

McLean County Museum of History

Gentes Collection

Processed by
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Collection Information

Volume of Collection:	One Box.
Collection Dates:	1954—1989 (diary for 1974-1978 missing)
Restrictions:	
Reproduction Rights:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the McLean County Museum of History.
Location:	Archives

Historical Sketch

Alfred and Lena Gentes were born in Illinois, both of German immigrants. Alfred was born around 1882. Lena was born May 22, 1879, and died October 28, 1968. They lived most of their married life on farm at Amity, Livingston County, Illinois. Deloss, son of Alfred and Lena, was born March 28, 1914, and died February 21, 1998.

Scope and Content Note

The Gentes collection consists of one box containing one folder of biographical material, three school workbooks from the 1890s, and six five-year diaries.

Folder Inventory

Folder 1: Biographical Material

- 1.1.1 Biographical information on the Gentes Family.
- 1.1.2 World War I Draft Registration Record for Alfred Gentes, Pontiac, IL 1918.
- 1.1.3 1920 United States Federal Census index listing Alfred, Lena Delos Gentes.
- 1.1.4 Copy of the page in the 1920 Federal Census listing Alfred, Lena and Deloss Gentes [*sic*].
- 1.1.5 1930 United States Federal Census index listing Lena Gentes.
- 1.1.6 Social Security Death Index for Lena Gentes.
- 1.1.7 Social Security Death Index for Deloss A. Gentes.

Three School Workbooks of Alfred Gentes

1894 and two undated.

Diary I - Daily Reminder 1954

Five year diary for 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, and 1958, written by Lina A. Gentes and her son, DeLoss A. Gentes. Each page has an entry for the printed date for each of the five years. Most entries include temperature and description of the weather. Many entries include farm activities, equipment repaired, phone calls, visitors, trips around town, parts purchased, checks written, clothes ordered, cattle and products sold. Includes where item was purchased, from whom and cost, or to whom something was sold and amount received. Both Lina (mother) and DeLoss (son) wrote the entries.

Diary II - National Diary for 1959

Five year diary for years 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963. Information included similar to Diary I. Most entries were written by Lina Gentes.

Diary III - Daily Reminder 1964

Five year diary for years 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968. Information included similar to Diary I. 1964 and 1965 entries mostly written by Lina Gentes. 1966, 1967, 1968 entries written by DeLoss. Lina Gentes died October 28, 1968.

Diary IV - Daily Reminder 1969

Five year diary for 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973. Same style as Diary I, written by DeLoss.

Diary V

Five year diary for 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983. Same style as Diary I, written by DeLoss.

Diary VI

Five plus year diary for 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, ten days of 1989. Same style as Diary I, written by DeLoss.

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