September 2013


Hope College

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Abstract

Hope College class of 1926; member of the Hope College Board of Trustees, 1968-1986. The collection includes biographical materials, correspondence, photographs, material pertaining to the Alumni Varsity “H” Club, reunions of the class of 1926, the Board of Trustees, and the Build Hope campaign. Correspondents include Howard R. Sluyter, Ekadal Buys, Gordon Brewer and Calvin VanderWerf.

Accession No: H88-0189.5
Provenance: James Marinus VerMeulen
Donor: Information Unavailable
Photographs: 7 images
Processed by: Rebecca A. O’Shesky, February 1992

Biography

James Marinus VerMeulen attended Hope College, majoring in history. After graduation in 1926, he decided to go into business. He started working for the American Seating Company and advanced in the company rapidly. VerMeulen married Helen Spencer in 1928; they had two daughters and one son. By 1958, he was president of the American Seating company and was also chairperson to many different committees. In 1969, he retired from all the offices he held.

Scope and Content

The collection consists of biographical information, photographs, files on campaign material, committees, and correspondence. The Build Hope campaign material includes plans and the closing speech for the Hope College building fund. His career at American Seating is not covered in the collection.

Container List

Biographical, 1977, 1986
Alumni Varsity “H” Club, 1949-1967, one folder containing:
   Correspondence, 1946-1967
   Football passes, 1951, 1961
   Program Hope vs. Kalamazoo, 1949
Build Hope Campaign Closing Speech, 1972
Campaign for Hope, 1984
Commemorative Gift Opportunities, 1972
Committees, 1971-1973
   College Family Gifts, 1972
   Foundation Grants, 1973
   Major Gifts, 1973
Memorials, 1971
National Alumni, Parents and Friends, 1971
Correspondence, 1949-1976
  Chicago Alumni Club, Hope College Meeting, 1969
  Class of 1926, Reunion, 1949-1976
  General, 1961-1972
Photographs, one folder containing:
  Build Hope Campaign, n. d. (2 images)
  Class of 1926, n. d., 1946, 1966 (5 images)