

NEW HAVEN COLONY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

LIBRARY

Manuscripts

No. 14

Date processed: June 10, 1975

- I. Title Knights of Jerusalem, New Haven. Papers, 1871-1974
- II. The papers of The Knights of Jerusalem deposited in the Library on July 1, 1974 , by David Sommer In converted the deposit to a gift.
- III. Linear feet of shelf space occupied: 4 3/4
Approximate number of items: 600
- IV. Restrictions: None
- V. Literary rights of the unpublished writings of in these papers, and in other collections of papers in the custody of the New Haven Colony Historical Society Library, have been dedicated to the New Haven Colony Historical Society.
- VI. Press release was issued on
- VII. Biographical note: The Knights of Jerusalem was a secret society founded in New Haven in 1871. The membership was composed of young Jewish men and was similar in purpose, structure, and ritual to the Greek Letter fraternities and secret societies which flourished at the time. The society was primarily social and philanthropic in nature. The KOJ was active until the early 1950's when regular meetings ceased. The society held anniversary dinners every five years, celebrating its Centennial in 1971. A thorough history of the organization was written by Rabbi Arthur Chiel and may be found among the papers (Box VII, folders B and C).
- VIII. Analysis: The collection consists of correspondence of officers and members, the organization's minutes, financial records, files* and two scrapbooks. The minutes and financial records are fairly complete, covering most of the active life of the KOJ (1871-1953).

*The KOJ files are arranged as they were found when the papers were donated and are miscellaneous in nature.

Boxes of material are numbered with Roman numerals and file folders are arranged alphabetically (A,B,....).

THE PAPERS OF THE KNIGHTS OF JERUSALEM

Index to the Collection

- Box I: Minutes Books 1871-84, 1899-1906
July 1871-March 1875; March 1875-July 1877; July 1877-
April 1879; April 1880-December 1881; January 1882-
November 1884; August 1899-February 1906.
Folders A-E
- Box II: Minutes Books 1906-1909, 1922-26, 1930-35.
- Box III: Minutes Books and Miscellaneous Material
Minutes Books 1935-39, 1951-53; Constitution and By-
Laws; Attendance Books 1917-25, 1925-27.
- Box IV: Financial Records 1885-1950
Treasurer's Book 1885-1894; GFS Book 1912-16; Assessments
and Donations 1921; House Committee Book 1921-32;
Entertainment Committee Reports 1947-50; Check Stubs
1925-28.
- Box V: Financial Records 1902-1953
Financial Records 1902-07; GP Book 1913-30; Check Stubs
1934-35; Check Stubs 1935-36; Check Stubs 1936-37;
GP Book 1946-48; GP Book 1947-52; Financial Records
1951-53; Financial Records for the 77th Anniversary
Dance.
- Box VI: Financial Records and Scrapbook
Ledger Sheets 1930-46; Scrapbook.
- Box VII: General File
- Folder A: "History of the KOJ Society from July 30th 1871
to July 31st, =1881" by Isaac Wolfe.
 - " B: History of the KOJ by Rabbi Arthur A. Chiel
(from "Looking Back" columns of "The Connecticut
Jewish Ledger").
 - " C: "A Chronicle of Eight Decades" by Rabbi Arthur
A. Chiel (a history of the KOJ from "Looking
Back" columns of "The Connecticut Jewish
Ledger"). 2 copies.
 - " D: "KOJ Society, Constitution and By-Laws"
3 copies.
 - " E: 1st Degree Ritual and other forms
Application for membership forms, Bonding Forms.
 - " F: Correspondance of Maxwell Alderman (much relates
to the 100th Anniversary Celebration in 1971).
 - " F1: Correspondance of Maxwell Alderman, 1956-72.
 - " G: Correspondance Concerning the Deposition of the
KOJ Archives, 1953.
 - " H: Correspondance of Favid Sommer
most concerns deposition of the KOJ Archives in
The New Haven Colony Historical Society, 1973-
74.

Box VII: Continued from page 1

General File

- Folder I: Correspondance and Financial Statements
1911-16.
- " J: Miscellaneous Correspondance 1922-55
 - " K: Mailing List 1938
 - " L: " " 1957 - 1946
 - " M: Material Relating to Thanksgiving Dance
November 21, 1949.
 - " N: Newspaper Clippings and Copies 1911-61
 - " O: Photographs 1930, 1946, 1949
 - " P: Membership List
(undated, 3 Xerox Copies of File cards)
 - " Q: Miscellaneous and/or Undated Material
 - " R: Miscellaneous and/or Undated Financial Material.

Box VIII: Papers Relating to Various Anniversary Celebrations 1911-71

- Folder A: 40th Anniversary, July 31, 1911
- " B: 45th and 50th Anniverseries, 1916 and 1921.
 - " C: 75th Anniversary Program, April 5-7, 1946
3 copies
 - " D: 80th Anniversary, 1951
 - " E: 85th Anniversary, 1956
 - " E₁: Replies from Membership, 1956 (3 Xerox Copies
of file cards).
 - " F: 90th Anniversary, 1961
Mailing List and Address Corrections
 - " F₁: 90th Anniversary, 1961
Outgoing Correspondance
 - " F₂: 90th Anniversary, 1961
Incoming Correspondance
 - " F₃: 90th Anniversary, 1961
Replies to Questionnaire (3 Xerox copies
of card file).
 - " G: 95th Anniversary, 1966
Mailing List
 - " H: 100th Anniversary, 1971
Miscellaneous
 - " H₁: 100th Anniversary, 1971
Mailing List

Box IX: Files of the KOJ Society A-R

- Folder A: KOJ Files--A
- " B: KOJ Files--B
 - " C: KOJ Files--C
 - " D: KOJ Files--D & E
 - " E: KOJ Files--F
 - " F: KOJ Files--G
 - " G: KOJ Files--H
 - " H: KOJ Files--I & J
 - " I: KOJ Files--K
 - " J: KOJ Files--L
 - " K: KOJ Files--M & N
 - " L: KOJ Files--O & P
 - " M: KOJ Files--Q & R

Box X: Files of the KOJ Society S-Z
 Folder A: KOJ Files--S
 " A1: KOJ Files--S (cont'd)
 " B: KOJ Files--T & U
 " C: KOJ Files--W, X, Y & Z
 Two groups of File Cards

There is also one large scrapbook included in the collection which has not been placed in a manuscript box because of its size.