



Special Collections and University Archives

**Dr. Oscar W. Nestor Collection
Manuscript Group 141**

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Last Modified August 8, 2017**

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Dr. Oscar W. Nestor Collection, Manuscript Group 141
Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Special Collections and University Archives
3 boxes; 3 linear feet

Biographical Note

The son of Arthur G. Nestor (June 30, 1889-February 10, 1972), Dr. Oscar W. Nestor was born and raised in Sagamore, Armstrong County, Pennsylvania. Following his graduation from Cowanshannock Township high school in 1941, Dr. Nestor served in World War II. As a veteran, he earned his Bachelor of Science degree at Thiel College, a Master of Business Administration degree from the Wharton School of Finance and Commerce, and a PhD from the University of Pennsylvania. His academic career included teaching posts at the Wharton School of Finance and Commerce, Dickinson College, Monmouth College, Pace University, and as owner/director of the Pittsburgh Technical Institute. Outside of academia he worked as a financial analyst for the Pennsylvania Company for Banking and Trusts, Corning Glass Works and the Sperry Rand Corporation. In addition, he served as a consultant in the health care field, and as an arbitrator for the American Arbitration Association. He retired from his academic career in 1994.

Dr. Nestor maintained a continual interest in his hometown of Sagamore, having used the materials in this collection to research and write its history. He was married to Helen "Ann" Nestor, who eventually donated these documents to Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Scope and Content

This collection is organized in three boxes. It includes financial statements, meeting minutes, correspondence, and various other documents relating to operation of the coal mines owned by the Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company and the Keystone Store Company location in Sagamore, PA. This collection also includes several books, event programs, articles, and taped interviews that cover events and issues relating to Sagamore and Western Pennsylvania coal mining. Box 2 and Box 3 of this collection contain publications and audio recordings about the Rochester & Pittsburgh Coal Company from Manuscript Group 94: R&P Media Collection Series I Box 9.

Provenance

The documents found in the Dr. Oscar W. Nestor collection were originally in possession of the Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company. These records were transferred to Nick Kovalchick with purchase of Sagamore company homes. The Kovalchick Company offered the materials to the Sagamore family, who eventually offered them to Dr. Nestor for his research. Books and audio tapes in the collection were research materials acquired by Dr. Nestor. These materials were donated to the Indiana University of Pennsylvania department of Special Collections on July 4, 2006.

Restrictions

None.

Processor

Fall 2006; records arranged and inventory written by Bobbie Jo Zapor.

Summer 2009; records rearranged and inventory rewritten by Special Collections Staff.

Box 1 (67 Folders)**Series I: Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal Company Records**

1. John Simpson's report describing the holdings of the Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company, February 13, 1907.
2. Edward K. Judd's report, "The Sagamore Bituminous Mines", ca. 1908.
3. Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company Contract No. C69. Particulars of the agreement for the merger and consolidation of the Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company with the Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal Mining Company, April 13, 1909.
4. Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company deed for cemetery land in Sagamore, November 9, 1909.
5. Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company Comparative Statement of Income Account for two years ended December 31, 1909.
6. Keystone Store Company General Balance Sheet showing assets and liabilities as of February 28, 1913.
7. Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company Contract File No. C10. Agreement between Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company and the United Mine Workers of America effective April 1, 1907, and Scale Agreement between the Association of Bituminous Coal Operators and United Mine Workers of America District 2 effective April 30, 1917.
8. Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company report of additions and betterments for DuBois and Sagamore properties from November 1, 1914 to August 31, 1919.
9. Copies of internal memoranda from the Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company, ca. 1921.
10. Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company report showing monthly production at the Sagamore mines for the year 1921.
11. Triennial Assessment of Cowanshannock Township, Armstrong County, Pennsylvania for December, 1921.
12. Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company Statement of General Expenses listed by year and expense type, 1910 to 1921.
13. F.R. Wadleigh, W.D. Kirk, and C.E. Tuttle's report on the properties of the Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company, May 15, 1924.
14. Comments by the operating officials of the Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company to the consulting report of Wadleigh, Kirk, and Tuttle, June 10, 1924.
15. Handwritten statement of salary apportionment and office expenses for the Buffalo offices of the Buffalo & Susquehanna Railroad Corporation, Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company, Powhatan Coal and Coke Company, and the Keystone Stove Company, December 1, 1924.
16. Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company report of net production and tonnage of mined coal for the years 1914 to 1924.

17. Copy of Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company notice announcing closure of the Sagamore mines, April 4, 1925.
18. Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company statement of gross sales for the years 1917 to 1924, dated September 1, 1925.
19. Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company statement of payroll expense for the month of September, 1925.
20. Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company statement of gross sales for the years 1917 to 1925, dated April 22, 1925.
21. Copy of petition for hearing on contempt of miners for violating a court order, describes strike activity and "scab" intimidation, August 4, 1927.
22. Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company Board of Director's meeting minutes, March 29, 1928.
23. Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company Board of Director's meeting minutes, April 26, 1928.
24. Keystone Store Company report of computations made to determine cost of merchandise on hand for the Tyler, Pennsylvania store location, May 31, 1928
25. Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company Board of Director's meeting minutes, May 31, 1928.
26. Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company Board of Director's meeting minutes, June 28, 1928.
27. Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company Board of Director's meeting minutes, September 27, 1928.
28. Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company comparative statement of net earnings from operation of the Sagamore plant for the years 1932 to 1933.
29. Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company Contract File No. 376, National Industrial Recovery Act Code of Fair Competition for 1933.
30. Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company Board of Director's meeting minutes, May 1, 1950.
31. List of stockholders in the Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company, June 8, 1954.
32. Plot map showing the coal properties of the Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company, n.d.
33. Copy of Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal Company report of Sagamore plant buildings, date built, and assessed value, 1922.
34. Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company report of dwelling houses at Sagamore listing cost, date of erection, and contractor, n.d.
35. Flyer with photographs and contact information for the general sales department of the Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company, n.d.
36. Copy of "The Sagamore Bituminous Mines" by Edward K. Judd as published in *The Engineering and Mining Journal*, March 21, 1908.
37. Copy of "Buffalo-Susquehanna Sagamore Mine" by R. Dawson Norris Hall as published in *Mines and Minerals*, June, 1911.
38. Copy of Keystone Store Company advertisement in the *Presbyterian Messenger*, January 15, 1915.
39. "Sagamore: Company Town Sprang Up With Opening of Mines" by Eileen Cooper from the *Indiana Evening Gazette*, June 17, 1978.

40. "Sagamore: Just No Place Like It, Boyhood Resident Says" by Eileen Cooper from the *Indiana Evening Gazette*, July 1, 1978.
41. Copy of "It's My Beat: East Broad Top RR" by Bill Graff from the *Indiana Gazette*, July 25, 1998.
42. Copy of "A Tribute to Nick Kovalchick" by Bill Hastings from the *Indiana Gazette*, n.d.
43. Copies of "Those Old Photos" from the *Indiana Gazette*, n.d.
44. Copy of "That Magnificent Fight for Unionism: The Somerset County Strike of 1922" by Eileen Mountjoy Cooper, n.d.
45. Copy of "The Ernest Mine Disaster of 1916" by Eileen Mountjoy Cooper, n.d.
46. Photographs: 5 x 7 copies showing coal miners and mining activities, n.d.
47. Photographs: 8 x 10 copies showing coal miners and mining activities, n.d.
48. Photographs: 5 x 7 copies showing coal tipple and mine operation, n.d.
49. Photographs: 8 x 10 copies showing coal tipple and powerhouse, n.d.
50. Photographs: 5 x 7 copies showing Sagamore, Pennsylvania and surrounding community, n.d.
51. Photographs: 8 x 10 copies showing Sagamore, Pennsylvania residents and events, n.d.
52. Photographs: 8 x 10 copies showing Sagamore, Pennsylvania community and architecture, n.d.
53. Copies of pay envelopes from the Imperial Coal Corporation, January 1, 1937 to November 16, 1937.
54. "Buffalo & Susquehanna Railroad" data retrieved from the internet, October 30, 1998.
55. Photocopied documents related to Sagamore, Pennsylvania (hotel, school, company store, Power-house) and mining from books or internet sources, n.d.
56. Correspondence, photocopied letters sent by Lucius Robinson and A.W. Calloway regarding undesirable employees, July 7, 1902 to August 4, 1902.
57. Correspondence, letter from C.P. Munch to C.W. Goodyear concerning the consultant's report of the Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company, includes attached copy of the report, September 4, 1908.
58. Correspondence, two letters from J.R. Casely to T.J. Elmer concerning properties of the Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company, December 21, 1911 to October 21, 1912.
59. Correspondence, series of four letters from J.R. Casely to E.R. Darlow concerning purchase of the Weamer farm for the Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company, April 29, 1914 to July 23, 1914.
60. Correspondence, letter from E.R. Darlow to T.J. Elmer concerning mining operations, December 22, 1914.
61. Correspondence, letters sent between J.R. Casely and T.J. Elmer concerning properties of the Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company, April 16, 1915 to August 11, 1916.
62. Correspondence, series of letters concerning inventory of the Keystone Store Company's Sagamore location, July 25, 1918 to August 4, 1919.

63. Correspondence, series of letters concerning operations within the Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company and the Keystone Store Company's Sagamore location, January 5, 1920 to February 11, 1922.
64. Correspondence, letters concerning operations and finances of the Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company and the Keystone Store Company's Sagamore location, February 26, 1923 to November 1, 1923.
65. Correspondence, letters concerning operations related to the Keystone Store Company's Sagamore location, June 15, 1925 to December 21, 1925.
66. Correspondence, letter describing the process of incorporation of the Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal and Coke Company, June 24, 1932.
67. Correspondence, letter from C.J. Potter to all employees of the Rochester & Pittsburgh Coal Company as notification of closure of the Sagamore mine, March 30, 1950.

Box 2 (7 Publications and 7 Audio Recordings)

Series II: Publications

1. Cooper, Eileen Mountjoy. *Rochester & Pittsburgh Coal Company: The First One Hundred Years*. Indiana: Shick Printing Co., Inc., 1982
<http://www.archive.org/stream/rochester00coop#page/n3/mode/2up>
2. *Indiana County Heritage*, Spring 1977 and Winter 1978-1979
 - a. *Indiana County Heritage*, Spring 1977, Volume 5, Number 1
 - b. *Indiana County Heritage*, Winter 1978-1979, Volume 6, Number 2
3. McKee, Charles. *Sagamore: The Pictorial*. Fenelton: Charles "Cork" McKee, 2000. Call Number: F 159 .S24 M3 2000 (Special Collections)
4. Indiana County Sesquicentennial Association. *Souvenir Program of the Indiana County Sesquicentennial*. 1953. Call Number: F 157 .I3 S47 1953 (Special Collections)
5. Stephenson, Clarence D. *Indiana County 175th Anniversary History: Volume I*. Indiana: The A.G. Halldin Publishing Company, 1978. Call Number F 157 .I3 S783 (Volumes I-V) in Special Collections
6. United Mine Workers of America. *Wage Chronology for Bituminous Coal Mine Operators and United Mine Workers of America, October 1933-November 1974*. Washington: U.S Department of Labor, 1973.
7. United Mine Workers of America. *The First One-Hundred Years: 100th Year Anniversary Tribute, District #2*. Ebensburg: U.M.W.A. District #2, 1990. Call Number: HD 6515 .M616 U64 1990 (Special Collections)

Box 2 (continued)

Series III: Audio Recordings

8. Audio Recordings (CD-R converted from original audio cassette tapes in Box 3) these interviews were copied from Manuscript Group 94: Rochester & Pittsburgh Media Collection, Series I Box 9
 - a. Norman Coy Interview – December 28, 1977, grow up in Sagamore, Pennsylvania, political views

- b. Norman Coy Interview, Part I – March 1, 1978, retired miner, his views on the 1977-1978 coal strike B, the "Black Hand" Society, growing up in Sagamore, Pennsylvania
- c. Norman Coy Interview, Part II – March 1, 1978
- d. Victor Fello Interview – March 7, 1978, life in the company town of Iselin, 1920s-1930s
- e. Francis Gilbert Remey Interview – August 29, 1978, widow of R&P President, interview with brief personal anecdotes
- f. Andy Haggarty Interview, Part I – April 3, 1978, R&P mining superintendent with 50 year career in mining
- g. Andy Haggarty Interview, Part II – July 10, 1978, R&P mining experiences

Box 3 (14 Tapes) see CD-R conversions in Box 2 Folder 8

Series III: Audio Cassette Tapes (from Manuscript Group 94 R&P Media Collection, Series I Box 9)

- 1. Norman Coy Interview, original and copy, December 28, 1977 (2 tapes)
- 2. Norman Coy Interview, original and copy Part I, March 1, 1978 (2 tapes)
- 3. Norman Coy Interview, original and copy, Part II, March 1, 1978 (2 tapes)
- 4. Victor Fello Interview, original and copy, March 7, 1978 (2 tapes)
- 5. Francis Gilbert Remey Interview, original and copy, August 29, 1978 (2 tapes)
- 6. Haggarty Interview, original and copy, Part I, April 3, 1978 (2 tapes)
- 7. Haggarty Interview, original and copy, Part II, July 10, 1978 (2 tapes)