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Hull and Dillon Packing Company collection, 1928-1940

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Hull and Dillon Packing Collection, MS 274

Hull and Dillon Packing Collection

Collection Number	MS 274
Title	The Hull and Dillon Company Collection
Repository	Pittsburg State University, Special Collections & University Archives, Pittsburg, Kansas 1701 S. Broadway Pittsburg, Kansas 66762 (620) 235-4883 speccoll@pittstate.edu
Dates	1928-1940
Collection Size	.4 linear feet
Donator	Pittsburg Public Library, Creator unknown
Scope and Content	A scrapbook of newspaper clippings from local and national newspapers related to agriculture, meat-packing, and the Hull and Dillon Packing Company of Pittsburg, Kansas.
Access Restrictions	This collection is open for access. Researchers must use the collection in accordance with the policies of the Special Collections & University Archives, Leonard H. Axe Library, Pittsburg State University
Languages	English

Biographical Note Lewis Hull (1855-1940) moved to Pittsburg, Kansas in 1885 to start a meat business. With modest funds and a hogshead as a smokehouse, Hull gradually increased his business, selling meat to the local citizens. Hull was joined in business by his brother-in-law Thomas Dillon (1861-1952) and in 1891 they opened a packing plant on the banks of Cow Creek in Pittsburg. The company was incorporated in 1904 and from there, the plant expanded. By 1920, lard, hides, and grease were sent or sold to other companies across the nation and overseas. In 1922, Hull and Dillon acquired 1,200 acres of grain and farm stock to raise excess stock. This allowed them to purchase all cows offered and to condition previously unconditioned beeves for local slaughter or shipment. In 1925, the one-story plant was increased to three and in 1928 the plant increased to fourteen acres with electricity and modern refrigeration. The plant slaughtered one hundred hogs and twenty-five beeves a day by 1928, paying \$1,187,000 to producers. A major policy of the company was employee relation and welfare. Lewis Hull passed away in 1940 and Thomas Dillon in 1952.

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Processing Note

Collection processed in January 2020

Content Description

This collection is comprised of a large scrapbook of newspaper clippings from 1928 to 1940 from local and national newspapers with news of agriculture, business, meat-packing, and the Hull & Dillon Packing Company of Pittsburg, Kansas. The scrapbook also includes advertisements, correspondence, programs, and other ephemeral documents.