

Cox Family Collection (AC32)

Introduction

The Cox Family Collection contains documents, photographs, and other materials related to the lives, careers, and community activities of Henley L. Cox and his wife Mayme G. Cox Motley.

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Henley L. Cox and Mayme G. Cox Motley
Title: Cox Family Collection
Dates: 1909-1979
Size: 1.2 linear feet, 4 boxes
Collection Number: AC32

Donor Information

Found in collection.

Citation Note

Cox Family Collection (AC32), Black Archives of Mid-America, Kansas City, Missouri.

Administrative Information

Reproduction Restrictions: Due to preservation concerns, the 1909 Lincoln University class photograph cannot be reproduced.
Access Restrictions: Unrestricted.

Biographical Sketch

Henley L. Cox was born in Grove Hill, Alabama, in 1880. He earned his Bachelor's degree from Howard University in 1910 before moving to Columbia, Missouri, to serve as principal of Frederick Douglass High School. Cox came to Kansas City, Missouri, in 1916 to assume the position of principal at Wendell Phillips School, where he remained until his death in 1947. Cox was also the founder and first president of the Missouri Branch of the National Congress of Colored Parents and Teachers.

Mayme (née Gatewood) Cox Motley was born in 1890 in Columbia, Missouri. She was teaching at Frederick Douglass High School in Columbia, Missouri, when she met and married Henley L. Cox in 1913. Following her husband's death, Mayme G. Cox married Otto Motley. She was a member of the Teachers Alumni Association of Kansas City and the Order of the Eastern Star. Mayme Motley died in Kansas City, Missouri, in 1983.

Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of three series arranged by item type.

Series 1: Textual Materials, 1925-1973

This series primarily consists of documents that provide information about the lives, careers, and community activities of Henley L. Cox and Mayme G. Cox Motley. The bulk of the correspondence, covering the period 1925-1928, contains letters received and copies of letters sent by Henley L. Cox concerning the Missouri Branch of the National Congress of Colored Parents and Teachers. Other correspondence includes postcards, greeting cards, and form letters. The series also includes diaries, calendars and planners, and notebooks.

Additionally, the series contains financial and legal documents, including a financial account book, statements and cancelled checks from Traders National Bank, and probate records concerning the estate of Henley L. Cox. The series also includes published items, including an issue of *The Bronzeman* magazine, newspaper and magazine clippings, and two books.

Series 2: Photographs, 1909-1979

This series consists of photographs of Henley L. Cox, Mayme G. Cox Motley, and members of the Motley family. There are photographs of the Lincoln University graduating class of 1909 and Second Baptist Church in Kansas City, Missouri. The series also includes a number of photographs of individuals that may or may not be associated with the Cox family. Some of these photographs include first names; most of the photographs are unidentified and undated.

Series 3: Artifact, n.d.

Series 3 consists of one tobacco pipe. The artifact is located in Box 4.

Collection Inventory

The notation "OS" indicates the materials are located in Oversize Box 1.

Series 1: Textual Materials, 1925-1973

- f. 1 Correspondence, 1925-1927
- f. 2 Correspondence, 01/1928
- f. 3 Correspondence, 02/1928-12/1928
- f. 4 Correspondence, 1945- 1973, n.d.
- f. 5 Mayme G. Cox diary, 1945-1946
- f. 6 Henley L. Cox planner, 1946
- f. 7 Calendar and diary, 1952
- f. 8 Schedule, n.d.
- f. 9 Notebook, 1947-1949
- f. 10 Notebook, 1951-1953
- f. 11 Notebook, 1953-1954
- f. 12 Notebook, ca. 1961
- f. 13 Notebook, 1962

- f. 14 James Curtis Cox school autograph book, 05/1931
- f. 15 Henley L. Cox business card, n.d.
- f. 16 Legal and financial documents, 1924, 1948
- f. 17 Traders National Bank, 1975-1976, n.d.
- f. 18 Hazel Riley Life insurance policy, 02/28/1934
- f. 19 Lincoln High School yearbook, 1951
- f. 20 Lincoln University Alumni Association, 1956, 1965
- f. 21 Wheatley-Provident Hospital programs, 1939, 1946
- f. 22 The Bronzeman, 07/1932
- f. 23 Clippings, 1952, 1960, 1966
- f. 24 *Student's History of Philosophy*, 1909
- f. 25 *Helping in God's Word*, ca. 1963
- f. 26 Unused postcards, n.d.

Series 2: Photographs, 1909-1979

- f. 27 Henley L. Cox portraits, ca. 1920s?
- f. 28 Henley L. Cox portraits, ca. 1940s?
- f. 29 Mayme G. Cox photographs, 1946, n.d.
- f. 30 Mamie Gatewood photographs, 1945, n.d.
- f. 31 Motley Family photographs, 1960- 1979, n.d.
- f. 32 Lincoln University class photograph, 1909 (OS)
- f. 33 Second Baptist Church, n.d.
- f. 34 Identified individuals, 1961-1963, n.d.
- f. 35 Unidentified groups, n.d.
- f. 36 Unidentified men, n.d.
- f. 37 Unidentified women, n.d.
- f. 38 Miscellaneous photographs, n.d.

Series 3: Artifact, n.d.

- f. 39 Tobacco pipe, n.d. (located in Box 4)

Processed by Michael Sweeney, Collection Librarian, October 2014.