Guide to the
MS-224: Myers-Liebegott Papers

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May 2018
Provenance
Items in this collection were donated by Reverend Victor A. Myers, grandson of Charles E. Liebegott, Class of 1912. They were mailed to Special Collections in 2015 and inventoried upon arrival. In 2018, College publications, Eisenhower related materials, and Battle of Gettysburg related materials were separated from the initial donation and added to appropriate collections (see below for details).

Biographical Note
Victor A. Myers spent the 1967-1968 academic year as a Chapel intern with Rev. John Vannorsdall in Gettysburg College’s Christ Chapel. Myers was a student at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg during this time, but had a connection to Gettysburg College. His grandfather, Charles E. Liebegott was a member of the Pennsylvania College class of 1912 and a member of the football team. Liebegott studied at the Lutheran Seminary to become a minister and served as an Army chaplain during the First World War. He settled in Akron, OH, married Clara Elaine Popken, and raised a family.

As a chapel intern, Victor Myers, had the opportunity to take a five-day trip to New York City with a group of 12 Gettysburg College students that was co-sponsored by the Chaplain’s office and the Women’s League. The group visited the headquarters of the Lutheran Church of America and met with various church officials. They did a walking tour of Harlem with local pastors, toured the United Nations, saw the off-Broadway production of The Fantasticks, spent time in a Greenwich Village nightclub and met jazz musicians including Ray Charles and Roland Kirk. One group of students visited the Harlem Preparatory Academy and another group spent time at the Harlem College Assistance Program [HARCAP]. The trip was designed to give students exposure to Lutheran Church activities in the city and encourage social awareness and activism among the Gettysburg students.

Scope and Content Notes
The Myers-Liebegott Papers is a small collection, but it contains some powerful photographs and documents. The information about the Gettysburg College trip to Harlem, contained in Series 3 is particularly interesting for capturing images and information of Harlem during the late 1960s and as documentation of the social activism of the Office of the Chaplain. Copies of
Forty Acres and a Mule, published by students on the Educational Program of the New York Urban League are presumably connected to this trip.

Another interesting item in this collection is a 1948 letter written by a German woman, appealing to Charles E. Liebegott for financial or other assistance.

**Subjects**
Gettysburg College alumni
Gettysburg College football
Hubert Humphrey
Greek Life
Harlem
Harlem Preparatory Academy
Lutheran Church of America

**Series Description**

This collection is divided into three Series. **Series 1**: Charles E. Liebegott, class of 1912, **Series 2**: Photographs by Victor A. Myers, **Series 3**: New York City Field Trip (Gettysburg students to Harlem), January 1968.

**Box List**

**Box 1**

1-0 Finding Aid and donor’s notes

**Series 1 Charles E. Liebegott, class of 1912**

1-1 Charles Liebegott items: Football team photo postcard, modern prints of football group photo, n.d., Alumni directory page from Seminary (photocopy), 2 newspaper clippings 1959, letter from German woman requesting aid, 1948

**Series 2 Photographs by Victor A. Myers**

1-2 Arson on York Street, March 1968
1-3 Greek festival 1967-1968
1-4 Hubert Humphrey visit to National Cemetery, Memorial Day 1968 (photos and negatives)

**Series 3 New York City Field Trip (Gettysburg students to Harlem), January 1968**

1-5 Photographs
1-6 Gettysburg Bulletin, spring 1968, article on trip p.5-7

**Oversize** Forty Acres and a Mule: Vol. 1 Nos. 1-3 1967, No. 6 1968 – newspaper published by students on the Educational Program of the New York Urban League
Removed from Collection

College publications (added to College Publications as duplicates)
- Chapel promotional brochure, 1967-68
- *The Mercury*: Fall 1966

Eisenhower (moved to MS – 215: Eisenhower Memorabilia and Ephemera)
- 16 mm film of Eisenhower and Firestone in the Rose Garden, March 15, 1956
- D-Day 70th Anniversary baseball cap
- Norman Rockwell print
- Eisenhower Presidential Library, Presidential Gallery exhibit guide
- Eisenhower gold dollar
- B&W photograph of Eisenhower and Firestone in Akron, OH, 1919 (modern print)

Battle of Gettysburg (cataloging)
- Official program from centennial commemoration, July 1-3, 1963

Other (To be added to the Michael Birkner Collection of Political Memorabilia)
- Presidential Handbook ‘72 booklet
- Ft. McHenry postcard “Placing the Stars”

Related Collections
- **MS-069**: The Papers of John W. Vannorsdall
- **MS-186**: Papers of the Christ Chapel Community Welfare Program
- **RG3.4**: Office of the Chaplain

For more information about [Collection Name]