

IHLC MS 848

**Corn Belt Liberty League
Papers, 1935-1995**

Manuscript Collection Inventory

Illinois History and Lincoln Collections
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

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Papers, 1935-1995.**

Contents

Part I: Contemporary Documents Related to the CBLL. **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Part II: Writings and Research Files of Lynnita Sommer. **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Part I: Contemporary Documents Related to the CBLL.....	1
Corn Belt Liberty League	1
General Subject File	2
Legislation	3
Organizations Related to Corn Belt Liberty League	3
Publications about Agricultural Legislation and Farmers' Rights	3
Part II: Writings and Research Files of Lynnita Sommer.....	4
Writings	4
Research Files	4

Box 1:

Part I: Contemporary Documents Related to the CBLL

 Corn Belt Liberty League
 Administrative Documents

Oversize folder h001

 Incorporation Documents, 1938

Box 1 (cont.)

 Certificate of Dissolution, 1946
 Administrative Files: Includes purposes of the organization, example of a membership application, scattered records of Illinois meetings, lists of Illinois county chapter leaders, and form letters to membership, ca. 1938-46

Oversize folder h001 (cont.)

 Annual Reports (stored in oversize cabinet), 1939-41

Box 1 (cont.)

 Finances, 1938-39
 Form Letter - Withdrawal from the Farm Bureau, 1938
 Membership Lists, 1938-39
 Membership Receipts (unused), ca. 1938-46
 American Liberty magazine
 Publications and correspondence, 1938-39
 Correspondence - By State

Alabama, 1938
Arkansas, 1940
Arizona, 1938
California, 1938
Colorado, 1938
Connecticut, 1938
Florida, 1938
Illinois, 1938-41 (14 folders)
Indiana, 1938-40
Iowa, 1938-41
Kansas, 1938-39
Kentucky, 1938
Louisiana, 1938
Maryland, 1939
Massachusetts, 1938
Michigan, 1938-39
Minnesota, 1936-39
Missouri, 1938-39
Montana, 1938
Nebraska, 1938-40
New Jersey, 1938
New Mexico, 1938
New York, 1938-39
North Dakota, 1938
Ohio, 1938-40
Oklahoma, 1938
Pennsylvania, 1938-39
South Dakota, 1938
Tennessee, 1938
Texas, 1939
Virginia, 1938
Wisconsin, 1938-39
Washington, D.C., 1938-40
Address Unknown, 1940

Correspondence - General

On Frank Gannett and America's Future, Inc.
(includes a speech by Gannett), 1939
Legislators (members of U.S. Congress), 1938-42
McDonald, J. E. - Texas Commissioner of
Agriculture, 1939
Media (Newspapers, Radio Stations, Magazines),
1939
Missouri Farmer magazine, 1938-39
Morse, Stanley F. (Stateburg, So. Car.; obtained
from University of South Carolina Library) -
Executive Vice-President, Farmers'
Independence Council of America, 1936-41
Niebergall, Philip (Paw Paw, Ill.), 1938-40

General Subject File

Agricultural Conference, Washington, D.C., held Feb. 1-2,
1939

Corn Belt Farm Dailies (Newspapers), 1938
 National Basic Income Plan of John S. Winter, 1938
 Poems inspired by the Agricultural Adjustment Act
 Speeches and Written Statements regarding Farmers' Rights
 and the Agricultural Adjustment Act, 1938
 University of Illinois - Reaction to Agricultural
 Adjustment Act, 1936-1937

Legislation

Subcommittee Hearing on Agricultural Adjustment Act, 1937
 Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, 1938-1939, 1942, 1947
 Agricultural Equality Act, 1939

Organizations Related to Corn Belt Liberty League

Associated Cotton Growers of California (Waldo H. Marquis)
 - Correspondence, 1938
 Associated Farmers - Administrative and Legal Documents,
 1938
 Associated Farmers of Pacific Coast (Fred Goodcell,
 Secretary-Treasurer) - Correspondence and Clippings, 1938
 Clearinghouse for National Interests (Mrs. Richard W. Mead,
 New York City) - Correspondence, 1939-40
 Farm Bureau (American Farm Bureau Federation) - Background
 Information
 Farm Holiday Association - Background Information
 Farmers' Freedom League of America - Petition to Repeal the
 Compulsory Crop Act of 1938 (blank)
 Farmers' Independence Council of America - Addresses by
 Stanley F. Morse, Membership Forms and Background
 Information, 1935-37, 1991
 Farmers' National Committee for Action - Background
 Information
 Kansas Farmers Liberty League - Correspondence, 1938-1940

Box 2:

Publications about Agricultural Legislation and Farmers' Rights
 Congressional Record, 1938
 Farm Bureau News (excerpts), 1937-1941
 Illinois Agricultural Association Record, 1936-1939
 Kramer, Dale. Truth About the Farm Bureau, rev. ed.
 Minneapolis: Farmers Book Store, 1937
 The Prairie Farmer (excerpts), 1937-1938; and Evans, James
 F. Prairie Farmer and WLS. Urbana: University of Illinois
 Press, 1969 (excerpts)
 Contemporary Writings on Farmers' Rights, New Deal
 Policies, and the Great Depression, ca. 1936-1942
 Magazine Articles about Corn Belt Liberty League,
 Agricultural Adjustment Act, 1938
 News Clippings on Corn Belt Liberty League, Agricultural
 Adjustment Act (General), ca. 1938-1941
 News Clippings on Corn Belt Liberty League, Agricultural
 Adjustment Act (Indiana), 1938
 News Clippings, Broadsides, Form Letters, dealing with
 Contemporary Protests, 1938-1939

Part II: Writings and Research Files of Lynnita Sommer

Writings

Sommer, Lynnita Aldridge. "Illinois Farmers in Revolt: The Corn Belt Liberty League." *Illinois Historical Journal* 88:4 (Winter 1995) - offprint, original manuscript, reader reviews, administrative correspondence, editorial comments, 1990-1995

Sommer, Lynnita. "Illinois Farmers' Reaction to the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938: Anger, Not Acquiescence" - Term Paper for Mark Leff's "U.S. History After 1932" course, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, April 1990; also includes instructor's comments.

Oversize folder h001 (cont.)

Letters to the Editor, 1990

Box 2 (cont.)

Research Files

Correspondence

To and From Lynnita Sommer, 1990-1994. All correspondence pertains to Sommer's research for the articles listed above in the "Writings" section.

Addresses and Phone Numbers of Contacts/Interviewees

Interviews and Related Materials

Eileen Christy (daughter of CBLI President Tilden J. Burg) - Interview Transcript, Mar. 31, 1990
 Finley Foster (founding member of the CBLI)
 Interview Transcript, Mar. 21, 1990 (and brief Macomb *Journal* article about him, June 26, 1986)

"The Life and Times of Finley Foster (as written by him on February 25, 1988)"

Obituary, ca. 1990

Hilda Ruebush (wife of Carl Ruebush, a founding member of the CBLI) - Interview Transcript and related documents, Mar. 31, 1990

Photographs

Photographs (4), including the Boardman family, 1939, and the Barnes home, 1991

Box 3:

Notes

General Notes

Includes a list of 14 Illinois counties which had CBLI chapters (according to *Business Week*, June 4, 1938) and a list of Illinois newspapers to which Sommer wrote letters to the editor in her attempt to learn more about the League, ca. 1990

On Manuscript Collections

Dan D. Casement Papers, Kansas State University
Archives (includes photocopies from and
correspondence about the collection), 1938-39,
1990-92

Grange Records, Earl W. Hayter Regional History
Center, Northern Illinois University

Stanley F. Morse Papers, U. South Carolina

On Publications

On *The Gallup Poll*, v. 1, 1935-1971

Publications related to CBLL and New Deal Legislation

Book Excerpts re Corn Belt Liberty League, 1956, 1982,
1986

Indiana Newspaper Directory and Rate Books, 1988.

Indianapolis: The Hoosier State Press Association
Saloutos, Theodore. "New Deal Agricultural Policy: An
Evaluation." *Journal of American History* LXI: 2
(Sept. 1974), 394-416