

Inventory of the

H.H. Parke
Genoa-Sycamore, Illinois

Collection

In the

Regional History Center

RC 43

INTRODUCTION

The Henry H. Parke Collection was donated to the Northern Illinois Regional History Center by Mr. Henry W. Parke, Sycamore, Illinois, on November 6, 1978.

Property rights in the collection belong to the Northern Illinois Regional History Center; literary rights are dedicated to the public. There are no restrictions on access to materials in the collection.

Linear feet of shelf space: .75
Number of containers: 2 boxes
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SCOPE AND CONTENT

The H.H. Parke Collection documents the life of one of the foremost men in American agriculture. Included in this collection are letters from family and friends during his college years (1900-1910); congratulatory letters to Mr. Parke for achievements in the agricultural sphere; and programs and reports of the American Farm Bureau. Of particular interest are biographical and autobiographical material of Almon Ford Parke, H.H. Parke and related family members. Publications of various farm organizations can be found in this collection as well as two ledgers containing farm records.

HISTORICAL SKETCH

Henry Hall Parke was born in DeKalb County in 1876, the son of Almon Ford and Ruth (Hall) Parke. H.H. Parke was educated in local schools before attending the University of Michigan where he received both a B.L. and M.S. in Marine Biology. After teaching for two years at the University of West Virginia, Parke returned to the Genoa-Sycamore area where he operated the 400 acre family farm.

Active in the farming community, Parke was instrumental in organizing the DeKalb Farm Bureau in 1912 and is today known as the Father of that organization. He was active in other cooperative ventures including many years of service as Vice President of the National Live Stock Producers Association and service as President and Treasurer of the Chicago Live Stock Producers Association. Additional affiliations included the National Council of Farmer's Cooperatives and a brief stint as Assistant Secretary of Agriculture (Illinois) in 1917.

Parke was a member of the Masons, the Elks and the Rotary Clubs; he attended the Federated Protestant Church in Sycamore. In 1907 Parke married Anna Laura Wellings of New York. They had three children, Almon Bird, Dorothy Mae and Henry Wellings, who donated this collection to the Center. Henry H. Parke died in 1957 at the age of 81.

SUBJECT TRACINGS

DeKalb AgResearch
DeKalb County Farm Bureau
Farm Bureau
Genoa
Park, Henry H.
Sycamore

COLLECTION INVENTORY

<u>BOX</u>	<u>ENVELOPE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
1	1	H.H. Parke, 1 slide
		Photographs:
	2	H.H. Parke, Ann Arbor days, (9)
	3	Captain Almon F. Parke; unidentified male (2)
	4	Chicago Producers Board of Directors and Manager, 1939 (1)
	5	Unveiling of H.H. Parke portrait, (7)
		<u>FOLDER</u>
	1	Parke Family histories
	2	H.H. Parke <u>National Cyclopedia of American Biography</u> proof
	3	H.H. Parke personal items
	4	H.H. Parke letters, 1894-1907
	5	H.H. Parke letters of recommendation, 1901- 1901
	6	Parke Family letters, 1898-1973
	7	H.H. Parke congratulations, 1917
	8	H.H. Parke congratulations, 1952
	9	<u>Variations...in Hydra</u> -H.H. Parke [<i>missing 7/11/1989</i>]
	10	H.H. Parke speeches and statements, 1952-1955 [<i>missing 7/11/1989</i>]
	11	Biographical mentions
	12	Statements
	13	Poetry-quotations
	14	<u>DeKalb County Farmer</u> , 1937, (1952-1958), 1974
	15	Farm Bureau Anniversary programs
	16	Farm Reports
	17	IAA Records, 1957, 1973
	18	Newsletter, (1928-1952)
	19	Programs - minutes
	20	The Winged Ear, (1942-1950)
	21	Official List of State Officers of Illinois, August 17, 1917
	22	Frank O. Lowden, Governor of Illinois
	23	The Pride's Souvenir Book, 1908
	24	Parke's Farm Record Book (1948-1957)
2	1 volume	Farm record ledger (1927-1956)
	1 volume	Scrapbook of H.H. Parke's 80th birthday