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C. L. Robinson Ice and Cold Storage Corporation Records
Collection Number: 1470 THL

CONDITIONS GOVERNING ACCESS: Collection is open to all researchers.

CONDITIONS GOVERNING REPRODUCTION AND USE: Restrictions may apply concerning the use, photoduplication, or publication of items in this collection. Consult a member of the archives staff for information concerning these restrictions. The user assumes all responsibility for identifying and satisfying any claimants of copyright. Some materials may require special handling.

PROCESSING INFORMATION: Initial processing undertaken in 2000. Last updated by Buffy Knappenberger in November 2024.

EXTENT: 2.05 linear feet

DATES: 1800-1957.

EXISTENCE AND LOCATION OF COPIES: Photographs in this collection have been digitized and are available to view online through the Past Perfect online database: <http://handley.pastperfectonline.com/>

This collection contains two ledgers, two minute books, and two folders of loose papers from the C.L. Robinson Ice and Cold Storage Corporation. One ledger is from 1928 to 1942 and the other is from 1920 to 1930. One minute book is from 1911-1922, and the other is from 1924 to 1957. The loose papers were found in both minute books. Also included within the collection are a number of news articles and advertisements relating to C.L. Robinson Ice and Cold Storage Corporation, as well as records of accounts and expenses, contracts and deeds, and other legal documents. There is also a schedule of tariffs for Winchester, VA and Charles Town, WV belonging to the company. Miscellaneous directories, photographs, letters and shipment information used by the C.L. Robinson Ice and Cold Storage Corporation are also included within the collection. Box 4 includes documents relating to C.L. Robinson's personal life, family, and community.

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL: Charles L. Robinson was a native of Fortville, IN and was born on January 1, 1855 to Francis H. and Rebecca Jane Robinson. C.L. Robinson developed businesses in ice and coal in Fairmont, WV. He bought the ice plant of W.H. Palmer of Winchester in 1901 to take advantage of the growing apple industry in Frederick County. He rebuilt the plant in 1902, and in 1905 erected the first apple cold storage plant. He later built another ice and cold storage plant in Charles Town, WV in 1908 and acquired the Berryville Ice and Refrigerating Co. in 1917. He died on April 1, 1922 at his residence in 118 North Market St., the same street of his first Winchester ice plant, after suffering from a long, terminal illness.

RELATED MATERIAL: Charles L. Robinson Papers, 1762 THL; Mrs. Delmar H. Robinson Sr. Collection 640 WFCHS

BIBLIOGRAPHY: "Death Calls C.L. Robinson to Rest After Long Illness," *Winchester Evening Star*, April 3, 1922

IMMEDIATE SOURCE OF ACQUISITION: Gift of Charlie Robinson.

CONTAINER LIST:

BOX 1 Ledgers

Current Ledger C.L. Robinson Ice and Cold Storage Corp. 1928-1942, 1 item, unnumbered pages, manuscript on printed form

Ledger, 1920-1930, 1 item, unnumbered pages, manuscript on printed form

BOX 2 Minute Books and News Articles

Minute Book C.L. Robinson Ice and Cold Storage Corp. 1911-1922, 1 item, numbered pages, typescript and manuscript

Loose Papers found in Minute Book 1911-1922, 2 items, manuscript

Minute Book, 1924-1957, 1 item, numbered and unnumbered pages, typescript

Loose Papers found in Minute Book 1924-1957, 7 items, typescript

News Articles

BOX 3 Business Ephemera

Accounts & Expenses, 1902-1919, folder includes the following:

Account statement, First National Bank of Fairmont, W.Va., 1902, 1 leaf, manuscript

Receipt, T.J. Cooper & Sons, April 7, 1919, 1 leaf, typescript

Charles Town West Virginia Ice Plant expenses, n.d., 2 leaves, typescript

Horses & Tack, n.a., n.d., 4 leaves, manuscript

Notebook, accounts and business notes, 1908-1912, cover printed with "Information 'on ice' harvested at 1906 conventions," 1 item, manuscript

Notebook, accounts and business notes, 1919, cover printed with "National Ice Carnival," 1 item, manuscript

P.O. Box rent receipt, C.L. Robinson at Winchester VA Post Office, 1905-1906, 1 item, printed and manuscript

Business & Employee Correspondence, 1914, n.d., 3 leaves, typescript

Cees, Jay – 50th Anniversary, images from slideshow, March 8, 1988, 1 leaf, printed (photocopy)

Contracts and Deeds, 1900-1921, 12 items, manuscript and typescript

Legal Matters – Attorneys, Claims, etc., 1902-1918, 4 pages, typescript and manuscript

Legal – Robinson vs. Hagley – WV Supreme Court of Appeals, May 3, 1909, 39 pages, printed

(W.4) Map of Ice Routes of C.L. Robinson Ice and Cold Storage, drawn on Map of Winchester, VA – addition made by Equity Improvement Company, 1902-1905.

Physical Location: Map Case 3, Drawer 1

Newspapers, folder contains the following:

- The Evening Star, November 24, 1914, 1 leaf, typescript
- The New York Herald, January 18, 1920, 1 leaf, typescript

Photographs of C.L. Robinson Ice and Cold Storage Corporation building, 5 leaves, printed

Rates/Distance and Shipment Information, 3 leaves, printed

Report of Committee on Centralized Buying, May 1925, 2 leaves, typescript

Schedule of Tariffs for the Cities of Winchester and Charles Town, n.d., 20 leaves, typescript

Winchester Residence and Building Directory, 1905, 98 pages, printed

Box 4 Personal, Family, and Community

Apple Blossom Festival, 1924, 1926, news articles and parade lineup, 3 items, printed

C.L. Robinson Roadmap of Indiana, n.d., 1 item, printed

Correspondence – Henkel, Solomon—Letter from Godfrey S. Miller, August 10, 1839, 1 leaf, manuscript

Correspondence – Maphis, Louis—Letter to Bill re: B&O Railroad, January 13, 1950, 1 leaf, typescript

Correspondence – Miller, Emma M.—Letter from Godfrey S. Miller, July 11, 1800, 1 leaf, manuscript

Correspondence – Robinson, C.D. – Letter from C.L. Robinson, June 25, 1920, 1 leaf, manuscript

Fortville Methodist Episcopal Church – Souvenir Program, March 23, 1902, 6 pages, printed

Frick Refrigeration, folder contains the following:

- Frick Tractor Notebook, c. 1921, 11 pages, manuscript
- Frick Refrigeration Advertisement, 1 leaf, printed

History – Local & American, 1952-1975, folder contains the following:

- “Stratford: The Home of the Lees,” 1952, 4 pages, printed
- Poster – “The Civil War in Virginia,” c. 1961-1965, 1 item, printed
- “Judge John Handley” booklet, n.d., 5 pages, printed
- “Historic Winchester and the Shenandoah Valley,” n.d., 13 pages, printed
- Time Magazine “Special 1776 Issue,” July 1976, 77 pages, printed

Robinson, Charles L. – Life Insurance, 1892-1922, 10 items, printed and typescript

Market Street Methodist Episcopal Church, folder contains the following:

- Prayer card, 1 item, printed
- News Article, April 13, 1903, 1 item, printed
- Directory, 1913-1914, 16 pages, printed

Miscellaneous Businesses – Advertisements, 2 leaves, printed, folder includes the following:

- Simmons Liver Regulator, c. 1887
- Auburn Wagon Company, n.d.

Miscellaneous Businesses – Business Cards, n.d., 3 items, printed, folder includes the following:

Harry G. Kipp – The Baltimore Refrigerating & Heating Co.

H.H. Hempler – Optician

W.D. Rock – John T. Stanley Manufacturer and Importer

Sympathy Cards, unnumbered cards, n.d.

Taxes – State and County, 1923-1928, 4 leaves, typescript

Utilities – Gas and Sewer, 1909-1923, 3 leaves, typescript

Winchester Hiram Lodge, folder contains the following:

Directory, 1929, 12 pages, printed (2 copies)

Notice to arrange funeral for Bro. G.W.M. Cornick, November 6, 1907, 1 leaf, manuscript on printed form

PHOTOGRAPHS

- [1470-001] John Kerr School graduating class. 27 students, Miss Mary Strider, teacher and Newton D. Cool, Principal. Photo filed with other oversized pictures. (See also 227-2 thl, 304-1 thl, 1282-5 wfchs, 1639-thl) Persons identified as (top row, l to r) Homer Waybright, Ruhoma Solenberger, Vera Lynch, Alla Calmes, Alonzo Hook, Alma Leatherman (Cammer), Mamie Boehm (Gray), Heskit Hite, Ethel Hollar (Ambrose); (second row) Margaret Keating, George Fansler, Meta Sartelle, Julia Clowe, unknown, Grace Pino, Marie Graber, Alma Kremer (Lemley), Virginia Kremer; (third row) Mary Robinson, Margaret Hodgson (Goss), Bertha Boehm, Mary Lawler, [Mary Brown(?)]; (bottom row) Mrs. Whisser, Henry S. Baker, Newton D. Cool, Pearl Haldeman, Miss Mary Strider, Herbert Lamp, 1909.
- [1470-002] Massed flower arrangements at the funeral of Charles Lee Robinson (founder of C.L. Robinson Ice & Cold Storage Corporation). Former Gov. Holliday house at 133(?) North Cameron Street, next to George Washington Hotel, April 4, 1922.
- [1470-003] Massed flower arrangements at the funeral of Charles Lee Robinson (founder of C.L. Robinson Ice & Cold Storage Corporation). Former Gov. Holliday house at 133(?) North Cameron Street, next to George Washington Hotel, April 4, 1922.
- [1470-004] Massed flower arrangements at the funeral of Charles Lee Robinson (founder of C.L. Robinson Ice & Cold Storage Corporation). Former Gov. Holliday house at 133(?) North Cameron Street, next to George Washington Hotel, April 4, 1922.
- [1470-005] C.L. Robinson Ice & Cold Storage building at 530 North Cameron Street, Winchester, VA. Building under construction, May 11, 1948.
- [1470-006] C.L. Robinson Ice & Cold Storage building at 530 North Cameron Street, Winchester, VA. Building completed and in use, circa 1950.
- [1470-007] C.L. Robinson Ice & Cold Storage building at 530 North Cameron Street, Winchester, VA. Rear of CL Robinson building, circa 1950.
- [1470-008] C.L. Robinson Ice & Cold Storage building at 530 North Cameron Street, Winchester, VA. Interior of building - refrigeration machinery, circa 1950.
- [1470-009] C.L. Robinson Ice & Cold Storage building at 530 North Cameron Street, Winchester, VA. Interior of building - refrigerated storage, circa 1950.
- [1470-010] Apple Blossom Parade. C.L. Robinson Ice and Cold Storage Co float, "Pioneer", with children "sailors", on Cameron Street. Designed by Mr. C.F. Harold, won first prize, 1929.
- [1470-011] Apple Blossom Parade. C.L. Robinson Ice and Cold Storage Co float, "Pioneer", with children "sailors", on Cameron Street. Designed by Mr. C.F. Harold, won first prize, 1929.

- [1470-012]** Apple Blossom Parade. C.L. Robinson Ice & Cold Storage Co float, sidewheeler "Robert E. Lee", passing First Baptist Church on Fairmont Avenue, Winchester, VA, 1934 (1933 written on reverse of original).
- [1470-013]** Aerial photograph of C.L. Robinson Ice & Cold Storage Co. (530-560 North Cameron Street, Winchester, VA) and environs. Douglas School (590 North Kent Street) partially visible at top center, circa early 1930s.