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**YOUNG CITIZENS LEAGUE, 1939- 1970**

PAPERS, 1939-1970

Quantity 1 linear ft.

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**PRINTED MATERIAL:** Printed Materials are located in Box 1.

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**PROCESSED BY:** Anne Hinseth, July 2000

## History

Miss Anna S. Williams, a Minnesota teacher, created the Young Citizens League. In 1910, M.M. Guhin, superintendent of Brown County, South Dakota, established the League in Brown County. E. C. Giffen, a Brown County teacher, help spread the organization statewide. The purpose of the organization, as stated in The Young Citizens League pamphlet by M.M Guhin, was to develop character and citizenship and to promote a sense of service and individual responsibility, essential in a self-governing nation. Each chapter was organized in any grade room or school. The League promoted democratic principles and provided children with opportunity to have self-determination in the organization.

By 1941, YCL had 7,500 chapters in South Dakota, North Dakota, Minnesota, and Colorado. The First South Dakota State Convention was held in Pierre on April 25, 1927. The South Dakota State Steering Committee, in March 1971, decided to discontinue the League as a state organization. At that time, each school system had the option to continue citizen education, but under its own direction.

## Scope and Content Note

The Young Citizens League Papers consist of two Series: **Printed Materials** and **Scrapbook**.

The **Printed Materials** series includes the League's Clay County Newsletters. The Newsletters contain news, stories, poetry, artwork, editorials and jokes from school children from the Clay County School Districts.

The **Scrapbook** series contains one scrapbook created by the LiveWire Midway Grade School, Mission South Dakota. The scrapbook includes the History and Principles of the YCL, School Pictures, YCL activities and the student's hobbies.

## Additional Resources

Clay County Schools, Richardson Collection, Special Collections, University of South Dakota

Meistrik, Emma The Voice of the Young Citizens League.  
Sioux Falls, S.D.: Brown & Saenger, c1935.

Pietz,. Emil A Survey of the History and the Activities of the Young Citizens' League. Thesis (M.A., Education)--University of South Dakota 1936

South Dakota. Department of Public Instruction. The Young Citizens League; Helps and Suggestions for Organizing. Pierre, S.D.: Department of Public Instruction [1938].

Box No. Description

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**Box 1**

PRINTED MATERIALS

YCL Clay County Newsletter

1939, Spring , Fall  
1940, Spring , Fall  
1941, Spring , Fall  
1942, Spring , Winter  
1943, Spring , Fall  
1944, Spring, Fall ,Winter  
1945, Spring, Fall ,Winter  
1946, Spring, Fall ,Winter  
1947, Spring , Winter  
1948, Spring, Fall ,Winter  
1949, Spring , Winter  
1949, Fall, Winter  
1950, Spring , Fall  
1951, Spring, Fall ,Winter  
1952, Spring, Fall ,Winter  
1955-56, Spring, Fall ,Winter  
1956-57, Spring, Fall ,Winter  
1957-58, Spring, Fall ,Winter  
1958-59, Winter, Spring  
1959-60, Fall, Spring, Winter  
1960-61, Winter  
1961-62, Spring, Fall ,Winter  
1962-63, Spring, Fall ,Winter  
1963-64, Fall, Winter  
1964-65, Fall, Spring  
1965-66, Fall  
1966-67, Fall, Winter  
1967-68, Winter, Spring  
1968-69, Spring  
1969-70, Winter

**Box 2**

SCRAPBOOK

YCL Midway Township Grades Scrapbook 1941-42