Collection Summary

Title
Coleman Family Papers

Date
1885-1975

Extent
6 folders and 1 oversize folder

Name and Location of Repository
Midwest Genealogy Center, Independence (Mo.)
Reference code: MCG 1000-CFP
Processed by: Nicole Pye, 2012; Finding aid created by Amy Luther, 2012

Names of Creators
Coleman, Edna
Coleman, James E.
Sterba, Charles
Sterba, Eunice Coleman

Biographical History
Edna Coleman was born November 15, 1897 in Overbrook, Kansas. Edna attended Kansas State Teachers College. After graduation, she first taught school in Emporia and then she moved to Brooklyn, New York to teach in public schools there. She taught at Brooklyn Technical High School in the English department. In 1942, Edna became ill and moved back to Emporia to live with her family. She died October 30, 1943 in Emporia.

James E. Coleman was born May 4, 1861 in Illinois. James and his family moved to Junction, Kansas and were operating a farm in 1880. James married Ella L. Smith on February 18, 1885 and continued to live in Junction working as a farmer. James, Ella, and their 6 children moved to Emporia, Kansas in the early 1900s. James was a fireman in Emporia and his daughters attended the Kansas State Teachers College. Ella died in Emporia, Kansas on August 27, 1906. James and most of the Coleman family continued to reside in Emporia and James died there on April 2, 1950.

Eunice Ella Coleman was born March 29, 1889 in Kansas. She attended Kansas State Teachers College and graduated in 1916 with her degree. After graduation, Eunice taught in Emporia’s public schools. She married Charles Clarence Sterba in 1927, a principal in Emporia. Charles and Eunice continued to work in the Emporia public school system until their retirement. Eunice’s father, James, lived with the Sterbas until his death in 1950. Charles died in 1971 and Eunice died in 1982.

Charles Clarence Sterba was born May 1, 1880 in Cuba, Kansas. His family moved to Emporia, where they continued to reside. Charles attended Kansas State Technical College and became a principal after graduation. He married Eunice Coleman June 19, 1927. Charles and Eunice continued to work in the Emporia public school system until their retirement. Charles died in August 4, 1971.
Scope and Content
This collection consists of marriage and funeral items for the Coleman family, including: photographs, marriage service, funeral books, casket warranty, sympathy card, cemetery location, family Bible record, memorial record, newspaper obituaries, bridal memories, correspondence, floral cards, editorial, and a marriage record. Significant gaps for which no records exist: 1886-1912, 1913-1926, 1927-1943, and 1945-1971.

Collection Inventory

System of Arrangement
These records are arranged in six series.

Series 1, Coleman Family Record from family bible, undated

Series 2, Coleman/Shombied Bridal Memories, September 26, 1926

Series 3, Coleman/Sterba marriage service and funeral ephemera, 1928-1975
  Item 1, Marriage Service, June 20, 1928
  Item 2, Funeral Book, July 27, 1974
  Item 3, Photographs from funeral, July 27, 1974
  Item 4, Warranty Certificate for casket, July 29, 1974
  Item 5, Sympathy Card to Eunice Sterba, May 21, 1975
  Item 6, Location of Cemetery and plot, May 8, 1975

Series 4, Memorial and obituaries, 1912 and undated
  Item 1, Memorial Record, March 15, 1912
  Item 2, Newspaper obituaries, undated

Series 5, Coleman funeral ephemera, 1943
  Item 1, Funeral Book, October 30, 1943
  Item 2, Correspondence to Edna Coleman, November, 1943
  Item 3, Correspondence to James E. Coleman, November, 1943
  Item 4, Sympathy Cards, November, 1943
  Item 5, Floral Cards, October 30, 1943
  Item 6, Newspaper obituaries for Edna Coleman, November, 1943
  Item 7, Editorial regarding Edna Coleman, November 5, 1943

Series 6, Funeral documents for Charles Sterba, 1971
  Item 1, Funeral Book, August 4, 1971
  Item 2, Floral Cards, August 4, 1971
  Item 3, Photograph of Charles Sterba, May 30, 1971

Series 7, Marriage certificate for James E. Coleman and Ella L. Smith, 1885
Rights and Access

Conditions Governing Access
The collection is open for research use by appointment.

Physical Access
Most records within this collection are housed in file folders. Individual photographs are housed in plastic sleeves and some documents are wrapped in tissue paper.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use
Permission to publish, quote, or reproduce must be secured from the Midwest Genealogy Center.

Languages and Scripts of the Material
Materials in the collection are entirely in English.

Immediate Source of Acquisition
This collection was donated to the Midwest Genealogy Center.

Accruals
No further accruals are expected for this collection.

Existence and Location of Originals
Originals owned by the Midwest Genealogy Center.

Finding Aid
Name index is available from the archivist.

Notes
The following sources were consulted during the preparation of the biographical history:


