

Mary Schlemm Collection, 1886-1956

Object ID: MG0091

1 box 8 folders .5 cubic ft.

Repository: LancasterHistory (Organization); PV7

Shelving Location: Archives South, Side 3

Scope and Content Note: This collection consists of ephemera and family papers kept by Mary Leaman Schlemm. Deeds, baptismal and marriage certificates, invitations, telegrams, artwork by Mildred Gehman, and a Stehli Silk Mill booklet.

Creator: Schlemm, Mary E. Leaman, 1900-1996

Conditions for Access: No restrictions.

Conditions Governing Reproductions: Collection may not be photocopied. Please direct questions to Research Center Staff at research@lancasterhistory.org. Permission for reproduction and/or publication must be obtained in writing from LancasterHistory.

Language: English

Source of Acquisition: Gift of Mary L. Schlemm, 7 November 1989.

Biographical and Historical Note: Debra Smith, former Executive Director of the Lancaster County Historical Society, conducted an interview with Mrs. Schlemm and compiled this biographical information:

Mary Leaman Schlemm's father, Isaac D. Leaman, Sr., came from England. He had 11 children, five died at birth including two sets of twins. Her siblings who were still living at the time of the interview were Alverta Leaman Miller, Isaac Leaman, F. Pauline Leaman, and Lester Leaman.

Mary was born in 1900. Her brother, Lester, was born in 1895 and was a member of the 42nd Rainbow Lodge. She started working at the Conestoga Cotton Mill No. 1 at the age of 13. Her father let her quit school to begin working there, under the condition that she continue her education in the evenings at Wade's Business School. She was a good friend of Wade's daughter so she was able to go to school free of charge. Young workers at the Cotton Mill were required by Pennsylvania law to take a minimum of two hours of schooling until age 16. Mary took four every evening at Wade's school in order to get her high school diploma. She met her husband, Raymond A. Schlemm, at the Cotton Mill. He later worked 33.5 years at the Stehli Silk Mill, and then at Dewalt.

Mary worked at the Cotton Mill five years and then married in 1918. She left when she

became pregnant and went to work at Leinbach's Department Store after the birth of her son, James. One of the pictures in this collection is of the Leinbach employees at a company picnic at Accomac Park in 1921. Mr. Leinbach is in the center of the picture with his girlfriend at his right shoulder. His wife is down the line above the "D" in Darmstaetter, the girl wearing white nylons.

Mary's son, James, served during World War II. The orientation lecture and WW II photo are his. Several pictures are of conventions of the Golden Eagle Lodge, an auxiliary which met across from the Moose Lodge on E. King Street. The family was a member of First Reformed Church in Lancaster and the Sunday School papers in this collection were her children's.

Custodial History (Provenance): Photographs transferred to the Photograph Collection, 3 November 2017.

Accruals: No further accruals are expected.

Preferred Citation: Mary Schlemm Collection (MG0091), Folder #, LancasterHistory, Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

People:

Gehman, Mildred
Miller, Alverta A. Leaman
Miller, Frank S.
Schlemm, Mary E. Leaman
Schlemm, Raymond A.

Subject Headings:

Baptismal certificates
Deeds
Family records
Invitation cards
Marriage records

Search Terms:

Baptismal certificates
Brochures
Deeds
Family records
Finding aids
Grace Lutheran Church
Invitations
Manuscript groups
Marriage records
Stehli Silk Mill
Telegrams

Related Materials at LancasterHistory:

See also the Photograph Collection:

2-27-07-01

2-27-07-02

2-27-07-03

2-27-07-04

2-27-07-05

2-27-07-06

2-27-07-07

2-27-07-08

See also the Curatorial Collection: 2 street car tokens, 2 key chain license plates from their 1972 Chevy, and a 1941 East Hempfield class ring.

Processing History: Collection was cataloged prior to 1997. This collection has been documented, preserved and managed according to professional museum and archives standards. The finding aid was updated using DACS conventions.

Folder 1 Sunday School booklets.

Book of Poetry.

Baptismal certificate for Mary's husband, Raymond A. Schlemm from Grace Lutheran Church dated July 1, 1896.

Her sister's marriage certificate, Alverta A. Leaman to Frank S. Miller, December 1917.

Folder 2 Four deeds to property at 734 Martha Ave., Lancaster, PA. 1895-1934.

Folder 3 Military Booklets, 1917-1913.

Folder 4 Brochures and invitations to weddings, graduation and commencement.

Folder 5 Telegrams, 1955-1956.

Folder 6 Flower pictures made by Mildred Gehman, a Lancaster artist, from flowers in Mrs. Schlemm's garden. Mrs. Schlemm was known in the neighborhood for her beautiful flower gardens.

Folder 7 Photographs, 1906-1921. *Photographs transferred to the Photograph Collection, 3 November 2017.*

Folder 8 Stehli Silk Mill Booklet, no date.