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Descriptive Summary

Identifier  ICU.SPCL.UCSETTLEMENT

Title  University of Chicago Settlement. Records

Date  1897-1977

Size  5 linear feet (4 boxes)

Repository  Hanna Holborn Gray Special Collections Research Center
            University of Chicago Library
            1100 East 57th Street
            Chicago, Illinois 60637 U.S.A.

Abstract  The University of Chicago Settlement House was established in 1894 in the
packing-house district of Chicago to provide English instruction, citizenship
and legal assistance, medical care, and other services, to the largely European
immigrant population of the Back of the Yards community. Materials in this
collection primarily document the settlement’s programs and activities from
the 1930s to the early 1950s.

Information on Use

Access  The collection is open for research.

Citation  When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: University of Chicago
Settlement Records, [Box #, Folder #], Hanna Holborn Gray Special Collections Research
Center, University of Chicago Library

Historical Note  The University of Chicago Settlement House was established in 1894 by the Philanthropic
Committee of the University of Chicago Christian Union in the Back of the Yards neighborhood
of Chicago. With previous experience at Hull House, Mary McDowell led the organization as
Head Resident and played an integral role in Settlement activities until her death in 1936. The
Settlement House provided English instruction, citizenship and legal assistance, and medical
care, among many other services, to the largely European immigrant population of the Back of
the Yards community. In 1966, the Settlement was merged with the Chicago Commons.

Scope Note
The University of Chicago Settlement collection contains informational literature on the Settlement House and its history, annual and monthly reports, the Settlement League Yearbook, program schedules and brochures, press clippings, article drafts, correspondence, statements and miscellaneous literature.

**Related Resources**

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

Browse finding aids by topic.

- Camp Farr. Collection
- Chicago Commons. Collection
- Hyde Park Historical Society. Collection
- Madeline Wallin. Papers
- University of Chicago Service League. Records
- University of Chicago. Office of the President. Hutchins Administration. Records

**Subject Headings**

- McDowell, Mary E. (Mary Eliza)
- University of Chicago. Settlement
- Social settlements -- Illinois -- Chicago

**INVENTORY**

*Box 1*

*Folder 1*

Histories and publications of the Settlement, 1901-1954
- Report of the Head Resident, 1901
- The University of Chicago Settlement. What is it Actually Doing? What Does It Aim To Do More?, circa 1912
- The University of Chicago Settlement, brochure, 1919
- Fifty Years at the University of Chicago Settlement, 1944
- The University of Chicago Settlement, 1894-1950, typescript, 1950
- The University of Chicago Settlement: 60 Years of Service, 1954

*Box 1*

*Folder 2*

Board of Directors, 1945-1950

*Box 1*
Folder 3-4
Settlement Reports, 1931-1949
Box 1
Folder 5
Settlement Program Schedule, 1896-1954
Box 1
Folder 6
Programs and advertisements for events benefiting the Settlement, 1897-1951
Box 1
Folder 7
Camp Farr, 1925-1950
Box 1
Folder 8
Press Clippings, 1930-1951
Box 1
Folder 9
Public Relations, 1939-1949
Box 1
Folder 10
Correspondence and Statements, 1934-1949
Box 1
Folder 11
Miscellaneous, 1927-1977
Box 2
University of Chicago Settlement League, Year Book, 1912-1944
Box 3
Ledger, 1919-1930
Box 4
Ledger, 1931-1934
Box 5
Calendars of events, October 1940-May 1958