

**May, Daniel (1898-1982) Papers
Addition, 1914-1983**

Processed By

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INTRODUCTION

The Daniel May Papers--Addition contains approximately 650 items and spans the period 1914 through 1983, although the bulk of the papers are limited to the years 1920 through 1980. The collection is composed of account books, audit reports, business ledgers, certificates, clippings, correspondence, deeds, insurance papers, legal documents, and reports.

The son of Jacob May (1861-1946), founder of the May Hosiery Mills in Nashville, Tennessee, Daniel May (1898-1982) became Chairman of the Board after his father's death. May was an active member of numerous Nashville area civic and educational organizations and served as a director or trustee for many of these associations.

The bulk of the collection consists of materials pertaining to the May Corporation-- a family owned investment company, and the May Hosiery Mills (now part of the Wayne-Gossard Corporation), and provides research information on the hosiery industry in Nashville throughout most of the twentieth century, as well as on a prominent Nashville family. The collection was reduced to approximately 2.5 linear feet from its original 3 linear feet by removal of binders and blank pages. There are no restrictions on the use of the materials. Additional material about Daniel May can be located in the Daniel May Papers, also located at the Tennessee State Library and Archives-- THS 453, Microfilm Accession Number: 1167, Location: V-C-5-6.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Daniel May Papers-- Addition consists primarily of correspondence, account books, audit reports and other financial documents relating to the May Hosiery Mills of Nashville, Tennessee. Of particular note are the account book which documents Daniel May's personal expenses and charitable contributions, and the May Company payroll register from 1915-1917, which shows skilled and unskilled hosiery worker's salaries in Nashville. The correspondence consists primarily of letters to and from Ira Mendell of New York, a friend and business associate. All of the company audits and financial statements from 1914-1982 are included, which document the growth and success of the May Company during Daniel May's tenure. Some copies of legal documents pertaining to Daniel May's power of attorney and will are also included, which explain the eventual disposition of his estate. The correspondence is placed in folders in its original, roughly chronological order. All of the other materials have been placed in folders and arranged alphabetically by the type of document.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Daniel May

- 1898 December 25, born in Nashville, Tennessee, the son of Jacob and Rebecca Weingarten May
- Attended Hume School, Nashville, Tennessee
- 1918 U.S. Army - Private
- 1919 Received an A.B. Degree from Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee
- 1924 - 1927 Partner in the Bloch Clothing Co., Nashville, Tennessee
- 1927 June 14, married Dorothy Fishel
- 1927 - 1963 Associated with May Hosiery Mills, Nashville, Tennessee
- 1933 - 1946 Treasurer
- 1946 - 1959 Chairman of the Board
- 1959 - 1963 President
- 1982 December 16, dies in Nashville, Tennessee, and is buried in the Temple cemetery

Organizations and Accomplishments

The Bill Wilkerson Hearing and Speech Center, Board of Directors
Council of Community Services
Davidson County Quarterly Court
Fisk University Board of Trustees, 1950 - 1959
Jewish Community Center, Board of Directors, President - 1950
Joint University Libraries, Board of Trustees
Metropolitan Action Commission
Metropolitan Government of Nashville, Councilman-At-Large
Mid-Cumberland Comprehensive Health Planning Commission
Nashville Board of Education, 1943 - 1953
Rotary Club of Nashville, President, 1962
Vanderbilt University Board of Trust, 1951 - 1982
War Manpower Commission, 1943
War Production Board Consultant, 1945
Zeta Beta Tau Fraternity, Board of Trustees

HISTORY OF MAY HOSIERY MILLS

- 1896 Founded in Nashville, Tennessee, by Jacob May and Leo Kaufman as the Rock City Hosiery Company
- 1901 Jacob May bought out Leo Kaufman and became sole owner
- 1909 October 29, incorporated under Tennessee laws as the May Hosiery Mills, with an authorized capital of \$40,000
- 1956 September, May Hosiery Mills merged with Vaughan Knitting Co., Wytheville, Virginia, and its three subsidiaries
- 1965 May Hosiery Mills merged into Wayne Knitting Mills of Humbolt, Tennessee
- 1966 May Hosiery Mills acquired the Athens Hosiery Mills of Athens, Tennessee
- 1968 The Wayne Knitting Mills acquired the H.W. Gossard Co. of Chicago, Illinois, and the corporation changed its name to Wayne--Gossard Corp.
- 1983 The Renfro Hosiery Mills of Mount Airy, North Carolina, acquired the May Hosiery Mills from Wayne--Gossard and operated the Nashville plant as Renfro Hosiery--May Plant
- 1984 The Renfro Hosiery Mills discontinued operation in Nashville, Tennessee

CONTAINER LIST

Box 1

- Folder 1- Certificates, Stock, May Hosiery Mills and May Corporation
- Folder 2- Correspondence- Daniel May, 1954 - 1962
- Folder 3- Correspondence- Daniel May, 1973 - 1981
- Folder 4- Court Records- Probate of Will, Daniel May, 1982
- Folder 5- Estate Papers, Jacob May, 1932 and 1946
- Folder 6- Financial Documents- Account Book, May Hosiery Mills, 1959 - 1981
- Folder 7- Financial Documents- Audits, May Hosiery Company, 1914 and 1916
- Folder 8- Financial Documents- Audits, May Hosiery Company, 1921 - 1930
- Folder 9- Financial Documents- Audits, May Hosiery Company, 1931 - 1940

Box 2

- Folder 1- Financial Documents- Audits, May Hosiery Company, 1941 - 1945
- Folder 2- Financial Documents- Audits, May Hosiery Company, 1946 - 1950
- Folder 3- Financial Documents- Audits, May Hosiery Company, 1951 - 1955
- Folder 4- Financial Documents- Audits, May Hosiery Company, 1956 - 1958
- Folder 5- Financial Documents- Financial Statements, May Hosiery Mills, 1959 - 1969
- Folder 6- Financial Documents- Financial Statements, May Hosiery Mills, 1970 - 1982

Box 3

- Folder 1- Financial Documents- Stockholder's Ledger, May Corporation, 1936 - 1984
- Folder 2- Land Records- Deed of Trust, Charles Lewis Graham, 1954
- Folder 3- Legal Documents- Agreements, Daniel May and May Corporation, 1960 & 1978
- Folder 4- Legal Documents- Agreements, Mortimer May and Daniel May, 1947
- Folder 5- Legal Documents- Power of Attorney, Daniel May, 1973
- Folder 6- Legal Documents- Power of Attorney, Dorothy May, 1978
- Folder 7- Legal Documents- Trust Agreement, Daniel May, 1977
- Folder 8- Legal Documents- Wills, Daniel May, 1982
- Folder 9- Legal Documents- Wills, Dorothy May, 1983
- Folder 10- Minutes- Board of Directors, May Hosiery Mills, 1936 - 1952
- Folder 11- Minutes, Board of Directors, May Hosiery Mills, 1953 - 1983
- Folder 12- Minutes, Profit Sharing Committee, May Hosiery Mills, 1944 - 1978
- Folder 13- Organizational Papers- Amended By-Laws, May Hosiery Mills, 1946
- Folder 14- Organizational Papers- Amendment to Charter of Incorporation, 1965
- Folder 15- Sketches, Biographical, Daniel May, 1982
- Folder 16- Vital Statistics- Death Certificate, Daniel May, 1982

Box 4 (Oversized)

Cash Book, 1921 - 1922

Cash Book, 1952 - 1976

Box 5 (Oversized)

Payroll Register 1915 - 1917

Record Book- Cumulative Increase, 1933 - 1939

Record Book- Income and Expenditures, 1952 - 1956

Trial Balance Book 1924 - 1935