



## THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MISSOURI RESEARCH CENTER-KANSAS CITY

K0016

William Wagner (1901-1977) Papers

1883-1966

12 folders

*Materials relating to William Wagner's personal life and to his career with the Postal Service in Kansas City, Missouri. Also in the papers are materials which belonged to Wagner's father, Joseph M. Wagner who was an architect/builder; and his mother, Minna (Schiller) Wagner.*

### BIOGRAPHY:

William Wagner was born in 1901. His mother was Minna (Schiller) Wagner. His father, Joseph M. Wagner, was an architect/builder in Cincinnati, Ohio and in the Kansas City/Liberty, Missouri, area. One of his houses was a home built for William Wagner near Liberty.

William attended the Sweeney Automotive School and, in 1924, went to work for the Postal Service in Kansas City, Missouri. By the early 1950's he was the Superintendent of the Motor Vehicle Facility of the Kansas City Main Post Office. William was an active member of the National and the Missouri Federations of Postal Clerks.

William retired from the Postal Service in 1965. He and his wife, Lucy, lived in Liberty.

### PROVENANCE:

The papers are a gift of Mrs. William (Vera) Eldridge and were received as accession KA0023 on July 23, 1980.

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**DESCRIPTION:**

Contained within the papers are materials relating to William Wagner's personal life and to his career with the Postal Service in Kansas City, Missouri. Included are correspondence, newsletters, and convention programs for meetings of the National and Missouri Federations of Post Office Clerks.

Also in the papers are materials which belonged to Wagner's father, Joseph M. Wagner who was an architect/builder; and his mother, Minna (Schiller) Wagner. Joseph Wagner was a supporter of William Jennings Bryan for President and within the papers are Bryan campaign items for 1896 and 1908 elections.

**INVENTORY:****BOX 001**

- Folder 1. Correspondence, 1900-1966  
Personal and business correspondence of William Wagner and his father, Joseph M. Wagner. Much of the material after c1937 deals with William Wagner's career in the Postal Service.
- Folder 2. News articles and clippings, 1927-1966
- Folder 3. Diplomas and certificates, 1914-1961  
School and study diplomas and certificates for William and Joseph Wagner.

- Folder 4. Programs of events and conventions, 1937-1965  
Souvenir programs, brochures and handouts for conventions and programs of the Postal Service, the National Federation of Post Office Clerks and Women's Auxiliary, the Missouri Federation of Post Office Clerks and Auxiliary, and the Post Office Clerks Local #67.
- Folder 5. Newsletters from the Postal Service and the Postal Unions, 1940-1965  
Incomplete series of the Union Newsletter by the Kansas City Post Office Clerks, and the Kansas City Postal News by the Postal Service of Kansas City.
- Folder 6. Journals and diaries, 1883-1965  
1. a telegram code book, 1883, which belonged to Minna S. Wagner, 251 Cissna, Kansas City, Kansas, giving code words for different communications to agents of a dry goods business.  
2. William Wagner's travel diary for the Post Office Department, 1960-1965.
- Folder 7. William Jennings Bryan campaign items, 1896-1908.
- Folder 8. Pamphlets, ca. 1900- ca. 1938  
Supply catalogs, price lists and brochures for paint and cement companies in the Kansas City area.  
1. Ebony Paint Manufacturing Company, ca. 1936.  
2. M.L. Campbell Company (industrial finishes), ca. 1938.  
3. American Cement Plaster Company. Lawrence, Kansas), ca. 1900.  
4. Lehigh Portland Cement Company, no date.
- Folder 9. Books, ca. 1915-ca. 1935  
1. American Sash and Door Company catalog #505: Universal Designs, Sash, Door, Moldings, and Art Glass, ca. 1915  
2. Contractor's Handy Book on Everyday Concrete Jobs. Lehigh Portland Cement Company, 1928  
3. Wiring Simplified by H.P. Richter. Montgomery Ward, 1935.
- Folder 10. Architectural drawings  
Designs and drawings by Joseph M. Wagner.  
See also x.1 (ARC 121:14), x.2 (ARC 122:16), x.3 (ARC 121:11).
- Folder 11. Photographs, family and home  
Miscellaneous family and other photographs including Masonic Lodge group photographs. See also x.4, x.5, x.6.
- Folder 12. Photographs, Postal Service and Unions  
Photographs of the Kansas City Post Office staff and the various conventions of postal clerks. See also x.7, x.8, x.9, x.10, x.11.

**OVERSIZE PANORAMIC PHOTOGRAPHS**

- x.5 *Co-Operation Class, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Free Masonry, May 2, 1927. Group photograph.*
- x.6 *32<sup>nd</sup> Degree members of Corner Stone Laying Class, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Free Masonry, May 10, 1929. Group photograph.*
- x.7 *National Post-Office Clerk's & Women's Auxiliary Convention, Indianapolis, July 24-29, 1944. Group photograph.*
- x.8 *18<sup>th</sup> Annual State Postal Clerks Convention-DeSoto, Mo., May 1937. Group photograph.*
- x.9 *Missouri Federation of Post Office Clerks, Silver Anniversary convention, Kansas City, MO. June 10, 1944. Group Photograph.*
- x.10 *City Section-Division of Mails, Kansas City Post Office, Nov. 1932. All male group photograph.*
- x.11 *City Section-Division of Mails. Kansas City Post Office, November 1932. All male group photograph.*