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H88-0258. Hope College Preparatory School/Department (1851-1938). Records, 1857-1938. 4.50 linear ft.

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H88-0258. Hope College Preparatory School/Department (1851-1938).
Records, 1857-1938. 4.50 linear ft.

Abstract

The Hope College Preparatory School was founded as the Holland Pioneer School in 1851. Its first principal was Walter T. Taylor. In 1857, the name was changed to the Holland Academy, and John Van Vleck was principal. In 1934, due to financial difficulties and more problems relating to the College's accreditation, a motion was made by the Council of Hope College to disband the Prep Department. This process was completed in 1938. The collection contains the minutes of faculty meetings, graduation announcements, flyers, clippings, photographs, photographs of the Ufilias Club, and programs of Class Day Exercises and a letter of accreditation from the University of Michigan.

Accession No.: H88-0258
Provenance: Hope College Preparatory School/Department
Donor: Hope College
Photographs: 276 images (Box 4)
Processed by: Rebecca A. O'Shesky, July 1991

History

The Hope College Preparatory School was founded as the Holland Pioneer School in 1851. Its first principal was Walter T. Taylor. In 1857, the name was changed to the Holland Academy, and John Van Vleck was principal.

When Hope College was officially incorporated in 1866, the Academy was divided into three departments: the Collegiate; the Theological, which became Western Theological Seminary; and the Preparatory or Grammar Department.

Until 1925, the Prep Department and the College had the same faculty and governing council. Due to a ruling for accreditation for the College, a separate faculty was established for the Prep Department utilizing the teaching students from the College. At this time, the Prep Department was also made a tuition free high school.

In 1934, due to financial difficulties and more problems relating to the College's accreditation, a motion was made by the Council of Hope College to disband the Prep Department. This process was completed in 1938.

Scope and Content

This collection contains materials relating to the Hope College Preparatory Department from 1861-1938. The collection has been divided into three series: RECORDS, FACULTY MINUTES, and PHOTOGRAPHS. The folders within the RECORDS and PHOTOGRAPHS series are arranged alphabetically, while FACULTY MINUTES are arranged chronologically.

The RECORDS series (0.50 linear ft.) consists of materials, 1861-1934, mostly related to graduation exercises, although there are clippings and pamphlets that relate to the prep department in general. The strength of this series is an almost complete set of programs from graduation exercises for the prep department. These not only list all the members of the

graduating classes, but also speeches, plays and musical pieces performed.

The FACULTY MINUTES series (2 vols.) consists of notes from 1871 to 1919 taken at prep school meetings. These give an inside look at issues of concern at the school. The drawback to these books is that they are handwritten and difficult to read.

The PHOTOGRAPHS series (1.00 linear ft.) contains photographs dating from 1878 to 1922. The bulk of the images are individual shots of members of graduating classes. Unfortunately, the majority of them are not identified.

These additional collections contain papers related to the Hope Prep School and Department:

Tysse, John W. (H88-1001)
Vander Borgh, Gerrit (H88-0156)
Veldhuis, Zachary (H88-0186)
Winter, John Garrett (H88-0204)
Hope College Catalog (H88-0316)
Meliphone Society (H88-416)
Minerva Society (H88-0417)
Excelsiora (H88-0427)
Prep School/Department Diplomas in Map Case Drawer 10

Relevant photographs will be found in these collections:

Hope College Prep School/Department (H88-PH2000)
Meliphone Society (H88-PH2458)
Minerva Society (H88-PH2461)
Basketball, Prep (H91-PH3019)

Container List

Box 1

RECORDS, 1862-1934

Accreditation Letter from the University of Michigan, 1921
“First Catalogue of the Holland Academy, out of which has grown Hope College,” 1865 (uncut, incomplete)
Graduation Announcements, 1894-1924 (incomplete)
Graduating Classes, 1907, 1909
“Important Information Relating to Hope College and Preparatory School,” n.d.
Order of Classes schedule, n.d.
Receipt for College Entrance Requirements in English, 1901

PROGRAMS, 1857-1935

Holland Academy, Annual Public Exercises, 1857-1864
Hope College
Intercalary Exhibitions, 1866-1867

Preparatory Department, Closing Rhetorical Exercises, 1875-1885
Grammar School Department - Closing Rhetorical Exercises, 1886-1893
Junior Exhibition Programs, 1894, 1896
Preparatory Department, Class-Day Exercises, 1894-1929 (incomplete)
High School
 Commencement, 1931-1935
 “The Eleventy-First Exhibition of the Hope College High School
 Flunking Establishment,” n.d.
FACULTY MINUTES, 1871-1919 (2 vols.)

Box 2

Ledgers

Grammar School Department Record of Scholarship and Department, 1886-1900

Box 3

Ledgers (cont.)

Matriculation Book of Hope College, Grammar School Department, 1886-1907
Record, Preparatory Department, ca. 1900

Box 4

PHOTOGRAPHS, 1878-1922 (photos are individual shots unless otherwise noted)

Album, 1886-1887
Album, Class of 1913 (belonged to Ruth Blekkink)
Basketball Team (2 images)
Class of 1878 (12 images)
Class of 1881 (2 images)
Class of 1883 (24 images)
Class of 1885 (5 images)
Class of 1886 (14 images)
Class of 1887 (5 images)
Class of 1888 (7 images)
Class of 1889 (7 images)
Class of 1890 (2 images)
Class of 1898 (11 images)
Class of 1899 (1 image)
Class of 1905 (56 images)
Class of 1906, Non-Graduates and Special Students (9 images)
Class of 1906 (60 images divided into two sets of 30 images each, 1 set identified)
Class of 1907, Party at J. F. Oggel’s Home (group) (1 image)
Class of 1909 (1 image) (oversized)
Class of 1912 (1 image) (oversized)
Class of 1913 (1 image) (oversized)

Class of 1914, Party, 1912, 1913 (group) (2 images)
Class of 1915 (few are identified) (39 images)
Class of 1922, Girls (7 images)
Female Students (4 images)
Student Body, (group) (8 images, 2 oversized)
Ufilias Club (1 image)