Fitchburg State University
Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio Library
University Archives and Special Collections

COLLECTION SUMMARY

Collection number: UA RG 3.2
Collection title: William Parkinson papers.
Dates: 1891-1945
Size: 2 boxes (0.6 linear feet)

Creator/Collector: Parkinson, William D. 1857-1948
Acquisition info.: Unknown
Accruals: No accruals are expected
Custodial history: Unknown
Language(s): Collection materials are in English.
Repository: Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio Library, Fitchburg State University
Conservation notes: None.

RIGHTS AND ACCESS

Access restrictions Collection is open for research.
Physical access restrict. None.
Technical access restrict. None.
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INFORMATION FOR RESEARCHERS

Preferred citation [item], William Parkinson papers, UA RG 3.2, Fitchburg State University, Fitchburg, Massachusetts.

Related collections John Thompson papers.
Charles Herlihy papers.
John Randall papers.
William Parkinson papers, U.A., R.G. 3.2

William Sanders papers.
Ellis White papers.
James Hammond papers.
Vincent Mara papers.
Michael Riccards papers.
Michael Rivard papers.
Robert Antonucci papers.

Separated material None.

Published descriptions Not Applicable.

Location of originals Originals of published works can be found at the Baker Library archives, Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire.

Location of copies Not Applicable.

Publication note Not Applicable.

Subject headings Education, Higher – Massachusetts – Fitchburg
Fitchburg State College - Presidents.
Fitchburg State College - Administration.
Fitchburg State College. President’s Office.
Fitchburg State College – Faculty.
Fitchburg College.
Parkinson, William Dwight, 1857-1948
Teacher Colleges - Massachusetts – History.
correspondence. aat
administrative records. aat
school yearbooks. aat
examinations (documents). aat
contracts. aat
publications. aat

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

William Dwight Parkinson (1857-1948) was the second principal of the Fitchburg State Normal School from 1920-1927. He graduated from Dartmouth College in 1878 and studied law at National University Law School in Washington D.C. While in law school, he taught classes at the Franklin school.

After law school, Parkinson worked in law and real estate out in Fergus Falls, Minnesota before returning to Massachusetts to serve as Superintendent of Schools in Falmouth in 1886. He then served as Grammar master in Taunton from 1890-1892, Superintendent of Schools in Amherst from 1892-1898, and later in Waltham from 1899-1919. While at Waltham, he joined the State Department as Agent-in-charge of Vocational Teacher training, which lead to his recommendation and later nomination as acting principal of Fitchburg Normal School in 1920.
William Parkinson papers, U.A., R.G. 3.2

Parkinson spent his time at Fitchburg encouraging the formation of student groups; as well as tirelessly working to better the condition of the School's curriculum, faculty, and facilities. Most notable during his tenure, Parkinson was extremely influential in the annual yearbook publication. He retired in 1927, but continued lively correspondence with local and regional papers up till his death in 1948.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The bulk of the collection is related to William Parkinson’s administrative role at the Fitchburg Normal School. This collection mainly consists of correspondence, but also includes admission examinations, a copy of the 1927 yearbook, and copies of published works written by Parkinson for various publications. Correspondence includes memos written to and from the office of the director of normal schools at the department of education in Boston. They also include adjustments made to teacher salaries, notes on hiring and firing of university employees, and general financial and institutional issues within the school.

**COLLECTION INVENTORY**

**SERIES 1: Correspondence, 1920-1927**

This series contains correspondence from the office of the Principal. The bulk of the correspondence is between Parkinson and the office of Frank Wright, Director at the State Commissioners office. The series is arranged chronologically, with each folder being arranged in reverse chronological order.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Folder Title</th>
<th>Container Number</th>
<th>Folder Number</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Correspondence, 1920</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Correspondence, June 1921-January 1921</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Correspondence, December 1921-July 1921</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Correspondence, 1922</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Correspondence, June 1923-January 1923</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Correspondence, December 1923-July 1923</td>
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<tr>
<td>Correspondence, July 1924-January 1924</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Correspondence, December 1924-August 1924</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Correspondence, 1924-1925 School Contract</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Correspondence, July 1925-January 1925</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Correspondence, December 1925-August 1925</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Correspondence, June 1926-January 1926</td>
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<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Correspondence, December 1926-July 1926</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Correspondence, 1927</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>14</td>
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</table>
SERIES 2: Admission Examinations, 1922
This series contains two copies of entrance examinations given by the school. One is from June of 1922; the other is from September of the same year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Folder Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Admission examinations, June and September 1922</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SERIES 3: Class Yearbook, 1927
This series contains President Parkinson’s copy of the 1927 school yearbook. It contains signatures and messages from both Faculty and Students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Folder Title</th>
<th>Container Number</th>
<th>Folder Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Saxifrage, 1927</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SERIES 4: Biography, 1891-1945
This series contains photocopies of William Parkinson’s published works. They range from short articles written for newspapers and journals, to longer dissertations and papers on various subjects. Arranged chronologically, with year unknown publication articles last.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Folder Title</th>
<th>Container Number</th>
<th>Folder Number</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Published works 1891-1941</td>
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<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oversized published works 1906-1945</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>17</td>
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