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Guide to the Illinois Joint Committee for the Merit System in Civil Service Records 1921-1939



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Descriptive Summary

Identifier	ICU.SPCL.IJCFMS
Title	Illinois Joint Committee for the Merit System in Civil Service Records
Date	1921-1939
Size	.5 linear ft. (1 box)
Repository	Special Collections Research Center University of Chicago Library 1100 East 57th Street Chicago, Illinois 60637 U.S.A.
Abstract	The Illinois Joint Committee for the Merit System in the Civil Service was formed in 1932 as a steering committee for the effort to strengthen and improve the civil service requirements in Illinois. The Records contain correspondence, annual reports, minutes, newspaper clippings, and scrapbooks of the Committee.

Information on Use

Access

No restrictions.

Citation

When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: Illinois Joint Committee for the Merit System in Civil Service. Records, [Box #, Folder #], Special Collections Research Center, University of Chicago Library

Historical Note

The Illinois Joint Committee for the Merit System in the Civil Service was formed in 1932 as a steering committee for the effort to strengthen and improve the civil service requirements in Illinois. In particular, the group centered its efforts on local and state legislation concerning the employment of Illinois public servants, including sanitary district workers, substitute teachers, park employees and rural health officials. This work was done in affiliation with thirty-four local groups, including the Illinois and Hyde Park League of Women Voters, the Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs, the Catholic Women's League, the Municipal Employees' Society, the Juvenile Protective Association and the Illinois Federation of Labor. After seven active years, the committee merged with the Civil Service Association of Illinois in 1939.

One of the organizers and the first chairman of the Joint Committee was Mary Kelborne Nelson, who maintained leadership throughout the 1930's. A consistent advocate for civil service reform, Nelson had lobbied for the defeat of an anti-civil service law (the Wheeler Bill) in 1921, and

throughout the 1920's worked closely with the Chicago and Illinois Civil Service Reform Associations.

Scope Note

The Illinois Joint Committee for the Merit System in Civil Service records contain correspondence, annual reports, minutes, newspaper clippings, and scrapbooks of the Committee.

The collection is divided into three series: Series I: Mary Kelborne Nelson Correspondence; Series II: Organization of Joint Committee and Affiliates; Series III: Committee Materials.

Related Resources

The following related resources are located in the Department of Special Collections:

<http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/spcl/select.html>

Subject Headings

- Nelson, Mary Kelborne
- Illinois Joint Committee for the Merit system in the Civil Service
- Civil service-Illinois
- Civil service reform
- Civil service reform-Illinois
- Deans (Education)

INVENTORY

Series I: Mary Kelborne Nelson Correspondence

Box 1

Folder 1

April-November 1933

Box 1

Folder 2

November-December 1933

Box 1

Folder 3

January-April 1934

Box 1

Folder 4

May-December 1934

Box 1

Folder 5

January-April 1935

Box 1

Folder 6

May-December 1935

Box 1

Folder 7

January-October 1936

Box 1

Folder 8

November-December 1936

Box 1

Folder 9

January-May 1937

Box 1

Folder 10

May-December 1937

Box 1

Folder 11

January-December 1938

Box 1

Folder 12

January-December 1939

Series II: Organization of Joint Committee and Affiliates

Box 1

Folder 13

Anti-Wheeler Bill; Woman's Joint Committee in Illinois Cook County Federation of Women's Club pamphlet

Box 1

Folder 14

Woman's City Club of Chicago and the Civil Service Association of Chicago; Correspondence, 1921-1927

Box 1

Folder 15

County Bureau of Public Welfare

Box 1

Folder 16

Woman's City Club; Rural Health Committee, 1929

Box 1

Folder 17

Woman's City Club; Rural Health Committee, Civil Service Committee, 1932

Box 1

Folder 18

Woman's City Club; Rural Health Committee, National Merit Dinner, 1931

Box 1

Folder 19

Proposed plans for Illinois Federal Employment Service

Series III: Committee Materials

Box 2

Folder 1

Pamphlets and radio script

Box 2

Folder 2

Reports and correspondence, 1935

Box 2

Folder 3-6

Reports and correspondence, 1936

Box 2

Folder 7-8

Reports and correspondence, 1937

Box 2

Folder 9-10

Reports and correspondence, 1938

Box 2

Folder 11

Reports and correspondence, 1939

Box 2

Folder 12

Annual reports, 1934-1939

Box 2

Folder 13-14

Scrapbooks