INTRODUCTION
The origins, history, minutes, and memorials of The Readers, a Columbia, Missouri, club for women started in 1925. The club’s emphasis is the reading and discussion of books. Profiles of women from this club give a useful comment on the concerns of educated women in the early twentieth century.

DONOR INFORMATION
The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Ebbie Hart on behalf of The Readers on 14 February 1979 (Accession No. 2218). Additional material was given by multiple donors from The Readers organization between 1981-2014 (Accession Nos. 2377, 2467, 2837, 3016, 3167, and 5804).

FOLDER LIST

f. 1-3 Origin and History. Papers concerning the origin and history of The Readers. Includes such items as the original constitution and charter members, lists of past presidents, and brief histories written by some of the older members of the present organization.

f. 1 The original constitution and by-laws. Also three poems written by members, containing items of historical note.

f. 2 Notes and a lecture given in April 1978 on the history of The Readers, with biographical sketches of its church members.

f. 3 Notebook containing the succession of presidents from 1926 to 1979, and membership list from the charter members to 11 October 1976.

f. 4 Books Reviewed and Discussed. Lists of books suggested for reading, along with listings of books that were actually reviewed by the club.

f. 5 Membership, 1925-2005

f. 5a-18 Minutes. Minutes of the meetings, information on members present and absent, changes in the constitution, and admission of new members. Notes were also taken on the reviews of the books that were given, and the discussions that followed.

f. 5a Minutes, 7 December 1925-21 December 1931
f. 5b Minutes/Book Reviews, 1925-1989
f. 6 Minutes, 4 January 1932-16 December 1935
f. 7 Minutes, 6 January 1936-20 May 1940
f. 8 Minutes, 30 September 1940-5 May 1947
f. 9 Minutes, 6 October 1947-8 December 1952
f. 10 Minutes, 12 January 1953-8 December 1955
f. 11 Minutes, 12 January 1953-28 April 1970
f. 11a Minutes/Book Reviews, 1966-1996
f. 12 Minutes, 12 October 1970-2 May 1977
f. 13 Minutes/Book Reviews, 1978-1987
f. 14 Minutes/Book Reviews, 1996-1997
f. 15 Minutes/Book Reviews, 1996-1998
f. 16 Minutes/Book Reviews, 1998-2000
f. 17 Minutes/Book Reviews, 2000-2002
f. 18 Minutes/Book Reviews, 2002-2003
f. 18a-18b Obituaries
  f. 18a Obituaries, 1929-2012
  f. 18b Obituaries, 1958-2000
f. 19-22 Programs
  f. 19 Programs/Readers Program Committee, 1925-1963
  f. 20 Programs/60th Anniversary Program, 1986
  f. 21 Programs/70th Anniversary Banquet, 1996
  f. 22 Programs/The Missourian Award/Ms. Virginia G. Young, 1999
f. 23 Verses, 1928

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