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H88-0086. Kleinheksel, J. Harvey (1900-1965).
Papers, 1919-1973. 0.25 linear ft.



Abstract

Hope Preparatory School class of 1918 and Hope College class of 1922; Hope College professor of chemistry (1928-1965). The collection includes articles, biographical information, Kleinheksel's signed copy of the book *Handbook of Chemistry and Physics* (1919), and photographs. The subjects of the articles include science and religion, chemistry, and the role of research in college instruction.

Accession No.: H88-0086
Provenance: J. Harvey Kleinheksel
Donor: Hope College
Photographs: 6 images
Processed by: Rebecca A. O'Shesky

Biography

J. Harvey Kleinheksel was born in Holland, Michigan, on September 1, 1900, to Bert and Minnie (Koops) Kleinheksel. He attended elementary school in Fillmore Township, Michigan, from 1905-1914. In 1914, he entered Hope Preparatory School and graduated from there in 1918. That fall, he enrolled at Hope College for a four-year degree. There he earned an A.B. in 1922. He was also granted two degrees from the University of Illinois (M.S., 1925; Ph.D., 1927).

Kleinheksel began his professional career at Hope College as a professor of chemistry and zoology in 1928 when there was only one other department colleague, his former teacher Dr. Gerrit Van Zyl. Together they were known as Big Doc (Kleinheksel) and Little Doc (Van Zyl). To earn extra money during the early years of teaching, he worked as an embalmer at his wife's (Ethyl Dykstra) family funeral business, Dykstra Funeral Home. Besides teaching (instructor, assistant professor, associate professor 1944-1948, professor 1948-1965), he also served as co-sponsor of the Chemistry Club and faculty advisor for the Blue Key fraternity for fourteen years. While advising the latter organization, the college's first second-hand bookstore was opened. In 1965, he retired after 37 years of service, but continued teaching freshman honors chemistry, quantitative analysis and history of chemistry at Hope College until his death on December 21, 1965, in Dallas, Texas.

Scope and Content

The collection includes articles, biographical information, Kleinheksel's signed copy of the book *Handbook of Chemistry and Physics* (1919), and photographs. The subjects of the articles include science and religion, chemistry, and the role of research in college instruction.

Container List

Articles, n.d., 1928, 1959, one folder containing:

“Cooperation, not Conflict,” n.d.

“Does Science Conflict with Christianity?” n.d.

“Observations on the Rare Earths,” 1928

“The Place of Research in College Teaching,” 1959

Biographical, 1948-1966

Photographs, J. Harvey Kleinheksel, n.d. (6 items) (includes photographs with David DePree, William L. Mitchell and Robert K. Patterson)

Publication, *Handbook of Chemistry and Physics*, 1919