
ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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MS 724

SEWELL, W. ARTHUR d. 1968
Papers, 1916-1970

DESCRIPTION

This small collection contains correspondence, newspaper clippings, and sheet music related to W. Arthur Sewell. Scrapbooks and clippings reflect Sewell's leadership of the Tucson High School orchestra for over 37 years and assistant conductor for the Tucson Symphony. Composition sheet music in the collection composed by Sewell includes "Stepping Along," "Westward Ho!" and "March of the WAC." School year books mentioning work of Sewell as band/orchestra director include Georgia Military College (1916) and Tucson High School Yearbook (1922/1930-1931). A bound volume of letters from friends, former students, and well wishers reflects the surprise testimonial dinner in 1950 for Sewell.

2 Boxes, .75 linear feet

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

W. Arthur Sewell was born in Fairview, Kansas and attended Bethany College where he earned a degree in music. He worked as Supervisor of Instructional Music in the Birmingham Public School system and as band director at Georgia Military College in 1916. During World War II, Sewell performed band work for servicemen. In 1919 Sewell came to Tucson to be the director of band instruction for the Tucson Public Schools. A highlight of his teaching came on Jan. 10, 1922 when John Philip Sousa visited the school and conducted "Stars and Strips Forever" with the combined high school orchestra. Sewell composed some music with his most popular piece being "March of the WAC" dedicated to Major Betty Bandel of Tucson who was head of the local WAC military units during W.W. II. A testimonial surprise dinner was organized for Sewell in 1950 with many of his friends and former students attending. He retired from teaching in 1956 and died Dec. 30, 1968.

RELATED NOTE

A photo portrait file is available.

ACQUISITION

No donor information on this collection is available.

ACCESS

There are no restrictions on access to this collection.

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Requests for permission to publish material from this collection should be addressed to the Arizona Historical Society, Tucson, Archives Department.

PROCESSING

The collection was processed by William D. Tackenberg.

BOX AND FOLDER LIST

Box 1

Folder #1: Correspondence	1916-1963
f.2 Certificates and Citations	1905-1967
f.3 Posters and Drawings	
f.4 Newspaper Clippings	1916-1970
f.5 Lupo v. Oldeslo (Trained Dog)	1933-1936
f.6 Concert Programs	1916-1960
f.7 Georgia Military College Commencement Catalogues	1916/1917-1918
f.8 Sheet Music - "Stepping Along"	
f.9 Sheet Music - "Westward Ho!"	
f.10 Sheet Music - "Old Kentucky Home"	
f.11 Sheet Music - "Feryura Danza Mexicana Tyada" (?)	
f.12 Sheet Music - "March of the WAC"	
f.13 <i>Tucson</i> (Official City & County Magazine)	Aug. 1932
f.14 "The Musical Messenger"	Dec. 1923
f.15 "The Tucsonian" Tucson High School Yearbook	1922/1930-1931
f.16 Scrapbooks	1916-1923

Box 2

f.17 Scrapbooks	1926-1933
f.18 Photos	
f.19 Letterbook	1950