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TIPPECANOE COUNTY
TUBERCULOSIS ASSOCIATION COLLECTION

AGENCY HISTORY

The organization of the Lafayette Society for the Prevention of Tuberculosis was spearheaded by local salesman, Charles W. Ebel in 1908. Mr. Ebel was chosen corresponding secretary and Prof. Severance Burrage served as president of the first Board of Directors of the society. Later, the society was renamed the Tippecanoe County Tuberculosis Association.

The association was reorganized in 1921 when it was incorporated under state laws.

From its earliest years the group actively worked for the eradication of the dreaded "white plague" from the local area. The annual Christmas Seal campaigns produced financial support for the association's efforts.

The Lafayette Society for the Prevention of Tuberculosis advocated the erection of shacks by the Indiana branch of the Red Cross to be located on the grounds of the two local hospitals; these shacks were to allow TB patients to be treated for the disease in the local community.

In 1921 a health survey of the county was conducted in order to determine the various conditions in the local area which might contribute to producing poor health in general and cases of tuberculosis in particular. The health survey was the first of its kind in Indiana and one of the first in the nation. Murray P. Horwood, an instructor at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, was hired to conduct the survey and to produce the final report of the survey's results.

In the mid-1920s, the association maintained fresh-air camps for underprivileged children located at Rotary Park on the Tippecanoe River; the purpose of the camps was to improve the children's health, thereby increasing their resistance to TB.

In 1927 a movement officially endorsed by the TCTA was initiated to establish a tuberculosis hospital in the county. With a donation of \$140,000 by Mr. and Mrs. David Linn Ross, the effort culminated in the building of the William Ross Sanatorium, located east of Lafayette on State Road 52. (The building is presently used by Indiana Vocational Technical College.)

Several members of the local association were also active at the state level, including: Prof. Severance Burrage, Anne M. Lutz, and Dr. Stanley Coulter.

CONTENTS NOTES

The collection is arranged in two major series. The first is the CHARLES W. EBEL PAPERS. Mr. Ebel was the major force behind the establishment of the Lafayette Society for the Prevention of Tuberculosis. He continued to be active in the organization until his death in 1950 at the age of 78. The bulk of the collection dating from 1908 to 1923 contains correspondence and other materials which originated with Mr. Ebel in his various positions as an officer of the Board of Directors. During the processing of the collection, these materials were kept together as they reflect the early vital years of the association's work, as well as, Mr. Ebel's personal involvement in the organization.

The second series is that of the TCTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS and contains business correspondence, minutes and reports from 1922 to the early 1930s with a few items to 1954. The 520 pages of news clippings (photocopied) with items from 1908 to 1956 form a valuable part of the collection.

The third series belongs to accession 88.109 and includes sheets of Christmas seals dating from 1920- 1984.

PHYSICAL ARRANGEMENT

2 Hollinger document cases; 2 half-size Hollinger document case.
1 folder; Image File.
1 oversized folder; flat file cabinet.

CONTAINER LIST

CHARLES W. EBEL PAPERS, 1908-1950.

BOX 1.

FOLDER

1. Items relating to the organization of the Lafayette Society for the Prevention of Tuberculosis. 1908-1911.
2. Correspondence. 1908-1913.
3. Correspondence. 1920-1923. (Includes letter from John T. McCutcheon; Dec. 22, 1923.)
4. Correspondence with Murray P. Horwood. 1921-1922. (Horwood was an instructor in Biology and Public Health at M.I.T. He conducted the Public Health Survey for Lafayette and Tippecanoe Co., 1921.)
5. Correspondence. 1924; also 1929, 1941, 1942, 1944, 1948, 1950. (Includes letter from John T. McCutcheon; Dec. 26, 1941.)
6. Reports. 1920.

TCTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 1922-1956.

BOX 2

FOLDER

1. Correspondence, reports, county classification questionnaires. 1922...1954.
2. Minutes, reports. 1921.
3. Minutes, reports. 1922.
4. Minutes, reports. 1923-1925.
5. Minutes, reports. 1926-1929.
6. Minutes, reports. 1930-1935.
7. Christmas Seal Sales: contracts, reports, 1936-1944. Form Letters. 1938-1942.
8. The Lafayette Society for the Prevention of Tuberculosis/TCTA: printed materials.

9. Indiana Tuberculosis Association: publications, membership cards, programs from annual meetings.
10. National Tuberculosis Association: publications, membership cards. City of Chicago Municipal Tuberculosis Sanitarium: bulletins (2).
11. Irene Byron Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Ft. Wayne, IN: application for nursing training, publications (2). Indiana State Sanatorium, Rockville, IN: discharge notification (1943), outpatient clinic reports (1946).
12. Junior Board of the Tippecanoe County Tuberculosis League. ca1954. Copies of constitution, correspondence.
13. Miscellaneous. Includes: name tag, bank statement, student poem, International Congress Against TB (1911).

BOX 3

CONTENTS

1. Copper engraving plate; 4X5X7/8". "Tippecanoe; early discovery – early recovery. Let your doctor decide."
2. Financial records book. 1921-1923.
3. News clippings, photographs. 1908-1956. (520 photocopied sheets)

BOX 4

CONTENTS

1. Christmas Seals: Miscellaneous and foreign stamps
2. Christmas Seals 1920- 1924
3. Christmas Seals 1925- 1929
4. Christmas Seals 1930- 1934
5. Christmas Seals 1935- 1939
6. Christmas Seals 1940- 1944
7. Christmas Seals 1945- 1949
8. Christmas Seals 1950- 1954
9. Christmas Seals 1955- 1959
10. Christmas Seals 1960- 1964
11. Christmas Seals 1965- 1969
12. Christmas Seals 1970- 1974
13. Christmas Seals 1975- 1979
14. Christmas Seals 1980- 1984

SEPARATION LIST

PHOTO IMAGE COLLECTION

Photographs:

Children attending fresh air camps sponsored by TCTA: held at Rotary Park. (approx. 25)

Views in Lafayette, Tippecanoe Co., mounted with Captions to be used in publication of Public Health Survey, 1921.* (17 photos)

View of Recreational Home, Rockville Sanatorium. (1 photo)

Postal card view of Rotary Park, Tippecanoe River. (1 item)

FLAT FILE - ARCHIVES

Broadsides: Flyers, posters advertisements.

Certificates: Original Articles of Incorporation: TCTA, May 1921; tribute to Anne M. Lutz from Indiana Tuberculosis Assn.; subscription certificate; award to Tippecanoe County for 1971 Christmas Seal Campaign; state medical board certificate to Joseph William Strayer, Ohio, 1929.

Original ink drawing by John T. McCutcheon for 1920 Christmas Seal Sale. Also newspaper copy of the drawing.

Christmas Seals: 1920, 1926, 1927.

Buttons: "Swat the Fly" Campaign.

ARTIFACT COLLECTIONS

Silver loving cup inscribed as follows: "Dr. George T. McCoy Memorial Cup presented by Bartholomew County Tuberculosis Association to County having the Highest Seal Sale per Capita; Tippecanoe County for the Years of 1930, 1931, and 1932."

*The publication "Public Health Survey of Lafayette, Indiana and Tippecanoe County, Indiana" by Murray P. Horwood, 1921, is included in TCHA. A copy of this booklet may be found in the Purdue Library, Attic Storage, call number: 614.097/In25p

See TCHA Library for a copy of this booklet: 614.7/H824

PEOPLE:

Ebel, Charles W.
Burrage, Prof. Severance
Horwood, Murray F.
Ross, Mr. and Mrs. David Linn
McCutcheon, John T.
Lutz, Anne M.
Strayer, Joseph William
Coulter, Dr. Stanley

CLASSIFICATION:

Organizations/Civic
Health/Public

SUBJECTS:

Organizations – Tippecanoe County Tuberculosis Association

SEARCH TERMS:

Tippecanoe County Tuberculosis Association
Lafayette Society for the Prevention of Tuberculosis
Hospital, William Ross Sanatorium
Rotary Park
Indiana Tuberculosis Association
National Tuberculosis Association
Hospital, City of Chicago Municipal Tuberculosis Sanitarium
Hospital, Irene Byron Tuberculosis Sanatorium
Hospital, Indiana State Sanatorium
Tippecanoe County Tuberculosis League, Junior Board
International Congress Against TB