



## Ernest C. Weltmer Collection (C4044)

**Collection Number:** C4044

**Collection Title:** Ernest C. Weltmer Collection

**Dates:** 1899-2005

**Creator:** Weltmer, Ernest C., 1880-1963

**Abstract:** The papers of a suggestive therapy practitioner from Nevada (Mo.), including correspondence, photographs, courses, and other writings. Also contains works by his father, Sidney A. Weltmer, and publications of the Weltmer Institute of Suggestive Therapeutics.

**Collection Size:** 3.50 cubic feet  
(91 folders, 5 oversize items)

**Language:** Collection materials are in English.

**Repository:** The State Historical Society of Missouri

**Restrictions on Access:** Collection is open for research. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia](http://The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia). If you would like more information, please contact us at [columbia@shsmo.org](mailto:columbia@shsmo.org). Collections may be viewed at any research center.

**Restrictions on Use:** The Donor has given, assigned, and transferred to the Society all copyrights, and associated rights the Donor may possess in the materials. The donor has given and assigned to the University all rights of copyright, which the donor has in the Materials and in such of the Donor's works as may be found among any collections of Materials received by the University from others.

**Preferred Citation:** [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Ernest C. Weltmer Collection* (C4044); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Columbia].

**Donor Information:** The materials were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by the State Historical Society of Missouri in August 2000 (Accession No. CA5848). Additions were made by Martha Broderson to the Western Historical Manuscripts Collection in September 2009 (Accession No. CA6211) and to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Donald Hillier in January 2017 (Accession No. CA6475).

**Processing Information:** This collection was previously titled the Weltmer Institute of Suggestive Therapeutics (Nevada, Mo.) Records. While processing additions to the collection in

2023, it was determined that a more appropriate title would be the Ernest C. Weltmer Collection. Materials from the first iteration are now located in the Weltmer Institute and Oversize series.

**Processed by:** Mary Beth Brown, 2009, with additions processed by Aleksandra Kinlen, 2023. Finding aid also revised by Elizabeth Engel in 2022.

### **Historical Note:**

Sidney A. Weltmer (1858-1930), son of Abraham (1813-1882) and Catherine Hull Weltmer (1819-1899), was born in Wooster, Ohio. In 1886, his parents moved him and his siblings Sarah (1856-1933) and John (1862-1943) to Morgan County, Missouri, where Sidney worked as a preacher and later teacher. He married Mary G. Stone (1859-1951) in 1879 with whom he had five children: Silas (1882-1956), Stella (1884-1969), Tracy (1886-1963), Ernest (1890-1963), and Beulah (1892-1976). In 1897 Sidney founded the American School of Magnetic Healing in Nevada, Missouri, where he developed a healing process using the laying-on-of-hands combined with the power of suggestion and hypnosis called "Weltmerism."

The Weltmers bought a 17-room mansion in Nevada to function as a boarding house for patients of the institute. In 1904, Weltmer's three sons--Ernest, Silas, and Tracy--began managing the school, which was renamed the Weltmer Institute for Suggestive Therapeutics in 1905. The establishment continued its existence until shortly after the death of its founder, closing in 1933. Although the physical building had shut down, sold to Milster Funeral Home, the ideas of Weltmerism persisted through the work of Sidney's youngest son Ernest as he continued producing writings on suggestive therapeutics.

Ernest married Dorothee--sometimes referred to as Dorothea--Hoffman (1881-1960) in 1912, with whom he had two children Sidney Pierre (1916-2004) and Dorothea Denyse (1918-2005). They lived in Nevada before moving to Boise, Idaho, in 1940. "Densye" later married Warren Detloff (1914-1996, m. 1943) and moved to California where they raised their daughter Caryn (1948-). "Pierre" (1916-2004) married Ruth Miller (1916-2020) in 1941, returning to Nevada. Ernest remained in Boise until the death of his wife in late 1959, after which he began living in Nevada with his son. He died in 1963.

### **Arrangement:**

The collection has been arranged into the following six series:

Correspondence  
Personal  
Courses  
Weltmer Institute  
Publications and writings  
Oversize

### **Scope and Content Note:**

#### **Correspondence**

This series consists of correspondence predominantly between Ernest and family members, Weltmer studies students, and suggestive therapeutics patients. There is also some correspondence to Ernest's son Pierre after the former's 1963 death. Arranged chronologically.

### Personal

This series includes creative writing by Ernest Weltmer--such as poetry and short stories--as well as biographical information on members of the Weltmer family and photographs. Further, the series holds miscellaneous materials: Pierre Weltmer's high school diploma, Ernest's courses on gem making, and two patents developed by Ernest and his son. Arranged by category of material and then chronologically.

### Courses

This series contains courses largely written by Ernest Weltmer surrounding the practice of suggestive therapeutics and its subsets such as magnetic healing and massage, telepathy, and metapsychology. Also in the series are lessons at least in part developed by his father Sidney and son Pierre. Arranged alphabetically.

### Weltmer Institute

This series holds issues of the Weltmer Institute's periodicals *Weltmerism* (1901), *Magnetic Journal* (1903), *Weltmer's Magazine* (1904-1907; 1924-1938), and *Journal of the American Suggestive Therapeutical Association* (1922). Also included are promotional materials from 1900-1932. Arranged by type of material and then chronologically.

### Publications and writings

This series consists of lectures, unpublished manuscripts, published monographs, and other writings produced by Ernest, Sidney A., and Tracy Weltmer on the topics of mental healing, magnetic massage, and other suggestive therapies. Arranged alphabetically.

### Oversize

This series includes an issue of the *Weltmer Journal* (c. 1910), Weltmer Institute publicity materials (1911, c. 1913), an issue of the *New Thought Companion* (1914), and a Weltmer Institute diploma for an A. Graynella Packer (1932).

### Container List:

f. 1-6	Correspondence
f. 1	1938-1951
f. 2	1952-1956
f. 3	1957-1958
f. 4	1959-1960
f. 5	1960-1961
f. 6	1963-2005; n.d.
f. 7-17	Personal
f. 7-14	Creative writing
f. 7	1928

	f. 8	1943-1948
	f. 9	1956
	f. 10	1957-1959
	f. 11	1959-1961
	f. 12	1962-1963; n.d.
	f. 13-14	n.d.
	f. 15	Family history, 1951-1963; n.d.
	f. 16	Photographs, c. 1910-c. 1960
	f. 17	Miscellaneous, 1932-1934; 1952-1958
f. 18-39	Courses	
	f. 18	Christian Healing, n.d.
	f. 19	Christian Healing Practice, n.d.
	f. 20	The Laws We Live By, 1937
	f. 21	Lessons in Christian Practice, 1943
	f. 22	Living Mastery, 1948-1949
	f. 23	To Operate a Professional Office, n.d.
	f. 24	Magnetic Healing, n.d.
	f. 25	Magnetic Healing, 1901
	f. 26	Manpower Development, 1922
	f. 27	The Metaphysical Laws of Prosperity, 1930
	f. 28	Practical Magnetic Healing, 1935
	f. 29	Practical Magnetic Healing, 1937
	f. 30	Practical Psychology, 1924
	f. 31	Practical Studies in Metapsychology, 1937
	f. 32	Scientific Magnetic Massage, 1937
	f. 33-35	Suggestive Therapeutics, 1923
	f. 36	Telepathy in Theory and Practice, n.d.
	f. 37	A Way to Health, Prosperity, and Happiness, n.d.
	f. 38-39	Your Healing Hands, Mind, and Spirit, 1960
f. 40-50	Weltmer Institute	
	f. 40-49	Magazine
	f. 40	1901; 1903
	f. 41	1904; 1907
	f. 42	1922
	f. 43	1924-1925
	f. 44	1925-1927
	f. 45	1927-1929
	f. 46	1929-1930
	f. 47	1930-1931
	f. 48	1932-1934
	f. 49	1935-1938
	f. 50	Promotion, 1900-1932
f. 51-91	Publications and writings	
	f. 51	<i>As I See Myself</i> , 1931
	f. 52	"Conditioning Man for Happiness," n.d.
	f. 53	"Cosmic Sketches," 1963
	f. 54	"Cosmological Viewpoints," 1961
	f. 55	<i>Day Dreams</i> , 1916
	f. 56	<i>The Eternal Now</i> , 1899
	f. 57	"Exercise or Pills?" 1962

f. 58	<i>Fruits of Freedom</i> , n.d.
f. 59	<i>The Healing Hand</i> , 1918
f. 60	<i>The Healing Hand</i> , 1922
f. 61	<i>The Healing Hand</i> , 1925
f. 62	<i>The Healing Hand</i> , 1928
f. 63	<i>Heirs of the King</i> , 1926
f. 64	"Highway to Happiness," 1961
f. 65	<i>How to Succeed</i> , 1912
f. 66	<i>Hypnotism</i> , n.d.
f. 67	"Intuition," 1901
f. 68	"Learn to Challenge Things," 1943
f. 69	<i>Magnetic Healing</i> , 1899
f. 70	"Marriage and Happiness," 1943
f. 71	"Men You Could Be," n.d.
f. 72	<i>The Message of Freedom</i> , 1934
f. 73-77	<i>The Messenger</i> , 1943-1945
f. 78	<i>The Mystery Revealed</i> , 1901
f. 79-80	<i>The Practice of Suggestive Therapeutics</i> , 1913
f. 81	"A Program For Living," 1942-1943
f. 82	<i>Regeneration</i> , 1899
f. 83	<i>Regeneration</i> , 1900
f. 84	<i>Regeneration</i> , 1925
f. 85	<i>Relaxation, Health, and Happiness</i> , 1918
f. 86	<i>The Secret Power</i> , 1928
f. 87	<i>Self-Protection</i> , 1899
f. 88	"The Somatic-Shelter-Shield," 1961
f. 89	<i>Therapeutic Suggestion</i> , n.d.
f. 90	<i>The Undying Character of Thought</i> , 1899
f. 91	"Weltmer's System of Life Guidance," 1943

## Oversize

item 1	<i>Weltmer Journal</i> , c. 1910
item 2	Weltmer Institute circular, 1911
item 3	Weltmer Institute program, c. 1913
item 4	<i>New Thought Companion</i> , 1914
item 5	Weltmer Institute diploma, 1932

## Index:

Index Terms	Folder	Medium	Image
Detloff, Dorothea Denyse Weltmer, 1918-2005	1, 3, 5, 6, 15		
Detloff, Dorothea Denyse Weltmer, 1918-2005	16		yes
Scharf, Caryn D. Detloff, 1948-	2, 3, 5, 6		
Detloff, Warren W., 1914-1996	1-3		
Detloff, Warren W., 1914-1996	16		yes
Glenn, Beulah E. Weltmer, 1892-1976	2		
Glenn, Beulah E. Weltmer, 1892-1976	16		yes

Index Terms	Folder	Medium	Image
McMullin, Matthew Frank, 1903-1973	1-3, 5		
Mental healing	1-6, 18-91	items 1-5	
Mind and body therapies	1-6, 18-91	items 1-5	
Mitchell, Stella T. Weltmer, 1884-1969	2, 5		
Mitchell, Stella T. Weltmer, 1884-1969	16		yes
New Thought	1-6, 18-91	items 1-5	
Ormond, Ron, 1910-1981	4-6		
Packer, A. Graynella, 1889-1983		item 5	
Parapsychology	1-6, 18-91	items 1-5	
Therapeutics, Suggestive	1-6, 18-91	items 1-5	
Welter, Ruth E. Miller, 1916-2020	1-6, 15		
Welter, Ruth E. Miller, 1916-2020	16		yes
Welter, Tracy C., 1886-1963	1, 3, 65		
Welter, Tracy C., 1886-1963	16		yes
Weltmer Institute of Suggestive Therapeutics (Nevada, Mo.)	1-6, 18-91	items 1-5	
Weltmer Institute of Suggestive Therapeutics (Nevada, Mo.)	16		yes
Weltmer, Abraham 1813-1882	15		
Weltmer, Dorothee Hoffman, 1881-1960	2, 3, 15		
Weltmer, Dorothee Hoffman, 1881-1960	16		yes
Weltmer, Ernest C., 1880-1963	1-15, 17-24, 27-32, 36-39, 51-54, 57, 58, 63-64, 68, 71- 77, 79-81, 85, 86, 88, 91		
Weltmer, Ernest C., 1880-1963	16		yes
Weltmer, John E., 1862-1943	15		
Weltmer, Mary G. Stone, 1859-1951	1, 6, 15		
Weltmer, Mary G. Stone, 1859-1951	16		yes
Weltmer, Sidney A., 1858-1930	3, 15, 25, 30, 33-35, 55, 56, 59-62, 66, 67, 69, 70, 78, 82- 84, 87, 89, 90		
Weltmer, Sidney A., 1858-1930	16		yes
Weltmer, Sidney Pierre, 1916-2004	1-6, 15, 17, 29		
Weltmer, Sidney Pierre, 1916-2004	16		yes
Weltmer, Silas W., 1882-1956	16		yes