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BETHEL LITERARY AND HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION RECORDS

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THE BETHEL LITERARY AND HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION RECORDS
Collection 5-1

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June 1980

MANUSCRIPT DIVISION

Scope Note

The records of the Bethel Literary and Historical Association of Washington, D.C. cover activities of the organization from 1895 to 1913 although the association was founded on November 9, 1881. This gap is partially due to inconsistencies in record keeping methods undertaken in the early stages of the organization's development.

Bishop Daniel Alexander Payne organized the association in Bethel Hall, a part of Union Bethel Church. Robert J. Smith, Annie Geary, and Amanda Bowen were the president, the vice- president, and the 2nd vice president respectively. The purpose of the association was to meet and discuss intellectual issues, a practice which was active during the first decade of the twentieth century.

The records include minutes of meetings for the period 1895 to 1913; two histories of the association; a few financial reports; copies of resolutions and appeals; and clippings pertaining to the association. These are contained in one box measuring « linear foot.

Organizational History

Two extensive histories of the Bethel Literary and Historical Association may be found in this collection under the series entitled History.

Series Description

- Series A**
Box 5-1
History
Two printed histories of the association one by John W. Cromwell, the other by W. A. J., and holographic notes on the history of the association
- Series B**
Box 5-1
Notices, Programs, etc.
Printed announcements, programs, invitations concerning meetings and activities of the Association
- Series C**
Box 5-1
Minutes
Includes two minutes books covering the years 1895-1901; plus dated and undated loose notes of the meeting proceedings
- Series D**
Box 5-1
Financial Papers
Financial reports, for the years 1897-1897
- Series E**
Box 5-1
Correspondence
A letter from R. F. Boyd, MD, dated July 11, 1903, to Miss Laura E. Joiner.
- Series F**
Box 5-1
Documents
Typescript, holographic and xeroxed copies of resolutions and appeals written by the association
- Series G**
Box 5-1
Manuscripts
Incomplete document concerning the violation of human rights under the constitution of the United States.
- Series H**
Box 5-1
Clippings
Dated and undated miscellaneous clippings relating to the association

Container List

- Series A:** **History**
Box Folder
5-1
- 1 History of the Bethel Literary and Historical Association, by John W. Cromwell, Founder's Day, 1896
 - 2 History of the Bethel Literary and Historical Association, by W. A. J., Founder's Day, 1901
 - 3 Notes on the history of the Bethel Literary and Historical Association, n.d.
- Series B:** **Notices, Programs, etc.**
- 4 Notices of meetings and programs of the Bethel Literary and Historical Association, 1895, 1913 nd undated
- Series C:** **Minutes**
- 5 Minutes of the Bethel Literary and Historical Association, 1898-1900 and undated
 - 6 Minute book of the Bethel Literary and Historical Association, 1895-1900
 - 7 Minute board and roster of members of the Bethel Literary and Historical Association, 1898-1900
- Series D:** **Financial Papers**
- 8 Financial reports of the Bethel Literary and Historical Association, 1897-1898
- Series E:** **Correspondence**
- 9 Letter from R. F. Boyd to Laura E. Joiner, 1903
- Series F:** **Documents**
- 10 Appeals of the Bethel Literary and Historical Association re.: the murders in the South, n.d.
 - 11 Resolutions of the Bethel Literary and Historical Association, n.d.
- Series G:** **Manuscripts**
- 12 Manuscript, incomplete, re: human rights violated under the constitution, n.d.

Container List

Series H:

Box

5-1

Clippings

Folder

13 Clippings relating to the Bethel Literary and Historical Association, 1898 and undated