Adelphoi Literary Society; Records ua800.010

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Summary Information

Repository: M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections & Archives
Creator: Adelphoi Literary Society
Title: Adelphoi Literary Society Records
ID: ua800.010
Date [inclusive]: 1902-1931
Physical Description: 0.33 cubic ft.
Physical Location: The materials are located onsite in the department.
Language of the Material: English
Language of the Material: English
Abstract: A social fraternity for High School students attending the Milne School, the training school attached to the New York State College for Teachers.

Preferred Citation

Preferred citation for this material is as follows:

Identification of specific item, series, box, folder, Adelphoi Literary Society Records, 1902-1931. M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University at Albany, State University of New York (hereafter referred to as the Adelphoi Literary Society Records).

Historical Note

The Adelphoi Literary Society was one of the fraternal organizations for students attending the New York State Normal College High School / Milne High School, the practice teaching school for the New York State Normal College / New York State College for Teachers. The Adelphoi Literary Society was founded between 1890 and 1895.[1] The society participated in a number of academic, as well as social activities. The society held literary readings at most meetings.[3] One Adelphoian policy was
to train its members in public speaking.[4] The group held many mock trials and debates. The debates usually followed political topics of the day such as, "women's suffrage"[5] or historically political topics such as, "who was the greater man Washington or Lincoln."[6] The society also organized many social outings each semester, like in 1907 a yachting party on the Hudson,[7] in 1913 sleigh rides at the Canton Hotel,[8] and in 1915 they held their annual picnic at Indian Ladder.[9] The Adelphoi Literary Society appears to have remained in existence until 1960. In the December 21, 1960 edition of the Crimson and White, the Milne High newspaper, Gay Dexter reported that Dr. Carlton Moose, the faculty advisor, recommended that the Adelphoi Literary Society be discontinued for lack of interest. Dr. Moose commented that the society had only six members at this point and had "lost sight of their original function as a literary society."[10] During the years from the founding in the 1890s to its discontinuation in 1960 the society provided an academic and social outlet for many of Milne's male students. Additional information about the Adelphoi Literary Society can be found in The Crimson and White, the Milne High School literary magazine; Crimson and White, the Milne High School's newspaper; and Bricks and Ivy, the Milne High School yearbook.


The Adelphoi Literary Society records consist of two secretary's meeting minutes books spanning the years 1902-1913, 1924-1931. No constitution or by-laws for the organization were found. The minutes contain attendance rolls and routine proceedings of the meetings as handwritten by the secretary. The secretaries recorded information about the installation of officers, literary programs, critics reports, reports of committees, and new and unfinished business. The literary programs included readings, recitations, debates, and mock trials. Each meeting appears to either begin or end with a prayer.
Arrangement of the Collection

The collection is has no series and contains only meeting minutes.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections & Archives

Revision Description

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Acquisition Information

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Controlled Access Headings

- Literature
- UAlbany Student Groups
- Minutes (administrative records)
- State University of New York at Albany

Collection Inventory

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<th>Title/Description</th>
<th>Instances</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Secretary's Book, Meeting Minutes</td>
<td>Box 1 (Adelphi Literary Society Records)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date [inclusive]: 1902-1905</td>
<td>Folder 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary's Book, Meeting Minutes</td>
<td>Box 1 (Adelphi Literary Society Records)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date [inclusive]: 1906-1913</td>
<td>Folder 2</td>
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