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### Woman's Literature Club, Cherokee, Kansas, records, 1899-1937

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#79 Woman's Literature Club, Cherokee, Kansas, Records, 1899 – 1937  
9 folders

## INTRODUCTION

Records of the Woman's Literature Club of Cherokee, Kansas. The records consist of minute books, a financial ledger book, and a scrapbook containing newspaper clippings about club activities and a club history.

## DONOR INFORMATION

The donor and acquisition date of this collection are unknown.

## ORGANIZATION HISTORY

The Woman's Literature Club was organized in 1899 in Cherokee, Kansas by Jennie Graves and Mattie Howe. In 1901 the club associated with the Kansas Federation of Women's Clubs (KFWC) in the Third District, an affiliate of the national General Federation of Women's Clubs. General meetings of the Woman's Literature Club in the beginning were held in members' homes every Tuesday. Later the club met only twice monthly. The club organized a luncheon or dinner party with games and other activities whenever a month had a fifth Tuesday. An early tradition also established an annual spring luncheon which signaled the adjournment of club meetings until fall. There was also an annual Christmas party, or Yuletide Tea, and a mother-daughter banquet.

The Cherokee club sent delegates to meetings of the Kansas Federation of Women's Clubs, to which some members were elected to esteemed positions. In the early years the club beautified and maintained a vacant lot on Cherokee's Main Street, sponsored a Lyceum course, and initiated other community activities in Cherokee. During World War I the club was active in the war effort and sponsored a French orphan. The club members donated items to charity, established a scholarship loan program, aided the Cherokee community Christmas events, and assisted with various aspects of social welfare.

Prominent members associated with the Woman's Literature Club were Laura Payne, Nelle Rogers, and Maude Skinner. Payne served as the club's president from 1904-1905. She was also elected Treasurer of the KFWC Third District in 1910. Rogers served as club president from 1929-1930. She also served as chairman of the Third District Music Talent Fund. Skinner served as club president from 1936-37. Skinner was also appointed chairman of the Department of Motion Pictures, KFWC Third District, for two terms from 1934-1938.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Woman's Literature Club, Cherokee, Kansas records are arranged into four series: **Scrapbook, Minute Books, Financial Records, and Club Program.** The minute books provide the most insight into the organization's activities. The minute books series is arranged in chronological order. The other series were kept in original order.

The **Scrapbook Series** consists of one volume, compiled in 1936-1937, containing a club history from 1899-1937, a chronological list of club presidents, newspaper clippings, a club program for 1936-37, and a 1936 Yuletide Tea program. The pages of the scrapbook were removed from their bindings for preservation purposes. The decorated front cover of the scrapbook binding was preserved.

The **Minute Books Series** contains minutes of the weekly and bi-weekly meetings, membership attendance lists, and member waiting lists for the years 1907-1911 and 1926-1930.

The **Financial Records Series** contains the club's financial ledger for the years 1908-1944. Also included are miscellaneous invoices, receipts, checks, notes and letters, and an account book. The information in the ledger includes the treasury balance, and a record of receipts and expenses.

The **Club Program Series** contains a booklet compiled by the club that outlines the club's activities for the years 1914-1915.

## **FOLDER LIST**

### **Scrapbook Series**

- f. 1 Cover
- f. 2 - 3 Scrapbook pages

### **Minute Books Series**

- f. 4 1907-1911
- f. 5 1911-1914
- f. 6 1926-1930

### **Financial Records Series**

- f. 7 Ledger, 1908-1944
- f. 8 Invoices, Receipts, Letters, Notes, Checks

### **Club Program Series**

- f. 9 Annual program book for 1914-1915

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