

**Minnesota Federation of Women's  
Clubs, Fifth District Collection  
M/A 2000.22.01-05**

**Finding aid prepared by Carissa Hansen**

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

James K. Hosmer Special Collections Library

March 2016

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	James K. Hosmer Special Collections Library
<b>Creator</b>	Minnesota Federation of Women's Clubs, Fifth District.
<b>Title</b>	Minnesota Federation of Women's Clubs, Fifth District Collection
<b>Date</b>	1904-1967
<b>Extent</b>	2.08 Linear feet
<b>Language</b>	English

## History

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The Fifth District of the Minnesota Federation of Women's Clubs (M.F.W.C.) was organized in 1897. The organization evolved from the Woman's Council in Minneapolis, which was established in 1886. The Fifth District became the arm of the larger M.F.W.C. that included Minneapolis, and it was the first district in Minnesota to officially federate. Beginning in the late 19th century, personal growth and education were considered by some to be of the utmost importance for women's advancement and this led to the creation of women's clubs. By the 1920s, the Fifth District included over 100 individual clubs, most of which were study clubs. Charity, civic work, education, and suffrage were among the endeavors of the Fifth District. They sent petitions to city council seeking improved water supply, tried to abolish forms of gambling in the city, and supported education and local organizations for boys and girls. Aside from the meetings of individual clubs, the Fifth District held District meetings throughout Minneapolis in hotels, churches, libraries, and homes of various members. Many members were also involved at the state and national levels of the Federation of Women's Clubs and attended larger conventions around the country. Notable members include Mrs. T. B. Walker, Martha C. Wells (also known as Mrs. Cyrus W. Wells, District president 1907-1909, founding member of the M.F.W.C., and M.F.W.C. historian), Mrs. Henry F. Brown (first president of the Fifth District 1897-1899), Emma S. Coan (also known as Mrs. J. P. Coan, Fifth District historian from 1925-1937), and Mabel Crinkley (also known as Mrs. M. A. Crinkley, Fifth District historian after Coan's death).

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## Description of Collection

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The collection consists of five boxes of material related to the Fifth District of the Minnesota Federation of Women's Clubs. Box 1 contains newspaper clippings from 1921-1964 with the bulk of the clippings dating from the 1940s. Box 2 contains comprehensive early histories of the Fifth District and a small amount of material related to various events and conventions. Boxes 2-5 contain scrapbooks from the 1920s-1940s and District directories from 1904-1967. The scrapbooks, primarily compiled by District Historian Mabel Crinkley, contain newspaper clippings, photographs, correspondence, and other club material.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Information

## Controlled Access Headings

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### Corporate Name(s)

- Minnesota Federation of Women's Clubs.

### Personal Name(s)

- Coan, Emma S.
- Crinkley, Mabel
- Wells, Martha C., 1847-1948

### Subject(s)

- Women -- Minnesota -- Minneapolis -- Societies and clubs.
- Women civic leaders
- Women in charitable work -- Minnesota -- Minneapolis.
- Women in community organization -- Minnesota -- Minneapolis.

## Newspaper Clippings

**Collection Inventory**

<b>Newspaper Clippings 1921-1964</b>		
	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Newspaper Clippings 1921-1922	1	1
Newspaper Clippings 1925	1	2
Newspaper Clippings 1926	1	3
Newspaper Clippings 1931	1	4
Newspaper Clippings 1936	1	5
Newspaper Clippings 1937	1	6
Newspaper Clippings 1939	1	7
Newspaper Clippings 1940	1	8
Newspaper Clippings 1940	1	9
Newspaper Clippings 1941	1	10
Newspaper Clippings 1942	1	11

**Organizational History**

Newspaper Clippings 1943	1	12
Newspaper Clippings 1944	1	13
Newspaper Clippings 1945	1	14
Newspaper Clippings 1946	1	15
Newspaper Clippings 1947	1	16
Newspaper Clippings 1953-1954, 1957, 1964	1	17
		<b>Oversize</b>
Annual Homemaker's Edition April 17, 1940		1

**Scope and Contents note**

Two copies of the Fifth District's Annual Homemaker's Edition of the Minneapolis Morning Tribune and Times-Tribune.

**Organizational History 1920s-1940s****Scope and Contents note**

Histories of the Fifth District, written and compiled by District Historians Emma S. Coan and Mabel Crinkley and M.F.W.C. Historian Martha C. Wells

	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
History of Fifth District Activities 1920s-1940s	2	1

## Conventions and Events

History of Fifth District Activities and the Cultural Club Movement 1920s-1940s	2	2
Articles and Talks Written and Given by Emma S. Coan and Mabel Crinkley 1920s-1940s	2	3
17th Biennial Convention of the General Federation of Women's Clubs 1924	2	4
Historian's Report, Martha C. Wells 1921	2	5
List of Motion Picture and Clubs Chairmen 1941	2	6
History of Fifth District Federation of Women's Clubs 1940	2	7
<b>Scope and Contents note</b>		
Manuscript of article written by Mabel Crinkley and published in the Minneapolis Tribune on Sunday, September 29, 1940 and Sunday, October 6, 1940		
<b>Conventions and Events 1922-1924, 1944, 1956</b>		
	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Programs and Pamphlets 1923, 1940, 1944, 1956	2	8
Letters to and from Martha C. Wells regarding conventions 1922, 1924	2	9



## Scrapbooks

**Scrapbooks 1920s-1940s**

	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Fifth District Activities 1920s-1940s	2	10-11

Fifth District Activities 1930s

3

1

**Scope and Contents note**

Includes Mabel Crinkley's personal correspondence and momentos

Club Activities of Mabel Crinkley 1920s-1940s

3

2-3

**Scope and Contents note**

Contains a significant amount of material related to Crinkley's involvement in the Twentieth Century Club

Fifth District Presidents 1897-1945 undated

4

1

Histories of the Clubs of the Fifth District 1920s-1940s

4

2-4

**Scope and Contents note**

Clubs represented include the All American Study Club, Alternates Club, Argosy Club, Athenaeum Club, Authors Study Club, Brown Study Club, Buchanan Bible Study Club, Cassiopeia Club, Society of the Citizenship, Citizenship Clubs, Columbian Club, Current Events and Literary Society, Delphian Parliamentary Law Club, Elective Study Club, Extempore Club, Fifth District Officers' Club, Founders and Pioneers of Minnesota Federation of Women's Clubs, Friday History Club, Friday Study Club,

## Directories

Gleaners Study Club, Heatherdale Study Club, Homemakers' Study Club, Housewives' League, Ideal Study Club, International Fellowship Club, Ionian Study Club, Iota Study Club, Ivy Service Club, Ladies of the Round Table, Lewis Parliamentary Law Association, Linden Hills Study Club, Lynnhurst Travel Club, Minneapolis Council of Jewish Women, Minnesota State Sunshine Society, Minnehaha Thursday Club, Mo Pan-American Study Club, Monday Study Club, Monday Welfare Club, Morningside Literary Club, Nature Study Club, Navy Mothers' Club, Oak Park Study Club, Oliver Wendell Holmes Club, Ollapodrida Club, Olympian Club, Outlook Study Club, Pathfinder Club, Prospect Park Study Club, Rambers' Study Club, Safety Club, St. Anthony Falls Study Club, Saturday Club, Schoolmasters' Wives' Club, Search Light Study Club, Silver Service Club, Thursday Musical, Inc., Thursday Study Club, Tourists Club, Tuesday Club, Tuesday Study Club, Twentieth Century Club, Utopian Study Club, Violet Study Club, Woman's Club of Minneapolis, Woman's Club of Richfield, Women's Auxiliary of the Blue Goose, Women's Auxiliary to the Retail Plumbers' Association, Women's Auxiliary to the Railway Mail Association, Women's Home Division of the Hennepin County Safety Council, Zetetic Club.

### Directories 1904, 1915-1967

	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Fifth District Directories 1904, 1915-1927	4	5
Fifth District Directories 1929-1937	5	1
Fifth District Directories 1937-1946	5	2
Fifth District Directories 1947-1960	5	3

**Directories**

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Fifth District Directories 1960-1967	5	4
Founders and Pioneers 1950s	5	5
The Society of the Citizenship 1958, 1966	5	6