

Inventory of the

**Winnebago County
Farm Bureau Co-op**
Rockford, Illinois

Records

In the

Regional History Center

RC 79

INTRODUCTION

Mr. Del Tedrick, manager of the Winnebago County Farm Bureau, donated the records of the Winnebago Farm Bureau Cooperative and the Winnebago Producers Supplies to the Northern Illinois Regional History Center on October 3, 1979.

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

Linear feet of shelf space: 1.75
Number of containers: 3
Northern Illinois Regional History Center
Collection 79

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The collection partially documents the business activities of two now defunct cooperatives of the Winnebago County Farm Bureau in Rockford, Illinois from 1946 to 1974. The bulk of materials describes the Winnebago County Farm Bureau Cooperative, 1960-1974. Included are minutes of the Board of Directors, by-laws, articles of incorporation, patronage records, and financial accounts. Documents dated before 1960 describe the Winnebago Producers Supplies. Included are minutes of the Board of Directors.

The researcher should note that complementary material may be found in the DeKalb County Farm Bureau, the Kane County Farm Bureau, and the Pure Milk Association Records. Farm Bureau in Illinois: History of Illinois Farm Bureau by John J. Lacy (Illinois Agricultural Association: Bloomington, 1965) and Agricultural Cooperation by Martin A. Abrahamsen and Claud C. Scroggs (University of Minnesota Press: Minneapolis, 1957) may also be useful.

HISTORICAL SKETCH

The Winnebago County Farm Bureau was organized on May 8, 1920. The first Board of Directors included E.F. Derwent, president; R.S. Bradt, vice-president; W.H. Mackey, secretary-treasurer; E.C. Burch, E.E. Austin, C.F. Tullock, George Atwood, S.E. Hoisington, and Ashley Hartman. On August 3, 1920, board members hired Charles Keltner as the county farm advisor.

During the 1930's and 1940's the Winnebago County Farm Bureau organized three subsidiaries under the Illinois Agriculture Cooperative Act of 1923 to perform needed services and to improve the profitability of farming for Farm Bureau members. These subsidiaries were the Winnebago Service Company, the Winnebago Producers Supplies, and the Winnebago Boone Marketing Company. The associations operated with considerable success supplying farmers with oil and gasoline, fertilizers, seed corn, and other farming supplies. By 1960, the Winnebago Producers Supplies dissolved operations and the Winnebago Boone Marketing Company merged with the Illinois Livestock Marketing Association. Only the Winnebago Service Company continued operations: it served as a cooperative grain marketing organization for Winnebago County.

In 1961, the Winnebago County Farm Bureau reorganized its cooperative services and formed the Winnebago Farm Bureau Cooperative. The cooperative was organized primarily for the purpose of carrying on the Farm Bureau program for the eradication of hog cholera and other animal diseases. After twelve years of service to Farm Bureau members, the cooperative dissolved operations in 1974.

SUBJECT TRACINGS

Agricultural Cooperatives
 Farm Bureau
 Winnebago County
 Winnebago County Farm Bureau Co-op
 Winnebago Producers Supplies

COLLECTION INVENTORY

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
1	1	Winnebago Producers Supplies Minute Book, 1946-1960
	2	Winnebago County Farm Bureau Cooperative: Minute Book, 1960-1973
	3-17	General Ledgers, 1962-1967
2	1-6	General Ledgers, 1968-1973
3	1-3	General Ledgers, 1973-1974
	4	Winnebago County Farm Bureau History, 1970