *The English Governess at the Siamese Court*). Among subjects covered in the letters are the voyage to Siam; the life and work of missionary women in Singapore and Bangkok; Emilie R. Bradley's illnesses and childbearing; the health of the missionaries' children; Dan Bradley's romance with his cousin Jane Bradley (Shepherd) before his first marriage, and their later friendship (her letters are missing); the history of the Royce family of Clinton, New York, and of Hamilton College; news of family and home; abolitionism; news of the Finneys; religious issues; the Bradleys' doctrinal disagreements with the ABCFM; and Dan Bradley's quest for a second wife. In addition to the correspondence, Notices of the Protestant Missions to Siam, 1827-1846, contain information on the activities of the missionary women.

## **[42] Papers of Anna Ruth Brummett, 1957-1985, 2 ft. 10 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Professor of Biology Anna Ruth Brummett (1924-1985) served on the Oberlin College faculty for 24 years. A native of Fort Smith, Arkansas, Brummett received her undergraduate education and the master's degree at the University of Arkansas. After earning the Ph.D. degree from Bryn Mawr College in 1953, she taught biology at Carleton College in Minnesota. She joined the Oberlin faculty in 1961. While a professor at Oberlin, Brummett served as associate dean of the College for the academic year 1967-68, and as chairperson of the biology department from 1974 to 1981 and 1982 to 1983. Cytology, light electron microscopy, human embryology, and developmental neuroanatomy were her primary areas of study. Her contribution to the scientific community was her extensive research on the embryology of bony fish.

During her years at Oberlin Brummett was a source of support to her women students and colleagues as well as a leader in dialogues on women's issues. In 1967 she was chosen to chair the Ad Hoc Committee on the Status of Women. The committee's recommendations to improve the status of women students, faculty members, and administrators resulted in the establishment of a standing committee to further those goals and to develop a women's studies program.

### **Scope and Content**

The papers consist of correspondence, notes, memoranda, questionnaires, evaluations, reports, speeches, and minutes—mainly dealing with matters related to Oberlin College and to the various committees on which Professor Brummett served. Subjects, committees, and organizations covered include the Committee on the Status of Women, 1967-1983; the Ad Hoc Committee on Grading, 1969-1970; the Admissions Committee, 1984-85; the General Faculty Planning Committee, 1977-1980, 1981-1983; the Long-Range Planning Committee, 1977; the College Faculty Council, 1974-1985; women in science, 1975-1979; the African-American community and Student Development Program, 1972-1975; AAUW Fellowships, 1975-1983; the library budget, 1972-1982; winter term, 1969-1985; and Phi Beta Kappa, 1973-1979, among others. A small amount of personal correspondence, 1963-1985, includes letters to Brummett from some of her former students.

## **[43] Papers of Ellsworth C. Carlson, 1939-1981, 1 ft. 10 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Ellsworth C. Carlson (b. 1917, A.B., 1939) was an Oberlin history professor and College administrator (1950-1981), director of the East Asian studies program (1965-1970), and a Shansi Memorial Association trustee (1953-1971 and 1975-1982). Carlson's administrative posts included those of provost (1969-1975) and acting president (1969-1970 and 1974-75). When he first graduated from Oberlin, he served as an Oberlin Shansi Memorial Association representative in China (1939-1943). He was chairman of the history department from 1961 to 1966. The *Oberlin News-Tribune* named him "Oberlinian of the Year" in 1974.

### **Scope and Content**

The correspondence, minutes, reports, and printed matter in the collection all deal with OSMA affairs. Reports from returned representatives and some letters from representatives in the field cover the years 1956-1981. [See Carlson, Oberlin in Asia, for a list of representatives, half of whom were women.] Correspondence with Margaret H. ("Peg") Leonard, OSMA's executive secretary from 1943 to 1981, covers the years 1953 to 1981. Leonard's letters discuss members and business of the board, news about the representatives, and concerns of the program. Her reports as executive secretary to the trustees, 1959-1981, are also included. A few letters to OSMA trustee and Dean of Women Florence Mary Fitch, 1953-1958, and information regarding the Florence Fitch Memorial Fund for Shansi reveal her important contributions to that organization. Printed matter about Lady Doak College for women in Madurai, c. 1958, is also included. Throughout the correspondence are scattered references to Florence ("Bobbie") Dunn Carlson (A.B. 1940), Ellsworth Carlson's wife.

## **[44] Papers of Henry G. Carpenter, 1842-1933, 5 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Tirza Benton Vaill (d. 1922) married Oberlin businessman Henry G. Carpenter (1823-1892) in 1871. Both their daughters attended Oberlin College—Elizabeth (1877-1939) received the A.B. degree in 1900, and Alice (d. 1968) studied in the Conservatory and the art department from 1900 to 1908. Melissa Smith, whose papers also are included here, owned a cheese factory in Parkman, Ohio, in the 1890s.

### **Scope and Content**

The collection consists mostly of letters of the Carpenter, Vaill, and Smith families, as well as a few miscellaneous letters of other families and some business papers. Among the 50 letters received by the members of the Carpenter family and dating from 1880 to 1906 are five letters (1900-1903) from Alice's male acquaintances, including her future husband White Sutton; two letters (1886-1888) from cousin Annie E. Vaill to Fred V. Carpenter, son of Tirza and Henry; and several wedding invitations. In addition, the file contains some 30 letters dating from 1887 to 1904 written to Elizabeth Carpenter by her beau Edward L. Hatcher; these focus primarily on his recreational activities and his studies in Cleveland. Eight additional letters dating from 1904 to 1906 are from her friend, Harry G. Howard. Miscellaneous items (1837-1882) relating to Tirza Benton Vaill include a few letters to her from family members. Smith family letters, dating from 1848 to 1907, are mostly to Melissa Smith from her sisters and other female relatives; they frequently discuss illnesses in the family, community support networks, and work. Letters are postmarked from Cleveland, Burton,

and Nottingham, Ohio, and Yuba City, California. Griffith family papers include a letter dated 1861 from Eleanor Griffith to her aunt describing a diphtheria epidemic, plus an inventory of her estate compiled after her death in 1864.

## **[45] Papers of Paul Leaton Corbin, 1904-1936, 7 ft.**

### **Biographical Note**

Miriam Locke (1878-1928), who studied in Oberlin's literary course and in the Conservatory from 1899 to 1903, married Paul Leaton Corbin (1875-1936, B.D. 1903) in 1904. Soon afterwards they departed for China to reestablish the Oberlin Mission in Shansi, which had been destroyed in the Boxer Rebellion in 1900. Although they were commissioned by the ABCFM to serve until 1932, Miriam Locke Corbin died four years before her commission ended. One of the major results of their work was the establishment of the Oberlin Memorial Schools in Shansi.

### **Scope and Content**

The collection of circular letters, reports, minutes, and printed matter contains information by and about women missionaries in China, 1904-1936. Five folders of circular letters from missionaries, 1908-1935, contain many letters by women discussing subjects such as girls' and women's schools, various universities, interactions with Chinese women, the flood at Tianjin, health care, and political events in China. Quite a number of the letters were sent from the Shaowu Mission in Fukien, while others are from various missions in China and Korea. There are five large boxes of miscellaneous printed and duplicated material dealing with China, Korea, and Japan, and missionary activities in those countries.

## **[46] Papers of Carolyn Corwin, 1970-1971, 3 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Carolyn Corwin '71 was assistant to the solicitor general at the U.S. Department of Justice as of 1986.

### **Scope and Content**

Carolyn Corwin's 75-page study, "Oberlin College Students and the Race Issue in the 1950's," was completed in 1971 for Geoffrey Blodgett's history seminar. The paper includes a bibliography and sample of her questionnaire. The questionnaires, completed by over 150 former students and faculty and staff members, are restricted. Also included is an article titled "The Race Issue at Oberlin in the 1950's" from the Oberlin Alumni Magazine (Sept.-Oct. 1972), adapted from Corwin's paper.

## **[47] Papers of Kirke L. and Mary Cowdery, 1890-1935, 2 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Mary Emily Taylor (1869-1957) received the Ph.B. degree from Oberlin in 1890. She held a teaching fellowship in French during her postgraduate studies at Oberlin in 1890-91, and she

tutored in mathematics in 1891-92. She married Kirke L. Cowdery, also a French instructor, in 1892. Though she did not finish her master's degree until 1913, she continued to teach and tutor in the Oberlin Academy from 1899 to 1924. She was assistant professor of French in the College from 1924 to 1935, after which she was granted emeritus status.

### **Scope and Content**

The records consist entirely of poems, songs, and prose in French (mostly typescript and mimeo), which probably served as class material for the Cowderys. The papers are undated.

## **[48] Papers of Betsy Mix Cowles, 1835-1868, 2 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Betsy Mix Cowles (1810-1876) was an educator, abolitionist, and women's rights activist in the Western Reserve, a part of Northeastern Ohio settled by inhabitants from New England and New York. She grew up in Austinburg, Ohio, where her father was a minister and where she began her teaching career at age 17. When she was 28 she entered the Ladies Course at Oberlin, graduating in 1840 with the first class of women to read graduation essays in a private ceremony the night before the men's Commencement. As an educator, she not only taught, but also served as an administrator (one of the first women to do so) and helped establish a number of public schools and normal schools in the Ohio towns of Austinburg, Massillon, Canton, Hopedale, and Painesville, as well as in Bloomington, Illinois. During the early 1830s, Cowles advanced the cause of the "infant school" movement, advocating the creation of programs to instruct the very young in correct conduct and in the three R's.

In addition to her professional career, Cowles was an activist in the antislavery and women's rights movements. By 1835 she was the leader of the Female Anti-Slavery Society of Ashtabula County and a well-known figure in Ohio abolitionist circles. Her activities included singing abolitionist ballads with her brother and sister as the "Cowles Family Singers," public speaking, and writing for the Garrisonian *Anti-Slavery Bugle* of Salem, Ohio. As a women's rights activist, Cowles presided over the first Ohio Women's Convention, held in Salem in 1850. At the Akron Woman's Rights Convention in 1851 she presented a report on the inequalities in men's and women's wages. A year later, she became a member of the executive committee of the newly created Ohio Woman's Rights Association.

### **Scope and Content**

The collection primarily consists of copies of Betsy Cowles' correspondence, 1835-1868, from or related to Oberlin. The originals are deposited in the archives at Kent State University. Most letters are from members of the Cowles family or from friends and acquaintances, though two are written by Betsy herself. A calendar of the complete collection of the Betsy Mix Cowles papers at Kent State is available. Copies of biographical sketches of Cowles, 1937 and 1981, also are included.

## **[49] Papers of Henry Cowles, 1824-1908, 2 ft. 9 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

The Cowles family, one of the prominent early Oberlin families, came to the College in 1835. Married in 1830, both Henry and Alice were originally from Norfolk, South End, Connecticut. Henry Cowles (1803-1881) was a professor of theology and Old Testament from 1835 to 1848

and editor of the *Oberlin Evangelist* from 1848 to 1862. Alice Welch Cowles (1804-1843), a leader of the moral-reform movement in Oberlin, was principal of the Ladies Department from 1836 until her death of pulmonary consumption. She left behind six children: Helen, Henry, John, Sarah, Mary, and Charles. Sarah Cowles (1838-1912, A.B. 1859) went to Janesville, Wisconsin, in 1861, where she taught for 14 years and was superintendent for 16 years at the State School for the Blind. She married Thomas H. Little in 1862 and was widowed in 1875.

## **Scope and Content**

The collection, consisting of correspondence and essays written by women in the family, spans the second two-thirds of the 19th century. There are a few early letters (1824-1857) to and from female members of the family, including Alice, Helen, Sarah, and Henry's sister Maria. Sarah Cowles Little's considerable correspondence with her father, other family members, friends, and colleagues (1867-1908) reports on both her professional life at the school for the blind and her personal life. Essays include "Wisconsin as a Home Missionary Field," probably by Sarah Cowles Little, c. 1882; an account by Mary Holten of her family's trip from Vermont to Illinois in 1835; a group of essays on world history by Mary Cowles, from the 1850s; and a 36-page diary dealing with the death of Mary Edmondson (d. 1853), a former slave who studied at Oberlin, by her friend and roommate (unnamed). Letters from Harriet Beecher Stowe regarding the education, room, and board of Mary and Emily Edmondson, 1852-53, are included among general correspondence.

## **[50] Papers of Mary Elizabeth Rodhouse Creglow, 1909-1963, 2 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Mary Elizabeth Rodhouse (1882-1970), a free-lance writer and librarian born in Wellington, Ohio, graduated from Oberlin College in 1905. She began work in library science at Western Reserve University and worked as a librarian in a wide variety of institutions and locations. Among them were the Schauffler Missionary Training School and Adelbert College in Cleveland and libraries at a number of military and veterans' hospitals in Colorado, Oklahoma, Texas, and other states, as well as at newspapers and the Veterans Administration. After her marriage in 1921 to Major Harold Creglow, the couple was stationed at numerous army posts.

### **Scope and Content**

Mary Elizabeth Rodhouse Creglow's undated writings make up the bulk of the collection, along with some correspondence and religious school lessons. Her numerous poems, stories, and plays for both children and adults are mostly moralistic or religious, though a few are adventures or detective stories. A 20-page essay titled "Optimism: Is It Rational?" and three articles from the 1930s on VA hospital libraries are also included in the collection. Some correspondence exists on her literary work, 1909-1963. Undated Sunday school lessons she prepared comprise the remaining files.

## **[51] Papers of Olive Bell Daniels, 1909-1981, 1 ft. 3 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Olive Bell Daniels (1891-1984) received the A.B. degree from Oberlin College in 1913. After graduation, she spent four years as a teacher in Minnesota before marrying Farrington Daniels, a professor of physical chemistry at the University of Wisconsin in Madison. Among other creative projects, Olive Bell Daniels wrote a volume of reminiscences titled "Minnetonka Mornings and Other Memories" (114 pp., 1981). This volume covers the first 26 years of her life and includes a chapter on her experiences as a student at Oberlin College.

### **Scope and Content**

The papers consist of College memorabilia, including a memory book, photographs, programs, an expense record (1909-1913), essays, letters, and a bound copy of "Minnetonka Mornings." Copies of letters written by Mrs. Daniels to family members, 1960-61, describe her travels in Europe and Asia with her husband.

## **[52] Papers of Francis H. Dart, 1904-1935, 6 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Helen Mary Kellogg (Dart/Leonard) (1825-1916) was the mother of artist Francis Henry Dart (1845-1935), who was enrolled in the Oberlin Academy from 1864 to 1868. Born in Worthington, Massachusetts, Helen Kellogg studied as a teenager at Twinsburg Academy in Ohio. Her marriage to Duranson Dart resulted in repeated moves throughout five states. Partly because Helen was unhappy with the constant moves, she and her husband separated sometime after 1867. She married Harvey Leonard around 1874.

### **Scope and Content**

Helen Leonard's nine-page autobiography, 1904, and two pages of Francis Dart's undated "Recollections" describe her life. Subjects covered in her autobiography include her trip west as a child with her family to Brecksville, Ohio; her critique of the "women's rights" fervor; her separation from her husband; the hardships and sacrifices she underwent for her family; and the effect of the Civil War on her life.

## **[53] Papers of Mr. and Mrs. Francis (Lydia Lord) Davis, 1862-1944, 3 ft.**

### **Biographical Note**

Lydia Lord Davis (1867-1952) was born in Ravenna, Ohio, in 1889 and married Francis W. Davis (d. 1900, B.D., 1889). She accompanied her husband to China as a missionary under the sponsorship of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions (ABCFM) in 1889, where she founded the first two girls' schools in Shansi province. After her husband's death in the Boxer Rebellion in 1900, Lydia Lord Davis in 1903 became a fund-raiser in the Oberlin area for Congregational mission work. From 1929 to 1941 she was executive secretary of the Oberlin Shansi Memorial Association, a group that supported educational work in Asia. She made a return trip to China in 1924. Between 1927 and 1932 she was assistant secretary of the Home Department of the ABCFM.

## Scope and Content

This collection, largely correspondence, contains information on female missionaries in China and on circumstances surrounding the murder of the Shansi missionaries during the Boxer Rebellion. In addition to the hundreds of letters from Davis to her parents in Ohio, 1889-1898, and her diaries (2 vols.), 1889-1899, there are approximately 125 letters from other late-19th century women missionaries in China, including Jennie Pond Atwater, Rowena Bird, Jennie Rowland Clapp, Mary Fisher Goldsburly, Vesta Greer, Anna C. Merritt, Mary Louise Partridge, Eva Jane Price, Tinnie D'Etta Hewett Thompson, Myrtie H. Wagner, Maggie Whitaker, Emily Whitchurch, and Alice Moon Williams. These letters illuminate the lifestyles of these female missionaries. Davis' own letters describe the running of a missionary household and her interest in the education of girls. In a set of letters between Lydia Lord and Francis Davis before their marriage, June-July 1889, the barely acquainted fiancées discuss their moral, spiritual, and intellectual compatibility, as well as their views on marriage. Also included are letters from Davis' parents, Eleazer and Mary Lewis Lord, 1889-1896, reporting on news at home; letters received regarding her husband's death, 1900-1904; correspondence regarding her work for the ABCFM, Congregational missions, and the Oberlin Shansi Memorial Association, 1920-1941; correspondence between Lydia and Francis Davis, 1898-1900; letters from members of the Leavitt Street Congregational Church in Chicago, sponsors of Lydia and Francis Davis' missionary work for a year, 1900-1904; and letters from Judson Smith of the ABCFM, 1899-1905, and from the United States Department of State, 1900-1909, regarding the murder of the missionaries in Shansi and the subsequent indemnity awarded to the surviving families. A typescript copy of "Letters to My Grandchildren: The Story of Our Family," by Lydia Lord Davis, 1944, recounts family history, the period in China, and her work and friendships upon returning to the United States.

## [54] Papers Frances T. Densmore, 1884-1904, 2 in.

### Biographical Note

Frances T. Densmore (1867-1957) came to Oberlin from Red Wing, Minnesota, and spent 1884 to 1886 as a student in the Conservatory of Music. Over the following 15 years she studied and taught music in various places. In 1893, her interest in American Indian music led her to a new career as one of the most outstanding ethnomusicologists of her era. With the support of the Bureau of American Ethnology at the Smithsonian Institution, she made wax recordings of nearly 2,500 American Indian songs, transcribed them, and lectured and wrote about the music. In 1924, she was awarded an honorary A.M. degree by Oberlin College.

### Scope and Content

The papers consist mainly of letters written, notes taken, and sketches drawn by Frances Densmore while she was a student at Oberlin. The letters, 1884-1886, deal with such topics as her life in a women's dormitory, her teachers and her music lessons (mainly organ), recitals and other programs attended, music studied, and rules for students. She also tells of the fire at Second Ladies Hall in 1886. Among individuals discussed are faculty members Adelia A. Field Johnston, Celestia Wattles (1849-1933), Grace Fairchild (1857-1893), and Elizabeth Russell Lord. Included in her notebooks are notes on art lectures by Mrs. Johnston, 1885, and exercises in harmony, 1884-1886. Densmore's sketches include the layout of Oberlin buildings, her living arrangements, persons, and flowers. There are a few notes, essays, and programs from her post-Oberlin years, 1886-1904.

## **[55] Records of the Directors' Association of Oberlin College, 1904-1964, 2 in.**

### **Historical Note**

This organization of house directors was begun in 1904 as the Matrons' Association. By 1936 it was known as the Association of Heads of Residences and Dining Halls, and in 1938 the present name was adopted. At the outset, its object was "to keep the matrons in touch with the college and with each other and to promote a greater uniformity of method and management." By 1963 its stated purpose was "to provide opportunities for social enjoyment, for professional development, and for discussion and direction of the policies affecting the House Directors of Oberlin College."

### **Scope and Content**

The records consist mainly of minutes (2 vols.), 1904-1961; a cash book, 1938-1964; various versions of the organization's constitution, 1904-1963; and lists of matrons or house directors. Although much of the contents concern the social side of meetings and talks presented, the early minutes do refer to such matters as arrangements for reserving rooms, times when girls could walk with boys, and rising food costs. Wartime matters dominate during the first half of the 1940s. In 1948 directors' salaries and hospitalization benefits are mentioned. Members included Carrie ("Mother") Lawrence, director of Talcott Hall, 1908-1935, and Alice Moon Williams, director of Lauderleigh, Metcalf, and Burroughs houses, 1912-c. 1930.

## **[56] Papers of Ruth Easton, 1952-1958, 1 1/2 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Ruth Easton (1886-1957) earned the A.B. degree in mathematics from Oberlin in 1910 and was assistant in the Office of the Secretary of the College from 1913 to 1946. When she was placed in a nursing home, Robert Brown was appointed her guardian.

### **Scope and Content**

Papers relating to the guardianship, financial matters, death, and funeral of Ruth Easton make up this collection, 1952-1958.

## **[57] Papers of the Eddy Family, 1805-1919, 2 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

The Eddys, a farming family from western New York state, were among the early settlers of Lorain County, Ohio. They settled in Camden Township in 1834.

### **Scope and Content**

These are primarily legal and financial papers of the Eddy family. Items of interest are a note dated 1815 dealing with Ethel Bronson's purchase of the Eddy farm; a bill of sale for household items; recipes for rheumatic drops and preserved cabbage; a letter from someone in Camden, Ohio, relating the news (especially deaths) of a number of women there; a handwritten



obituary of Hattie M. Allen Ritzenthaler (first wife of Phillip Ritzenthaler) from the Kipton Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry; letters to Annette Eddy Ritzenthaler (Phillip Ritzenthaler's second wife), 1879-1887; two pages of notes for evaluating a female teacher; a 1905 letter to Miss Flossie Ritzenthaler (A.B. 1913, daughter of Annette and Phillip) describing a missionary social; copies of 16 postcards to Mrs. N.E. Lindquist, 1917-1919; pamphlets from the Women's Christian Temperance Union; and a poem titled "A Visit to a Mother's Grave."

## **[58] Papers of Helen Estabrook, 1923-1950s, 2.5 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Helen Estabrook '23 was secretary of the Order of the Pearls from 1928 until its demise. The Order of the Pearls was founded in 1923 by 35 senior-class women who lived in Talcott Hall; they wanted to keep in touch with each other and the College as alumnae and brides. Members of the order voted to disband the group in 1971.

### **Scope and Content**

A scrapbook contains a constitution and information about the order and its members. Correspondence from the 1950s gives information about the group's gift of books to the Art Library.

## **[59] Papers of Florence Fitch, 1807-1951, 7 ft.**

### **Biographical Note**

Florence Fitch (1875-1951), the daughter of Anna Haskell Fitch and the Rev. Frank Fitch, both members of the Oberlin Class of 1870, graduated from Oberlin College in 1897. She was one of the first women to receive the Ph.D. degree from the University of Berlin, where she studied philosophy from 1900 to 1903. Fitch was Oberlin's dean of women from 1904 to 1920 and a professor of philosophy and biblical literature from 1904 to 1940. Before her retirement, she also was chairperson of the religion department. As dean, she directed the founding of the Women's League, a student organization that served as an umbrella for all other student organizations for women; it also represented women students in major decisions about student life and regulated and enforced proper behavior for women students. Other activities included service as a trustee of the Oberlin Shansi Memorial Association, president of the Phyllis Wheatly Community Center, which was dedicated to fostering interracial cooperation in Oberlin, and president (national and state) of the Association of Biblical Instructors.

After her retirement, Florence Fitch was known for her nine children's books on world religions, including the best-seller *One God: The Ways We Worship Him* (1944). She also was a world traveller, always studying the religions and customs of the places she visited. Countries she visited included China, Japan, Siam (Thailand), Ceylon (Sri Lanka), India, Burma, Palestine, Egypt, Greece, Romania, and Germany.

### **Scope and Content**

The papers consist of letters, diaries, manuscripts, notes, lectures, photographs, postcards, and clippings. Of significance are Florence's weekly letters to her family spanning her teenage years through her entire adult life. Among the subjects covered during her period as a student at Oberlin are the social dynamics of the College community, problems with young men, her friendships, lectures, recitations, social events, concerts, mock political conventions and

congresses, the YWCA (of which Florence was president her senior year), students in Talcott and Baldwin halls, and her clothing needs. People frequently mentioned are her sister Anna, Dean of Women Adelia A.F. Johnston, Mary Safford, and Elizabeth Russell Lord.

Anna Haskell Fitch, Florence's mother, accompanied her to Germany and stayed with her in Berlin during her first year of graduate study, 1900-01. Their letters and diaries, 1900-1903, report on their travels through Europe, new friendships, Florence's decision to study for a Ph.D. degree, her relationships with her professors, male attitudes toward women doing graduate work in Berlin, and her dissertation and final oral exams.

During her professional years at Oberlin, Fitch's letters discuss her students, colleagues, and friends, her work and friendship with President Henry Churchill King and his wife Julia, her teaching, her social life, the residence halls and their staffs, her responsibilities, her troubles and successes with female students, the American Association of University Women, the Women's League, World War I, conferences on education and deanship, her summers in New England, 1930-1932, and her return trip to Europe in 1926.

Documenting her tenure as dean and professor at Oberlin are manuscripts and notes, as well as lecture outlines for classes, conferences, and General Exercises (the monthly lectures by the dean for the women students on proper behavior, marriage, and other topics deemed appropriate for young ladies.)

Florence Fitch's retirement is also covered. Manuscripts, correspondence, and clippings, 1945-1951, document her authorship of children's books. In addition, letters (c. 1915-1947), account books (1926-27, 1936-37), photographs, postcards, and lectures describe her travels. Some information on the Oberlin Shansi Memorial Association is included, most notably a 1909 letter from Alice Moon Williams charting the early history of the organization.

Included in this collection are papers of Fitch's parents and earlier ancestors, with genealogies of both the Fitch and Haskell families. Letters to Fitch's great-grandmother Hannah McKowne Coleman, 1807-1820, discuss the concerns of early 19th-century women, such as child care, housework, entertaining, and marriage. The Civil War letters of Martin L. Fitch to his wife Eliza (Florence's grandparents) report on the family's financial status during the war. Letters to Frank Fitch (Florence's father) from his mother and other female relatives, 1856-1863, describe schools in the mid 1800s from the standpoint of students, teachers, and mothers of pupils. Letters from Anna Haskell (Florence's mother) to her parents, 1865-1873, document her student activities at Oberlin, such as participating in Musical Union, public reading, studying, working as a housekeeper, and planning her wedding. College essays by Anna Haskell are included. Letters and clippings that Florence Fitch received upon the deaths of both her parents trace their later lives.

## **[60] Papers of Robert S. Fletcher, 1833-1958, 7 ft. 6 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Robert S. Fletcher (1900-1959), an Oberlin graduate of 1920 who earned the Ph.D. degree from Harvard University in 1938, taught history at Oberlin College from 1927-1959. A *History of Oberlin College: From Its Foundation through the Civil War* (Oberlin College, 1943), written by Fletcher, is still regarded as the authoritative work on Oberlin College. Among Fletcher's other scholarly publications, including two other monographs, is "The First Coeds" (*The American Scholar* 7 [1938]: 78-93).

### **Scope and Content**

This collection consists mainly of the papers Fletcher gathered in doing the research for *A History of Oberlin College*. Included are original documents, photostat and typescript copies of historical documents, and Fletcher's correspondence (1927-1946) regarding Oberlin's early

history.

Original documents include the following: letters from student Mary Chamberlin Chittenden (1874-1906, A.B. 1898) to Cousin Mary, 1890-91, regarding social life, Musical Union, and her studies; the diary of Mary Louise Cowles, n.d. (April-August 1854?); Reed-Thayer letters, largely to and from people from Indiana (seven folders), 1850s-1894, including letters from a female student at Oberlin College in the 1860s (perhaps Hattie M. Reed, prep. 1864-1866); papers of Hannah Warner Huntington (A.B. 1845, A.M. 1848), 1840-1863, including letters to her family on religion, family matters, her studies at Oberlin, etc., and letters to Hannah from Martha Rawson Congdon (A.B. 1847, A.M. 1860) with Oberlin community news, including items on such notables as Lucy Stone, the Finneys, and other professors and preachers; a six-page manuscript dated 1923 by Mary S. Rice Whitney and titled "Oberlin Sixty-five Years Ago"; two letters by Delia Fenn describing room and board arrangements at Oberlin, 1835; Nancy Prudden's letters from Lockport, New York, and Oberlin, 1836-37, offering comments about Oberlin before and after her matriculation there, and a letter from her mother, Charity Prudden, describing Nancy's breakdown from extreme spiritual strivings; and miscellaneous letters, 1837-1946, including some from women discussing issues and individuals, such as temperance, antislavery, clothing an Oberlin College student, Charles G. Finney, L. Beecher, Professors Asa Mahan and Henry E. Peck, Oberlin and religion, a black college at Ambertsburg, Canada, commencement, monetary gifts to Oberlin College, and the Sheffield Institute.

The bulk of the collection is typescript or photostatic copies of letters, diaries, minutes, and other historical documents. (The originals either are deposited in other repositories or are now lost). Copies of documents pertinent to women's history include coverage of Antoinette Brown Blackwell, Emily P. Burke, Alice Welch Cowles, Minerva Dayton Penfield Cowles, Abby Kelly Foster, Mary Louisa Cowles, Helen M. Cowles, Marianne Parker Dascomb, Julia Finney Monroe, Nancy Prudden, Delia Fenn, Lucy Stone, Hannah Warner, the Female Moral Reform Society of Elyria, the Ladies Literary Society, the Maternal Association of Oberlin, and the Oberlin Female Moral Reform Society. Topics covered include the antislavery movement, black education, coeducation, the Ladies Department, moral reform, teaching, temperance, and uses of coffee, tea, and tobacco. Daily life at Oberlin College—including specific information on student dress, room and board arrangements, regulations, religiosity, and male attitudes towards women—also is treated. Excerpts from periodicals that covered the female moral reform movement are also included.

Finally, Fletcher's correspondence regarding Oberlin history with past Oberlin students, faculty members, residents, and others connected with Oberlin is included; this correspondence covers the years 1928 to 1947. Correspondents include Alice Stone Blackwell, among others.

## **[61] Letters of Lewis and Lois Gilbert, 1925-1941, 10 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Lois Chandler Gilbert (d. 1969) and her husband, the Rev. Lewis Loder Gilbert (1898-1978), went to China in 1925 to teach in the college of Yali, Yale-in-China, at Changsha. Due to warfare they were evacuated to the United States in 1927. The Gilberts returned to China in 1929 and, except for a furlough in 1935-36, were stationed in Shantung as missionaries for the United Church of Christ until June 1941. Lewis Gilbert was a lecturer in Oberlin's Graduate School of Theology from 1954 to 1961.

## Scope and Content

This collection consists of 16 spiral-bound volumes containing typescript copies of letters written by the Gilberts while they were in China. Lois and Lewis wrote separate letters to their respective parents. Her letters describe people she met (especially female missionaries and Chinese women), her work in schools and with the YWCA, and the social life of foreign missionaries. The originals and carbon copies are in the library of the Yale University Divinity School. This set was made by Jo Gilbert, second wife of Lewis.

## [62] Papers of Amy J. Gittler, 1982-83, 1/2 in.

### Biographical Note

Amy J. Gittler '72 argued and won a landmark U.S. Supreme Court case in 1982 that ensures equal annuity payments for men and women in employer-sponsored retirement plans. Gittler, a lawyer at the Arizona Center for Law in the Public Interest, represented Arizona state employee Nathalie Norris in *Arizona Governing Committee for Tax Deferred Annuity and Deferred Compensation Plans v. Nathalie Norris*, Supreme Court case number 82-52. Norris' case was endorsed by the National Organization for Women, the American Civil Liberties Union, the Women's Equity Action League, and the AFL-CIO.

### Scope and Content

The collection consists of Gittler's brief, the official transcript of the proceedings before the U.S. Supreme Court, and a copy of the majority opinion of the court. A copy of an *Oberlin Alumni Magazine* article on the case and a letter from Nathalie Norris on behalf of the Arizona Center for Law in the Public Interest asking for contributions for that organization are also included.

## [63] Papers of Elliot F. Grabill, 1859-1901, 10 in.

### Biographical Note

Elliot F. Grabill (1837-1912, A.B. 1865) and Anna Sutton Jenney (1839-1913, Lit. 1862) met as students at Oberlin before the Civil War and were married in 1865. Elliot Grabill joined the Ohio Volunteer Infantry to fight in the war. In 1866 he moved to Greenville, Michigan, to edit and publish the *Independent*. Anna J. Grabill remained with her parents in Greenwich, Ohio, for several years before joining him there.

### Scope and Content

One folder of letters written by Anna J. Grabill to Elliot F. Grabill, 1864-1868, while she was in Greenwich discusses their courtship and her desire to teach upon arriving in Greenville. Her frustrations over receiving less money than a man for teaching are documented. Another folder consists of her miscellaneous correspondence, 1862-1865 and n.d. Three of her essays and her notes on mineralogy and trigonometry from Oberlin are contained in a single notebook, 1859-60. Another undated notebook holds poems collected (and possibly written) by Anna Grabill. Among letters received by Elliot Grabill, 1864-65, are several from his sisters, Cynthia and Mary, and from a friend named Lydia. His letters to his wife, Anna Jenney Grabill, 1863-1871 (23 folders), are concerned largely with the war.

## **[64] Records of the Grand Army of the Republic, Henry Lincoln Post #364, 1883-1934, 1 ft. 3 in.**

### **Historical Note**

The Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), an organization for Union veterans of the Civil War, gave mutual aid to the members and assisted veterans' widows and orphans. The Woman's Relief Corps was the women's auxiliary to the GAR. Henry Lincoln Post #364 was organized on August 27, 1883; it merged with the local American Legion post in 1930.

### **Scope and Content**

One notebook includes the accounts of the trustees of the Woman's Relief Corps, 1906-1910, and minutes of meetings, 1908. A volume titled "Personal War Sketches of the Members of Henry W. Lincoln Post No. 364, Oberlin" (c. 1891-92) contains information about Ann W. Lincoln, mother of Henry Lincoln.

## **[65] Papers of Charles Martin Hall, c. 1863(1882-1914) -1930s, 9 ft.**

### **Biographical Note**

Charles Martin Hall (1863-1914), chemist, manufacturer, and Oberlin College benefactor, was born in the village of Thompson in Geauga County, Ohio. He was the son of the Rev. Heman Bassett Hall (1823-1885, A.B. 1847, B.D. 1850, A.M. 1866) and Sophronia H. Brooks Hall (d. 1885, Class of 1850, Lit. Course). He took his preparatory work in Oberlin High School, graduating at the end of what was then a three-year course, and supplemented this by one year in the Oberlin Academy. Hall received three degrees from Oberlin College—the A.B. in 1885, the A.M. in 1893, and the honorary doctor of laws in 1910. He was a member of the Oberlin College board of trustees from 1905 to 1914.

Encouraged by Frank Fanning Jewett (1844-1926), his college chemistry professor, Hall, working in an Oberlin woodshed, discovered the only commercially successful process of extracting aluminum from its ore (patent applied for, 1886; granted, 1889). When the Cowles Electric Smelting and Aluminum Company of Lockport, New York, gave up the option on the patent, Hall obtained financial backing from the Mellons and other investors to form the Pittsburgh Reduction Company, located in Kensington, Pennsylvania. Cowles later brought suit against Hall, accusing him of stealing the process, but the United States Circuit Court approved Hall's originality in an 1893 decision. (The process was independently discovered by Héroult in France, and it was patented there in February 1886.) Hall's technological achievement resulted in great reductions in the price of aluminum and brought the metal into general use. It also was the basis of his great commercial and financial success—the Pittsburgh Reduction Company was the forerunner of the Aluminum Company of America (Alcoa). Hall shared his personal financial success with the College—he not only made gifts for endowment, but also for such specific purposes as the Finney Chapel organ (a joint gift with Mr. Frederic Norton Finney), the auditorium building fund (\$600,000), and other projects of personal interest relating to the care of the campus and grounds. The total of the magnificent bequest from the Hall estate exceeded \$10 million.

### **Scope and Content**

The approximately 18,200 pages of material consist of personal correspondence, 1883-1914; business correspondence, 1886-1910; Hall patents, 1889-1918; papers relating to patent litigations, c. 1890s; typescripts and manuscripts relating to Hall's patents and lawsuits as well as business contracts, 1886-1930; and printed material. The 600 pages of

personal correspondence, including 41 letters to his devoted sister Julia, are probably of the greatest significance and research value. These letters reflect on Hall's contributions and influence as an inventor, document the discovery and early development of aluminum as a commercially manufactured commodity, illustrate the complexity of patent litigations, and reveal Hall's relationships with his family, business associates, and friends. Although the letters show Hall's personality and agile mind, they do not reflect directly on his views of women or why he never married. Unfortunately, the collection does not contain Julia's letters to Charles Martin.

## **[66] Papers of Lyman B. Hall, 1871-1918, 1 ft. 11 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Ada E. Hitchcock (1851-1892) earned the literary degree from Oberlin in 1872 and married her classmate Lyman B. Hall (1852-1918) in 1878. He was an Oberlin professor of Latin, Greek, and history from 1883 to 1918. After his first wife's death, Lyman Hall married Caroline I. Caldwell in 1899.

### **Scope and Content**

Among the letters, journals, and writings are three folders of letters from Annie Mannington (A.B. 1890), 1886-1894, discussing Ada Hall's surgery in 1891, news of friends and family, and her travels to Europe; two folders of letters from Ada Hall during a trip to Germany, 1888-89, describing cultural events, social life, and travels; Lyman Hall's letters from the same trip discussing his wife's illness, health care in Germany, and the condition of women servants in Germany; letters from C.B. Martin in Germany, 1885-1893, including information on women workers and servants; letters to Lyman and Caroline Hall from various women, including Lyman's cousin Hattie and Julia C. King. Also included is a 24-page typescript of a "Sketch of the Life of John J. Shipherd" by his wife, Esther Raymond Shipherd (1797-1879). Lyman Hall's journals, 1884-1918, with a calendar, include a few entries on such topics as College affairs, temperance, the resignation of Dean of Women Adelia A.F. Johnston, and women's suffrage, and such people as Jane Addams, Kitty Fairchild, and Dean Alice Luce.

## **[67] Papers of Everett D. Hawkins, 1927-1972, 3 ft.**

### **Biographical Note**

Adelaide Hemingway (Truesdell; 1906-1974), Esther Jane Church (Rosenow; 1906-1985), and Everett ("Red") D. Hawkins (1906-1970), friends from the Class of 1928, all went to China as Oberlin Shansi Memorial Association (OSMA) representatives. OSMA representatives taught English and other subjects in Chinese schools and colleges. Adelaide Hemingway, born in Taigu of missionary parents, and Esther Church were the first two women OSMA representatives, serving from 1928 to 1930. Everett Hawkins taught in Taigu from 1927 to 1929. Adelaide Hemingway received the master's degree in English from Oberlin in 1933 and went on to become a public-school teacher in the Washington, D.C. area. Esther Church earned the S.B. degree from Simmons College in 1932, and she became a social worker.

### **Scope and Content**

Hawkins' papers contain one folder of 17 letters written to him by Adelaide Hemingway from Taigu, 1929-1931. In her letters, Hemingway describes the landscape, people, culture, and

art of China, her family travels, her social life and teaching, and the political situation in China. In her letters she frequently mentions Esther Church and the other representatives, and she occasionally discusses people back in Oberlin, such as Lydia Lord Davis (1867-1952), who was a Shansi missionary from 1889 to 1897 and the OSMA executive secretary from 1929 to 1941.

## **[68] Papers of Karl Florian Heiser, 1920-1975, 1 ft. 8 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Alta Harvey Heiser (1877-1970) of Hamilton, Ohio, was the mother of Karl Florian Heiser (b. 1904, A.B. 1926). Educated at Cincinnati University from 1896 to 1898, she became a historian of Ohio and, beginning in 1934, a newspaper columnist for the *Hamilton Daily Journal-News*. Among her publications are *Quaker Lady* (1941), *Hamilton in the Making* (1941), *History of the Woods Family* (coauthor, 1936), and a number of historical articles.

### **Scope and Content**

Included in this collection of personal correspondence are nine folders of letters written between 1929 and 1952 by Alta Heiser to Karl Florian, his wife, Jennie, and other family members. The letters reveal the intimate workings of the Heiser family, consisting of the parents, five sons, and their wives and children. Alta clearly expresses her opinions on raising a family; she also reports occasionally on her historical work in later letters. Copies of clippings of Alta's newspaper columns from 1946 are included among the letters.

### **Restrictions**

Restricted until the year 2000, unless permission granted by Mr. or Mrs. K.F. Heiser.

## **[69] Papers of Hope Hibbard, 1913- (1928-43) 1988, 10 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Dr. Hope Hibbard (1893-1988) earned the B.A. degree (1916) and the M.A. degree (1918) at the University of Missouri, the Ph.D. degree (1921) from Bryn Mawr College, and the D. es Sc. degree in zoology (1928) from the Sorbonne. She joined the Oberlin faculty in 1928 and retired at the rank of professor in 1961. In 1952 she was appointed the Adelia A. Field Johnston Professor of Zoology. She was chairperson of her department from 1954 to 1958 and was a trustee of the marine biology laboratory at Woods Hole, Massachusetts. Hibbard's research topics included marine biology, invertebrate animals, and the structure of cells. She published papers based on her studies of the tissues and organs of limpets, earthworms, squid, and silkworms and on Golgi apparatus. In addition to her teaching and research, Hibbard was active in the American Association of University Women and became an honorary life member in 1987. She also was very active as a charter member of the Oberlin branch of the League of Women Voters.

### **Scope and Content**

This collection, which documents Hibbard's dedication to research and teaching in the first half of the 20th century, is divided into three series: correspondence, lectures and speeches, and surveys.

The correspondence series, 1913 (1915-1943) 1961, mainly covers her career and the teaching of science. Detailed information exists on her scholarships and fellowships, as well as on the salaries received by a female professor who held various academic positions. One letter dated 1941 discusses the effects of the World War II on her various European colleagues.

The four folders in the lectures and speeches series, (1927-1945) 1962, mainly address the subjects of science and women. Among the many papers written by Hibbard are the following: "AAUW," 1933; "Vocations for Women and How College Can Prepare Them," 1935; "Women in Research," 1937; "The Life of Oberlin Women Today," 1937; and "A Tribute to Mildred McAfee," n.d. There also are copies of numerous speeches on Hibbard's research.

During her tenure as chairperson of the zoology department, Hibbard distributed a newsletter to alumni of the department and the premedical program. The survey series consists of responses to Hibbard's letter and questionnaire, 1954-55. Approximately one-third of the 10 folders of questionnaires were completed by women. Information provided includes major, advanced degrees, current profession, professional affiliations, publications, and family information. Some alumni also wrote letters describing more fully their work, activities, families, and interest in Oberlin. About 30 of these letters were from women. Quite a few of them discuss the teaching of science in public schools.

## **[70] Papers of Frances Juliette Hosford, 1925-1935, 3 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Frances Juliette Hosford (1853-1937)—College professor, administrator, and local historian—began her career as a teacher at Lake Erie College in Painesville, Ohio, and at high schools in Elyria and Cleveland. She then earned the bachelor's and master's degrees from Oberlin in 1891 and 1896, respectively. She became a tutor, instructor, and finally associate professor of Latin, first in the Oberlin Academy and then in the College. She simultaneously served as a member of the Women's Board of Managers (1892-1912) and as dean of academy women and assistant dean of college women (1911-1920). As a historian, she researched early Oberlin history for articles that appeared in the *Oberlin Alumni Magazine* and for her book, *Father Shipherd's Magna Carta, A Century of Coeducation in Oberlin College* (1937). Oberlin twice honored Hosford by conferring on her the degree of honorary doctor of letters (1931) and by awarding her the Distinguished Service Medal of the Alumni Association.

### **Scope and Content**

This collection, which is organized as an alphabetical file, contains correspondence, including reminiscences, copies of manuscripts, and research materials. Individuals and subjects covered include Antoinette Brown Blackwell, Betsy Mix Cowles, Mary Hosford Fisher, Charles Grandison Finney, Marianne Parker Dascomb, the Amistad slave-ship case, antislavery, the Oberlin-Wellington Rescue, early Oberlin women, and Elmira and Wesleyan colleges. Statistics on the occupational and marriage patterns of Oberlin graduates, 1837-1926, are included in an undated paper by Louis D. Hartson. Among Hosford's correspondents were James T. Fairchild, W.G. Frost, Emma Monroe Fitch, W.B. Gerrish, Helen Keep, Julia Finney Monroe, Margaret Maltby, Edward S. Steele, Eloise Steele, and Florence M. Snell.



## **[71] Papers of Sara L. Houston, c. 1954-1970, 1 ft. 6 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Associate Professor of Physical Education Sara Louise Houston (1913-1973), a native of Pittsburgh, received the bachelor's degree in 1934 and the master's degree in 1935 from Wellesley College and the doctoral degree from Ohio State University in 1967. She taught physical education at Denison University from 1935 to 1950 and at Oberlin College from 1950 to 1973.

### **Scope and Content**

Houston's papers consist mainly of material gathered for her doctoral dissertation, "A Phenomenological Study of Movement Behavior," and a few other unpublished papers. The research for her dissertation, which studied body-movement styles and personality, was conducted with 20 Oberlin women students. Very little correspondence is included.

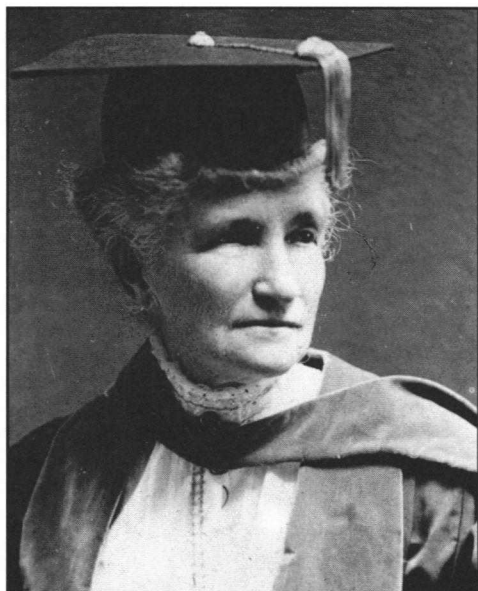
## **[72] Papers of Gertrude F. Jacob, 1931-1982, 1 ft. 3 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Gertrude F. Jacob (1908-1989) received the A.B. degree from Oberlin College in 1929 and the M.A. degree in philosophy from Ohio State University in 1930. She served the College in various capacities, most notably as secretary, recorder, registrar, and finally executive secretary for the Graduate School of Theology (GST) from 1944 to 1966. When the GST merged with Vanderbilt Divinity School in 1966, Jacob remained in Oberlin, where she continued her career as an administrative assistant in the Oberlin College Archives. She retired in 1975, but continued to serve the archives as a volunteer in research until she was hit by a truck crossing the main intersection of Oberlin. As a volunteer, she maintained contacts with many former faculty members and graduates of the GST, as well as with many other Oberlin people.

### **Scope and Content**

The collection is divided into two sections: general correspondence (mostly relating to the GST and Vanderbilt and covering primarily the years 1966 to 1974) and correspondence with Oberlin missionaries, 1939-1982. There is some printed material among the correspondence. The letters from missionary women include correspondence from Margaret G. Hammaker in India, 1941-1962, and at Pilgrim Place retirement home for missionaries in Claremont, California, 1962-1975; Edith Husted in India, 1942-1945, in Japan, 1945-1967, and at Pilgrim Place, 1967-1975; Martha and Richard Lammers in India, 1954-1982; Miriam Rogers in India, 1947-1980; E. Loleta Wood in India, 1945-1972; and Alma Woodruff in Bulgaria and Turkey, 1939-1950. All the missionaries had some connection with Oberlin, mostly as students. Subjects of interest are the women's training school in Sholapur, India; Shinonama Girl's School in Matsuyama, Japan; political issues in India; Pilgrim Place retirement home; and female friendship (see the letters from Margaret Hammaker and Edith Husted).



**A. A. Field Johnston, First Woman  
Professor and Dean of Women**



**Florence M. Fitch,  
Professor and Dean of Women**



**Delphine Hanna,  
Professor of Physical Education**



**Hope Hibbard,  
Professor of Zoology**

## **[73] Papers of Adelia A. Field Johnston, 1863-1911, (1974), 2 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Adelia A. Field Johnston (1837-1910), one of the more important figures of late 19th-century Oberlin, received the literary degree from Oberlin in 1856. She was married in 1859 to James M. Johnston, but was widowed in 1862. Following teaching appointments in Tennessee and Ohio, she returned to Oberlin in 1870 to become principal of the Women's Department, on the condition she be allowed to teach. Johnston was the first ladies' principal—and indeed the first woman at Oberlin—to insist on and receive membership on the faculty. She served the College as ladies' principal/dean of women until 1900 and as professor of medieval history until 1907. Her courses in art history and architecture were very popular. One of her major contributions to the town of Oberlin was the organization of a the Oberlin Village Improvement Society, which built parks and campaigned to keep the town clean.

### **Scope and Content**

This collection contains miscellaneous papers of a business and legal nature dating primarily from the early 1900s; correspondence, 1896-1910; and a manuscript grade notebook, 1863-1874. There are two copies of a privately published account of two women's experiences of the Civil War, written by Johnston and titled "Two Sides of a Shield: A Story of the Civil War" (1911). A notebook kept from 1863 to 1865, when she was principal and teacher at Kinsman Academy in Kinsman, Ohio, includes students' names and attendance and recitation records. Another 18 pages of the notebook cover rules for deportment of women students at Oberlin College and topics for General Exercises (the monthly lectures for women students given by the principal/dean of women), 1871-1874. Copies of her article "Oberlin College" (in *The Education of American Girls*, ed. Anna C. Brackett, 1874) and letters and newspaper clippings about Johnston are also included. Financial records and some letters regarding the Oberlin Village Improvement Society complete the collection.

## **[74] Papers of Mary Elizabeth Johnston, 1880-1982, 4 ft.**

### **Biographical Note**

Mary Elizabeth ("Bessie") Johnston (1890-1982), a native of Sandusky, Ohio, came to Oberlin with her family in 1908 after the death of her father. She completed Oberlin's public schools and then enrolled in Oberlin College, but was forced to leave the College in the second semester of her junior year (1912) due to lack of money. She taught at St. Augustine's College, a school for blacks in Raleigh, North Carolina, for 26 years. During that time she studied in summer sessions at Oberlin, Kent State University, and Shaw University. She received the A.B. degree from Oberlin in 1937 (although she prefers to be classed with the Class of 1913) and the M.A. degree in library science from Kent State in 1952. At odds with the director at St. Augustine's, she resigned from her position there in 1938 and moved to New Jersey. After several years of work in that state, she was hired as a teacher and eventually dean of women at a black industrial training school in Bordentown, 1946-1954. She traveled to England and Scotland in 1955 and then moved to Cleveland, where she was involved in the activities of Karamu House (a community institution dedicated to bridging the gaps between racial and ethnic groups), the Episcopal Church, and the elderly community.

## **Scope and Content**

These papers consist of scrapbooks containing photographs, clippings, programs, letters, notes, cards, invitations, brochures, and other similar materials that document Johnston's career, interests, and travels. Two files include letters from or about her mother, Mary Phillips Johnston. Two other folders contain letters and photographs from her niece, Pauline Johnston, whose education at Kent State was subsidized by Mary. Handwritten materials that Johnston used in her classes also are included in the collection.

## **[75] Papers of George T. Jones, (1839) 1865-1990, 5 ft. 2 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Mary Burwell (b. 1900), a 1923 Oberlin graduate in botany, was one of many students who participated in Prof. Lynds Jones' summer ecology trips. She later married Jones' son, George. George T. Jones (b. 1897), who received the A.B. degree in 1920 and the A.M. degree in 1923 from Oberlin, taught botany at his alma mater from 1924 to 1965, first as an instructor and then as professor.

### **Scope and Content**

Among the diaries, letters, papers, and biographical and autobiographical writings are scattered women's history sources. A paper by Mary Burwell, written after the 1923 ecology trip, is titled "A Discussion of the Ecological Formations of Central and Western United States of Sea Life." A log of the 1928 western trip kept by Clara (Mrs. Lynds) Jones is also included. Lynds and Clara Jones' account book, detailing household expenditures from their first year of marriage (1892-93), is preserved in typescript form, with an introduction by George T. Jones. Circular letters (1931-1951) from the Jones family, many written by Clara Jones, report family news. Another box contains letters from friends and former students, including women, 1935-1975. One folder of letters, dated 1839-1842, is from Mary Grant Burgess, who with her husband was a missionary to India. A biography of Lynds Jones written by George and George's own autobiography contain some information about women in the Jones family during the last quarter of the 19th century and the first half of the 20th century.

## **[76] Papers of Elizabeth Kadelbach, 1914-15, 2 1/2 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Elizabeth Kadelbach, of Berlin, Germany, was a guest in Oberlin during 1914-15. She had been teaching during the summer at the University of Wisconsin, but due to the sudden outbreak of the war in Europe, she was unable to return to Germany. Among her former students in Berlin were Arletta M. Abbott, who taught at Oberlin from 1893 to 1921 and was head of Oberlin's German department, and German Professor William E. Mosher, who taught at Oberlin from 1899 to 1919.

### **Scope and Content**

Primary in this collection are the personal letters and postcards written to Elizabeth Kadelbach from Germany while she was in Oberlin, 1914-15. Almost all the letters are in German, and they mostly discuss events of World War I. Many of the postcard prints promote the German war effort.

## **[77] Papers of Lucy Fletcher Kellogg, c. 1835-1900, 2 1/4 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Lucy Fletcher Kellogg (1793-1891), a homemaker who lived in Massachusetts, New York, Louisiana, and Oberlin, was the mother of Mary Kellogg (1819-1890), one of the first four American women to enter a college course for a degree. Mary began the College Course at Oberlin in 1837, but was unable to finish because her family moved to Louisiana. She later returned to Oberlin to marry James Harris Fairchild (1817-1902), who was Oberlin's third president from 1866 to 1889.

### **Scope and Content**

This collection, which consists of correspondence, notebooks, legal papers, and printed materials, provides information on the lives of Lucy Kellogg and her family as well on life in the Louisiana cities of Minden and New Orleans from 1836 to 1851. Kellogg's account of her life is preserved in both manuscript and printed forms, 1879 and 1881. In addition to information on family life and changes of residence, Kellogg describes her youth in New England, where she produced textiles in her parent's home to support herself. Family letters among siblings, cousins, and aunts, 1836-1851, discuss devout Protestants' feelings of isolation in the apparently unchristian rural areas of Louisiana, the education of children, and abolitionism. Lucy Kellogg's two notebooks contain copied poetry and diary entries from throughout her life. Two notebooks kept by Kate Birge, 1882 and n.d., contain pieces of poetry and some recipes. Some family legal papers and 19 Civil War letters written by George M. Kellogg are also included.

## **[78] Letters of Leonard and Julia King, 1852-1878, 2 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Julia Turney, a Connecticut native, met and married Leonard King, a native of Rhode Island, when both were in Oswego County, New York. They then lived in the town of Mexico in Oswego County. Leonard King spent the years 1852 to 1854 in the gold fields of California. In 1855 he took his family to Huron County, Ohio, near New London, where they later built a cheese factory.

### **Scope and Content**

The papers consist of the letters Leonard and Julia wrote to each other while he was in California, 1852-1854, plus a few she wrote to him in 1859 when he went to the Rocky Mountains on another quest for gold. Julia's letters (four folders) express her concern for her husband and encourage him to live a Christian life, and they tell of family matters, local news, her financial affairs, and the management of the household. Leonard's letters tell of his work and his longing for his wife and two sons.

## **[79] Papers of Daniel C. Kinsey, 1922-1970, 5 ft. 10 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Daniel C. Kinsey (1902-1970), a Gold Medal winner in track in the 1924 Olympic Games, received the B.S. degree in education from the University of Illinois in 1926 and the M.A.

degree in physical education from Oberlin in 1935. From 1928 to 1959 he taught physical education and coached cross country, track and field, wrestling, swimming, and fencing at Oberlin. Kinsey's other activities included work with the Boy Scouts, the Society of Friends, the Oberlin Shansi Memorial Association (OSMA), and the YMCA. He also was the first chairperson of the Oberlin City Recreation Committee. Before retiring, he taught at Earlham College (1959-1961) and Delta College (1961-1967).

## Scope and Content

This collection consists of the following series: minutes, correspondence, research notes, printed material, and athletic records. The records not only document Kinsey's career and activities, but also provide information on the history of physical education at Oberlin. Notes for his thesis, "The History of Physical Education in Oberlin College, 1833-1890," are undated, but probably are from the 1920s and 1930s. Included is information on the ladies gymnasium, 1873-1890, and its director, Dr. Delphine Hanna (1854-1941), who served from 1885 to 1920. A letter from Hanna to "her girls" describes her initial training in physical education, her early experience at Oberlin, and the Ladies Hall fire of 1885. Among the historical materials are notes from a conversation with Fannie Wright, 1933, a nongraduating student of the 1880s. Wright taught physical education with Hanna in 1888 and replaced her while she was on leave until 1890.

The Department of Physical Education staff meeting notes, 1940-1958, document both the women's and men's physical education and athletic programs. A newsletter and a 1954 alumnae directory report on department news and list names, addresses, and current activities of physical education alumnae from the classes of 1894 to 1954. Single documents include a paper by student Helen M. Foster titled "The Bacteriology of Milk" (n.d., post-1937) and the "Report of the Committee to Evaluate the Recreation Program of the Phyllis Wheatly Center" (1949). In Kinsey's lecture notes and printed matter on sex education for boys and men, 1905-1939, is descriptive and prescriptive material on male-female relationships and information on contraception, venereal disease, and sexual activity. Correspondence, 1922-1970, includes a number of letters from women in behalf of organizations or institutions regarding recreation, sports, job recommendations, the American Friends Service Committee, and OSMA. Finally, there are several programs and publications from activities sponsored jointly by the YWCA and YMCA spanning the 1930s to 1950s.

## [80] Papers of Ellen NickKenzie Lawson, 1972-1988, 8 in.

### Biographical Note

Ellen NickKenzie Lawson (b. 1944) earned the B.A. degree from Bryn Mawr College, the M.A.T. degree from Wesleyan University, and the Ph.D. degree in American history from Case Western Reserve University. In the early 1970s she lobbied for the introduction of women's studies at Oberlin College. At one point she was an instructor in history, teaching a course surveying the history of 19th-century American women. By 1972 Lawson was an interim special consultant at the College, working in the effort to establish a program in women's studies. She also was involved in the Oberlin community, sitting on the board of the Oberlin Early Childhood Center. In 1980, Ann Fuller and Ellen Lawson conducted a follow-up survey of 120 Oberlin faculty wives who were involved at the College in the early 1970s. A summary of this report, "The Faculty Spouse and the Women's Movement," appeared in the *Observer* in 1983.

Ellen NickKenzie Lawson's interests in Afro-American women's history led her to participate in the "Antebellum Black Coed and Women's History Project." Along with Marlene D. Merrill, she wrote *The Three Sarahs: Documents of Antebellum Black College Women* (1984). Lawson is now a free-lance writer and historical consultant in the Cleveland area.

## Scope and Content

This collection is organized around Ellen N. Lawson's interest in Afro-American women's history and women's rights. The files contain research notes, clippings, correspondence, notes, and reports pertaining to women's studies courses, Professor of History Gerda Lerner (b. 1920), the Oberlin Early Childhood Center, and the status of women and women's studies at Oberlin. Included in the files are articles and plays written by Ellen N. Lawson. The Lawson collection also contains interviews audiotaped in 1980 with Elberta Smith of the Early Childhood Center and in 1984 with retired Professor Hope Hibbard.

## [81] Papers of Ellen Nickenzie Lawson and Marlene D. Merrill, 1977-1984, 3 ft.

### Historical Note

This collection of research notes, documents, papers, and published articles was gathered for the "Antebellum Black Coed Project and the Women's History Project" done between 1977 and 1984 by Ellen N. Lawson and Marlene D. Merrill, research associates of Oberlin College. They identified 152 black women who had attended the Oberlin Collegiate Institute, 1835-1850, and Oberlin College, 1850-1865, and researched their family backgrounds, Oberlin experiences, and later lives. Of this number, 56 were enrolled in the College, either in the literary/ladies course or in the classical course leading to the bachelor's degree. Twelve received the literary degree, and three received the A.B. degree. The research also resulted in the publication of a number of articles and a book titled *The Three Sarahs: Documents of Antebellum Black College Women* (Edwin Mellen Press, 1984).

### Scope and Content

In this group of papers collected during the research project are 58 files of documents and notes on individual students or families. Of these, two noteworthy "firsts" were Lucy Ann Stanton (Day/Sessions), the first black woman to graduate from an American college (Lit. 1850); and Mary Jane Patterson, the first black woman to receive the A.B. degree (1862). The collection also includes material on such prominent women as Frances M. Jackson (Coppin), principal of the Institute for Colored Youth in Philadelphia for 37 years and a leader in classical (college-preparatory) education; Sarah Jane Woodson, alleged to be the granddaughter of Thomas Jefferson; Rosetta Douglass (Sprague), daughter of Frederick Douglass; Emily and Mary Edmondson, sent to Oberlin by Harriet Beecher Stowe (file includes transcriptions of letters from Stowe); Sarah Margru Kinson (Green), the first African woman to attend college in the United States, who then returned to Africa as a missionary; Mahala McGuyire (Gray), a black American missionary to Africa; Caroline M. Wall (Langston) who married John Mercer Langston and became prominent in Washington circles; and Mary Church Terrell (who studied at Oberlin after 1865), founding member of the NAACP, suffragist, and the first black school-board member in Washington, D.C. There are extensive research notes on Sarah M. Kinson (Green).

Subjects covered include race relations at Oberlin, First Church in Oberlin (Congregational), black communities in Cincinnati and Cleveland, black women teachers of the American Missionary Association, female preparatory students, and black women and temperance. Several lists of black students at Oberlin are included. In addition to the personal papers of individuals, records exist for the American Missionary Association. Finally, there are copies of articles by others on topics related to black women and education and revisions of papers by Lawson and Merrill.

## **[82] Papers of Fred E. Leonard, 1821-1950, 16 ft. 8 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Bertha M. Hopkins (1879-1944) received the master's degree from Oberlin in 1904 and directed the women's physical education department at Ohio State University from 1907 to 1908. She also taught summer sessions at New York University and Columbia University. In 1908 she married Dr. Fred E. Leonard (1866-1922, A.B. 1889, A.M. 1892), director of Oberlin College's men's gymnasium. She taught women's physical education at Oberlin from 1925 to 1937. In addition she supervised physical education for girls at Oberlin High School and taught a teacher-training course.

### **Scope and Content**

Papers include four folders of letters from Bertha M. Leonard to Fred Leonard, 1912-1920, and 12 folders of personal and professional letters received by Bertha Hopkins (Leonard) from Fred Leonard and other individuals, 1908-1921. The lives of Fred Leonard's sisters, Kate and Ella, are documented in their childhood compositions, in Kate's diaries (6 vols., 1902-1931), and autograph book, and in postcards exchanged between the two sisters and brother. Letters dating from 1879 to 1890 from Fred and his brother, Arthur, to their mother, Mary Louise Raymond Leonard, are also in the file. One folder is devoted to Kate's friend, Katharine Wright Haskell (1874-1929, A.B. 1898), who was an Oberlin College trustee from 1924 until her death in 1929. The file consists of obituaries; a short, handwritten biography by Kate Leonard, and newspaper clippings about Haskell and her brothers, Wilbur and Orville Wright. Fred Leonard's notes (23 pp.) on educator Catherine Beecher include information on her 1831 calisthenics course for young ladies. The file on Oberlin College's physical education program contains a history of men's and women's physical education at Oberlin, as well as information on the first two directors of the women's physical education program. Delphine Hanna, M.D. (1854-1941), a pioneer in physical education, directed the women's gym from 1885 to 1920 and was professor of physical training/education from 1903 to 1920. Helen Finney Cochran, M.D. (1885-1923) became professor of physical education in 1916; she became director of the gym in 1920, when Hanna retired, and held that position until her death in 1923.

## **[83] Papers of Betty Lind, 1966-1973, 1/2 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Betty Lind (b. 1913), a professional dancer, teacher, and choreographer, was a professor of dance in Oberlin's physical education department from 1964 to 1978. She began her career as a dancer in 1932 and studied with such dance performers as Doris Humphrey, Charles Weidman, Hanya Holm, José Limon, and Merce Cunningham. Lind received her college degrees later in life—the A.B. degree from Brooklyn College in 1963 and the M.A. degree from the University of California at Los Angeles in 1966. Before coming to Oberlin, she taught at Douglas College, the Pratt Institute, and the New York Academy of Ballet. Lind was a choreographer, dancer, and teacher at Theater Dance, Inc., in New York, and served that organization as president and member of the board of directors for five years. She initiated the American College Dance Festival Association. In 1969-70, she conducted research comparing Western and Eastern approaches to dance theater, and in 1970-71 she studied developments in modern dance and new approaches to teaching dance at colleges and studios on the East Coast. She was a member of Actors Equity Association.



## Scope and Content

The collection consists of papers relevant to Lind's study and teaching of dance at Oberlin College. Included is a detailed report of her research on dance theater in Hawaii, Hong Kong, Thailand, Java, Bali, Manila, Taiwan, and Japan; this work was conducted under an H.H. Powers Travel Grant during the summer of 1969. Her 1966 humanities series lecture, "Night Does Follow the Day," deals with the development of modern dance, and a 1967 lecture delivered to the Renaissance Society of America discusses the reconstruction of an Italian Renaissance dance suite. Proposals, reports, and other materials concerning the modern dance program at Oberlin College from 1966 to 1973 also are included.

## [84] Papers of the Misses Alice and Elizabeth Little, 1853-1949, 6 in.

### Biographical Note

Alice and Elizabeth Little were granddaughters of Henry and Alice Welch Cowles, professor of theology and second principal of the Ladies Department, respectively. Alice Little (1865-1958), the primary subject of this collection, received the literary degree from Oberlin in 1888. After graduation, she taught for five years in a missionary school on Kusaie, in Micronesia. The maps she collected and the detailed notes she took on trips to the surrounding islands were later used by the United States Navy in World War II. Upon her return to the United States, Alice worked for seven years for the Woman's Board of Missions of the Interior (WBMI) in Chicago. In 1907 she moved back to Oberlin to live with her sister Elizabeth ("Bessie"), although she remained active in missionary work as treasurer and trustee of the WBMI. She also was a trustee of the Ohio Congregational Conference for nine years.

Elizabeth Little (1863-1944) studied at Oberlin in the preparatory department in 1886-87 and in the Conservatory in 1898-99. Aside from some letters to "Bessie," this collection contains no other information on her.

Sarah Cowles Little (1838-1912, A.B. 1859), their mother, was a teacher and then superintendent of the State School for the Blind in Janesville, Wisconsin, from 1861 to 1891. She married Thomas H. Little there in 1862, but was widowed in 1875. Upon returning to Oberlin, she supported the establishment of the Tank Home for missionary children.

In addition to the papers of the Little family, the file includes correspondence of the Dart-Leonard family. Like Alice Little, Clara Miller Dart (Mt. Holyoke 1904) and Sidney Dart (A.B. 1910) were missionaries, devoting 25 years to working in Angola and other parts of Africa, 1911-1936. Sidney's parents, Francis H. Dart and Mary T. Leonard Dart, attended Oberlin in the 1860s and 1870s but did not graduate.

### Scope and Content

The Little collection, which is mostly correspondence, contains several personal letters to Sarah, Alice, and Bessie Little (some regarding the Tank Home), letters from missionaries around the world, and four files of letters written to Alice Little regarding the 50-year reunion of the Class of 1888. The last set of letters contains a wealth of information on the activities of members of that class and their families since their graduation. Among the miscellaneous items is a manuscript of Sarah C. Little's 1883 essay, "Oberlin and the Education of Women," (printed in *Oberlin Jubilee 1833-1883*, pp. 146-158); an article by Sarah Little about Elizabeth Russell Lord from the *Oberlin Alumni Magazine*; printed matter from various women's and missionary organizations, including the Women's National Sabbath Alliance; notes from lectures by Parker Cleaveland at Bowdoin College, 1853; and a coverless volume on Christian influence in Micronesia titled *The Old and the New in Micronesia* (Chicago: WBMI, 1907), by Florence A. Fensham and Beulah Logan Tuthill.

The Dart-Leonard family correspondence consists mainly of letters from Sidney and Clara Dart in Africa to his family in the United States, 1911-1927; 11 of these were written by Clara. Also included is correspondence between other members of the Dart-Leonard family and with friends, 1867-1905. There are a few letters from other women missionaries in Africa.

## **[85] Letters of Grace E. McConnaughey, 1910-1928, 5 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Grace E. McConnaughey (1882-1978) received the A.B. degree from Oberlin in 1909 and went to Shansi Province, China, in 1910 as a Congregational missionary. She remained there 18 years, many of them as principal of a girls school in Fenchow. From 1929 to 1932 she lived in Boston and worked as candidate secretary for the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. In that position, she recruited college-trained women to serve in stations around the world. As a consequence of the Great Depression, the job was discontinued. She returned to Oberlin College to serve as a house director of various dormitories between 1933 and 1941. In 1947, McConnaughey moved into Pilgrim Place, a retirement home for Protestant missionaries and ministers in Claremont, California.

### **Scope and Content**

The papers, 1911-1952, fall into two groups. One consists of letters McConnaughey wrote to her home while she was in China, 1912-1928. She describes in detail her work, her friends, the people she met and their customs, and her many travels in Shansi and Shansi province. The other group is a manuscript titled "Amazing Grace" (electrostatic copy of a typescript, 567 pp.), drawn from the letters of Grace E. McConnaughey and prepared by Grace E. McConnaughey Murray, a niece of the missionary.

## **[86] Papers of Fred H. ("Tip") Maddock, 1839-1950, 7 1/2 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Fred H. ("Tip") Maddock (1874-1951) came to Oberlin in 1894 from Sheffield Lake, Ohio, and was the Oberlin agent for the Southwestern Interurban Railroad from 1898 to 1934. After he was left an invalid by an automobile accident in the mid-1930s, he took up Oberlin town history as a hobby.

### **Scope and Content**

This collection consists of the clippings, names, addresses, dates, and chronologies collected by Maddock in his research. His chronology of Oberlin history includes a few pages on the Cassie Chadwick affair with the Oberlin Bank, 1903-04. His lists of persons in business in Oberlin, 1833-1949, include some identifiable women in millinery businesses, tailoring, "shampoo parlors," and the like.

## **[87] Papers of August Meier, 1941-1945, 5 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

August Meier '45 (b. 1923) received the Ph.D. degree in history from Columbia University in 1957. One of the country's leading scholars in the Afro-American experience, he has been a member of the history department at Kent State University since 1963. He is the author of *Negro Thought in America, 1880-1915* (1963), and he is a collaborator, editor, and general editor of numerous other titles in the field of Afro-American history.

Meier was active in the Committee of Correspondence (COC) at Oberlin in the early 1940s. In spring 1945, the name of the group was changed to the Oberlin Student Assembly (OSA), and it became affiliated with the United States Student Assembly (USSA). The COC, OSA, and USSA were campus organizations that challenged racism, prejudice, and labor exploitation in the United States. Such Oberlin women as Gloria Gordon (b. 1923, A.B. 1944) and Ann Lieb (b. 1925, A.B. 1946) were COC/OSA leaders on campus. A number of women also were prominent in the national leadership, including Alice Horton (president in 1945), Elizabeth Hawley, Janet Norwood, Judy Barnwell, Amy Roosevelt, and others.

### **Scope and Content**

The collection consists of constitutions, minutes, correspondence, bulletins, newspapers, and miscellaneous printed material. The documentation covers the activities of the Committee of Correspondence, the Oberlin Student Assembly, the United States Student Assembly, the Oberlin Consumers' Cooperative, and the interracial committee of the YMCA and YWCA, all of which were active during Meier's time at Oberlin (1941-1945). Correspondence dated 1944-45 between Meier and Gloria Gordon, the executive secretary of the USSA, discusses the activities and business of the organizations. Minutes of the interracial committee of the YMCA and YWCA, 1943, discuss the committee's work with Rev. Crosby, a town leader, and organizations (Men's Civic Club and Women's Progressive Club) on issues such as job discrimination at the College, in the town, in education, and in political action.

## **[88] Papers of Irving W. Metcalf, 1878-1935, 2 ft. 5 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Irving Metcalf (1855-1938) was one of the founders of the Anti-Saloon League and an active supporter of missionary activities, both at home and abroad. A Congregational minister and trustee of Oberlin College from 1900 to 1925, he received the A.B. degree in 1878 and the B.D. degree in 1881 from Oberlin.

### **Scope and Content**

This collection mainly consists of correspondence, class notebooks, church records, scrapbooks, and publications. Not only do these records cover Metcalf's role in the temperance movement and his association with Charles Martin Hall, but they also document a variety of women's activities in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Letters regarding missionary activity discuss the work of Annie E. Pinneo (1876-1960, A.B. 1899) with Armenian and Turkish refugees in Smyrna, 1922-23 and 1933; the work of other missionaries such as Chauncey Marvin Cady, 1882-1887; and the indemnity awarded by the Chinese government to missionaries Alice Moon Williams (1860-1952) and Lydia Lord Davis (1867-1952), whose spouses were killed in the Boxer Rebellion of 1900. Letters received by Metcalf from members of his graduating class (1878) discuss their activities during the 20 years since graduation.

Activities indicated by women include teaching, work in the South with the American Missionary Association, foreign mission work, politics, and academic work. The scrapbook of Edith Metcalf, daughter of Irving Metcalf, contains postcards and programs from opera and theater productions and concerts she attended in Germany in 1906.

## **[89] Papers of William L. Mezger, 1965-1978, 2 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Virginia Van Fossan Fletcher (b. 1907), a member of the Class of 1927, was secretary of the Alumni Association from 1935 to 1938. Katrine MacGlashon Baxley (1905-1981) was a graduate of the Class of 1928 and an editor, writer, and Oberlin resident. Both contributed to "The Alumni Association of Oberlin College: A Chronological Summary," prepared in 1978 by William L. Mezger (b. 1915, A.B. 1938). Mezger, owner of an advertising agency, was very active in the Oberlin Alumni Association—he was treasurer from 1964 to 1967 and president from 1967 to 1969.

### **Scope and Content**

This collection of papers, gathered by Mezger as he researched "The Alumni Association of Oberlin College," contains two earlier histories of the Alumni Association—one written Katrine MacGlashon Baxley sometime in the 1960s, and the second by Virginia Van Fossan Fletcher in 1970.

## **[90] Papers of Margaret Portia Mickey, 1914-1940, 6 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Margaret Portia Mickey (1889-1988) received the A.B. degree in mathematics from Oberlin in 1912. Under the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, North China Mission, she traveled as a teacher and missionary in China from 1914 to 1920. She was a volunteer worker in Japan and northern China in 1936-37 and in China in 1939-1944. She received a Fulbright Fellowship for research in China in 1948. During her lifetime she worked twice for Oberlin College—as a secretary in the president's office from 1912 to 1914, and as a secretary to the librarian from 1931 to 1935. Although Mickey never received any graduate degrees, she took graduate courses at Columbia University, the University of Michigan, and Radcliffe College. Before retiring, she worked from 1951 to 1954 in the editorial department of the G. & C. Merriam Company in Springfield, Massachusetts. She died June 13, 1988, in Pomona, California.

### **Scope and Content**

The papers consist chiefly of letters that Margaret Portia Mickey wrote from Peking and other cities in northern China. Also included are letters written by her mother during a visit to China in 1917-18. These letters discuss surroundings, travel, and sightseeing in detail, as well as the social life and activities of other missionaries. Essays and "missionary station letters" by Portia Mickey cover such subjects as medical work, the flood of 1917-18 in Tianjin (Tiensin), women's work, work in rural areas, and schools. Miscellaneous programs and some writings in Chinese also are included.

## **[91] Papers of Charles E. Monroe, 1875-1936, 2 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

In 1924, Marie Jussen (1861-1947) of Watertown, Wisconsin, married Charles Edwin Monroe (1857-1931, A.B. 1877), a Milwaukee lawyer and the son of Oberlin Professor James Monroe. Charles' sister, Mary Katherine Monroe (1854-1917), graduated from Oberlin's literary course in 1874. She began teaching at Wellesley College in 1881, but resigned in 1887 due to deafness and returned to Oberlin. For over 15 years, she was actively involved in the Oberlin Industrial School (also called the Girls' Sewing School), along with her stepmother, Julia Finney Monroe, who founded the school in 1885.

### **Scope and Content**

Included among Charles Monroe's papers are an undated history of the "Life of Charles Edwin Monroe" (written by Marie Jussen Monroe for the Milwaukee Museum) and a manuscript on the early history of Oberlin written for young people by Mary K. Monroe, c. 1916. The town history contains some references to young women and the Ladies Hall at Oberlin during the 1830s.

## **[92] Papers of Julia Finney Monroe, 1838-1921, 7 1/2 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Julia Finney (1837-1930) was the daughter of Oberlin College's second president, Charles Grandison Finney (1792-1875), and the wife of Oberlin Professor James Monroe (1821-1898, A.B. 1846, B.D. 1849, A.M. 1850). She studied in the Oberlin Academy and literary course from 1849 to 1853. At the age of 28 she married James Monroe, then the United States consul in Rio de Janeiro and father of four children. His career as an Oberlin professor and trustee, a U.S. consul, an Ohio legislator, and a U.S. congressman involved her in a wide variety of related political and intellectual activities. From 1894 to 1900 she served on the Women's Board of Managers at Oberlin; this group supervised women students. She was active in church and community affairs, and in 1885 she founded the Oberlin Industrial School, which trained girls to sew and knit. She also supported Oberlin Associated Charities (OAC), which attempted to alleviate poverty in Oberlin and to give unskilled workers job training.

### **Scope and Content**

This collection includes Julia Finney Monroe's family and personal records, as well as records relating to the OAC and other charitable organizations. Family legal records include the wills of Charles G. Finney, 1872, James Monroe, 1893, and Julia Monroe, 1907 and 1912, as well as land and trust deeds to C.G. Finney and to Oberlin College, 1838-1871, and 1888. Julia F. Monroe's journal (1 vol.), 1895-1911, documents her thoughts on religion. Three travel notebooks contain notes and letters describing her trips to Egypt, 1893, and Europe, 1900-01. Julia Finney Monroe's financial and estate records, 1880s-1921, include household accounts, income and tax information, expenditures of the Monroe household, and the failure of Citizen's National Bank, 1904. A few newspaper clippings, 1894-1898, concerning family and friends are also included.

Oberlin Associated Charities records include annual reports, correspondence, memoranda, financial records, newspaper clippings about the OAC, and printed matter about charitable activities in other cities in the United States, 1880s-1905. Annual reports are mostly those of the Committee on Work Rooms for Women (later called the Laundry

Committee), 1889-1891, written by Hannah S. Lewis, Ida A. Shearman, Rebecca A. Johnson, and Julia Finney Monroe. Mrs. N.J. Bartlett is listed as superintendent of the work rooms. Instructions for "friendly visitors," who visited people in their homes to find out how to best help them, are also included. Printed matter on charitable organizations and settlement houses documents activities in Lorain and Stark counties in Ohio, and the cities of Baltimore, Boston, Brooklyn, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, London, Minneapolis, New York, Newport, Norwich, and Omaha, 1880s-1890s. The series of correspondence largely concerns the activities of charitable organizations in these and other cities.

## **[93] Papers of Charles A. Mosher, 1836-1984, 9 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Charles A. Mosher (1906-1984, A.B. 1928) owned and edited the weekly *Oberlin News-Tribune* from 1940 to 1960. A local and state Republican politician, he represented Ohio's 13th District in the U.S. Congress from 1961 to 1977. He was a member of the Oberlin College board of trustees from 1964 to 1970 and from 1973 to 1977.

### **Scope and Content**

Mosher's papers include articles and editorials from the *Oberlin News-Tribune* about the April 1942 hiring of Betty Glenn, the first black to teach in the Oberlin public schools, and about the March 1942 visit to Oberlin by First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, who made national news during her visit by advocating that overtime pay be given in war bonds.

## **[94] Papers of John Herbert Nichols, 1908-1974, 9 ft. 10 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

John Herbert Nichols, M.D. (1890-1979) received the A.B. degree from Oberlin in 1911 and the M.D. degree from Rush Medical School in 1916. While studying at Rush, Nichols became involved in officiating. He was a Big Ten Athletic Conference referee in football and basketball for 15 years, and after 1920 he was also associated with Camp Pemigewassett in Wentworth, New Hampshire. Between 1916 and 1928 Nichols was head of the physical education department and medical examiner at Ohio State University. He returned to Oberlin as a professor of physical education and director of intramural athletics in 1928. He was named Oberlin's director of physical education and athletics in 1935, and he retired in 1955. Nichols was active in such community welfare organizations as the Red Cross and the United Appeal, in which women were also prominent.

### **Scope and Content**

Although this collection consists mainly of the files of Camp Pemigewassett, 1932-1963, there are records documenting the Oberlin Red Cross, 1956-1960, and the United Appeal, 1955-1965. Both these organizations were involved in community welfare, health, recreation, education, and rehabilitation programs. The Red Cross material consists of annual reports, rosters, and a pamphlet, all of which detail the activities and list the officers of the organization. Leaders and officers included Elizabeth Bromund (Mrs. Werner); Mary Dolliver (dean of women); Rena Gove (Mrs. Floyd); Florence Hill (Mrs. John); \_\_\_\_\_ Hoffman (Mrs. Ernest); Jean Pease (Mrs. Donald); Dorothy F. Stephan (Mrs. Louis); "Bumpy" Stevenson (Mrs. William E.); Virginia E. Tower (Mrs. Lewis); and M. Wright. United Appeal

records include minutes, reports, constitutions, and several letters regarding the fund raising and distribution activities of the organization. Leaders and officers of the United Appeal included Virginia E. Tower, Sadie J. Oliver, Margie Myers, Esther Sperry, and Mrs. Walter Carpenter.

## **[95] Papers of Susan Wealthy Orvis, c. 1924-1939, 10 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Susan Wealthy White Orvis (1873-1941) received the Ph.B. degree from Grinnell College in 1900, the M.S. degree from the University of Chicago in 1915, and the B.D. degree from Oberlin's Graduate School of Theology in 1939. Under the auspices of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, she went to Turkey in 1902 and spent much of the following 30 years there. She also worked in Russia, Siberia, and Peking. Susan Orvis taught at Schauffler College in Cleveland from 1935 to 1937. After 1939, when in poor health, she lived with a sister in Earlville, Iowa.

### **Scope and Content**

The papers consist mainly of notes from lectures at the Graduate School of Theology, 1934-1939. Also included are notes prepared by Orvis while teaching at Schauffler College in Cleveland, 1935-1937. Some correspondence about jobs (c. 1924-1935) reveals information about her career. Travel accounts recount the perils she faced in Russia in 1917-18, her travel out of Russia, and her relief activities in the Near East during and after the World War I.

## **[96] Papers of Donald J. Pease, 1971-1986, 135 ft.**

### **Biographical Note**

Donald J. Pease, born in Toledo in 1931, was elected to the U.S. Congress as representative of the 13th District of Ohio in 1977. An Oberlin resident, he was editor of the *Oberlin News-Tribune* from 1957 to 1976. Pease, a Democrat, served on the Oberlin City Council from 1962 to 1964, in the Ohio Senate in 1965-66 and 1975-76, and in the Ohio House of Representatives from 1969 to 1974. In the U.S. House of Representatives he is prominent in action concerning tax reform, labor issues, human rights, and higher education.

### **Scope and Content**

The collection consists of correspondence generated in Pease's congressional work, 1977-1986. Subjects covered include housing, immigration, women's issues, the aged, social security, and other issues affecting women. There are over 40,000 documents relating to constituent business. The numbered correspondence is arranged chronologically. Another series of correspondence deals with casework, and the 6,000 documents are grouped by federal agency and date. The series marked "standard letters" contains incoming letters, often part of postcard or other organized letter-writing campaigns, that received the same response.

### **Restrictions**

Access only by permission of Donald J. Pease.

## **[97] Papers of Chauncy N. Pond, 1892-1916, 1 ft.**

### **Biographical Note**

Chauncy N. Pond (1841-1920) and Harriet P. Perkins Pond (1837-1926), both of the Class of 1864, were actively engaged in foreign missionary support and religious education throughout their lives. As minister and wife, they served churches in Medina, Berea, and Wauseon, Ohio, before returning to Oberlin in 1884. Their daughter, Jennie Pond Atwater, went to Shansi, China, in 1892 as a missionary with her husband, Ernest Richmond Atwater (1865-1900, A.B. 1887, B.D. 1892). She died four years later. Her children, her husband, and her husband's second wife, Elizabeth Graham Atwater, were killed in the Boxer Rebellion of 1900, along with the other Shansi missionaries. In the latter years of her life, Harriet P. Pond raised nearly \$10,000 for an Atwater Memorial Fund for missionary education in Fenchow, Shansi Province.

### **Scope and Content**

This file contains letters from missionaries, printed matter, and organizational records documenting the lives and activities of women missionaries stationed in Africa, Asia, and the Pacific Islands. Letters from many missionaries to their parents or to the Ponds are also included. There are at least five letters from the following missionaries; letters are organized by station, and the dates given are the dates of the letters.

**Africa:** Bertha and Helen Stover (1899-1911); Emma D. Woodside (1908-1913)

**China:** Jennie Pond Atwater (1892-1896); her daughters, Ernestine and Mary Atwater (1898-1900); Rowena Bird (1893-1898); Mary Louise Partridge (1893-1900); and Eva Jane Price (1897-1900)

**India:** Jennie Fuller (1893 and n.d.)

**Pacific Islands:** Mary and Robert Logan (1874-1884)

Letters discuss missionary work among women and children, including education, health care, and personal contacts; the lifestyle of missionary families; childbirth in the missionary field; and the deaths of children. Related items include a printed memorial biography of Jennie Pond Atwater; a seven-page typescript of "Instructions to Newcomers," giving advice on what to bring and how to pack for China; and lists of Oberlin missionaries according their graduating classes, mission stations, and return date or date of death in the field. Notes, a small amount of printed matter, records, and letters relating to the Ladies Foreign Missionary Society (probably of First Church), 1864-1885, report on this group's activities, including a discussion of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions' efforts to convert Catholics to Protestantism. Records from the Associated Charities of Lorain County, 1911-1914, in which Chauncy N. Pond was involved, contain some information on charitable work done by and for women, including reports of the Social Settlement Association of Lorain, 1911 and 1913.

## **[98] Papers of the Prudden Family, 1836-37, 2 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Nancy Prudden (1818-1910) was born in New Haven, Connecticut, and grew up in Lockport, New York. She was enrolled in the Ladies Course in 1837, and she attended the Oberlin Collegiate Institute for one-and-one-half years (1837-38). On June 28, 1839 she married Seth Chapin Hart of Lockport. She attended the Presbyterian Church. The Harts lived in the New York communities of Lockport, Naples, and Medina.



## **Scope and Content**

One series of correspondence contains six letters written in 1837 by Nancy Prudden to her brother, George P. Prudden, who was enrolled in the junior class of the Theological Department. Written both from Oberlin while she was student and from her home in Lockport, these letters discuss her loneliness for family and family affairs; her intense pride about the state of religious feelings at Oberlin, including references to the work of Professors C.G. Finney and J.P. Morgan; and her views on the literary societies and coeducation. They also report on her studies and a possible romance with [Alexander] Trotter, from Hobart, New York. The collection also contains letters from other family members and acquaintances.

## **[99] Papers of Azariah Smith Root, 1881-1931, 7 ft. 1 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Azariah Smith Root (1862-1927)—Oberlin College librarian from 1881 to 1927 and professor of bibliography from 1890 to 1927—married Anna Mayo Metcalf (1862-1933) in 1887. The two had been classmates at Oberlin, both receiving the A.B. degree in 1884. A.S. Root was an active member of both the College and the town communities, serving on many committees and on the school board. He was a founder and director of the American Correspondence School of Librarianship from 1923 until his death. Many of the school's students were women. Anna Metcalf Root was a homemaker.

### **Scope and Content**

Anna Metcalf Root kept daily diaries (20 vols.) for the years 1883-84, 1897 to 1909, 1912, and 1914 to 1929. The brief entries record family news and information on health and activities, household expenditures, housework and gardening, subjects of sermons and lectures attended, etc. (The diaries are also on six reels of microfilm.) Family correspondence, 1881-1927, includes letters between Anna and Azariah S. Root during their courtship and married life, as well as letters from A.S. Root's father, stepmother, and their children. Other correspondence includes four letters from Anna Julia Cooper to A.S. Root, 1887-1927; Adelia A.F. Johnston's letter of recommendation for Anna Metcalf, 1885; 16 letters from Julia P. (Mrs. H.C.) King to A.M. Root, 1899-1931; three letters from Luella Miner to A.M. Root, 1887-1934; and four letters from Lucy Stone to A.S. Root, 1885-1887. Among other family papers are Anna Metcalf's monthly rhetorical essays, 1881-1884, dealing with subjects such as the effects of liquor, Chautauqua, the rule of compensation, the Roman Republic (in Latin), and paid domestic work. Included also are Anna Root's notes on Professor John M. Ellis' lectures on "Evidences of Christianity," 1882; her talk on her trip to Europe in 1912, prepared for faculty wives; and an undated biography of Azariah S. Root prepared for his grandson by his daughter, Marion Root.

In Root's papers there are separate files on the Oberlin Board of Education, 1913-1924; the Oberlin Kindergarten Training School, 1920; proposed changes in regulations regarding social relations between men and women students (to Dean Frances Fitch), 1914; and the management of Talcott Hall women's dormitory (from Carrie ("Mother") Lawrence), 1913-1916. Papers concerning the American Correspondence School of Librarianship, 1923-1926, include minutes of a December 1925 meeting with the American Library Association's Board of Education for Librarianship; these minutes discuss the correspondence school's course catalog, 1923-24, and enrollment statistics, 1924-1926.

## **[100] Papers of Margaret R. Schauffler, 1915-1960, 3 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Margaret R. Schauffler (b. 1896) earned Phi Beta Kappa honors and the A.B. degree from Oberlin College in 1918. She did graduate work at the Cleveland Institute of Art in 1922 and earned the A.M. degree at Western Reserve University in 1931. After teaching for one year at Elyria High School and giving private art lessons, she joined the Oberlin College faculty in 1923 as an instructor of fine arts and taught at Oberlin until 1961, retiring at the rank of associate professor. She taught classes in painting, enamel work, and calligraphy. She also was an active member of the Firelands Association for the Visual Arts (FAVA), the Oberlin Consumers Cooperative, and the Oberlin Health Commission. After retiring from Oberlin, she taught at Ashland College from 1962 to 1969. At her 70th Oberlin class reunion and the 155th commencement (May 30, 1988), Schauffler received the award for distinguished service to the community.

### **Scope and Content**

The papers consist of Schauffler's class notes from W.J. Hutchins' Bible Course, 1915; her drawings of Oberlin personages and buildings; her paper, "The Anti-Saloon League of Oberlin"; and her journals, which describe study in 1955 in Japan (one volume) and her participation in a summer 1960 Social Action Seminar and international tour (two volumes). A black and white photograph from 1918 shows faculty members and students of the Vassar Nurses Training School.

## **[101] Memoirs of John S. and Caroline S. Service, 1976-1978, 2 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

John Stewart Service (b. 1909) and Caroline Schulz Service (b. 1909), both graduates of the Class of 1931, met as students at Oberlin College and were married in 1933. They worked in the foreign service in China from 1933 to 1945. John S. Service was one of six foreign-service officers arrested in June 1945 for alleged violation of the Espionage Act in connection with the Amerasia case. He was cleared by a grand jury in July of that year, but was later accused of communist sympathies by Senator Joseph McCarthy and, as a result, he was fired from the foreign service by Secretary of State Dean Acheson. At this point, Caroline Service confronted former Senator Hiram Bingham and columnist David Lawrence in an attempt to clear her husband's name. During and after the Amerasia and McCarthy scandals, the Services worked in New Zealand, Japan, and Liverpool. John S. Service was eventually cleared of all charges, and he was reinstated as a foreign-service officer. Their place of residence since 1962 has been Berkeley, California.

### **Scope and Content**

This collection consists of two documents. The first document, the memoirs of Caroline Schulz Service, titled "State Department Duty in China, the McCarthy Era, and After, 1933-1977," was collected by the Regional History Office, the Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley. The interviews for these memoirs were conducted and transcribed by Rosemary Levenson from 1976 to 1978. The memoirs (248 pp., plus index) actually begin with the history of Caroline Schulz's family and her childhood memories. A section covering her time as a student at Oberlin is also included. The bulk of the memoirs cover the Service's years in China, 1933-1940; their separation during World War II, 1940-1945; the Amerasia case and John

Service's arrest, 1945; their foreign-service post in New Zealand, 1946-1948; Caroline Service's year in India while her husband was being attacked by Senator McCarthy, 1950-51; John Service's accusation by McCarthy and his subsequent firing, 1951; Caroline's defense of her husband during that period; appeals to the United States Supreme Court, 1952-1957; John Service's reappointment to the foreign service and subsequent post in Liverpool, 1959-1962; and the years in Berkeley, including two trips to China, 1962-1977. Recurring characters in these memoirs are Caroline's friend, Lisenard (Lisa) Green; her sister-in-law, Helen Service; her sister, Katherine; and her parents.

The second document is a memorandum titled "A Partial Examination of One Aspect of the Many Gross Errors Contained in The Amerasia Papers," written by John S. Service and dated September 18, 1970.

## **[102] Papers of Mabel Louise Shaw, 1906-1909, 5 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Mabel Louise Shaw (1886-1924) of Cortland, Ohio, received the A.B. degree from Oberlin in 1909 and took graduate courses at various universities during the summers. She was principal of Cortland High School for two years, and she taught high school English for ten years in Warren, Ohio. In 1921 she married Mark M. Dray, a teacher in Warren High School.

### **Scope and Content**

The papers consist mainly of letters Mabel Shaw wrote to her family while she was a student at Oberlin College, 1906-1909. She discusses life in Stewart Hall, Lord Cottage, and Talcott Hall, parties, friends, a few teachers (including German Professor Arletta M. Abbott), rules broken, lectures by Dean of Women Florence Fitch, religious life at Oberlin, racial relations, clothing, food, gym exercises, sports events, male-female relations, her proctorship in Lord Cottage, debate, plays, stunts, literary society activities, and the senior prom. There also are several letters written from Cortland, Ohio in 1908 and a few letters to Mabel Shaw from family members.

## **[103] Papers of Mary Sheldon, 1842-1853, 2 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Mary Sheldon (1825-1887), the daughter of Rev. Henry Olcott Sheldon and Ruth Bradley Sheldon, came from Berea, Ohio, to study at Oberlin in 1848. Upon graduating from the Literary Course in 1852, she became principal of the ladies department at the Austinburg Academy in Austinburg, Ohio. On November 10, 1853, she married Rev. James Vincent, Sr. (1821-1899), who attended Oberlin's preparatory department from 1850 to 1853. Rev. Vincent was deeply involved in the American crusade against slavery; accompanied by his wife, he left school and went to England to present the abolitionists' cause before the Association of Congregational Churches. Following their return from this special mission, the Vincents made their home briefly in Berea. In 1855 they planned to travel to Kansas to assist John Brown, but a lack of funds forced them to settle in the little town of Tabor, Iowa, which had become known as a station on the Underground Railroad for piloting stolen or runaway slaves from Missouri. There they raised their five children in a deeply religious environment. Mary Sheldon Vincent taught school part time. In addition, she assisted her husband in publishing *The American Non-Conformist*. This newspaper, which moved around the Midwest, ulti-

mately promoted the Greenback and Populist parties. Mary Vincent died in 1887, a victim of a kitchen-stove fire.

## **Scope and Content**

The seven folders in this file consist primarily of Mary Sheldon's composition book, essays detached from the composition book, and other miscellaneous materials. The composition book, 1842-1853, includes essays titled "Duties of Students," "The Sabbath," "Women and Politics," "History of the facts relative to the late Illness of our Literary Society" (read August 29, 1849), and "The Circuit Preacher." Essays detached from Sheldon's composition book, 1842-1852, include pieces on "Our Duty to the Oppressed," signed Mary, May 28th 1850; "Ladies Anti-Slavery Society"; and "New Discoveries in Chemistry," n.d. Other material includes duplicates of essays from the composition book, 1842-1852; other essays by Mary Sheldon, 1850-1852; introspective personal essays, 1850-1852; correspondence from Sheldon to the Ladies Literary Society, Oberlin, n.d.; and miscellaneous materials, 1836.

## **[104] Papers of John Jay Shipherd, 1806-1850, 7 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Esther Raymond (1797-1879) of Ballston Spa, New York, and John Jay Shipherd (1802-1844) of Fairville, New York, were married in 1824. Along with Philo P. Stewart (1798-1868) and others, they came to northern Ohio in October 1830, where Shipherd assumed the missionary pastorate of a Presbyterian church in the village of Elyria (in Lorain County) and devised a plan to evangelize the West through a Christian colony and manual-labor school to be founded in Oberlin.

### **Scope and Content**

The correspondence series, 1806-1850, contains letters from women documenting their perspectives on the founding of Oberlin. These letters also provide a picture of family life in the early 19th century. Eleven of the letters to family members, 1824-1840, were written by Esther and John Shipherd together, and three were written by Esther alone, 1832-1837. There are 24 letters written by John Shipherd's parents, Betsey Bull Shipherd (1773-1858) and Zebulon Shipherd (1767-1841), to each other and spanning the years 1806 to 1855. Other family letters include seven written by John's sister, Minerva Shipherd Leavitt, to her parents, 1826-1841; three from Minerva's daughter, Sophia, to her grandparents and her cousin, Zebulon, 1828-1844; eight by John Shipherd to his mother, 1819-1843; and two from John's brother, Fayette, to his mother, n.d. and 1830. Three letters from Julia I. Bright to Betsey Shipherd, n.d. and 1808, also are included. In addition to discussing the founding of the Oberlin Collegiate Institute, the letters discuss childbearing, food preparation, health, raising children, religion, and study habits. A letter from Maria Fletcher (daughter of Nathan P. Fletcher at the Oberlin Collegiate Institute) in Cincinnati to her parents, 1834, discusses her studies, abolitionism, and teaching at a "Colored Sabbath School."

## **[105] Papers of Giles W. Shurtleff, 1846-1924, 2 ft. 11 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

In 1864 Oberlin College Professor and Treasurer Giles Waldo Shurtleff (1831-1904, A.B. 1859) married Mary Burton (1836-1924). Burton had studied at Mount Holyoke Seminary

in 1858-59 and then at the Lake Erie Female Seminary, from which she graduated in 1860. She was a teacher at the Lake Erie Female Seminary in Austinburg, Ohio, from 1862 to 1864. Her husband served with several Civil War units, finishing his service as a lieutenant colonel of the Fifth U.S. Colored Troops, recruited from Ohio. Mary Burton Shurtleff was active in such organizations such as the Oberlin Temperance Alliance, the Non-Partisan Women's Christian Temperance Union, the Woman's Board of Missions of the Interior, and the Daughters of the American Revolution. She lived in Oberlin until her death in 1924.

## **Scope and Content**

The bulk of the collection consists of correspondence between Mary and Giles Shurtleff, 1862-1887, and covers the Civil War years and his later trips while on College business. A number of Mary Burton Shurtleff's writings and records exist. Letters from Mary to Giles written during the war document life at Lake Erie Female Seminary, the experience of women during the Civil War, her feelings for Giles, and her opinion about his decision to enter the ministry. Letters written after their marriage discuss child rearing, Oberlin people and activities, religious concerns, temperance, family news, and household business and finances. Included among Mary Shurtleff's writings and records are the following: a lecture on dress standards given to Oberlin women students at General Exercises in the 1880s or 1890s; a talk titled "The Early Teachers at Lake Erie Seminary," all of whom were graduates of Mt. Holyoke Seminary or Willoughby Seminary and some of whom later founded another female seminary in Kalamazoo, Michigan; information regarding the history and activities of the Ladies' Society of Second Church (Congregational), the Oberlin Ladies Missionary Society, the Non-Partisan Women's Christian Temperance Union, and the Ladies' Temperance League, 1874-1908; a book of quotations from graduates and associates of Lake Erie Female Seminary and College, n.d.; Mary Burton Shurtleff's application to the Daughters of the American Revolution, n.d.; her account book listing daily expenditures, 1915-1924; and a Mount Holyoke Female Seminary Catalog, 1858-59. Included among Giles Shurtleff's papers are several letters he received from widows of soldiers who served under him in the 1860s.

## **[106] Papers of A. Clair Siddall, M.D., 1930-1980, 10 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Alcines Clair Siddall (1897-1980), an Oberlin obstetrician, gynecologist, and general practitioner, was one of the seven people who founded the Oberlin Clinic in 1962. Early in his career he was a medical missionary in China (1923-1932) and later, he was an active contributor to medical literature on obstetrics, gynecology, and cancer in women. His research into medical history, which he began upon retirement, was remarkable in its attention to women in the field. Siddall's historical study of Oberlin's contributions to medicine revealed 26 Oberlin alumnae who earned medical degrees before 1900, as well as a number of women who practiced medicine in Oberlin, in both the 19th and 20th centuries.

### **Scope and Content**

The papers consist of manuscripts and notes for Siddall's historical research and publications (c. 1972-1980), plus reprints of at least 20 of his articles covering medical subjects, 1930-1969. One of the major historical files (three folders) contains notes and a manuscript on Sarah E. Furnas Wells (1834-1912), a feminist doctor who carried the crusade for women's health and rights worldwide. Wells received the A.B. degree from Oberlin in 1865 and the M.D. degree from New York Medical College for Women in 1869, and she received an honorary degree from Oberlin in 1894. Other historical topics covered are birth control and sexual mores in 19th-

century Oberlin; women homeopaths; women doctors who graduated from Oberlin College or who practiced medicine in Oberlin; and other women in medical practice. Medical articles, 1930-1969—including some published in China, 1930-1933—cover obstetrical and gynecological topics, cancer in women, and basal metabolism of Chinese women.

## **[107] Papers of Lloyd W. and Esther Bliss Taylor, 1905-1980, 3 ft.**

### **Biographical Note**

Esther Bliss Taylor (1890-1980), a 1915 graduate of Grinnell College, was president of the Oberlin chapter of the Women's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) from 1946 to 1976. Her husband, Lloyd W. Taylor (1893-1948) was professor of physics at Oberlin from 1924 to 1948. The Taylors were married in 1917 and came to Oberlin in 1924. They were active in community affairs, especially in the temperance movement.

### **Scope and Content**

Esther Taylor's papers document her leadership role in the local temperance movement, and in many respects they fill the gaps in local WCTU records. The record series includes correspondence, publicity, clippings, reports, notes, and other organizational records. A large number of the newspaper clippings were written by Taylor and cover local temperance issues and activities, 1924-1980. Organizational records include Oberlin WCTU programs, 1905-1975; annual reports, 1920-1957; and records of the Lorain County WCTU, 1910-1962. Issues of the *Ohio Messenger*, 1965-1976, and the *Ohio Issue*, 1965-1969, are also included. The quantity of Esther Taylor's correspondence, 1933-1967, is modest. One box of printed matter that originated outside Oberlin contains educational materials for children and college students and national WCTU publications. Other major subjects covered include the Oberlin Temperance Alliance, Lorain County temperance activist Susan Hinman (1867-1952, A.B. 1893, A.M. 1918), a Steubenville WCTU meeting in 1907, the history of the WCTU, legislation, local option, the international WCTU, smoking, and gambling.

## **[108] Papers of Nancy Hays Teeters, c. 1960-1984, 8 ft. 5 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Nancy Hays Teeters, born in 1930 in Marion, Indiana, received the A.B. degree from Oberlin in 1952 and the M.A. degree in economics from the University of Michigan in 1954. She married Robert D. Teeters (A.B. 1950) in 1952. After teaching at the University of Michigan, she was employed by the Federal Reserve Board (1957-1962) and (1963-1966); the Council of Economic Advisers (1962-63); the Bureau of the Budget (1966-1970); the Brookings Institution (1970-1973); the Congressional Research Service (1973-74); and the House Budget Committee (1974-1978). She was the first woman to serve on the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (1978-1984), and she also served on a number of committees of the full board. She is now vice president and chief economist at IBM.

### **Scope and Content**

The papers consist of copies of Nancy Hays Teeters' speeches, 1978-1984, including four dealing with women in the business and economic world and one dealing with the economic needs of the inner city; Federal Reserve Board and various chronological files, 1960-1984; dissent statements and appointment calendars, 1978-1984; correspondence, 1978-1984; and

memoranda, reports, forecasts, correspondence, talks, etc., concerning matters of the economy, 1960-1984. Both private writings and government publications by Nancy Hays Teeters and/or her associates are included in the collection, and there are several photographs and some memorabilia.

## **[109] Papers of Mary Frances Tenney, 1865-1930s, 2 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Mary Frances Tenney (1896-1989), a native of Oberlin, earned the A.B. degree from Oberlin College in 1917, the M.A. degree in classics from Bryn Mawr College in 1923, and the Ph.D. degree from Cornell University in 1932. From 1924 to 1937, she taught classics at several institutions, including Wheaton College, Berea College, the University of Colorado, and La Grange College. In 1937, Tenney accepted a position as assistant professor and head of the department of classical languages at H. Sophie Newcombe College of Tulane University. She served there until her retirement in 1961, after which she returned to her family home in Oberlin and taught classics for a year at the College.

### **Scope and Content**

This collection consists of two series: a photo album of family members and Oberlin personalities from the Civil War era to the turn of the 20th century, and the papers of Cartie C. Snedeker (grandfather of Mary Tenney?), 1905-1930, concerning his employment in the Panama Canal Zone and in Cuba. The album contains tintypes, cabinet cards, and cartes-de-visite. One group photograph shows 14 Oberlin girls, including Lucy Fairchild (A.B. 1861), Melissa Tenney (Lit. 1861), Nancy McWade, Frannie Turner (Lit. 1861), Mary L. Cole (Lit. 1862), Lucy Randall (enrolled 1858-1860), Fannie Hudson (L.B. 1863, A.M. hon. 1890), Ella Clarke (enrolled 1859-1863), Mary Andrekos, Nancy Slute, and Fannie Andrews (Lit. 1863). There also are photographs of Delia Fenn Andrews (Lit. 1841), Mary Dascomb (?), and other early Oberlin students and faculty members.

## **[110] Papers of Various Persons, 2 ft. 11 in., 1839-1979**

### **Note**

This group of 22 small collections relates to individuals who attended Oberlin College, served on the faculty or staff, or both. Seven groups, described below, represent the most significant individual collections.

### **Scope and Content**

#### **Lovancia Pease (Mrs. Henry Martyn) Lyman**

The group consists of 12 letters from Lovancia Pease (1821-1912, enrolled 1839-1841) and classmates Rhodelia Cole and Fanny Hovey at Oberlin, 1839-1841; copies of five letters from her mother, Lucinda Pease, 1839-40; notes on Alice Welch Cowles' lectures, 1839; a printed essay, c. 1868, focused on the "woman question" and titled "Lost Image Found," by Lovancia P. Lyman; a sketch of her life; photographs; genealogical information; song books; and other related items. See inside first folder for list of contents.

## **Theano Wattles (Mrs. Franklin E.) Case**

The group consists mainly of compositions written by Theano Wattles (1853-1949, Lit. 1872) during her childhood in Kansas and Indiana and of letters she received between the 1860s and 1939. Some early letters concern Oberlin people; later letters describe the travels of various people; and one set of letters from the 1930s discusses theosophy.

## **Newell Sims**

Newell Sims (1878-1965) was a professor of sociology at Oberlin from 1924 to 1944. This file contains a letter (c. 1930-31) from Mrs. Sims to Mrs. Hamilton, in which she resigns as membership chairwoman of the American Association of University Women because of the admission of blacks.

## **Elizabeth Russell Lord**

Elizabeth Russell Lord (1819-1908, enrolled 1837-38 and 1840-1842) was assistant principal and dean of the Ladies'/Women's Department from 1885 to 1900. The group consists of six letters received by Lord and one written by her, 1839-1876, and miscellany. The correspondence contains information on Alice Welch Cowles, fugitive slaves, the verdict in the Norton antislavery case of 1842, Giles Shurtleff's fund raising for salaries in 1876 and 1881, Lord Cottage, the 1886 fire in Ladies Hall, and Elizabeth Russell Lord's student days. See inside folder for list of contents.

## **Alice Ida Jones (Mrs. Rufus) Emery**

Alice Emery (1868-1956, L.B. 1891) kept records for the class of 1891. The file consists mainly of letters received, 1931-1955.

## **Richard D. Brown**

Richard D. Brown (b. 1939), assistant professor of history at Oberlin from 1966 to 1970, graduated cum laude from Oberlin in 1961. He is the author of a number of books on revolutionary America. The file contains social histories of students' families written in 1970 for Brown's history class by Kate Marshall and Sarah Tatter.

## **Lena Margaret Wynn**

Lena Margaret Wynn (1890-?) was director of Gulde House in Oberlin from January to June 1949. Letters written by Wynn—an ambulance driver and later a Red Cross worker in London—to Margaret McGee of Oberlin, 1961-1965, report on how she came to Oberlin from England, her past life on the stage, and her interest in Christian Science. Her faculty file contains information on her employment at Oberlin and her departure.

## **[111] Papers of Mr. and Mrs. George L. (Alice Moon) Williams, 1883-1960, 3 ft.**

### **Biographical Note**

Mary Alice Moon (1860-1952) of Ashland, Ohio, was a student in Oberlin College's Literary Course in 1884-85 and 1890-91; she also was enrolled in the theological department in 1890-91. Known as Alice, she married George L. Williams (1858-1900, A.B. 1888) shortly after his graduation from the Oberlin Theological Seminary in 1891. Under the sponsorship of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, the two immediately set off for China to join other members of the Oberlin Band of foreign missionaries in Taigu, Shansi Province. Alice Williams returned to the United States in 1899 with her three daughters because of



financial problems at the mission. Her husband was killed in the Boxer Rebellion in 1900 before he could join her. Alice returned to China from 1909 to 1912 and 1935 to 1937. One of the results of her first trip was the establishment of the Alice Williams School for Married Women, of which her daughter Gladys Williams was later principal. Alice Williams was a house director at Oberlin College from 1912 to about 1930.

## **Scope and Content**

The collection, organized as a general file, consists of correspondence, diaries, photographs, printed matter, and Chinese-language material. There is some correspondence written by George and Alice before their marriage, 1883-1891. Letters written by George and Alice Williams from China (mostly from Alice to her mother and sister), 1891-1899, describe missionary life in China, especially for women, including the running of a household, caring for children, etc. Other Oberlin missionaries frequently mentioned in the correspondence include Lydia Lord Davis, Rowena Bird, Jennie Rowland Clapp, Mary Goldsbury, and Jennie Pond Atwater. Letters received, 1891-1899, include correspondence from Alice's mother, sister Dora, and daughter Gladys, as well as from numerous other missionary friends in China, especially Luella Miner, Lydia Lord Davis, Eva Jane Price, and Jenny R. Clapp. Correspondence between Alice and George Williams from the time of her departure in 1899 until his death in 1900 documents the tension in Shansi during that period and Alice's concern for the safety of the missionaries. Letters from Dr. Irenaeus J. Atwood and E.H. Edwards, 1901-1903, discuss the efforts by those who escaped the Boxer Rebellion to investigate the events surrounding the massacre, to receive reparations, and to set up a new school. Later letters are from C.H. Fay (Chi Hao), 1899-1908; H.H. Kung, 1900-1951; and Alice Williams during her second trip to China, 1935-1937.

Manuscripts cover the events surrounding the massacres of missionaries at Fenzhou and Taigu by the Boxers in 1900. Other items include minutes and reports, 1895-1912; printed material, 1891-1960 and n.d.; maps, n.d.; notes and miscellany, 1900, 1934-1952, and n.d.; information on the early Shansi missions of the Oberlin Band of missionaries and missionary property; and histories and information on the activities of various missions. Additional resources include Alice Williams' diary, kept from 1908 to 1918 (mainly 1910-1912); photographs of Shansi missions and missionaries, 1890-1950; and other miscellany.

## **[112] Papers of Henry E. Woodcock, 1838 (1848-1907)-1987, 1 ft. 3 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Lucy Woodcock (1822-1876) was a teaching missionary in Jamaica for the American Missionary Association from 1853 until her death in 1876. She lived on the family farm in Independence, Allegheny County, New York, until she left for Oberlin with her brother Henry (A.B. 1845, Sem. 1848) at the age of 19. She received the literary degree in 1852 and, after caring for her widowed brother and his baby for a year, embarked on her life's work as a missionary.

### **Scope and Content**

Henry E. Woodcock's autobiography, written between 1896 and 1907, contains handwritten copies of letters (90 pages) written to him by Lucy Woodcock from Jamaica between 1853 and 1856. The file also contains originals and typescript copies of her letters dating from 1856 to 1871. The letters are highly descriptive, and they include a great deal of information about missionary life, the Jamaican people, Lucy's teaching, and her thoughts. In addition to the

letters, there is some genealogical information and some material relating to the Rev. Henry Woodcock's second wife, Lucy Thayer Woodcock, including courtship letters, 1853, and other correspondence, 1864 and 1903.

## **[113] Papers of Albert Allen Wright, 1858-1905, 2 ft. 8 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

In 1874, Mary Lyon Bedortha of Saratoga Springs, New York, married Albert Allen Wright (1846-1905, A.B. 1865), a professor of geology and natural history at Oberlin College from 1874 to 1905. Mary was ill for several years and stayed with her family in Saratoga Springs while she tried to improve her health. She died in 1877, leaving behind her husband and their daughter, Helen (Dutton), who graduated from Oberlin in 1900. Albert Wright was remarried in 1891 to Mary Pamela Benton Hill (1855-1940), who graduated from the Literary Course in 1879. She was assistant registrar for the College from 1889 to 1891, served on the Ladies' Board of Managers from 1893 to 1902, and was curator of the Olney Art Collection, the Oberlin College Art Museum, and finally, the Allen Memorial Art Museum from 1908 to 1925.

### **Scope and Content**

The collection consists largely of family correspondence, 1858-1905. It offers information on various aspects of late 19th-century life, including the lives of children, convalescent health care for women, and school teaching. Correspondence between Mary B. and Albert Wright, 1875-1877, written while she was convalescing in Saratoga Springs, discusses her health and their daughter Helen. Letters from Helen to her father, 1899-1905, report on her studies for a year at Wellesley College, her interest in biology, and her work teaching school in Millbank, South Dakota, and Salem, Ohio. There are also several letters written by Helen as a child to her father, 1884-85. Other letters from children include those from Albert's sister Stella in Oberlin, 1870-1878. Additional material on school teaching is provided in letters dated 1862 to 1877 from Albert's sister Mary, who taught in Perrysburg and Defiance, Ohio, and Greenville, Kentucky. Letters to Albert from his mother, Susan Allen Wright (1821-1905, Lit. 1843), focus mostly on news of Oberlin College and town, 1862-1878.

## **[114] Papers of George Frederick Wright, 1812-1921, 21 ft. 11 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

George Frederick Wright (1838-1921, A.B. 1859, Sem. 1862) a Congregational clergyman, author, editor, and amateur geologist, was an American fundamentalist and a Christian Darwinist. After marrying Huldah Maria Day (d. 1899) in 1862, he held pastorates in Bakersfield, Vermont (1862-1872), and Andover, Massachusetts (1872-1881). Interested in science, Wright presented the theory of glacial origin of the New England gravel ridges in 1875 and 1876, and in 1886 he made the first scientific study of Alaska's Muir Glacier. He returned to Oberlin College in 1881 to become professor of New Testament language and literature. Between 1892 and 1907 Wright also held the chair of the Department of Harmony of Science and Religion. While at Oberlin Wright was editor of *Bibliotheca Sacra* from 1883 to 1921. His many publications included *The Ice Age in North America* (1889). His second wife, Florence Eleanor Bedford (m. 1904) outlived him.

## **Scope and Content**

The collection primarily consists of G.F. Wright's calendared correspondence, 1850-1921. In the family correspondence, 1817-1869, are four letters dating from the early 19th century from women in New York and Michigan. Luella Agnes Owen of St. Joseph, Missouri, wrote approximately 150 letters between 1897 and 1919 in which she discusses her geological studies and publications, her opinions of other geologists' work, her travels to the Philippines and Europe, and family news. Fourteen letters dated 1897 to 1912 from Anna Bistrup, a Dane who lived with her husband in Greenland, describe scientific visitors and their expeditions, life in Greenland, and the Danish publication of her own essays on Greenlanders and women. Julia F. Lewis' six letters, 1891-92, and Jane S. Gray's 17 letters, 1876-1898, relate to the geological work of their respective deceased husbands, H.C. Lewis and Elisha Gray, as well as to their own attempts to complete and publish their husbands' writings. A number of letters from women, 1880-1904, concern the arrangement of lectures for the Lake Erie Female Seminary and for other groups interested in geology. Among letters not relating to geology are those from Luella Miner (1861-1935, A.B. 1884), a missionary for the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions in China from 1887 to 1935. Her letters and papers concern the 16-month detention by U.S. immigration officials of two Chinese students whom she was escorting to Oberlin in 1902. A letter from Helen Finney Cox, 1889, discusses anecdotes about her father, Charles G. Finney, and an article she wrote about him.

## **[115] Papers of Mary Sareta Yocom, 1930s-1960s, 2 in.**

### **Biographical Note**

Mary Sareta Yocom (1894-1968) and her family came to Oberlin from Pennsville, Ohio, in 1907. After graduating from Oberlin College in 1916, Yocom studied at the University of Chicago, 1917-18, and the Oberlin Kindergarten Primary-Training School, 1918-19, and in 1923 she received the A.M. degree from Columbia University. After teaching in the Youngstown (Ohio) public schools and at West Texas State Teachers College (Canyon, Texas), she returned to Oberlin in 1923 to supervise the Oberlin Kindergarten Primary-Training School. When the school was closed in 1932, she joined the Oberlin College faculty as an instructor and then assistant professor in the education department, serving until 1958. In 1925, Yocom founded the Orchard Kindergarten in Oberlin so that her students could receive on-the-job training.

### **Scope and Content**

The collection consists mainly of memoranda and photographs, c. 1930s-1960s, related to Yocom's supervision of the Oberlin Kindergarten Primary-Training School. Most of the photos appear to be of the Orchard Kindergarten, but few are identified. Also included are histories of teaching kindergarten-age pupils in Oberlin.

# **RECORDS OF THE OBERLIN COMMUNITY**

## **(Group 31)**

### **[116] Records of the American Association of University Women (AAUW), 1914-1982, 1 ft. 3 in.**

#### **Historical Note**

The Association of Collegiate Alumnae (ACA), the precursor to the American Association of University Women (AAUW), was founded in 1878. Three Oberlin alumnae were among its charter members. The Oberlin chapter was not formed until 1914, however. In 1921 the ACA changed its name to the American Association of University Women (AAUW), and in 1950 the group's bylaws were changed so that members would be accepted regardless of race. The Oberlin ACA/AAUW sponsored community programs of an educational and cultural nature, held study groups on topics ranging from the preschool child to international relations, and supported the Cleveland Bureau of Occupations for Trained Women for a number of years. Four Oberlin members—Florence Fitch (1875-1959, A.B. 1897), Mary E. Sinclair (1878-1955, A.B. 1900), Hope Hibbard (1893-1988), and Susan P. Nichols (1873-1942)—received AAUW fellowships for international study. A small group remained active in the 1980s.

#### **Scope and Content**

The group, organized around eight records series, consists of minutes of regular meetings and board meetings, 1914-1978; histories of the Oberlin chapter, 1917, 1928, 1933, 1964, and n.d.; constitutions of the organization, 1914, 1929, 1951, 1981, and n.d.; annual reports and treasurer's reports, 1942-1982; correspondence, 1915-1982; newsletters, 1916-1982; yearly programs, 1945-1982; and miscellaneous printed matter. Topics covered include national and state conventions, AAUW fellowships, the yearly tea for Oberlin College senior women, the moving-picture improvement campaign, vocational training, a night school in Oberlin, employment bureaus, moral conditions in Oberlin, town improvement and beautification, issues surrounding World Wars I and II, Red Cross work, and a variety of other issues of local, national, and organizational concern.

### **[117] Records of the Finitimi Society, 1902-1924, 2 ft. 5 in.**

#### **Historical Note**

The purpose of this Oberlin women's literary and social club, limited to 20 members, was "the study of Parliamentary Law, or other subjects of interest, and to interest ourselves in the Questions of the day." Active members included Emma Mason, Martha H. Sperry, Emma A. Haylor, and Emily H. Lyman. Many were also members of the Order of the Eastern Star.

#### **Scope and Content**

Records consist of bylaws (n.d.), five volumes of minutes (1902-1923), memorial notes on deceased members, and a few letters from members (c. 1920s).

## [118] Records of the First and Second Congregational Churches, 1836-1988, 32 ft.

### Historical Note

The First Church in Oberlin, a Congregational church (now United Church of Christ), was the first church founded in Oberlin. The congregation organized in 1834, and under the pastorship and leadership of Charles Grandison Finney, who arrived during the summer of 1835, the members built their first church building in 1842. (It is still in use today.) By 1860 the membership had become so large that Second Church was formed to handle the overflow. The two churches reunited in 1920 as the United Church (Congregational) of Oberlin. In 1929, the name First Church was restored. Over the years First Church was involved in national religious organizations as well as in missions abroad. At the local level, the congregation consistently emphasized such issues as civil rights for blacks and other minorities, peace activities, and women's rights in the 20th century.

### Scope and Content

The records of the First and Second Congregational churches of Oberlin are organized in two subgroups containing 17 and 12 records series, respectively, and date from 1834 to 1989. The records primary for First Church include the minutes, 1834-1914, of the Oberlin Society (the original governing body of the colony and church); the minutes of the board of trustees, 1913-1979 (includes minutes of annual congregation meetings and special meetings); the annual reports, c. 1908-1979 (some gaps exist); general correspondence, 1836-1972; financial records, 1839, 1853-1855, and 1858-1883; membership records, 1834-1947; and the records of a number of women's voluntary and social organizations, 1875-1973. Similar records exist for the Second Congregational Church, but they are more uneven for the years covering 1860 to 1920.

Topics covered include church doctrine, Christian education, church government (trials), fund raising, missions, and volunteerism. The church trials—*Maria Penfield v. E.J. Penfield*, 1852; *Brokaw v. Bardwell*, 1853-54; *Charles Conklin*, 1864; and *Eliza Livingston v. Jasper Livingston*, 1848-1857—concern domestic violence and abuse, divorce, and slander of a woman's reputation. Second Church membership applications, 1870-1899, half of which are by women and girls, provide personal religious history and some vital statistics. Minutes, programs, and membership lists are included in the collection, as are announcements of the following religious, benevolent, and missionary organizations: Second Church Ladies'/Women's Society, 1867-1920; First Church Women's Association, 1921-1958; First Church Ladies Home Missionary Society, 1875-1880; First Church Ladies Freed Women's Aid Society (name changed to Ladies' Aid Society, 1882), 1878-1903; Women's League of First Church, 1908-1919; Woman's Home Missionary Society of First Church, 1919-1929; Foreign Mission Department of the Women's Association of First Church, 1921-1931; Oberlin Missionary Home Association, 1890-1934; and Second Church Women's Bible Classes, 1915-1936.

## **[119] Records of the Junior Forum, 1936-1940, 1/4 in.**

### **Historical Note**

The Junior Forum was a club organized in 1935 for women aged 18 to 35 for the purpose of "general culture, mutual helpfulness and the promotion of the welfare of the community." For the first year the club was named the Junior League, after which it was renamed the Junior Forum. It began as an auxiliary to the Oberlin Woman's Club, but that connection later became more tenuous as older Junior Forum women formed their own senior club instead of joining the Oberlin Woman's Club. Topics of discussion included foreign cultures, entertaining, home economics, travel, and history.

### **Scope and Content**

The collection consists of a constitution of the organization and programs listing the officers and meetings for the years 1936-1940.

## **[120] Records of the League of Women Voters of Oberlin, 1924-1974, 2 ft.**

### **Historical Note**

The League of Women Voters was organized as the successor to the National American Woman Suffrage Association when women won the right to vote in 1920. As a national nonpartisan organization, it promotes political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government. Though nonpartisan, the organization selects national, state, and local issues to study each year, and it takes a stand if there is a consensus among members. The Oberlin chapter was very active from the early 1920s through the mid-1970s, when it folded due to lack of new membership.

### **Scope and Content**

Records include minutes of general meetings and board meetings, 1924-1950; an annual report, 1945-46; bulletins, 1944-1960, 1969-1972; correspondence, 1955-1959; printed matter, 1956-1970; newspaper clippings, 1941, 1952, and 1947-1965; and three scrapbooks, 1949-1961. Folders of information from various committees cover the following topics: "Citizen's View of 1952," a program sponsored by NBC Radio; "*Life Magazine*"; the League of Women Voters, 1952-53; finance drives, 1953-1972; floridation, 1951-1954; the Freedom Agenda (attacked by House Un-American Activities Committee), 1955; housing/zoning/planning, c. 1959; Oberlin ordinances, 1957; "Know Your Town," c. 1947-1952; libraries, c. 1938-1947; Lorain County, 1937-1955; membership, 1949-1958; solid waste, 1971-72; taxes, c. 1957-1974; and water pollution, 1968-1970.

## **[121] Records of the Literary and Social Club, 1933-1983, 2 1/2 in.**

### **Historical Note**

The Literary and Social Club, a women's club of the town of Oberlin, was organized in 1911 and remains active. It meets monthly.

## **Scope and Content**

The collection consists of printed programs listing officers, members, and meeting times, and subjects for the years 1933 to 1983. Programs for four years are missing. Themes for several years were on women—in history, around the world, in the professions, wives of presidents, etc.

### **[122] Records of the Maternal Association of Oberlin, 1835-1866, 1 1/2 in.**

#### **Historical Note**

The Oberlin Maternal Association was formed in 1834 with the purpose of having women help each other carry out their duty as parents “to train up their children for God.” Meetings were spent in reading, conversation, and prayer to that end. Esther Raymond Shipherd (1797-1879), wife of one of the Oberlin founders, was the first superintendent of the association. Other prominent members included Elizabeth Capen Stewart (1806-1894), Alice Welch Cowles (1804-1843), Lucretia Fletcher (d. 1860), Minerva Dayton Penfield (later Cowles, 1800-1880), Elizabeth Atkinson Finney (1801-1863), Lydia Andrews Finney (1804-1847), Mary Dix Mahan (d. 1863), and Marianne Parker Dascomb (1810-1879). Many association members were also members of the Women’s Board of Managers, and all were married to founders or early presidents, trustees, and professors of Oberlin College.

## **Scope and Content**

The collection consists of three volumes of minutes of meetings, 1835-1866, and both printed and written copies of the constitution of the association. The minutes give detailed accounts of the discussions on such topics as “Oberlin Perfectionism,” conversion, and child rearing. Some of the conversation may be considered Christian witness, while other parts of it are a sharing of experience and ideas. Names of members and their children and a few newspaper clippings are also included.

### **[123] Records of the Mutual Improvement Club, 1913-14, 1/4 in.**

#### **Historical Note**

The Mutual Improvement Club was a community-based club for black women organized in 1913. At meetings, members discussed topics such as home economics and improvement, sanitation, education of children, bettering social conditions, and improvement of the race. The officers for both years recorded here were Gertrude Anderson, Kitty Berry, Frankie Robinson (1866-1936) of the Class of 1891, and Annie Heavener (Cowan), a Conservatory student from 1910 to 1914.

## **Scope and Content**

Two yearly programs, 1913 and 1914, list officers, members, and meeting places, and topics.

## **[124] Records of the Newcomers Club, 1962-1975, 2 in.**

### **Historical Note**

The Oberlin College Newcomers Club was organized to welcome new members of the College community, especially women, and to help them get acquainted with the College, the town, and one other. All new members of the faculty and administrative staff, as well as their spouses, were automatically made members for their first three years in Oberlin. The group organized social events and informal special-interest groups. When the group disbanded, some of its activities were continued by the Welcome Wagon.

### **Scope and Content**

Records include minutes, 1962-1972; membership lists, 1968, 1974; and pamphlets and letters describing activities offered, 1967-1975.

## **[125] Records of the Nineteenth Century Club, 1924-1961, 1 1/2 in.**

### **Historical Note**

Organized in 1900, the Nineteenth Century Club was a community-based literary and social club for women that was devoted to the study and promotion of social and philanthropic interests. Topics discussed during meetings included United States history and historic sights, women in various fields, literature and drama, current topics, and international affairs. Longtime active members included Emma Behr (who studied in the Conservatory from 1885 to 1889), Mrs. Walter Persons, Jeanette McCoy, Mrs. John P. Wook (A.B. 1910), Mrs. Lester Trufant, and Mrs. Charles Shreffler.

### **Scope and Content**

Yearly programs from 1924 to 1961 contain the programs for meetings, the constitution, and lists of members and officers.

## **[126] Records of the Non-Partisan Woman's Christian Temperance Union, Oberlin, Ohio, 1897-1924, 2 1/2 in.**

### **Historical Note**

The Non-Partisan Woman's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) was organized on March 13, 1888, by women who believed that neither their influence nor their dues and contributions should be used to sustain partisan organizations. The Oberlin WCTU was an auxiliary to the state and national organizations, which had previously endorsed a third party (prohibition) and woman's suffrage. Because these women believed that partisanship narrowed the influence of the WCTU and retarded its temperance work, they began this second organization. The activities of the nonpartisan group, lasting until August 1924, were similar to those of the WCTU. Active members included Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_ Olds, Mrs. Phinney (the state president), Mary Burton Shurtleff, Fannie J. Bedortha, and Mrs. S.M. Cole.



## **Scope and Content**

The records consist of two secretary's books, 1897-1924, which are mainly minutes of meetings, plus a few newspaper clippings. Financial records include a treasurer's book, 1901-1924, and a few receipts.

## **[127] Records of the Oberlin Board of Education, 1860-1973, 3 ft. 6 in.**

### **Administrative History**

The Oberlin Board of Education was formed in 1860 by five of Oberlin's leading citizens. Elections were held every three years. In 1895, a year after Ohio passed a law giving women the right to vote in education matters, Alice E. Mead Swing (1859-1944, A.B., 1879) was elected for a three-year term. Voting for a woman board member was the chief interest in this election. Other women who served between 1945 and 1970 included Frances Chamberlain, Mabel Fridenstine (b. 1904), Evangeline Kofsky, Helen (Judy) Steiner, and Jeanne Stephens (b. 1911). The Board of Education still consists of five members elected by the district.

### **Scope and Content**

The records of the Oberlin Board of Education document the needs and issues faced by the town school board in the 19th and 20th centuries. The minutes of the board, which span the years 1860 to 1973, document salaries, student discipline, facilities, and appointments, and include lists of students who received diplomas. Financial ledgers exist for the years 1865 and 1890. The minutes of the Russia Township Commissioners and the financial records of Russia Township are also included. The age and sex of each student is documented in the Oberlin High Student records (2 vols.), 1898-1914.

## **[128] Records of the Oberlin Female Moral Reform Society, 1835-1857, 1/2 in.**

### **Historical Note**

The Oberlin Female Moral Reform Society was formed in 1835 as an auxiliary to the New York Female Moral Reform Society, whose first directress had been Lydia Andrews Finney (1804-1847) before her move to Oberlin. The society's purpose was to battle "the sin of licentiousness, in all its forms and with all its horrors, . . . sustain moral purity among the virtuous, . . . [and] reclaim all those who have wandered from the path of virtue." Members of the society concentrated especially on setting an example of modest dress and behavior for the Oberlin community. The first officers were Alice Welch Cowles (1804-1843), Elizabeth M. Leonard (d. 1873), and Esther Raymond Shipherd (1797-1879). Other members included Minerva Dayton Penfield (Cowles 1800-1880), Marianne Parker Dascomb (1810-1879), Lydia Andrews Finney, Mary Rudd Allen (d. 1892, A.B. 1841), Sarah Blachly Bradley (d. 1893, A.B. 1845), Mary Dix Mahan (d. 1863), Elizabeth Atkinson Finney (1801-1863), Lucy Stone (1818-1893, A.B. 1847), and Ruth H. Pease (1802-1859). By 1840, society membership totaled 380.

## Scope and Content

The single volume of detailed minutes of the meetings provides a record of the discussions held and opinions expressed by members. Resolutions passed comprise a substantial part of the minutes. A constitution and annual reports also are included in the notebook.

## [129] Records of the Oberlin Historical and Improvement Organization, 1959 (1964-87)-1990, 5 ft. 5 in.

### Historical Note

The Oberlin Historical and Improvement Organization (OHIO) was formed in 1964 when the Oberlin Village Improvement Society and the Oberlin Historical Society merged.

The Oberlin Village Improvement Society was founded in 1903 by Adelia A. Field Johnston (1837-1910) with support from Oberlin trustee Charles M. Hall. The object of this organization was "to improve the sanitary conditions, to promote neatness and order, and to do whatever may intend to improve the town and beautify it as a place of residence." In a plan to improve the city as a place "worthy of the college," the society's first effort was to clean Plum Creek and its banks throughout the village. Property was bought with the intention of creating an Oberlin park system following Plum Creek from the Arboretum to the outskirts of town. Houses on the organization's property were used as community centers by such town organizations as the Oberlin Kindergarten Primary-Training School, the sewing school, and other youth clubs. In 1915 the society, chaired by Helen White Martin, merged with three other societies to form the Oberlin Federation for Village Improvement and Social Betterment. The group continued to offer lectures and various other programs, and it dealt with creating parks and crusading on dandelion infestations.

The successful drive to preserve two of Oberlin's historical landmarks—the Little Red Schoolhouse and the James Monroe House—from demolition during the late 1950s led to the formation of the Oberlin Historical Society, OHIO's second predecessor organization, in 1960. Clifford Barden (1890-1961), a public-spirited citizen, led the effort to save these two structures from demolition.

OHIO's incorporation statement advocated "procuring, maintaining and operating the historically significant sites, structures, artifacts, records, and reproductions, along with promoting the community center's charitable and literary activities . . ." An 18-member board of trustees manages OHIO. Since its founding, OHIO has acquired two additional historical properties and has promoted local historical interests in a variety of ways. Sites presently being administered include the Jewett House, the Burrell-King House, the Little Red Schoolhouse, and the James Monroe House. In 1988 OHIO endowed the Frederick B. Artz Summer Travel Grants Program at the Oberlin College Archives, and it has given financial backing to a number of public programs dealing with local history. OHIO issued its first publication—*The Churchills of Oberlin*, a biographical study of an Oberlin family by Ernest Barrett Chamberlain—in 1965. This was followed in 1968 by *The Music of Oberlin and Some Who Made It*, by E.B. Chamberlain.

### Scope and Content

This record group, consisting of three subgroups, 20 record series, and some 30 subseries, documents the activities and efforts of Oberlin citizens to improve the town and to preserve its history. Important series included under subgroup I, Oberlin Village Improvement Society, 1903-1964, are constitution and bylaws, 1911, 1915, 1928, 1942-43; minutes, 1915, 1932-1938, 1954-1964; correspondence, 1909-1941, 1945-56; and records of the Oberlin Park board, 1911-1914, 1939-42; office of the Treasurer, 1923, 1929-1964. These files document the

Adelia A. Field Johnston's role and the society's early plans for town improvement. Included in subgroup II, Oberlin Historical Society, 1935-[1960-1963] 1963, are Constitution and bylaws, n.d.; minutes, 1960-61; correspondence, 1960-1963; and files documenting historical properties (the Little Red Schoolhouse and James Monroe House). The correspondence, mostly that of Mary Rudd Cochran (1881-1982) and Donald M. Love (1894-1974), contains reminiscences about Cochran's great-aunt Julia F. Monroe (1837-1930) and other relatives.

By far the richest segment of records exist for subgroup III, Oberlin Historical and Improvement Organization, 1964-1989. Documentation exists on the 1964 merger with the local historical group and the improvement society, on the administrative activities of the board of trustees and officers (president, secretary, and treasurer), and on special projects. Listed under this main record series are the following subseries: constitution and bylaws, 1964, 1965, 1968, and 1979; minutes of regular and special meetings, 1964-1989; registration of the corporation, c. 1964-1987; reports, 1966-1987, and correspondence, 1964-1984, of the presidents; secretarial files of Donald M. Love, Nancy Close (b. 1920), and Philip Tear (b. 1921), which are primarily chronological files, 1965-1989; and treasurers' annual reports, 1964-1985, correspondence, 1964-1987, and voluminous building and property records, 1969-1987. In the record series titled Special Projects, 1960-1988, are the following folder titles: Charles Martin Hall Memorial Center, 1960-1969; city park, 1967-1986; grant projects, 1966, 1988; publications, 1961, 1965-1970, 1975-1981; and Oberlin Area United Appeal, Inc., 1962-1973, 1983.

## **[130] Records of the Oberlin Industrial School, 1885-1914, 5 in.**

### **Historical Note**

The Oberlin Industrial School was organized in 1885 by Julia Finney Monroe (1837-1930) with the united effort of women from the various Oberlin churches. Its purpose was to teach young girls to sew and knit when their mothers were unable to do so. Classes were held for girls aged 6 to 16 in various local churches on Saturday afternoons from October to May. The girls were taught to make plain garments for themselves from materials furnished by the school and were given religious lessons at the same time. Over the course of 30 years, the school taught more than 900 students. Volunteers from each of the churches served as teachers. The school closed in 1914 when the public schools began to teach sewing.

### **Scope and Content**

The records include annual reports, 1885-1913, written by Julia Monroe, Mary Monroe (1854-1917), and Kate Fowler (1860-1933), successive directors of the school; teachers' class reports, 1887 and n.d.; financial records, 1885-1914; letters from industrial schools in Washington, D.C., and Chicago, 1885 and n.d.; names of teachers and students; lesson plans for teachers; religious lessons, n.d.; notes on advice to the girls and their mothers n.d.; samples of work done; and a book of prayers (one volume) composed by teachers for use in the school.

## **[131] Records of the Oberlin Junior League, 1935-36, Single item**

### **Historical Note**

The Oberlin Junior League was a social and civic club for women organized in 1935 as a junior auxiliary to the Oberlin Woman's Club. The name was changed to Junior Forum to avoid confusion with the national Junior League organization, with which it was not affiliated.

## **Scope and Content**

There is one program for the year 1935-36 listing officers and club meetings.

### **[132] Records of the Oberlin Junior Women's Club , 1954-1963, 1 1/2 in.**

#### **Historical Note**

The Oberlin Junior Women's Club was a philanthropic and social club organized in 1954. It remained active until the mid-1980s when the lack of new members proved too great a strain on the club. Marettta (Peg) Van Ausdale was president during the period covered by the bulk of the collection.

#### **Scope and Content**

The collection consists of programs for events, 1961-1963; constitution and rules, 1954; magazines from the General Federation of Women's Clubs, 1961-62; newspaper clippings; and the Directory of the Ohio Federation of Women's Clubs, 1960-1962.

### **[133] Records of the Oberlin Mutual Benefit Association, 1893-1921, 2 1/2 in.**

#### **Historical Note**

The Oberlin Mutual Benefit Association was begun informally in 1893 by a group of women who assisted an elderly woman with sewing. The association was chartered in 1895 with the purposes of obtaining educational benefits for its female members and patrons, providing reading rooms and reading materials, developing opportunities for literary culture and social improvement, promoting benevolence, and furnishing employment to its members and patrons. Once the group was chartered, it purchased the Centennial Building in Oberlin and set up a settlement house there. Among the activities held and services provided there were religious meetings and classes, a kindergarten, a work exchange, a sewing school, a temperance society (associated with the Non-Partisan WCTU), sick rooms and health care for the homeless, a reading room, lectures, and other community services. Charter members who remained active as leaders in the organization were Laura White, Mary Kenney, Nancy Squire, and Ellen Dorsett. The association disbanded in 1921 and gave its assets to the Oberlin Kindergarten Training School.

#### **Scope and Content**

The records, which detail the activities of the association, consist of a handwritten copy of the charter, 1895; annual reports, 1896-1908; minutes of board meetings, 1903-1908; and minutes of association annual meetings and special meetings of the trustees, 1910-1921.

## **[134] Records of Oberlin Sorosis, 1898-1915, 1/4 in.**

### **Historical Note**

Oberlin Sorosis, a community-based social and literary club for women, was organized in 1897 and is still active. It was federated locally (Lakeside) in 1897 and statewide in 1898. Topics discussed at weekly meetings include history, foreign cultures, literature, art, and home economics. Early leaders included Ellen Fletcher Beckwith, Alice C. Bunce (founder and first president), Sara Cox Kenaston, and Minnie Wales Spear.

### **Scope and Content**

The collection consists of yearly programs, 1898-1915, listing club programs and members.

## **[135] Records of the Oberlin Temperance League/Alliance and Ladies League, 1870-1917, 3 in.**

### **Historical Note**

Although many Oberlin townspeople were involved in statewide temperance activities as early as 1853, it was not until 1870 that the Oberlin Temperance League was formed. Its purpose was "by all lawful measures, to suppress the traffic in, and use of, intoxicating liquors." Leaders also worked to promote "pure morality" in Oberlin. Infused with a strong sense of public duty and an almost missionary-like zeal, members of the league also sought to rid Oberlin of other vices, such as street smoking and the playing of billiards. On May 1, 1874, the executive committee of the Oberlin Temperance League voted to transfer the league's funds to the Oberlin Temperance Alliance, which had been organized on March 1, 1874. Being wealthy city leaders, members assessed their own property to raise tax money in support of the cause. On September 5, 1894, some of the members of the Oberlin Temperance Alliance formed a provisional charter for the Anti-Saloon League of Ohio in an effort to form an statewide temperance organization.

Although membership in the alliance was restricted to males, the group cooperated with the Ladies Temperance League, which was also formed in 1874; its name was changed to the Woman's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) of Oberlin on May 9, 1882, in compliance with state regulations. Initially the Oberlin Temperance Alliance and the Ladies Temperance League held joint meetings, and women served on some of the same committees as the men. For the most part, however, the Ladies Temperance League was involved in such activities as fund raising and getting temperance petitions signed. On one occasion, 1,560 signatures were collected on a single petition.

The immediate cause of creation of both organizations (male and female) was to put a stop to the sale of liquor at Oberlin drug stores, which were legally permitted to sell alcohol in small quantities for therapeutic purposes. In 1875 the Oberlin Temperance Alliance and the Ladies Temperance League took public action against the Beer Saloon, an establishment located on the corner of Groveland and South Main streets. Due to public sentiment exerted by both men and women, the owner of the saloon agreed to close down his bar after only two weeks of business. The league also helped defend members who were legally threatened because of their activities. Methods included keeping watch on the activities of suspected individuals or firms. Sympathetic students occasionally were paid to frequent billiard halls or other "questionable" places to do this.

Active members of the Oberlin Temperance Alliance included Oberlin College President James Harris Fairchild, Giles Waldo Shurtleff, E.J. Goodrich, William Kincaid, the Rev.

James F. Brand, Homer Johnson, F. Webster, J.B. Clark, J.R. Jewett, and L.M. Pounds. Women active in the Ladies Temperance League were Marianne Parker Dascomb, L.M. Thompson, T.J. Keep, Mary B. Shurtleff, Mary Fairchild, H.V. Churchill, Maria S. Gibbs, Rebecca Finney, and Edna Johnson.

## **Scope and Content**

The records (2 vols.) are mainly those of the executive committee, plus newspaper clippings that report on annual meetings and other activities of the alliance. The clippings are pasted into the volumes in chronological sequence. The first 18 pages of volume one contain records of the Oberlin Temperance League, February 1, 1870, to May 1, 1874. It appears that the league disbanded on the latter date, because all cash on hand was turned over to the newly formed Oberlin Temperance Alliance. Included are a few financial records, 1902-1917, consisting of a bank book and receipts. There is also a copy of the *History of the Oberlin Temperance War*, 1882 (20 pp.; printed).

## **[136] Records of the Oberlin Woman's Club, 1901-1981, 2 ft. 2 1/2 in.**

### **Historical Note**

The Oberlin Woman's Club was formed in 1901 "to bring together women interested in literary, artistic, scientific and philanthropic pursuits, with a view of rendering them helpful to each other and useful to society." The organization, which was dominated by faculty wives, immediately joined state and national federations of women's clubs. Internal departments were formed to address such interests as art, history, literature, home and garden, music, sociology, and social progress. In addition, committees were formed to focus on civic, school, and community-welfare issues. Papers on civic and intellectual topics were given at general and departmental meetings by both members and nonmembers. A number of organizations and projects were supported financially by the club, including but not limited to the Civic Improvement Society, a cooking school, a Red Cross Woman's Auxiliary during World War I, a nursery school, medical and dental care for school children, adult education for women, and services for senior citizens and handicapped people. A major project undertaken by the club was the ownership and operation of a thrift shop, 1930-1978, profits from which were used for philanthropic purposes. Club membership rose from 22 charter members to regularly well over 100. The group disbanded in 1981 due to declining membership. Active members throughout the years included Alice C. Bunce, Jennie Huckins, Mrs. George Hubbard, Mrs. George Dudley, Sara Branigan, and Harriet Long.

### **Scope and Content**

The records contain minutes of general and executive board meetings, 1901-1975, and minutes of meetings of the following departments: history, 1927-1975; literature, 1919-1975; history and literature, 1975-1979; home and garden, 1955-1961; and social programs, 1955-1967. Also included in the records are annual reports, 1961-1981; newspaper clippings, memoranda and photographs concerning a variety of projects; constitutions, 1901-1979; yearly programs, 1901-1981; financial records, 1926-1981; membership records, 1901-1949; and histories, 1901-1926, 1951, and 1981. Separate folders contain information about the club's numerous projects. There is minimal correspondence in the collection.

## **[137] Records of the Order of the Eastern Star, 1918-1977, 1/2 in.**

### **Historical Note**

Pansy Chapter #34, the Oberlin chapter of Order of the Eastern Star, was started in 1894 as the women's auxiliary to the Masons. In the early years of the organization, membership overlapped significantly with that of the Finitimi Society, a women's literary club.

### **Scope and Content**

Records include a three-page history, 1976; programs for events, 1953-1977; and an OES cookbook, 1918.

## **[138] Records of the Senior Forum, 1941-1986, 1 1/2 in.**

### **Historical Note**

The Senior Forum was a social club for women organized in 1941 by the older members of the Junior Forum. Membership in the Junior Forum was limited to women under the age of 35. Topics of discussion in the Senior Forum included civic issues, entertaining, home economics, history, and war issues during World War II.

### **Scope and Content**

The collection consists of programs listing officers and meetings for the years 1941 to 1986.

## **[139] Records of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, 1882-1976, 1 ft. 3 in.**

### **Historical Note**

The Oberlin Woman's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU), which began in 1874 as the Ladies' Temperance League, sought to remove the evils of intemperance from Oberlin and to "secure the banishment of intoxicating drinks from our land." On May 9, 1882, in order to conform with state and national organizations, the name was changed to the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Oberlin. Its object, as stated in the new constitution, was "to arouse the women of the vicinity to engage in promoting the cause of temperance in every proper manner." The WCTU was an significant organization in the affairs of Oberlin, especially in its early years. The group's early tactics of direct action against saloons and druggists who sold alcohol gave way to more conventional means of persuasion in the 20th century. Early members included Marianne Parker Dascomb (1810-1879), the first president; Mary Burton Shurtleff (1836-1924), the first secretary; Minerva Dayton Penfield Cowles (1800-1880); and Lydia Hale Keep (1781-1865). Members active in later years included Susan Hinman (1867-1952, A.B. 1893, A.M. 1918), Esther Bliss Taylor (1890-1980) and Mrs. C.E. Bickford.

### **Scope and Content**

The records, which document the organization from its creation to its demise, consist of the following records series: minutes of meetings (14 vols.), 1874-1913, 1923-1933, and 1944-

1976; treasurer's books (3 vols.), 1929-1955 and 1961-1976; printed programs; membership lists, 1964-1976; newspaper obituaries and other clippings; correspondence; financial records, 1957-1976; and printed matter of state and national origin, 1907-1975.

## **[140] Records of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the First and Second Congregational Churches of Oberlin, 1869-1920, 10 in.**

### **Historical Note**

The purpose of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, begun in 1869, was "to engage the prayers and efforts of Christian Women in the work of sending the Gospel to those destitute of it, in foreign lands." In June 1871 the society became an auxiliary to the Woman's Board of Missions of the Interior of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. The first president was Rebecca Allen Rayl Finney (1824-1907). Other active members included Mary F. Kellogg Fairchild (1819-1890), Lydia Hale Keep (1781-1865), Mary Dascomb (1842-1917. Lit. 1860), and Marianne Parker Dascomb (1810-1879), all of whom were associated with the Women's Board of Managers and were married to professors or presidents of Oberlin College.

### **Scope and Content**

The records consist of nine volumes of minutes, 1869-1920; eight volumes of treasurer's books, 1874-1918; the accession book of the library of the society listing 37 entries; and some printed programs of meetings, 1874-1920. Minutes describe talks by and letters from foreign missionaries, lectures on foreign cultures, and the missionary activities and business of the organization.

## **[141] Records of the Woman's Relief Corps, 1885-1944, 1 ft. 3 in.**

### **Historical Note**

Henry Lincoln Woman's Relief Corps No. 92, Department of Ohio, was organized in August 1885 with assistance from the Wellington Woman's Relief Corps. The Woman's Relief Corps was a national auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), and the local group was an auxiliary to the GAR's Henry Lincoln Post. Like the GAR, the Woman's Relief Corps was organized along military lines and used military terminology. Members of the corps provided aid to veterans, their widows and other members of their families. Boxes of clothing, food, and reading matter were sent to the Soldiers and Sailors Home in Sandusky, Ohio. Aid went to the sick; clothing, food, fuel, and money to the needy; comfort to the afflicted and lonely; and burial expenses to the deceased. Members of the corps themselves also were aided. To fund their relief work, the women raised money and collected goods by hosting socials, concerts, and other events. The last meeting recorded was held November 21, 1944.

### **Scope and Content**

Central to the records are nine journals, 1887-1944, which contain minutes of meetings and annual reports. The journal covering the first two years is missing, and thus documentation explaining the precise purpose and scope of the group is lacking. Most of the other records are financial, including ledgers, 1885-1924 (3 vols.), and cashbooks, 1892-1928 (4 vols.),



## Four Black Coeds



Mary Jane Patterson



Anna Julia Haywood Cooper



Mary E. Church Terrell



Mary Elizabeth Johnston

detailing how monies were received and expended. Included in these files are the names of the many members and persons served. A printed, spiral-bound booklet titled "The American Guidebook," which was sold to raise funds during World War II, contains a "Roll of Honor" section that lists the names of over 700 Oberlinians in military service as of November 9, 1944.

## **[142] Records of the Women's Progressive Club, 1912, 1/4 in.**

### **Historical Note**

The Women's Progressive Club of Oberlin, organized in 1905, is one of the oldest black women's clubs still in existence in Oberlin and in the United States. In its early years, this civic and educational club discussed such topics as the education of women, public schools, women's suffrage, the status of women, juvenile reformatory work, child welfare, day nurseries, degeneracy and poverty, women in the professions, and home economics. Leaders of the club were also leaders in other affairs of the black community, including the founding of the Phyllis Wheatly Community Center in the 1930s. The club's founders were Mrs. V.C. Champ, Gertrude Anderson, Effie J. Copes, and Cordelia Quinn Fisher (1875-1949). Fisher attended the Oberlin Academy from 1893 to 1896 and graduated from Fisk University Normal Department in 1900.

### **Scope and Content**

One yearly program for 1912, titled "Calendar of the Women's Progressive Club," lists officers, members, meeting places, and topics of discussion.

## **RECORDS OF THE COMMITTEES (Group 33)**

### **[143] Records of the Committee on the Status of Women, 1971 (1972-1979) -1985, 1 ft.**

### **Historical Note**

In the early 1970s the Oberlin Women's Group, comprising female faculty members and wives of faculty members, held discussions on the inequalities and difficulties facing women at Oberlin College. As a response to these discussions, President Robert W. Fuller (b. 1936) and various members of the College community in 1971 established an Ad Hoc Committee on the Status of Women to explore these questions further.

This ad hoc committee was composed of faculty members, students, an administrator, a secretary, and wives of members of the faculty and/or administration. Anna Ruth Brummett, associate professor of biology, was elected chairperson. Five subcommittees were established to accumulate data and make recommendations concerning the status of the major groups of women at Oberlin. The committee's findings and recommendations were finalized in a report dated December 8, 1972. The 22 recommendations were aimed at rectifying current sexual discrimination, preventing such discrimination in the future, and creating new employment opportunities for women at Oberlin College. The General Faculty adopted the committee's report, including the call for the formation of a standing committee to oversee the status and interests of women at Oberlin College.

The Committee on the Status of Women is composed of 15 members representing the faculty, staff, students, service workers, and wives of faculty members. The associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, who is responsible for issues related to the status of

women, is consulted when the other 14 members are chosen. The Nomination Committee of the General Faculty appoints five faculty members and four persons representing the staff, service workers, and wives of faculty members. Under the existing student government, the Student Appointment Committee appoints four students to the committee. The Committee on the Status of Women is charged with implementing the recommendations of the ad hoc committee and, through its discussions and investigations, continues to work toward sexual equality at Oberlin College.

## Scope and Content

The records of the Committee on the Status of Women document the committee's efforts to study, survey, and report on the status of all women in the Oberlin College community. The file is divided into eight series: minutes, 1971-1983; correspondence, 1971-1982; reports, 1972-1983; subcommittees, 1972; conferences and symposia, 1972-73, 1979; surveys, 1972; general, 1971-1985; and collected materials, 1971-1976. The minutes, reports, and correspondence are arranged chronologically. The minutes record the agenda, discussion, and decisions of the biweekly meetings; however, there are gaps until the fall of 1978. Correspondence, both incoming and outgoing, covers employment practices, instances of alleged discrimination, and women students. The "Reports and Recommendations" of December 8, 1972, and the "Final Disposition" of September 1973 comprise the bulk of the report series. The subcommittees' proposals and recommendations are arranged chronologically. Three surveys on sex equity at Oberlin, with sample responses and tabulated results, are arranged alphabetically. The general file, arranged alphabetically, contains correspondence and financial records for the women's handbook; notebooks of Betty Hayward, an original committee member, and Phyllis Glazier, the first chairperson of the standing committee; and resource lists given to spouses of new personnel who were seeking employment. The collected materials, arranged alphabetically by title, consist largely of articles on the status of women in the Oberlin community and of issues of *Coming Out*, an alternative campus newspaper.

## [144] Records of Various Committees, 1912-1985, 18 ft. 9 in.

### Historical Note

At Oberlin College five official bodies are empowered to create committees: the board of trustees; the General Faculty; the faculty of the College of Arts and Sciences; the faculty of the Conservatory of Music; and the Administrative and Professional Staff Council. The committees of interest here are the Men's and Women's Joint Board and the ad hoc Dormitory Visitation Committee.

Joint committees are created when the concerns to be explored come under the jurisdiction of more than one College body. The Men's and Women's Joint Board, for example, was a committee under the Women's Board, the Oberlin Association of Women Students, and the Men's Board. The joint board was responsible for handling judicial cases involving both men and women and rules pertaining to automobiles. Board members also passed legislation regarding social policy and regulation at Oberlin. Board actions were subject to review by the parent bodies, however.

Ad hoc committees, created when a specific issue needs attention, usually are dissolved once a report on the issue has been made. One such committee, the Dormitory Visitation Committee, was established by the General Faculty in March 1968 to review regulations pertaining to dormitory visitation. In its report to the General Faculty, dated May 9, 1968, the committee suggested revised visiting hours and new dormitory governance bodies. This led to the establishment of coeducational dormitories in 1971.

## Scope and Content

Among the more important records are those of the Men's and Women's Joint Board (2 in.), which contains minutes, 1965-66, and a list of members, 1965-66. The topics covered include the "marriage rule," coeducational dormitories, and dormitory self-government.

The Dormitory Visitation Committee file (3 in.) documents the events leading to the establishment of the committee. Record series include minutes, reports, and proposals of the committee during the months of March, April, and May 1968. The correspondence of the dean of students with other College deans concerning coeducational dormitories is available. The collected material contains a summary of visiting hours at other schools.

## RECORDS OF THE SCHAUFFLER COLLEGE OF RELIGIOUS AND SOCIAL WORK (Group 34)

### [145] Records of the Schauffler College of Religious and Social Work, 1886 (1886-1968) -1986, 2 ft.

#### Historical Note

The history of Schauffler College is intertwined with the life of its founder, Congregational clergyman Henry A. Schauffler (1837-1905) and those who shared his dream. Dr. Schauffler, who spent his boyhood in Turkey, graduated from Williams College in 1859 and from Andover Seminary in 1862. He also studied at Harvard Law School. An accomplished linguist who spoke nine languages, Schauffler was a Protestant missionary in Austria (where he established a mission of the American Board) and in Turkey. In 1882 Schauffler settled in Cleveland, where he worked among Slavic immigrants to the United States. In October 1883 the Congregational Home Missionary Society appointed him superintendent of Slavic missions in the United States, responsible for organizing Christian work among the immigrants under the auspices of the Bohemian Mission Board of Cleveland.

Schauffler's ministry to the Slavic people directly involved women. Because Slavic women did not approve of males visiting them in their homes, Schauffler trained women to become friends with the Slavic women and invite them to church. Clara Hobart (d. 1942), who later became Henry Schauffler's wife, started training "young women for religious work among their own people" in 1886. By 1890 she established the Slavic Bible Readers' Home School. The name and location in Cleveland of this school changed over the years.

Upon the death of the founder in 1905, the board of trustees renamed the school the Schauffler Missionary Training School. It also changed the name of the school's quarterly paper to *The Schauffler Memorial*. The school ran smoothly under the direction of Mary Wooster Mills (1856-1933; A.B. 1885, A.M. 1891). During her tenure as principal, from 1899 to 1923, Mills successfully raised funds and recruited students.

When Dr. Raymond G. Clapp became principal in 1925, the Schauffler Missionary Training School entered a new era. In 1930 the school's name was again changed to reflect its new status as a college. The Schauffler College of Religious and Social Work awarded to women the bachelor of science degree in religious education and the bachelor of science degree in social work. Under Clapp's administration, the faculty almost doubled to meet the needs of increasing enrollment. The student body grew from 25 to 92 women, with enrollment peaking and decreasing in the years after Clapp's retirement in 1941.

When the school merged with the Oberlin College Graduate School of Theology (GST) in 1954, Schauffler College cited its location as the main problem in maintaining a consistent student body. The merger seemed a natural development, since Oberlin and Schauffler

colleges had many ties (e.g., in 1885 Dr. Schauffler was instrumental in creating a Slavic department at Oberlin College). The GST also was facing lower numbers of students and financial difficulties.

Dr. George P. Michaelides (1892-1963), president of Schauffler College after 1946, steered the college through the transition. Not only was he a director and professor of church history in the Schauffler Division of Oberlin College, but he also served as acting dean of the GST between 1958 and 1960. After 1957 the Schauffler Division of Christian Education granted only the master's degree. The Schauffler Division gave the GST its first permanent female faculty member, Ruth Lister (b. 1917). The merger also increased the number of women attending the GST.

With the closing of GST in 1966, the Schauffler Division was transferred to Defiance College, in Defiance, Ohio, where the teaching of Christian education under the Schauffler Program for Christian Education and Social Work continues.

## **Scope and Content**

This collection includes library accession books, 1917-1954; biographical sketches, late 1800s; the correspondence of Henry Schauffler, 1887-1890, and Gertrude F. Jacob, 1966-1968; reports to the American Home Missionary Board, 1886-1903; printed matter, 1894-1986; and photographs (undated). Among the biographical sketches are testimonies of Slavic women concerning their lives and religious convictions. Schauffler's correspondence makes reference to the school and his work at the American Home Missionary Board. Jacob's correspondence with Defiance College relates to the transfer of the Schauffler Division. Schauffler's annual reports to the American Home Missionary Board contain information about annual events and changes in the college, women's activities, women's organizations, specific women and their work, and reports of conversions. Among the printed material are three biographies of Henry Schauffler; school histories written by Henry M. Tenney (1841-1930) in 1915, Grace L. Schauffler (1894-1982) in 1957, and Margaret R. Schauffler (b. 1896) in 1986; three pamphlets by Dr. Schauffler ("The Country of John Huss in America," n.d.; "Our Slavic Home Missionary Work," n.d.; and "Then and Now, or Ten Years Progress in the Work of the Congregational Home Missionary Society for the Slavic Population in the United States," 1894); and three other pamphlets ("Heroines of the Slavic Work," 1911; "A Tribute to Schauffler," n.d.; and "Sketches of the Life and Work of Henry Schauffler D.D.") The photographs are of unidentified women who attended the training school.

## **MOTION PICTURES AND TAPE RECORDINGS (Group 37)**

**[146] Cassette Tapes, 1981, 13 1/2 hours of tape, 5 in.**

### **Historical Note**

During the spring of 1981, history Professor Carol Lasser (b. 1952), English professor Katherine Linehan (b. 1944), and Oberlin College Research Associate Marlene Deahl Merrill (b. 1933), interviewed five distinguished Oberlin alumnae as part of the oral-history project titled "Visiting Women Graduates." The interviewees were asked to discuss coeducation and the quality of life for women at Oberlin College during their years as undergraduates, as well as the impact an Oberlin education had on them.

## **Scope and Content**

The tapes consist of interviews with the following Oberlin alumnae covering the specified subjects.

### **Mary Dent Crisp**

Mary Dent Crisp '46 (b. 1923) majored in botany at Oberlin. She recorded her interview April 3, 1981, during a campus visit. Crisp, the former co-chair of the Republican National Committee, is a self-employed consultant and a senior advisor to the Washington-based lobby group Business Executives for National Security. She headed John Anderson's 1980 presidential campaign. In her interview, Crisp discusses the academic and social atmosphere at Oberlin when she was a student during World War II; the V-12 unit for officer training stationed at Oberlin; and the social consciousness at Oberlin. Included in the latter are comments on racial issues at the College, the organization of the interracial Cosmopolitan Barber Shop, her marriage and working life, raising children, feminism, her divorce, her political activity in the Republican Party starting in Arizona in 1961, the Republican campaign to ratify the ERA in the 1970s, her work on the Republican National Committee, and her political philosophy.

### **Mary E. Johnston (1890-1982)**

Mary E. Johnston '13 (1890-1982) recorded her interview at the Center for Low-Income Retirees in Cleveland on April 4, 1981. A lack of money forced Johnston to leave Oberlin College in her junior year. During the following 25 years, she taught school and worked toward her degree during the summers. In 1937, she received the A.B. degree from Oberlin College, and in 1952 she received the M.A. degree in library science from Kent State University. In her interview, Johnston discusses her family background, her childhood in Sandusky, Ohio, life as a student in the Oberlin public schools and at the College, her experience as a black woman student, such Oberlin people as Julia Finney Monroe and Dean Florence Fitch, Oberlin ideals and their influence on her life, attitudes toward suffrage when she was a student, and her work for the American Missionary Association as a teacher at St. Augustine's College in Raleigh, North Carolina.

### **Rowena Woodham Jelliffe**

Rowena Woodham Jelliffe '14 (b. 1892) was active as a speaker and organizer for the women's suffrage movement during her college years. After graduating from Oberlin College, she married Russell Jelliffe (d. 1980); in 1915 they both earned master's degrees in social work at the University of Chicago. They went on to organize the first interracial community cultural center in Cleveland, which gave birth to the Karamu Theater project and Karamu House. Jelliffe was awarded the honorary doctorate of letters degree by Oberlin in 1944 and the H.H.D. degree by Western Reserve University in 1951.

Jelliffe recorded her interviews during a three-day visit to Oberlin April 23-25, 1981. The three interviews are titled "A Student Suffragist at Oberlin, 1910-1914," "Student Life at Oberlin: In Quest of Coeducation, 1910-1914," and "Life after Oberlin: A Pioneer in Social Reform Looks Back." Topics discussed in her interviews include the suffrage movement at Oberlin College and her activities therein, 1910-1914; Oberlin's Equal Suffrage League; coeducation at Oberlin; her experiences as a woman student; stories about her mother, who was a mail carrier; her own pioneering efforts in social work; and Oberlin students' contact with Cleveland. Oberlin women discussed include Clara Snell (Mrs. Albert) Wolfe (1874-1970, A.B. 1909), and mathematics Professor Mary Emily Sinclair (1878-1955, A.B. 1900).

### **Helen Strassburger Boatwright**

Helen Strassburger Boatwright (b. 1916) grew up in Sheboygan, Wisconsin during the Depression. She studied voice at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, receiving the bachelor's

degree in music in 1939 and the master's degree in music in 1943. She went on to become a professional oratorio singer. Her interviews, recorded May 9, 1981, during a visit to her home in Fayetteville, New York, focus on her music studies at Oberlin and her career. She also discusses her childhood in Sheboygan; her voice teacher at Oberlin, Professor Marion Sims (1892-1980); social life on campus; relations between College and Conservatory students; her marriage to violinist Howard Boatwright; Frances G. Nash (1871-1961), dean of Conservatory women; music education Professor Hilda Magdsick (1897-1977); and black student activist and feminist Anna Brown (A.B. 1937).

## **Nancy Cooper**

Nancy Cooper (b. 1930) received the B.A. degree in 1951 and the M.A. degree in 1954 from Oberlin College. Employed by the College in various departmental capacities between 1954 and 1973, she was director of the Parent's Fund from 1974 to 1978. From 1978 to 1983 she was an assistant to President Emil C. Danenberg and Acting President James L. Powell. Other positions have included associate dean of residential life (1983-1987) and assistant dean of students/residential life (1987-1990). As of as of July 1990, she is assistant dean of students/counselor/coordinator. In these interviews, recorded on campus May 11, 1981, Cooper discusses coeducation at Oberlin during her student years in the late 1940s and early 1950s; the beginning of Pyle Inn Co-op, the first student co-op, c. 1950; student jobs; campus buildings; race relations at Oberlin; Dean of Women Mary Dolliver (1899-1984); the development of her career; her former husband Walter Aschaffenburg (A.B. 1951), professor of music theory and composition from 1952 to 1987; her numerous jobs and activities in the College since the mid-1960s; and women's issues in the College in the 1970s and 1980s.

## **RECORDS OF MISSIONARIES (Group 38)**

### **[147] Records of Missionaries, 1890-1949, 1 ft. 7 in.**

#### **Historical Note**

At the request of the Ohio branch of the Woman's Board of Missions of the Interior (WBMI), the Oberlin Missionary Home Association (OMHA) was founded in 1890. OMHA's purpose was "to meet the urgent demand for a home for the children of missionaries of the American Board, while separated from their parents during their school years." Oberlin College's educational facilities and the fact that large numbers of Oberlin graduates were missionaries made the town an attractive location for the home. In fact, many missionaries' children were already in Oberlin.

A 16-member board consisting of both men and women was established to oversee the OMHA. This group included the pastors of Oberlin's two Congregational churches (until 1920), nine residents of Oberlin and the vicinity, and five people appointed by the Congregational Conference of Ohio. Over the years such women as Sarah Cowles Little (1838-1912, A.B. 1859) and Mrs. W.V. Metcalf (1857-1932) served on the board. With donated money, including the gifts of Mrs. C.L.A. Tank (1803-1891), the organization purchased land and two houses. The OMHA's main building was Tank Home, built and opened in 1897. After 1900, this building served as a home for the orphans of missionaries killed in the Boxer Rebellion. After 1922 OMHA leased the building to Oberlin College. By then educational facilities in foreign countries had improved and the need to place children had decreased. However OMHA continued to use another building on the property, the Dickinson House, to house children until 1949. At that time OMHA turned over its assets to Oberlin College, and the College in turn agreed to grant scholarships to children of missionaries and to rent the two smaller cottages to returned missionaries or to other designated persons.

## Scope and Content

The majority of the records relate to the Ohio branch of the WBMI and the OMHA. The financial records of the WBMI include the treasurer's ledger, 1904-1918, and treasurer's reports for 1898 and 1899. Mimeograph copies of five letters, 1959-60, from two female missionaries—Ruth Schevenuis of the Nyadiri Mission in Southern Rhodesia, Africa, and Miriam E. Rogers (1883-1968) of the Marathi Mission—are also available. OMHA records include a list of donors, 1890-1916, and missionaries' appointment forms, 1890-1910 (2 folders). These appointment forms generally list the missionary's name, date of birth, educational background, present residence and occupation, and date of appointment, as well as the location of missionary work and the name of the board that appointed the missionary. Among the printed documents are materials covering the OMHA, 1894-1922, and the annual meeting of the American Missionary Association, c. 1902-1906.



# Addendum

Collections that were received too late to be incorporated in this subject guide on women's history sources.

## Records of Individuals

Alexander Bartlett Family Collection, 1852-53, 1883 (Re: courtship with Laura Salome Merrill)	2.0
Dorothy Hedden Boyd, 1903[1921-35]-32 (Re: her student days in the 1920s)	.8
Esther A Close, 1893-1905 (Re: life and times of O.C. Library employee)	.1
Dutton Family Collection, 1911-84 (Re: missionary work of Helen A. Wise Dutton)	3.0
Hazel Barker King/Olga Samarina Papers, 1917-1947 (Re: Russian medical doctor's correspondence with the Curator of Art, Allen Memorial Art Museum)	.2
Keyes DeWitt Metcalf Family Papers, 1872-1985 (Re: courtship with Martha Amanda Gerrish, 1907-1914)	5.0

## Records of the Institution

Administrative & Professional Staff Assembly, 1974-1990	1.0
Student Life, Gilbert & Sullivan Players, ca. 1960s-1990	2.5
Student Life, Phi Beta Kappa, ca. 1940-1985	1.5
Sesquicentennial Celebration Planning Committee, 1982-1984	1.5

## Records of the Community

Lorain County Arts Council, 1986-1988 (Re: activities and writings of women writers)	0.4
Open Space Commission, City of Oberlin, 1960-1990 (Re: Role of Sigrid Boe)	2.0



Minnesota Delegation, Oberlin College Mock Convention, 1924



Sleigh ride, Okatiess, 1931

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