William E. Rider (1875-1952) Papers
1893-1953
23 folders

Correspondence which Rider, a farmer in Pettis County, MO, received from family and friends concerning farming and personal matters.

BIOGRAPHY:

William E. Rider was born in Missouri February 18, 1875. His father George was born in Germany (1835), immigrating to the United States ca. 1840. His mother Hannah was also born in Germany (1850) and came to the U.S. ca. 1854. The parents married ca. 1867. Also in the family were sisters Dora S (October 1882), Gussie L (December 1884) and bother Henry T (July 1887). William never married and was a farmer in Pettis County, Missouri. He resided for a time at Dumpville (Pettis County) and also at Mora (northern Benton County), Missouri. William died in Sedalia, Missouri, February 28, 1952.

PROVENANCE:

These papers were a gift from Mrs. Vera Eldridge of Liberty, Missouri, who purchased them at a garage sale. They were received as accession KA0014 on June 25, 1980.

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CONTACT:

The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City
302 Newcomb Hall, University of Missouri-Kansas City
5123 Holmes Street, Kansas City, MO 64110-2499
(816) 235-1543 SHSofMO-KC@umsystem.edu
http://shs.umsystem.edu/index.shtml

DESCRIPTION:

The papers consist of incoming correspondence which Rider received from family and friends over the period 1893 to 1908, including two postcards from 1916 and 1953. The letters give an indication of farm life in various parts of the United States at the turn of the twentieth century. Some of the correspondence, especially that from Thomas Bean, relates to his military experiences in the Spanish American War. Correspondence from C.H. Burg is particularly descriptive of the communities in which he worked as a telegraph agent.

INVENTORY:

Folder 1. Correspondence, April 7, no year
One postcard with the stamp cut out

Folder 2. Correspondence, 1893

Folder 3. Correspondence, 1894

Folder 4. Correspondence, 1895

Folder 5. Correspondence, 1896
Includes correspondence from Bryant and Stratton Business, Shorthand and Telegraph School as well as flyers advertising McCaughn and Burr art supplies.

Folder 6. Correspondence, 1897
C.H. Burg letters commence in this folder

Folder 7. Correspondence, 1898, January - June
Includes correspondence from Consolidated Wholesale Supply Company.
Folder 8.  Correspondence, 1898, July - December
Additional correspondence from Consolidated Wholesale Supply Company.

Folder 9.  Correspondence, 1899, January - April

Folder 10. Correspondence, 1899, May - December
Includes letters from soldiers in the Spanish American War especially from Thomas Bean, a soldier with “J” Troop of the 5th Cavalry.

Folder 11. Correspondence, 1900

Folder 12. Correspondence, 1901
Additional correspondence from Thomas Bean.

Folder 13. Correspondence, 1902, January - June
Includes a newspaper clipping regarding women cattle drivers taken from an Oklahoma newspaper.

Folder 14. Correspondence, 1902, July - December

Folder 15. Correspondence, 1903, January - October
Correspondence from Zimmerman & Co., and Capitol Corn and Feed Mill about railroad car availability for crop shipment and from Carlisle Commission Co., concerning the status of the hay market is included in this folder.

Folder 16. Correspondence, 1903, November - December

Folder 17. Correspondence, 1904, January - April

Folder 18. Correspondence, 1904, May - December

Folder 19. Correspondence, 1905

Folder 20. Correspondence, 1906

Folder 21. Correspondence, 1907

Folder 22. Correspondence, 1908

Folder 23. Correspondence, 1916, 1953