

Gettysburg College  
Musselman  
**Library**  
*special collections*

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Guide to MS-224:  
Myers-Liebegott Papers



Gettysburg College, Musselman Library  
Special Collections and College Archives

Abigail Metheny, Class of 2018, Fortenbaugh Intern and Amy Lucadamo, College Archivist

May 2018

## MS-224: Myers-Liebegott Papers

Processed by Abigail Metheny, Class of 2018, Fortenbaugh Intern and Amy Lucadamo, College Archivist May 2018; Addendum processed by Karen Drickamer, February 2019

### Size

3 boxes, 1 cubic foot

### Location

Special Collections

### Dates

Inclusive: 1908-1968

Bulk: 1908-1968

### Provenance

Items in this collection were donated by The Reverend Victor A. Myers, grandson of Charles E. Liebegott, Class of 1912); Addendum items were transferred from the Unity Lutheran Seminary Archives and Adams County Historical Society by request of the donor.

### 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 while a student at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg . Myers also had another connection to Gettysburg College: his grandfather, Rev. Charles Edgar Liebegott was a member of the Pennsylvania College Class of 1912.

As a chapel intern at Gettysburg, Rev. 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.

Charles E. Liebegott was born in 1888 in Altoona, PA. At Pennsylvania College, he was a member of both Class and Varsity football teams, the Athletic Council, Student Council, Pen and Sword, Class Debating Teams, Scrubs, Phi Delta Theta Fraternity, Sophomore Band, and the YMCA. He was Class President, Editor-in-Chief of the *Mercury*, and Associate Editor of the *1912 Spectrum*. Liebegott graduated from the Gettysburg Lutheran Theological Seminary in 1915 and married Clara Elaine Popoken in September of that year. He served as an Army chaplain during the First World War. After serving as pastor at Hebron Lutheran Church in Avonmore, PA (1915-1917), Pittsburgh, PA (1917-1920), and the Seventh

Street Lutheran Church in Lebanon, PA (1920-1930). In 1930, Rev. Liebegott moved his family to Akron, OH, where he served as pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran church until his death in 1939.

### Scope and Content Note

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.

### Series Description

This collection is divided into three series. **Series I:** Charles E. Liebegott, Class of 1912, **Series II:** Photographs by Victor A. Myers, **Series III:** New York City Field Trip (Gettysburg students to Harlem), January 1968.

The Addendum material consists of photographs of Liebegott, his family, Pennsylvania College places and events, a scrapbook of Liebegott material and a scrapbook of Mrs. Liebegott's memorabilia.

### Box List

#### Box 1

##### Series 1: Charles E. Liebegott, Class of 1912

- 1-0 Finding Aid and Donor's notes and research notes
- 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
- 1-7 MIA [Ministerial Interfaith Assoc.] Progress Report 1967 and Projected Program Calendar Year 1968, February 1968
- OS *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

### Addendum

## Box 2

### Series 1: Charles E. Liebegott, Class of 1912

- 2-1 Scrapbook, 1909-1917. Clara Popken Liebegott's scrapbook containing many dance cards, programs, and invitations to Pennsylvania College events.

## Box 3

### Series 1 continued

#### 3-1 Documents

- Ordination, Evangelical Lutheran Synod, October 14, 1915
- Ordination, Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Pittsburgh, October 14, 1915

#### 3-2 Photographs

- Postal card, "The Roosevelt," February 20, 1906, Charles Edgar Liebegott and friend
- Five members of the Class of 1912 in Liebegott's dorm room
- Class of 1912 Football Team (Sophomores), Captain Liebegott
- Rev. Charles E. Liebegott (7)
- Charles R. Liebegott in a group of seven, possible high school?
- 1913 Reunion, Battle of Gettysburg
- 1910, Seventh Street Church, Lebanon, Confirmation (Liebegott's daughter, Lois, is second from right, front row)
- Auditorium, Temple Lutheran Church, n.d.
- 1922, School of Christian Education, 7<sup>th</sup> Street Lutheran Church, Lebanon, PA
- Unknown woman, n.d.
- Popken family and Charles E. Liebegott, abt. 1915 (copy from tintype)
- 39 photographs of Pennsylvania College life on album pages

#### 3-3 Scrapbook, 1908-1939

- Contains memorabilia, news clippings, and some correspondence

## Removed from collection

### College Publications (added to College Publications as duplicates)

- Junto: Sept., Oct., Nov. (2), Dec 1967, Apr. (2) 1968
- Chapel promotional brochure, 1967-1968
- Gettysburg Bulletin: Spring 1970, October 1970, Winter 1971, Summer 1971, July 1972, October 1972
- 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 70<sup>th</sup> 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)

- Books: *Gettysburg National Military Park* historical handbook, *CW Times Gettysburg!*, *The Concise Illustrated History of the Civil War*, *Gettysburg Compiler* 125th Commemorative Ed., *Gettysburg: The Confederate High Tide* Time-Life book, *A Pictorial History of the Battle of Gettysburg*, *Civil War Times Extra* 1958, *Gettysburg Addresses*
- 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"

Contact Information

Special Collections and College Archives  
Musselman Library, Gettysburg College  
717-337-7014

[special\\_collections@gettysburg.edu](mailto:special_collections@gettysburg.edu)

[www.gettysburg.edu/special-collections](http://www.gettysburg.edu/special-collections)