

McLean County Museum of History

See Family Collection

Processed in 2006
by Gretchen Monti

Collection Information

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	2 boxes
COLLECTION DATES:	1890-1938
RESTRICTIONS:	None
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the McLean County Museum of History
ALTERNATIVE FORMATS:	None
OTHER FINDING AIDS:	None
LOCATION:	Archives
NOTES:	Gift of Ed Henning, Jr. on September 14, 2000

Brief History

Frank See was born in Virginia to Nimrod See and Margaret Sherman. He was a 34-year-old farmer at Stanford, Illinois, on July 2, 1900, when he married Mary E. Arnold of Stanford. She was 16 years old at her marriage. She was born near Danvers, Illinois to John Arnold and Julia Deek (or Deck). Source: McLean County Museum of History Register of Marriages.

John W. and Julia Arnold (or Arnol) lived at Shirley as early as 1884. In the second decade of the twentieth century, Mrs. Arnold lived at 508 N. School Street in Normal. Their children, who are mentioned or who have documents in the collection, are as follows:

- Ardena See, born 1900. She married Grover Bowman. They lived at Towanda.
- Children: Grover Franklin Bowman, born June 30, circa 1925.
- Helen Elizabeth Bowman Garner, born December 8 [no year]
- Vernon Arnold, born June 26 [no year]

Edna Elizabeth See. She married Orville Edwin Haning early in 1923. They lived on a farm between Shirley and Stanford.

Children: Orville Edwin Haning, Jr., born January 17, 1924, died June 2001 [Ed Henning, Jr.]

Margaret See. She married Jesse Beer. They lived at Atlanta and McLean.

Children: Robert Philip, Dickie, Mary Ruth, born 1931 or 1932

Scope

The majority of the collection is personal correspondence among the See family members who lived in the rural areas of McLean County. The correspondence is a resource for agricultural practices, illnesses and diseases, and female activities.

Box and Folder Inventory

Box 1

Folder 1: Biographical Material

Birth announcements: grandchildren of Frank and Mary See
Newspaper clippings of daughters' marriage-related events
McLean County Museum of History registrar files

Folder 2: See, Ardena Correspondence, 1914-1925

Ardena ("Dean") See (Mrs. Grover C. Bowman) - correspondence, 1914, [no date-teens], 1916, [no date, 20's], 1922, 1925

Folder 3: See, Ardena Correspondence, 1926-1927

Ardena ("Dean") See (Mrs. Grover C. Bowman) – correspondence 1926-1927

Folder 4: See, Ardena Correspondence, 1928-1929

Ardena ("Dean") See (Mrs. Grover C. Bowman) – correspondence 1928-1929

Folder 5: See, Edna Elizabeth Correspondence, 1913-1919

Edna Elizabeth ("Eddie") See (Mrs. Orville E. Haning) - correspondence, 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916, 1917, 1918, 1919, [no date], 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1932, 1933, [no date]

Folder 6: See, Edna Elizabeth Correspondence, 1922-1933

Edna Elizabeth ("Eddie") See (Mrs. Orville E. Haning) - correspondence, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1932, 1933, [no date]

Folder 7: See, Margaret Correspondence, 1914-1924

Margaret See (Mrs. Jesse Beer) - correspondence, 1914, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924

Folder 8: See, Margaret Correspondence, 1926-1938

Margaret See (Mrs. Jesse Beer) – correspondence, 1926, 1928, 1930, 1932, 1936, 1938

Folder 9: See, Mary Correspondence, 1914-1916

Mary See (Mrs. Frank) - correspondence, 1914-1916

Folder 10: Arnol, John W. Business Correspondence

John W. Arnol – business correspondence, 1884, 1890s

Folder 11: Arnol, John W. Financial Account

Financial account (1 page), 1893 and 1895, John Arnol Sen.

Box 2

Folder 12: Arnol, Julia Business Items

Julia Arnol – business items, receipts

Folder 13: Arnol, Julia Correspondence

Julia Arnol – correspondence, 1916, [no date]

Folder 14: Bowman Children Correspondence

Helen Bowman – correspondence, 1930

“Sonny” Bowman – note

Folder 15: See Family Cards

See family - Postcards and greeting cards

Folder 16: Bowles, Mrs. J. W. Correspondence

Mrs. J. W. Bowles (Aunt Dene) of Derby, Ohio - correspondence, 1914, 1915, 1919

Folder 17: Misc. Correspondence 1890-1931

Miscellaneous persons - correspondence

[unknown, no date]

[unknown] March 29, 1992, “Dear father”

1890

Sally Dyke, 9-29-1892, “Dear Friends”

“Your loving daughter Cora” to “Dear Family” Jan. 3 [no yr]

[unknown] Oct. 28, 1894 at Ellsworth, “Mr. and Mrs. John Arnold Dear Grandparents”

F. Arnol (“Your Son”) to Father and Mother, Nov. 12, 1894

Leona ___, at Ellsworth (“Your affectionate daughter”) to John Arnold, Jan. 10, 1895

Cora Stanger at Ellsworth, March 31, 1895, “Dear Grandpa and Grandma”

Leona ___, of Ellsworth, correspondence to grandparents [Julia and John Arnold?], Nov. 3, 1895

Mollie ___ at LeRoy, (“Dear Friends”), Dec. 22, 1899

Lillie (Mary See's sister) - correspondence, 1915
L. M. H. to Mrs. Julia Arnold, invitation to attend Smart Style Week at W. H. Roland,
Oct. 2, 1915
Ethel Rosenberry, at Champaign, to Mrs. Stanger, Aug. 2, 1916
Lucy Rutledge (Mrs. Ed Rutledge) 1925, 1926, 1928
Mrs. Gertrude Michail (friend of Bowmans in Towanda) 1928
Hazel Roberts (Mrs. Henry), Mt. Sterling, Ill. 1931
[unknown] no date, to Mary See
[unknown] annotated cartoon 1930
[unknown] cartoon 1928

Folder 18: See Newspaper Clippings

See Family – Miscellaneous Newspaper Clippings

Folder 19: Programs

Program (photocopy) - First Annual Commencement of the Normal Community High
School, June 2, 1921
Program (photocopy) – “Sylvia” an operetta presented by Normal Community High School
chorus, March 4, 1921
Program - 2nd-6th annual commencement, Shirley Community Grade School, May 21, 1926;
May 20, 1927; May 18, 1928; May 23, 1929; May 28, 1930
Program – Class of 1935 commencement, Ben J. Funk Consolidated School, May 16, 1934
Program – A Little Clodhopper presented by Shirley School, no date
Program – Bloomington Chapter O.E.S. No. 50 Installation ceremonies, December 19, 1933
Program – The Philathetia Class of the Christian Church will present “The Deacon’s Second
Wife,” October 17 [no year]

Folder 20: *Ram’s Horn Weekly* (Religious Newspaper)

Religious newspaper, 2 issues – The Ram’s Horn Weekly, Jan. 4, 1893 and Aug. 2, 1893

Folder 21: Religious Pamphlets

Booklet – Rock of Ages. M. A. Donohue & Co., Chicago, [no date] Inscribed “Mary—with
love, Mrs. Kittie Karr”
Pamphlet – W. A. Sunday, What he is, who he is and where he is in the sight of God. In
forty verses by T. J. Bilyeu. [no date]
Pamphlet – Twenty-five Years of Religious Life in Bloomington, an address by Rev. James
H. Gilliland. Bloomington, Illinois, April 21, 1912.

Folder 22: Appointment Book

Fragment of appointment book interspersed with information about medicines produced by
G. G. Green., 1894

Folder 23: See, Ardena Debate Script

Ardena See - handwritten copy of debate script

Folder 24: See, Mary Medical Diagnosis