

The Economy Club of Cambridge Collection
Cambridge Room
Cambridge Public Library

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449 Broadway
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139
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The Economy Club of Cambridge Collection

Access

Open.

Provenance

Unknown

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Extent

Approximately 4.5 linear feet

Language

This collection is entirely in English.

Processed by

Patsy Baudoin

Finding Aid Prepared by

Patsy Baudoin (February, 2009)

Scope

The collection contains records of the Economy Club of Cambridge including the organization's founding documents and subsequent amendments; business records and ledgers; bank checks, bank statements, and check registers; membership applications; meeting programs, including anniversary events; book of resolutions; correspondence.

History

"The Economy Club is an organization of young men which began as a debating society, and has broadened into a well-known and influential institution of the town" (Arthur Gilman, *The Cambridge of Eighteen Hundred and Ninety-six*, 1896). Founded in 1872, the club is thought to have met first in private homes. Its membership was long restricted to men who lived in Cambridge and met "for social intercourse and for the improvement of literature." The club adopted its name in 1885, but nobody today knows why it was chosen. Membership has included state and city officials, judges, academics, business people, and professionals. By 2009, the once large membership (over 100) membership had dwindled dramatically to 15 active members. The club currently meets 6 times each year at the MIT Faculty Club for drinks, dinner, and the presentation of a guest speaker.

Arrangement into 19 topical series listed alphabetically.

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| 1. Anniversary folders (25 th , 50 th , 75 th , 100 th) | Box 1 |
| 2. Book of resolutions (August 1885-1905) | Box 3 |
| 3. Business records (1947-1959) | Box 2 |
| 4. Canceled checks (1958-[1978]) | Box 4 |
| 5. Checkbook registers (1944-1954; 1954-1959; 1959-1965) | Box 3 |
| 6. Checkbook registers | Box 2 |
| 7. Constitution, by-laws, and amendments | Box 1 |
| 8. Meeting programs (20 Folders arranged chronologically, 1895-1988) | Box 1 |
| 9. Membership applications | Box 2 |
| 10. Membership cards | Box 4 |
| 11. Mutual League of Friendship record books | Box 6 |
| 12. Organizational papers (miscellaneous) | Box 1 |
| 13. Poems & songs | Box 1 |
| 14. Record Book #1 (1873-1878) | Box 1 |
| 15. Scrapbook (Correspondence, 1932-1955) | Box 5 |
| 16. Scrapbooks | Box 6 |
| 17. Treasurer's correspondence (1973-1975) | Box 2 |
| 18. Treasurer's reports (1917-1936; 1936-1966) | Box 5 |
| 19. Treasurer's reports | Box 6 |
