
Hope College

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   Papers, 1931-1936. 0.25 linear ft.

Abstract

Hope College class of 1936; Michigan State University class of 1969; Western Michigan University teaching certificate; cost accountant for the City of Wyoming; teacher at Central High School. Collection includes photos, a newsletter, and a scrapbook relating to his time in high school and at Hope College, 1931-1936.

Accession No: H12-1825
Provenance: Milton C. Spaan
Donor: Marty Evert
Photographs: 3 images
Processed by: Sarah Lundy, January 2019

Biography

Milton C. Spaan was born to Rev. Cornelius H. and Ruth Spaan in 1914 in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He graduated from South High School in 1932 and Hope College in 1936. While there, Spaan was an active participant in many musical and theatrical groups, including the glee club and the “Pageant of 1936.” He was also a member of the Cosmopolitan fraternity, for which he played basketball, worked on the Cosmo Alumni Bulletin committee, and served as the house manager.

Following his graduation from Hope, Spaan worked for the Grand Rapids Transit Company and for the City of Wyoming as a cost accountant. He married Evelyn Spaan in 1936, with whom he had two children, David and Marcia. Evelyn died in 1955, and Milton remarried in 1957 to Gertrude Hondorp.

Spaan then continued his studies at Michigan State University and Western Michigan University respectively, where he received a master’s degree in education and a teaching certificate. He became an English teacher and tennis coach at Central High School.

Milton C. Spaan died on June 27, 2005, at the age of 90.

Scope and Content

The Milton C. Spaan papers include materials from 1931 to 1936 which document his high school and college years. The collection consists of photos, a newsletter, articles, and a handmade scrapbook. Many of the papers contained in the scrapbook detail the concerts, plays, banquets, and athletic events that Spaan attended as a young man.

The collection has been arranged chronologically with the exception of the materials in Spaan’s scrapbook, which have been ordered as they were included originally. Several of the programs and bulletins have come unglued from the scrapbook and have been placed between the pages as a result.
Container List

Biographical, 1914-2007
Scrapbook

Seventieth Annual Commencement bulletin, 1935
“Hope College Week of Prayer: November 5-9, 1934,” 1934
“Hope College Week of Prayer: November 4-8, 1935,” 1935
Hope Reformed Church Bulletin, 1935
M.I.A.A. Track and Field Meet program, 1935
M.I.A.A. Track and Field Meet program, 1936
University of Michigan vs. Calvin College; Universal Carloaders vs. Holland
‘Flying Dutchmen’ program, 1934
Hope College Special Convocation program, 1935
Michigan West Shore Festival Chorus program, 1933?
South High School Band and Concert Orchestra Annual Concert program, 1931
“Turn to the Right,” South High School Theatre program, 1934
“‘Tom Jones and his Musical Jesters’ at Ramona Theatre” program, 1934
Albion vs. Hope football program, 1933
Hope College Men’s Glee Club program, 1934
Men’s Glee Club of Hope College program, 1935 (signed by participants)
Hope College Chapel Choir program, 1935
South High Home Coming Alumni Shambles program, 1934
“The Belle of Bagdad,” South High School concert program, 1931
Hope College Chapel Choir program, 1934 (signed by pianist Joseph Brinkman)
Grand Rapids Master Concerts program, 1934
The Salvation Army Mammoth Band Festival program, 1935
“Don Alonso’s Treasure,” Hope College Glee Clubs program, 1934
“The Messiah,” Holland Civic Chorus program, 1934
Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra program, 1933-1934
Lawrence Tibbett program, 1934 (signed by Tibbett)
“‘Berkeley Square,’” Ottawa Hills High School Senior Class of 1935 play
program, 1935
Metropolitan Quartet program, 1934
“The Navy Blow-Out at The Navy Blue Inn,” Hope All-College Banquet, 1935
“Skidding,” South High School play program, 1935
Eighteenth Annual Class Day program, 1935
Newsletter, Cosmopolitan Alumni Bulletin, May 1936
Photographs, “Pageant of 1936,” 1936 (3 images)