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The "Dakota Farmer" Collection

Finding Aid

South Dakota State University Archives and Special Collections
Briggs Library (SBL) Room 241 Box 2114
1300 North Campus Drive
Brookings, SD 57007
Phone: 605-688-5094
Email: arcrefs@sdstate.edu

Collection Summary

Identifier

MA 38

Title

The "Dakota Farmer" collection

Creator

Dakota Farmer (Aberdeen, S.D.)

Dates

1906-1946

Extent

4.79 linear feet -- 4 boxes, photographs, printing plates

Language

English

Repository

South Dakota State University Archives and Special Collections, Hilton M. Briggs Library, Brookings, South Dakota.

Access note

This collection is open to researchers without restrictions. The materials in the Archives do not circulate and may be used in-house only.

Preferred Citation

Name of item. The "Dakota Farmer" collection. MA 38. South Dakota State University Archives and Special Collections, Hilton M. Briggs Library, Brookings, South Dakota.

Abstract

The Dakota Farmer first published as a newspaper in 1881, supported all sorts of agricultural organizations and promoted the development of quality livestock and crops for the Dakotas. This collection is composed of plates, publications, reports, correspondence, and photographs used for publication of the Dakota Farmer.

Historical Note

The Dakota Farmer first began as a newspaper in 1881, eight years before North Dakota and South Dakota were granted statehood.

It was first published in Alexandria in what is now Hanson County, S.D. The first owner, James Baynes, sold it within the first year of existence to Augustine Davis, and the publication moved to Huron, S.D. Davis sold a half-interest in Dakota Farmer to William Bushnell in 1883. Bushnell became sole owner of Dakota Farmer in 1885.

As editor and manager, Bushnell led Dakota Farmer into its early prominence. The publication, moved to Aberdeen, S.D. in 1893, supported all sorts of agricultural organizations and promoted the development of quality livestock and crops for the Dakotas. Bushnell himself was active in politics and eventually became state statistician for South Dakota.

Over the next century, Dakota Farmer survived and thrived with farmers through good times and bad, and became a well-respected source of information.

Webb Publishing, which published The Farmer, saw Dakota Farmer as a natural fit and purchased the magazine in 1979.

Today, Dakota Farmer is part of Farm Progress Companies. Farm Progress publishes 18 state farm magazines similar to Dakota Farmer. It owns and operates eight farm shows across the nation, including the largest in the nation, The Farm Progress Show.

Contents Note

This collection is composed mainly of plates, publications, reports, a small amount of correspondence, and photographs. The plates consist of frames,

cover mast-heads, article mast-heads, frames for photographs, and other artwork used for the publication. A more detailed description of these plates is found in the container list. The publications are mainly specialty publications aimed at advertisers and marketers. The reports are surveys conducted on farmers, bankers, merchants.

An item of note is the contracting for a new cover file. This material contains several examples of other publication covers with critiques of what works and what does not. Also included in this material is three sample covers for the Dakota Farmer and correspondence between the contractor and the Dakota Farmer staff.

Related Resources

The Dakota farmer

Aberdeen, South Dakota [Dakota-North Plains Corp.], 1881-1979

Call Number: Periodical/Lower Level: 630.5 D149; also in microfilm 1884-1979.

The Dakota farmer

St. Paul, Minn.: Webb Company, 1980-1992

Call Number: Periodicals/Lower Level: 630.5 F2291, also in microfilm 1980-1989.

Dear friends--: from the pages of The Dakota Farmer, Jennie's letters from the plains, Hutton, Jennie Senrud

Aberdeen, S.D., Dakota Farmer, c.1965.

Call Number: SD Collection: S521.H87 1965

Key Words

Dakota Farmer. (Aberdeen, S.D.)

Agriculture -- North Dakota -- Periodicals

Agriculture -- Periodicals

Agriculture -- South Dakota -- Periodicals

Agriculture -- United States -- Periodicals

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

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Researchers conducting extensive research are asked to make an advance appointment to access archival material. Please call or e-mail prior to visiting the collection and indicate as much detail as possible about a particular topic and intended use.

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Arranged and Described by

Crystal J. Gamradt, 2003 June 11.

Container List

Box 1-3

Box	Folder	Description	Date(s)
1	1	Back to the Dakota Farmer	1916
1	2	Correspondence	1926
1	3	Dakota Merchant and Banker Survey	1930
1	4	The Dakotas as a market for Maytags (washers)	1926
1	5	Editorial comment, voluntary contributions	1934-1936
1	6	Farm Home Development in the Dakota Farmer Empire	undated
1	7	Feeding the Dakotas	undated
1	8	Interesting Facts about the Dakota Farmer	undated
1	9	James Baynes, founder information	1924
1	10	Preliminary report and recommendations on farm journals survey among farmers, merchants, and bankers in ND & SD	1930
1	11	Promotion of SD by Greater SD Association	1937
1	12	Publication information	1946

Box	Folder	Description	Date(s)
1	13	Publications that influence farmers of the Dakotas	1931, 1935
1	14	Publications that influence farmers of the Dakotas	1934-1935
2	1	Plates—Article mastheads	undated
2	2	Plates—Artwork	undated
2	3	Plates—Crest	undated
2	4	Plates—Frames	undated
2	5	Plates—Masthead	undated
2	6	Plates—ND and SD map	undated
2	7	Plates—Northwest farmstead (Santa)	undated
3	1	Clippings and tear-sheets, 1906-1918	1906-1918
3	2	Contracting for a new cover	1946
3	3	The Development of the Dakotas Parallels the efforts of the Dakota Farmer	1928
3	4	First Assistant to ... Cooks	1940-1941
3	5	Why local dealers benefit by handling advertised goods	undated

Container List

Box 4

Box	Description	Date(s)
4	Photographs: MA 38-0001—Bound Dakota Farmers standing upright	undated
4	Photographs: MA 38-0002—2 images mounted on tagboard—"And this was Once a Bare Prairie" specimens of Ponderosa Pine, Blue and White spruce, and Scene at the home place of A. Norby, Madison, S.D.	undated
4	Photographs: MA 38-0003—Trees on a hill from vol. 34 no. 14, July 15, 1914 issue of the Dakota Farmer	1914
4	Photographs: MA 38-0004—team of 2 white work horses pulling flatbed of corn with man standing on flatbed holding the reins—used as cover for Nov. 15, 1921 Dakota Farmer	1921
4	Photographs: MA 38-0005—person on horse with dead coyote hanging from saddle horn	undated
4	Photographs: MA 38-0006—aerial view of a farm	undated
4	Photographs: MA 38-0007—bison herd	undated
4	Photographs: MA 38-0008—Dakota Farmer building and lot next to it	undated
4	Plates—Article mastheads: "Now You Tell One"	undated

Box	Description	Date(s)
4	Plates—Article mastheads: "What's in the Air" by Radio Ranger	undated
4	Plates—Article mastheads: Advice from our Lawyer	undated
4	Plates—Article mastheads: Along Dakota Prairie Trails	undated
4	Plates—Article mastheads: Bees and Honey	undated
4	Plates—Article mastheads: Breezes from the West	undated
4	Plates—Article mastheads: Country Life in the Dakotas	undated
4	Plates—Article mastheads: Dairy and Creamery	undated
4	Plates—Article mastheads: Dakota Farmer Young Folks Conducted by Aunt Clara	undated
4	Plates—Article mastheads: Help One Another	undated
4	Plates—Article mastheads: Horticulture, Trees-Fruit and the Garden	undated
4	Plates—Article mastheads: Incomes from Your Money	undated
4	Plates—Article mastheads: Livestock Edited by John T. E. Dinwoodie	undated
4	Plates—Article mastheads: Poultry Department	undated
4	Plates—Article mastheads: Sheet with 6 article mastheads: Special Service Department, Subscription Department; Country Life in the Dakotas by Helen B. Russell Golden Valley Co. undated,	undated
4	Plates—Article mastheads: Stray Shots by W.C. Allen	undated
4	Plates—Article mastheads: The Dakota Farmer Editorial	undated
4	Plates—Article mastheads: The Home, edited by Mabel Sensor	undated
4	Plates—Article mastheads: What's Doing in the Dakotas	undated
4	Plates—Artwork: 2 men on a sofa reading the Dakota Farmer	undated
4	Plates—Artwork: 3 separate border designs	undated
4	Plates—Artwork: Border with 3 photographs (Power on the Farm)	undated
4	Plates—Artwork: Car driving down road with dog in window going past a sign that reads, "Good Bye! Good Luck! Come Again!"	undated
4	Plates—Artwork: Farm scene with farmer shaking hands with men in suits while wife and son with dog look on	undated
4	Plates—Artwork: Farm scene with pigs and cows and car driving past	undated
4	Plates—Artwork: Old Dakota Farmer Building (Elks Building) Aberdeen, S.D.	undated
4	Plates—Artwork: Postman in U.S. Mail truck delivering mail to farm	undated

Box	Description	Date(s)
4	Plates—Artwork: Sheet with 2 designs (bees and flowers, apple orchard)	undated
4	Plates—Artwork: Sheet with 4 designs (book shelves, bees and flowers, apple orchard, family reading paper)	undated
4	Plates—Artwork: Sheet with 7 designs (book shelves, family reading paper, corn shocks, threshing, horse/cow/pigs, apple orchard, bees and flowers)	undated
4	Plates—Artwork: The Dakota Farmer Building entrance	undated
4	Plates—Frames: 12 different sheets of frames	undated
4	Plates—Masthead: First bound volume of the Dakota Farmer—Current Bound volume of the Dakota Farmer	undated
4	Plates—Masthead: The Dakota Farmer	1911
4	Plates—Masthead: The Dakota Farmer	1929
4	Plates—Masthead: The Dakota Farmer	undated
4	Plates—Masthead: The Dakota Farmer Cover (blank)	undated
4	Plates—Masthead: The Dakota Farmer Cover (blank)	undated
4	Plates—North Dakota and South Dakota maps: North Dakota Railroad/County/River Map	1912
4	South Plates—North Dakota and South Dakota maps: Dakota Railroad/County/River Map	1912
4	Stray Shots by W.C. Allen, Traps and Trapping, Along Dakota Prairie Trails Wayside Observations by A. H. Pankow, undated	undated