



Russell J. Rosier Papers (C4376)

Collection Number: C4376

Collection Title: Russell J. Rosier Papers

Dates: 1910-1990

Creator: Rosier, Russell J., 1899-1983

Abstract: Correspondence, photographs, genealogical, and other miscellaneous personal papers, and assorted organizational material of a secretary of the Missouri Farmer's Association (MFA), Columbia, Missouri, and his wife, Bessie Rosier, and related family.

Collection Size: 3.0 cubic feet
(104 folders)

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](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at 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.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Russell J. Rosier Papers* (C4376); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Columbia].

Donor Information: The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Robert W. Maupin on May 14, 2001 (Accession No. CA5879).

Processed by: Processed by John Konzal, January 10, 2019

Historical Note: Russell J. Rosier was born on May 6, 1899, to Asa C. Rosier and Lula May Funk in Butler, Missouri. He began his career with the Missouri Farmers' Cooperative as a bookkeeper at the Adrian Elevator and Supply Co. in 1920. He joined the Missouri Farmer's Association (MFA) as chief auditor in 1922. In 1925 he married Bessie Lee Brown. As MFA grew, Rosier became secretary in 1929 and held that position until the time of his retirement in

1973. In his 44 years of service, MFA's membership grew ten-fold. Rosier was one of the founders and incorporators of the MFA Mutual Insurance Company in 1945. MFA pledged almost its entire net worth at the time to start this venture. He also served as Secretary/Treasurer of the company and was a member of its board of directors. Mr. Rosier died February 14, 1983.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into the following eight series:

Correspondence
Genealogical
MFA
Personal
Photographs
Professional
Publications
Travel

Scope and Content Note:

Correspondence

This series consists of letters from Russel Rosier to his future wife, Bessie Lee Brown. These were written while Russell worked as a bookkeeper for MFA and traveled extensively throughout Missouri performing audits. He briefly talks about the places he stays in, the people he encounters, mainly the people he is doing the audit for, and how much he misses Bess and can't wait to get back to her. Bess Brown, who later married Russell Rosier, expresses how much she misses him, discusses family members and the social events she attends, and the wish that they would soon be able to stay permanently together, instead of having to write letters. They both tried to write letters to each other on a daily basis. In addition, there are some letters to them from their parents, and other family members. Also included are letters after the couple is married and letters of condolences at the loss of family. The "love letters" cover roughly the years, 1922-1928, with an early letter from 1915, and the rest covering 1918, 1919, 1930-1956, and 1990.

Genealogical

This series consists of a book of Bessie Lee Brown's hand sewing class, which include material samples, 1914, 1915; First Baptist Church, Blue Springs, Missouri, program of annual May meeting 1914, 1915; Sunkist Bulletin, with a domestic science lesson in jellies and frozen mixtures; a home canning guide, and a copy of the Colorado Women's College newsletter, Volume 4, Number 1, Denver, Colorado, September 15, 1924. Years covered are 1914-1924. Also included is a Wilkie family oil and gas lease in Oklahoma; a Butler County, Missouri, land deed involving the Kirkpatrick family; newspaper clipping on marriage of Lulu May Funk and Mr. A. C. Rosier; A letter from a Mae (Rosier) Reasons, West Plains, Missouri, to R.J. Rosier inquiring as to whether it is possible that he is related to the Rosiers in the West Plains area, and biographies of Jacob K. Rosier and Edwin Ash by Elizabeth Anne Ash, Nee Rosier. Above material covers 1910-1922, and 1964.

MFA

This series contains Missouri Farmers Association Auditing Department expense reports, audits, payment records, traveling expense records and books, along with shorthand records. Also included is scrapbook material covering Russell Rosier's service with MFA, along with other company officers; his affiliation with Modern Woodmen of America; service award banquets; photographs; a copy of Contact, a publication of MFA Insurance companies, Columbia, Missouri, Vol. 8 No.32, August 6, 1971; Action! (MFA insurance magazine), Vol. 3 No.8 November 1971, and the Missouri Farmer, Columbia, Missouri, Vol.32, No. 21, November 1, 1940. Above material covers the years 1922-1974.

Personal

This series contains some personal material of both Russel Rosier and Bess Rosier. The material in Russel Rosier's folder includes his Certificate of Efficiency while attending Butler High School, Butler, Missouri, awarded by the Remington Typewriter Company for Efficiency in Typing, May 22, 1916; tourist post card for seafood tour; Oaklawn official horse racing programs, 1981; First Baptist Church, Columbia, Missouri, dedication service, May 5, 1957; material on the Sanctuary and Building Fund Campaign for First Baptist Church.

The material in Bess Rosier's folder consists of several diaries which record various dinners and social events attended, 1942-1972. There is also a small memorandum book which appears to list travel activities, a listing of Christmas gifts and the recipients, and meals, 1957-1962.

Photographs

The photographs series contains numerous photographs of the Rosier and related families, most of which appear in rural settings. Some photos of automobiles are also included, 1860, 1917-1927, 1956-1958.

Professional

The professional series includes Russell Rosier's higher accountancy courses he took through LaSalle University, Chicago, Illinois, Extension, for professional development, 1923-1928.

Publications

The publications series consists of a book entitled, *What a Soldier Should Know: The Soldier's Catechism Military and Naval*, compiled by Major F.C. Bolles and Captains E.C. Jones and J.S. Upham, Garden City, New York, Doubleday, Page & Company, 1918. Russell Rosier's name is on inside cover; *The Missouri Farmer*, April 1959 and December 1960.

Travel

The travel series consists of an assortment of both color and black and white postcards showing hotels, homes, natural scenery and wildlife in various parts of the United States, 1940s to 1950s.

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	f. 13-18	Bess Rosier, 1922-1927
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	f. 33	Bess Rosier, 1923-1936, 1946, 1957
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	f. 73	Russell Rosier, 1924-1927
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	f. 76	Russell Rosier, 1927
	f. 77	Russell Rosier, 1928
	f. 78	A.L. Rosier, Richard Rosier, 1918
	f. 79	Mrs. E.M. Rosier, Miscellaneous, 1919-1990
	f. 80	Condolences, 1933-1956
	f. 81	Condolences, 1936-1956
f. 82-83	Genealogical Material	
	f. 82	Bessie Lee Brown, 1910-1924
	f. 83	Rosier and Related Families, 1920, 1922, 1964
f. 84-93	MFA	
Box 003	f. 84	Auditing Department Expense Reports, 1922-1924
	f. 85	Auditing Department Expense Reports, 1924-1928
	f. 86	Audits, 1927-1928
	f. 87	Payment Records, 1922-1924
	f. 88	Payment Records, 1924-1928
	f. 89	Professional Material Scrapbook, 1923-1974

	f. 90-91	Professional Material, Shorthand Records, 1920
	f. 92	Professional Material, Travel Expense Book, Shorthand Notes, 1921-1923
	f. 93	Traveling Expense Records, 1922-1929
f. 94-96		Personal Material
	f. 94	Russell J. Rosier, 1916-1981
	f. 95	Bess Rosier, 1942-1962
	f. 96	Bess Rosier, 1959-1972
f. 97-99		Photographs
	f. 97	Rosier and Related Family, 1920-1927
	f. 98	Rosier and Related Family, 1917-1927
	f. 99	Rosier and Related Family, 1956-1958
f. 100-101		Professional Material
	f. 100	LaSalle University, Chicago, Illinois Extension Accountancy Courses, 1923, 1924
	f. 101	LaSalle University, Chicago, Illinois Extension Accountancy Courses, 1923-1928
f. 102-103		Publications
	f. 102	World War I Soldier's Manual, Russell J. Rosier, 1918
	f. 103	The Missouri Farmer, 1959, 1960
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