

Millikin University Archives: Staley Library

Mark Embury Penney Papers

Collection Number: 3.05.100

Inclusive Dates: 1898 – 1933

Bulk Dates: 1920 – 1925

Quantity: 4 series contained in 30 folders between 3 boxes.

Acquisition Information: Unknown.

Access Restrictions: This collection is open for research.

Copyright: Millikin University, Dick and Fitzgerald Publishers, Edward M.L. Ehlers

Photographs: Yes: 4 envelopes of negatives, and one envelope of 6 black and white/sepia photographs.

Condition Notes: Paper is thin and fragile. Many papers are creased, torn, folded, and/or stained. Related papers were stapled or glued together. Fabric materials are stained, but otherwise in good condition.

Processed by: Lisa Hill, April 2018.

Biographical Note

Mark Embury Penney served as Millikin President from May 24, 1924 to 1930. Born in Webster Bay, Newfoundland. Penney earned a degree in Theology from Boston College. He received an A.B. degree from Cornell, then completed his Ph.D. there in 1913. He taught at Central College in Fayette, MO., then left for Syracuse University where he was an instructor in Philosophy. Penney served as the Dean of Syracuse University Teachers College. Penney was also a Professor of Education at Cornell, was on the faculty at Ohio State, and served in WWI. He was selected as Millikin President, May 24, 1924 and inaugurated February 17, 1925. He resigned February 9, 1930, effective at the end of the academic year. Penney died August 12, 1937.

Scope and Content Note

This collection contains a selection of Penney's administrative documents and correspondence. Most are typed letters, in addition to telegrams, postcards, and handwritten notes. Also included are lecture notes and minor family information.

Series Notes

Series 1: Administrative Documents

2 Folders

Assorted papers pertaining to Penney's inauguration and professional reference draft.

Series 2: Correspondence

14 Folders

Collection of correspondence in chronological order.

Series 3: Lecture Notes

4 folders

Assortment of typed and handwritten lecture notes.

Series 4: Personal Papers and Family Materials

7 folders

Collection of Penney's personal items and family related items.

Collection Inventory

Folder/Item Title	Container #	Folder/Item #	Description
Administrative Documents	A-0007 (1 folder) B-0003 (1 folder)	1-2	Congratulations from Cornell and Yale universities for Penney's presidency. Copy of a reference letter authored by Penney, with note about its discovery.
Correspondence	A-0007 (6 folders) A-0008 (8 folders)	2-15	Collection of communications between Penney and organizations, business, and institutions. Contains letters, telegrams, and postcards. Dates range from 1920-1930.
Lecture Notes	A-0008 (4 folders)	16-19	Typed and handwritten lecture notes and outlines. Some notes composed before Penney's time at Millikin. Dated Spring 1923, others undated.

Personal Papers and Family Materials	A-0008 (7 folders) B-0003 (3 folders)	20-30	Personal items related to Penney including: diplomas, dance cards, family photos and negatives. Also present are Masonic literature and aprons. Report cards from his children are also within this series.
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