



Special Collections and University Archives

**Clarence Stephenson Collection
Manuscript Group 15**

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Last Modified December 9, 2014**

**Indiana University of Pennsylvania
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Clarence Stephenson Collection, Manuscript Group 15
Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Special Collections and University Archives
10 boxes; 10 linear feet

Biographical Note



Clarence David Stephenson (March 24, 1919-August 13, 2011) was born in East Mahoning Township in Indiana County, Pennsylvania. He attended school in both Shamokin and Marion Center, and graduated from Marion Center High School in 1937. In 1941, Clarence Stephenson graduated from Indiana State Teachers College (ISTC, later IUP) with a BSED degree. He taught at the junior high school in Brackenridge, Pennsylvania in 1941-1942. In 1942, he was drafted into the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II, and he served as a link training instructor at several stateside air bases.

After World War II, Clarence Stephenson continued teaching and enrolled at the University of Pittsburgh where he began to focus his studies on the regional history of Western Pennsylvania. He also began working with the Historical and Genealogical Society of Indiana County. After receiving his Master of Letters from the University of Pittsburgh in 1948, Mr. Stephenson continued his research into Western Pennsylvania history through the 1950s and 1960s, publishing several books and articles pertaining to Indiana County and other nearby areas.

Among Clarence Stephenson's most notable contributions to the history of Western Pennsylvania is his 5-volume history *Indiana County 175th Anniversary History*, which was published between 1978 and 1995 (Call Number: [F 157 .I3 S783](#)). Volumes 1-5 are available for research in the IUP Special Collections and University Archives). In 1968, he also wrote *Buena Vista Furnace* (Call Number: [HD 9518 .B84 S74 1968](#)), which was published by his Mahoning Mimeograph and Pamphlet Service.

Clarence Stephenson taught English at the Clymer High School from 1947 until 1956. He was employed as the History Education Advisor, Pennsylvania Department of Public Instruction in Harrisburg (1956-1960). In 1961-1962, he served as the Editor for the *Blairsville Dispatch*. In 1963-1964, he taught high school in New Jersey. In 1964, Mr. Stephenson started a part-time home business called Mahoning Mimeograph and Pamphlet Service, which published several of Stephenson's history publications. From 1964 until his retirement in 1977, he was employed as a caseworker with the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare in Indiana, Pennsylvania.

Clarence Stephenson's hobbies and interests were reading, stamp collecting, traveling, and historical research. He was a life member of the Historical and Genealogical Society of Indiana County, where he served as Treasurer, Vice President, and President. In 1995, he received the Francis Strong Hellman Award and was made Director Emeritus of the

Historical and Genealogical Society of Indiana County. He was also a life member of the historical societies of Blairsville and Saltsburg. In 1975, he was Co-Chair of the Committee to Save John Sutton Hall, which is located on the Indiana University of Pennsylvania campus. He was appointed to the Southwestern Pennsylvania Heritage Preservation Commission and served from 1990 to 1994. He was a Member of Post 222 of the American Legion in Clymer. A charter member of the Marion Center Lions Club, he was a past president. In 2003, Mr. Stephenson was named Lion of the Year. He was also a member of the Presbyterian Church of Marion Center and a charter member of the Unitarian-Universalist Church of Indiana County. He was a former member of the Pennsylvania Society. Mr. Stephenson's passion and avocation was Indiana County history and he spent much of his life researching and documenting local history. He wrote many historical books and other publications. Of these, four well-known examples are: *The Pennsylvania Canal, Indiana and Westmoreland Counties* in 1961; *The Impact of the Slavery Issue on Indiana County* in 1964; *Marion Center - East Mahoning Centennial Story* in 1969; and the five-volume *Indiana County 175th Anniversary History* (1978-1995). He also authored articles for local and regional newspapers and wrote in other publications.

During his many years as a historian, Clarence Stephenson received numerous honors. They included a front page article in the *Indiana Gazette*, January 17, 2000, "Stephenson Goes Down in History," Indiana University of Pennsylvania President's Medal of Distinction, March 2002, and a commendation from the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, September 2002. In addition, he received official designation as Indiana County Historian by the Indiana County Commissioners in October 2003.

Considered the premier historian of Indiana County, Clarence Stephenson wrote numerous publications about Indiana County history. He was well known for his knowledge of regional history. A life-long resident of East Mahoning Township, Clarence Stephenson passed away on Saturday, August 13, 2011 at the age of 92.

Scope and Content

The Clarence Stephenson Collection is housed in 14 archival boxes. This collection contains various articles written by Stephenson, newspapers clippings, postcards, photographs, and maps of Pennsylvania coal fields, canals and railroads, and items relating to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, as well as books, catalogs and pamphlets about Pennsylvania genealogical histories. The collection also includes miscellaneous Pittsburgh area publications and newspapers dating from the 1930s and 1960s, in addition to educational pamphlets dating from the 1970s and 1980s, mostly from the Marion Center School District. There are also various pamphlets relating to local histories of Pennsylvania. This collection also contains a selection of Pennsylvania newspapers dating from 1836-1977, with many of the Pittsburgh papers printed during the 1870s. This collection also contains several maps of Pennsylvania dating back to the 18th century.

Provenance

Clarence Stephenson donated these materials to the IUP Special Collections & University Archives.

Restrictions

None.

Processor

Records arranged and inventory written by Special Collections in 2014.

Container List

Box 1 (11 folders)

1. "Our National Price Policy vs. Economics" Journal: Pennsylvania State College School of Agriculture, November 1943
2. Surface Mining Conservation and Reclamation Act, May 31, 1945. Printed in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, 1971
3. Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Pamphlets, 1925 and 1928
 - a. *The Farm Electrified*, 1925
 - b. *How Farmers Can Secure Electric Service by Cooperative Effort*, 1925
 - c. *Rural Electrification in Pennsylvania*, 1928
4. *Water, Land, and Life* (Magazine)
 - a. July 1967
 - b. February 1970
 - c. April 1970
 - d. December 1970
5. The Pennsylvania Farmer National Park Tour, July 27, 1937 to August 17, 1937
6. Oakabob Clymer High School Yearbook, 1955 (Clymer, Pennsylvania)
7. 1941 *Acorn* Yearbook, Junior High Training School, Indiana State Teachers College (see [Record Group 19 University School](#))
8. Burpee's Farm Annual: Garden, Farm & Flower Seeds, 1888 (reprint)
9. Various History Catalogs and Pamphlets
 - a. "The Harris-Kuhl-Belknap Family Tree," 1634-1961
 - b. "Stewart Kith 'n Kin" pamphlet, 1966
 - c. Suggested Procedures and Resources for a Course in World Cultures, 1959
10. David E. Stephenson (Father of Clarence Stephenson) worked in the Anthracite Coal Region, Coal Mining Pay Records: Philadelphia & Reading Coal and Iron Company; and the Enterprise Coal Company, 1905-1911, 1912-1915, and 1916-1926
11. David E. Stephenson (Pennsylvania Coal Mining: Anthracite Region)
 - a. Photographs and Postcards:
 - i. Photograph of Colliery where David E. Stephenson worked near Shamokin, Northumberland County, Pennsylvania
 - ii. Photograph of David Stephenson at work at the Colliery
 - iii. Photograph of 217 N. Pearl Street, Shamokin, Pennsylvania, home of David Stephenson
 - iv. Postcards, "A Trip Through the Anthracite Coal Mines"
 - b. UMWA Union Membership and Participation: David E. Stephenson

- i. Membership Card, UMWA Local 2596
- ii. UMWA Decorative/Commemorative Pins
- iii. "The Cameron"
- iv. "UMWA, April 1st, 1898, Eight Hours"
- v. "UMWA, Eight Hours"
- vi. Union Dues Payment Books (2 folders)

Box 2 Books (5 Books)

1. Stephenson, Clarence D. (1989). *Indiana County 175th Anniversary History: Volume II, 1866-1988*. Indiana, Pennsylvania: A. G. Halldin Publishing Company, Inc. (2 copies, one inscribed by Clarence Stephenson), the 5-volume set of *Indiana County 175th Anniversary History* is available in Special Collections (Call Number: [F 157 .I3 S783](#))
2. Craighead, James R. E. (1930). *Black Hawk: A romance of the Black Hawk War*. Creston, Iowa: Bond Publishing Company.
3. Craighead, James R. E. (1926). *The Lost Empire*. Oswego, Illinois: Bond Publishing Company.
4. Fleming, Harold. (1967). *Elizabeth Newt*. New York: Red Dust, Inc.

Box 3 Pennsylvania Historical Commission and Mounted Photographs (9 folders)

1. Pennsylvania Historical Commission "Keystone of Democracy" Historical Press Releases, 1943-1944
2. Pennsylvania Historical Commission "Keystone of Democracy" Radio Series, 1943-1944
3. Pennsylvania Historical Commission "Keystone of Democracy" Radio Scripts 1942-1944 (1)
4. Pennsylvania Historical Commission "Keystone of Democracy" Radio Scripts 1942-1944 (2)
5. Mounted Photograph: Band and others in park, Green Photographer, Big Run, Jefferson County, Pennsylvania, no date (1890s-1900s)
6. Mounted Photograph: Group of possible Civil War veterans, donated to Clarence Stephenson by Mr. and Mrs. Ray Walker, Western Pennsylvania, no date (early 1900s)
7. Mounted Photograph: Family and horses in front of house, Western Pennsylvania, no date (1890s-1900s)
8. Mounted Photograph: Large family in front of house, Western Pennsylvania, no date (1890s-1900s)
9. Mounted Photograph: Sheep near fence, Western Pennsylvania, no date (1890s-1900s)

Box 4 Publications (11 folders)

1. The Nickel Library, "Ralph the Rover," 1879
 - a. Current Events School Newspaper, January 10, 1915
 - b. "The Voice" A Monthly Devoted to Voice Culture, July 1879
2. "Is Lindberg a Nazi?" (Charles Lindberg) n .d. *Friends of Democracy*
 - a. *Indiana County Picture News*, Vol. 4, No. 2, n.d.
 - b. *Indiana County Picture News*, Vol. 5, No. 7, n.d.
3. *The Money Saver* Vol 3, No. 2, n.d.

- a. *Indiana County Picture News*, Vol. 9, No. 3, n.d.
- b. *Indiana County Picture News*, Vol. 9, No. 5, n.d.
4. "Saturday Night," May 24, 1879 "Our Flood in Pictures"
5. *Pittsburgh Sun-Telegraph*, April 2, 1936 (2nd copy), March 29, 1936
6. "Uncensored Raw War in Pictures" *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, February 10, 1934
7. *Civil War Times* Vol. 1, No. 2, May 1959
 - a. *Civil War Times* Vol. 1, No. 1, April 1959
 - b. *Civil War Times* November 20, 1863 (copyright 1958)
 - c. *Civil War Times* July 2, 1863 (copyright 1958)
8. "Classic Film/Video Images" March 1979
 - a. "Ethnic Groups in Pittsburgh" *The Pittsburgh Press Roto*, n.d.
 - b. *Pittsburgh Press Sunday Roto*, September 22, 1968
 - c. *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, Sunday Magazine, April 9, 1961
 - d. *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, Sunday Magazine, January 18, 1959
9. The Canal Courier-Erie Canal, 1817-1967
 - a. "The Towline," Spring/Summer 1977
 - b. "The Towline," Winter 1977
 - c. "The Towline," Fall 1976
 - d. *The Cass Chronicle and Railroad Gazette*, 1981
 - e. *Columbia Gazette*, October 1968
 - f. "The Canawler," n.d.
 - g. "The Canawler," Fall 1968 Vol 1, No. 3
 - h. *Pennsylvania Gazette*, September 23, 1756
10. "Henry Ford Must Choose," n.d. *Friends of Democracy, Inc.*
 - a. *Scientific American*, November 8, 1879
11. *The Demorest Quarterly Journal*, Autumn 1877

Box 5 Publications (13 folders)

1. "Copperweld line-topics" Vol. 1, No. 1, April 10, 1941
 - a. Coal advertisements from Time; April 14, 1941, June 2, 1941
2. "The Right of Way" Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, May 1939, July 1939
3. Independent Telephone Companies Correspondence, circa 1934
4. "Letter to Principals or Teachers in Charge of Schools in Pennsylvania," September 1, 1905
5. Miscellaneous Pamphlets
 - a. *Past and Present* (Blair County Historical Society) Spring/Summer 1964
 - b. Local History-Foundation of our Faith in Democracy, July 1951
 - c. Yank Talk (World War One Soldiers Magazine), n.d.
 - d. "The First 100 Years of Delaware County, Pennsylvania," 1957
 - e. "The Entire Memorabilia of the Pennsylvania Railroad Museum," March 1972
 - f. "Gettysburg: An Account of the Centennial Commemoration," 1963
 - g. "Friedrich List: The Father of the German Railroads," September 18, 1950
 - h. "Valley Forge Yesterday and Today," 1957
 - i. "Historic Reflections-1776: Glimpses of Fairfield Area's Past," 1976
6. *The School Informer* (Marion Center, Pennsylvania)
 - a. April 1970

- b. September 1970
 - c. December 1970
 - d. December 1971
 - e. November 1972
 - f. February 1973
7. *The Marion Center Area School News*
- a. September 1975
 - b. February 1976
 - c. March-April 1978
 - d. May-June 1978
 - e. July-August 1978
 - f. August 1978
 - g. September-October 1978
 - h. November-December 1978
 - i. Vol. 2, #2
 - j. Vol. 3, #3 December-January 1983
 - k. Vol. 4, #1 August-September 1984
8. Miscellaneous Local History Pamphlets
- a. Altoona: The Keystone City of the Great Keystone State, n.d.
 - b. Sketches of Somerset, April 1954
 - c. "Beaver County," circa 1966
9. New Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, December 16, 1873
10. Miscellaneous Pamphlets/Publications
- a. Elderton Academy in Elderton, Pennsylvania, 1905-1906
 - b. Educational Directory, 1958-1959
 - c. Lycoming College Magazine, Spring Semester 1971
 - d. The Pennsylvania State College Catalogue of the School of Agriculture and Experiment Station Announcements for 1908-1909, April 1908
 - e. "Victor Records," August 1920
 - f. "Organizations in the U.S. that Promote Better International Understanding and World Peace," National Council for Prevention of War, (Washington, DC), January 1927
 - g. *The Challenge*, November-December 1972
 - h. The Pennsylvania State College General Catalogue, 1908-1909
11. Miscellaneous Publications
12. "Flood," Agnes Flood in Pennsylvania, 1972
13. "Civil War Times," Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, June 1960 and December 1960

Box 6 Publications (8 folders)

1. Stephenson, Clarence D. (1964). *The Impact of the Slavery Issue on Indiana County*. Marion Center, Pennsylvania: Mahoning Mimeograph & Pamphlet Service. Available in Special Collections (Call Number: [F 157 .I3 I39](#))
2. Lebanon, Pennsylvania, 1968
3. Tarentum, Pennsylvania Centennial, 1947
4. A Brief History of Bedford Village and Old Fort Bedford, n.d. (Bedford, Pennsylvania)
5. "Teaching Pennsylvania Geography," 1957

6. A Souvenir of Titusville and the Centennial of Oil, 1959 (Titusville, Pennsylvania)
7. Miscellaneous Pamphlets/Publications
 - a. "Penn's Grandest Cavern," 1923
 - b. "The Land in Cumberland Called Lowther," 1957
 - c. "Geology and the Gettysburg Campaign," March 1973
 - d. "Subsurface Sections Across Western Pennsylvania," 1956
 - e. "Alle-Kiski Historia" Vol. #1, 1968
 - f. "Milestones" (Beaver County, Pennsylvania), Spring 1975
 - g. "Wartime Production Problems of Pennsylvania Farmers," February 1944
8. Westmoreland-Fayette Historical Society, Catalogue of Museum Exhibits, n.d.

Box 7 Publications and Newspapers (17 folders)

1. Four Scrolls of Family Trees (Daugherty, Ewing, and Hart), n.d.
2. *The Union Free Press*, April 9, 1879
3. *The Democratic Sentinel*, Kittanning, Pennsylvania, October 10, 1880
4. *The Westmoreland Democrat*, July 7, 1880
5. *The Cambria Herald*, April 4, 1879
6. *Northern Cambria News II*, August 21, 1880
7. America's Great Decision Act, 1924
8. A Style of History for Beginners, 1959
9. "History, Not Art, Not Science, But History: Meanings and Uses of History," May 1960
10. Small Book of quotes, n.d.
11. Harbrace Teacher's Notebook, 1957
12. The American Farm Bureau Federation's Official News Letter, February 1, 1960
13. Westmoreland County Map, 1973
14. Copies of Union Canal Maps, n.d.
15. Susquehanna and Tidewater canals, May 13, 1967
16. Allegheny and Monongahela Rivers Navigation Charts, January 1977
17. Hanna's Town Resolves, n.d.

Box 8 Newspapers and Publications

1. *The Sunbury Daily Item*, 1956
2. *Public Ledger* (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania), March 25, 1836
3. *The Stars and Stripes* (France), October 18, 1918 and October 25, 1918
4. *The Portage Dispatch* (Portage, Pennsylvania), July 27, 1977
5. *The Valley Daily News II* (Tarentum, Pennsylvania) June 28, 1947
6. *The Civil War and Reconstruction*, January 1961
7. *The Titusville Herald* (Titusville, Pennsylvania), August 24, 1959
8. *The Titusville Morning Herald*, June 14, 1865
9. *The Pennsylvania Socialist* (Reading, Pennsylvania), December 10, 1919
10. *Franklin Repository* (Chambersburg, Pennsylvania), April 28, 1880
11. *The Weekly Item* (Philadelphia), May 1, 1880
12. *Hillsborough Messenger* (New Hampshire), August 7, 1879
13. *The Cleveland Press*, September 7, 1901
14. *The Sun* (New York), November 20, 1879
15. *Publishers Auxiliary* (Chicago), March 31, 1877

16. *The New Life* (Philadelphia), circa 1875
17. *The North American* (Philadelphia), April 16, 1960 (2 copies)
18. *The Daily Post* (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania)
 - a. April 4, 1877
 - b. December 14, 1876
 - c. November 20, 1876
19. *The Pittsburgh Commercial Gazette*
 - a. March 8, 1877
 - b. March 12, 1877
 - c. March 22, 1877
 - d. March 23, 1877
 - e. April 18, 1877
 - f. October 15, 1879
 - g. October 8, 1878
20. *The Pittsburgh Commercial*
 - a. November 18, 1876
 - b. January 22, 1877
 - c. January 23, 1877

Box 9 Newspapers

1. *The Evening Leader* (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania)
 - a. June 14, 1876
 - b. October 14, 1876
 - c. October 17, 1876
 - d. November 11, 1876
 - e. November 13, 1876
 - f. November 18, 1876
 - g. December 8, 1876
 - h. December 20, 1876
 - i. January 5, 1877
 - j. January 6, 1877
 - k. January 9, 1877
 - l. January 24, 1877
 - m. February 17, 1877
 - n. February 20, 1877
2. *The Pittsburgh Leader*
 - a. March 10, 1877
 - b. March 12, 1877
 - c. March 22, 1877
 - d. April 5, 1877
3. *The Tribune Democrat* (Johnstown, Pennsylvania)
 - a. November 21, 1953
 - b. October 31, 1953
 - c. August 19, 1977 (Flood, 1977)
4. *Pittsburgh Sun-Telegraph*
 - a. April 13, 1945

- b. March 22, 1936
- 5. *Pittsburgh Telegraph*
 - a. March 22, 1936
 - b. December 21, 1876
- 6. *Indiana Evening Gazette* (Indiana, Pennsylvania)
 - a. November 22, 1963 (John F. Kennedy assassination)
 - b. November 23, 1963
 - c. November 25, 1963
 - d. November 11, 1918 (World War I Armistice)
 - e. July 3, 1976
- 7. *The Pittsburgh Gazette*
 - a. November 22, 1876
 - b. November 28, 1876
 - c. December 1, 1876
 - d. December 2, 1876
 - e. December 7, 1876
 - f. December 8, 1876
 - g. December 9, 1876
 - h. December 13, 1876
 - i. December 15, 1876
 - j. December 30, 1876
 - k. January 12, 1877
 - l. January 19, 1877
 - m. February 13, 1877
- 8. *The Gazette Times*, November 12, 1918
- 9. *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, July 21, 1977

Box 10 Maps and Newspapers

- 1. Map of Coal Fields in Pennsylvania, 1929
- 2. Road Map of Pennsylvania, May 31, 1911
- 3. Bon Ton Advertisement, June 7, 1916
- 4. Floor Plan for Lucinda Station
- 5. Copy of King Charles II of England's proclamation granting William Penn the land in Pennsylvania
- 6. Coat of Arms of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
- 7. Map of Pennsylvania canals and railroads, 1846
- 8. Map of North-central Pennsylvania, circa 1847
- 9. Negative, 1847
- 10. Map of Northwest Pennsylvania, 1847
- 11. Negative, 1847
- 12. Map of Southwest Pennsylvania, 1847
- 13. Negative, 1847
- 14. Map of Southwest Pennsylvania, 1792
- 15. Map of South central Pennsylvania, 1792
- 16. Map of Pennsylvania, 1838
- 17. *The Harrisburg Daily Patriot*

- a. October 1, 1879
 - b. October 13, 1879
 - c. October 14, 1879
 - d. December 17, 1879
18. *The Pittsburgh Daily Dispatch*
- a. October 12, 1816
 - b. November 7, 1876
 - c. November 10, 1876
 - d. November 25, 1876
 - e. January 22, 1877
 - f. February 23, 1877
19. *The Pittsburgh Dispatch*, January 1, 1912
20. *The Pittsburgh Dispatch* – Financial and Industrial Edition,” January 1, 1912
21. *The Pittsburgh Press*
- a. August 15, 1945
 - b. January 18, 1959
 - c. November 24, 1963