MSS0239. David Rosenthal papers finding aid

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David Rosenthal papers finding aid

Title: David Rosenthal papers
Collection No: MSS.0239
Extent: 0.25 cubic feet
Inclusive Dates: circa 1899-1968

Abstract: This collection is comprised of one college-ruled notebook that David Rosenthal turned into a scrapbook about his life and times as a stage manager, Shriner, and masonic order member in Memphis, Tennessee.

Access: Open to all researchers.
Language: English
Preferred Citation: David Rosenthal papers, Special Collections Department, University Libraries, University of Memphis

Publication date: 2022 December
Biographical Information

David Rosenthal was born on June 15, 1879, in Memphis, Tennessee to a Polish father and German mother. On August 15, 1899, he became a member of the Memphis charter, Local 69, of the National Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees. For many years, he toured the country with traveling theatre and vaudeville shows, in addition to working at several theatres in New York.

In 1919, he returned to Memphis as a stage manager for the old Orpheum Theatre. After the Orpheum burned in 1923, he moved over to become the stage manager at Ellis Auditorium in August 1924 before retiring after 33 years in 1957. Rosenthal was married to May G. Hammel, a ballet dancer from Providence, Rhode Island, for over 40 years. He was a member of Temple Israel, a 33rd degree Mason, Scottish rite, and director emeritus of the Shrine. Rosenthal lived to be 99 years old and died on April 5, 1978.

Scope and contents

This collection is comprised of one college-ruled notebook that David Rosenthal turned into a scrapbook about his life and times as a stage manager, Shriner, and Masonic order member in Memphis, Tennessee. It contains seventy-five notebook pages with additional materials, like programs, cards, or flyers, that are taped or glued inside. The notebook pages were removed from the binding and placed into plastic sleeves for preservation purposes.

Subject terms

Freemasonry--Tennessee--History.
Scottish Rite (Masonic order)
Shriners International
Stage managers

Inventory

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1</th>
<th>scrapbook/notebook</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Folder 1</td>
<td>front-cover, “My Life, David Rosenthal” pasted on the front with cut-out letters and pages 1-21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 2</td>
<td>pages 22-35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 3</td>
<td>pages 36-47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 4</td>
<td>pages 48-65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 5</td>
<td>pages 66-75 and back-cover, blank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 6</td>
<td>11 x 14 in. envelope, “My Life, David Rosenthal” pasted on the front with cut-out letters</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>