



Miami Club, West Plains, Missouri Records (R0209)

Collection Number: R0209

Collection Title: Miami Club, West Plains, Missouri Records

Dates: 1901-1913

Creator: Miami Club (West Plains, Mo.)

Abstract: The Miami Club, West Plains, Missouri Records contain a microfilm copy of a record book and miscellaneous papers of a men's club in West Plains, Howell County, Missouri, 1901-1909. The volume also includes records of expenses for dances held by the Pickwick Club and the Marquis Orchestra, 1911-1913, and the minutes of meetings of the "Republicans of West Plains," 1912.

Collection Size: (1 roll of microfilm)

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-Rolla](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at rolla@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

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Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Miami Club, West Plains, Missouri Records* (R0209); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Rolla [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Rolla].

Donor Information: The records were loaned for microfilming to the University of Missouri by T. A. Norton on February 18, 1985 (Accession No. RA0271).

Processed by: Processed by John F. Bradbury, March 11, 1985. Revised by Kathleen Seale, August 30, 2021.

Historical Note:

The Miami Club was formed at West Plains, Missouri, by a group which included most of the town's young businessmen. Their first meeting on October 6, 1901 resulted in the lease of the second floor of the Galloway Building on Washington Avenue. The lease, reported to members on October 11, came two days before the name "Miami Club" had been formally adopted. Though styled as a scientific or literary association, the organization seems to have hosted more social events, particularly dances, than lectures in its club rooms. Its first major financial commitments included the acquisition of a piano and billiards tables.

Active membership in the club at any one time is difficult to estimate. Two dozen new members were accepted into the club in 1904, but the increase was more than offset by the increasing number of members who were inactive or in arrears to the treasury. Perhaps due to flagging interest, dissolution of the club was first discussed in December 1906. However, the club continued until November 23, 1908, when the membership voted to disband. Fourteen members in good standing received dividend checks for twenty-two dollars each when the club's property was liquidated.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged in its original order.

Scope and Content Note:

The collection contains a record book of the Miami Club of West Plains, Missouri. The record book includes minutes of meetings of the Miami Club from October 6, 1901, the organizational meeting, through January 4, 1909, at which time the treasury was disbursed. The volume contains numerous enclosures, primarily bills and receipts for various services provided to the club. Minutes of meetings are in chronological order following the irregular schedule of the club.

Following the demise of the Miami Club, its record book remained with Charles G. Brown, a charter member and officer of the club, who was a businessman and musician. In the following years Brown used the record book for memoranda of expenses for dances held at West Plains, and for minutes of a Republican Club, which was formed in 1911 to organize a Republican ticket for municipal elections in 1912. The minute book was then forgotten in the years following Brown's death. Its recovery from a West Plains residence once owned by Brown is recounted in the West Plains Gazette (No. 26, Fall-Winter 1984). This article includes excerpts from club minutes, and is illustrated with views of the club rooms in the Galloway Building, and of a baseball team sponsored by the Miami Club

Container List:

Roll 1 v. 1 Record book, 1901-1913

Index:

Index Term	Medium
Bands (Music)	v. 1
Brown, Charles G.	v. 1

Index Term	Medium
Howell County (Mo.)	v. 1
Marquis Orchestra (West Plains, Mo.)	v. 1
Miami Club (West Plains, Mo.)	v. 1
Pickwick Club (West Plains, Mo.)	v. 1
Republican Party (West Plains, Mo.)	v. 1
West Plains (Mo.)	v. 1