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People's Institute Records

1896-1970

2 boxes (0.75 linear ft.)

Call no.: MS 26



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Organization in Northampton, Massachusetts that met in members' homes for the purpose of helping working people spend their evenings in valuable reading and discussion, and for furthering the culture of the home as well as the individual. The organization also sponsored flower garden competitions, an evening school for adults, a school for the household arts, an after school play program for children, a Golden Age club, and a day camp. Photocopied records include Board of Directors minutes, Directors' reports, and correspondence.

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Background on People's Institute (Northampton, Mass.)

People's Institute of Northampton, Massachusetts was an outgrowth of the Home Culture Club established in 1887 by George W. Cable. It met in members' homes for the purpose of helping working people spend their evenings in valuable reading and discussion, and for furthering the culture of the home as well as the individual. The club, renamed People's Institute in 1909, sponsored flower garden competitions, an evening school for adults, a school for the household arts, and more recently, after school play for children, a Golden Age club, and a day camp. The building, dedicated in 1905, was built with \$50,000 given by Andrew Carnegie, supplemented with funds raised by the town over 5 years. It has provided meeting rooms for scouts and a variety of other community organizations over the years.

Scope of collection

The records, photocopies of records held by People's Institute, include Board of Directors minutes, 1896-1970; Directors' reports, 1933-1942; and correspondence, 1965-1970.

Administrative information

Access

The collection is open for research.

Provenance

Acquired from: Margaret Hutchins, 1985.

Processing Information

Processed by Linda Seidman.

Language:

English

Acknowledgments

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Copyright and Use (More information)

Cite as: People's Institute Records (MS 26). Special Collections and University Archives, University of Massachusetts Amherst Libraries.

Search terms

Subjects

Home Culture Club (Northampton, Mass.)--History--Sources.

Northampton (Mass.)--Intellectual life--History--Sources.

People's Institute (Northampton, Mass.)--History--Sources.

Working class--Massachusetts--Northampton--Intellectual life--History--Sources.

Working class--Massachusetts--Northampton--Societies, etc. --History--Sources.

Contributors

People's Institute (Northampton, Mass.) **[main entry]**

Home Culture Club (Northampton, Mass.)

Genres and formats

Correspondence.

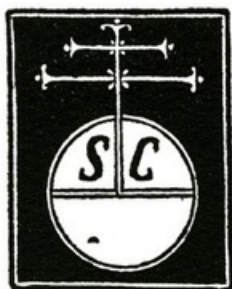
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