

Finding Aid for the Lester L. Dickson Collection, 1937-
1981



Collection Number: RG 77/3

Archives & Special Collections

William F. Maag, Jr. Library
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Descriptive Summary

Title:	Lester L. Dickson Collection, 1937-1981
Record No.:	RG 77/3
Accession No.:	MSS 2004.42
Creator:	Lester L. Dickson
Extent:	1.25 linear feet (1 box)
Abstract:	The Lester L. Dickson Collection contains materials pertaining to steam locomotives, including rosters, publications, and news clippings. It also contains Lester L. Dickson's personal diary and correspondences.

Administrative Information

Provenance:	This collection was donated by the Estate of Lester L. Dickson. One of the rosters contained in this collection is a photocopy of part of C.E. Fisher's Collection [File Folder 144]
Preferred Citation:	The Lester L. Dickson Collection, 1937-1981, RG 77/03, Archives & Special Collections, William F. Maag, Jr. Library, Youngstown State University, Youngstown, Ohio.
Restrictions:	None
Processing Information:	Processed by Megan Anderson September-October 2004
Finding Aid:	Written by Megan Anderson
Revised Edition:	Written by Lisa Garofali, December 2009

Scope and Content Note

The materials contained in this collection include personal correspondence, pamphlets, magazine clippings, journals, order forms and a large number of steam locomotive rosters that were compiled by Lester L. Dickson. The rosters contain references to his books that were donated at the same time along with his personal papers. The donated books are housed in Maag Library's general stacks. A list of his books is on file in the Archivist's office.

Colophon

The collection was processed in 2004 by Archival Intern Megan Anderson, who was under the supervision of former head of YSU Archives and Special Collections Mr. S. Victor Fleischer. The revision of the Finding Aid and writing of this colophon is by Lisa Marie Garofali, a History graduate student with over two years experience working full time in the YSU Archives as of December 2009. Added to this Finding Aid during revision is the description of the series listed above the corresponding folders to that series, the author of the Finding Aid and author of the revision has been added in the Administrative section.

This collection was donated from the Estate of Lester L. Dickson, Youngstown, Ohio at a date unspecified. It was accessioned in the YSU Archives October 31, 2004 by Megan Anderson and processed during that time. Dates within the collection cover a span of years roughly between 1937-1975. Digitization of the collection and revision of the Finding aid began at the end of 2009.

Series Description

Series I:	Correspondence
Series II:	Personal Papers
Series III:	Rosters
Series IV:	Publications
Series V:	News Clippings

Index Terms

Steam Locomotives
Rosters
Midwest Railroader and Roster Journal
C.E. Fisher Collection

BOX 1

SERIES I: CORRESPONDENCE

This series covers correspondences from the late 1970s to early 1980s. They all relate to Mr. Dickson's interests in the history of the railroad in Pennsylvania. Included are lists of books or pamphlets covering this specific topic and the correspondence between him and the sellers of these items.

Folder	Content
1	Correspondence, 1978, 1981, n.d.

SERIES II: PERSONAL PAPERS

Mr. Dickson's diary consist of several sheets of paper listing his activities from the years 1937-1975. Much of the listings are projects he has accomplished in the local area steel mills, employee activities, strike dates, deaths of persons known to him, comments on the

weather, the date of his retirement, December 31, 1965, and ends with his teeth getting pulled in 1975. Given the activities listed, it appears that he has worked in the local area steel mills possibly at the Youngstown Sheet and Tube Campbell Works and has lived in the area throughout the duration of his diary.

Folder	Content
2	Diary, 1937-1975

SERIES III: ROSTERS

This series includes detailed Rosters of steam locomotives compiled by Mr. Dickson. The topics include : Steam locomotive builders, rosters (which are alphabetized), rail car manufactures, railroad gauges, railroad corporations (which are alphabetized) and miscellaneous rosters. Most of these rosters are hand printed however; there are some which are typed out. Some dates are given for various rosters (in the range of the turn of the century) but most are generally undated.

Folder	Content
3	Steam Locomotive Builders, n.d.
4	Steam Locomotive Rosters, A-B, n.d.
5	Steam Locomotive Rosters, C, n.d.
6	Steam Locomotive Rosters, D-H, N.d.
7	Steam Locomotive Rosters, I-L, n.d.
8	Steam Locomotive Rosters, M-N, n.d.
9	Steam Locomotive Rosters, O-R, n.d.
10	Steam Locomotive Rosters, S-U, n.d.
11	Steam Locomotive Rosters, V-Z, n.d.
12	Steam Locomotive Rosters: Atchinson, Topeka and Santa Fe, n.d.
13	Steam Locomotive Rosters: Baltimore and Ohio, n.d.
14	Steam Locomotive Rosters: Central Pennsylvania Lumber Company, n.d.
15	Steam Locomotive Rosters: Cincinnati, New Orleans and Texas Pacific, n.d.
16	Steam Locomotive Rosters: Delaware and Hudson, n.d.
17	Steam Locomotive Rosters: Denver and Rio Grande/ Denver and Rio Grande Western, n.d.
18	Steam Locomotive Rosters: Dickson Manufacturing Company, n.d.
19	Steam Locomotive Rosters: Kansas City Southern, n.d.
20	Steam Locomotive Rosters: Lake Erie and Western, n.d.
21	Steam Locomotive Rosters: Louisville and Nashville, n.d.
22	Steam Locomotive Rosters: New York Central, n.d.
23	Steam Locomotive Rosters: New York, Chicago and St. Louis, n.d.
24	Steam Locomotive Rosters: New York, Ontario and Western, n.d.
25	Steam Locomotive Rosters: Norfolk and Western, n.d.
26	Steam Locomotive Rosters: Pennsylvania Railroad, n.d.
27	Steam Locomotive Rosters: Rutland, n.d.
28	Steam Locomotive Rosters: St. Louis San Francisco, n.d.
29	Steam Locomotive Rosters: Seaboard Airline, n.d.
30	Steam Locomotive Rosters: Southern Railway, n.d.
31	Steam Locomotive Rosters: U.S. Military Railroad, n.d.
32	Steam Locomotive Rosters: Wheeling and Lake Erie, n.d.

- 33 Railcar Manufacturers, n.d.
- 34 Railroad Gauges, n.d.
- 35 Railroad Corporations, A-M, n.d.
- 36 Railroad Corporations, N-Z, n.d.
- 37 Miscellaneous Rosters, n.d.

SERIES IV: PUBLICATIONS

This series contains various publications. Some of which are magazines while others are pamphlets and order forms. The Publication, *Midwest Railroad and Roster Journal*, contains steam rosters (similar to the hand written ones in the previous series), photographs, occasional articles, book reviews, and bibliography references all in reference to steam locomotives. Information for this publication is copyrighted by Roy W. Carlson with dates 1961-1971. The C. E. Fisher Collection publication contains an alphabetized list of rosters which are undated. Pamphlets and Order Forms are related to the correspondences in that it contains information on ordering books on trains. Also included is a flyer to attend the 1982 Colorado Rails event, a summary of equipment from the Denver & Rio Grande Western Railroad Co., and a train schedule for stops between Chicago and the Rocky Mountains dated 1891. The final item in this series is the publications entitled *Trains* from 1972-1973. This folder contains individual articles taken from the publication and does not contain a full version of the actual printing.

Folder	Content
38	Publications: <i>Midwest Railroad and Roster Journal</i> , 1961-1971
39	Publications: Roster List: C.E. Fisher Collection, n.d.
40	Publications: Pamphlets and Order Forms, 1981, 1982, n.d.
41	Publications: <i>Trains</i> 1972-1973

SERIES V: NEWS CLIPPINGS

This series contains undated Steam Locomotive clippings from newspapers, magazines, and calendars. These clippings are arranged alphabetically by the name of the Rail Company whose Steam Locomotive is pictured. All of these clippings are photographs with very limited, if any, text to accompany the image.

Folder	Content
42	Steam Locomotive Clippings, A-F, n.d.
43	Steam Locomotive Clippings, G-M, n.d.
44	Steam Locomotive Clippings, N-P, n.d.
45	Steam Locomotive Clippings, Q-T, n.d.
46	Steam Locomotive Clippings, U-Z, n.d.
47	Steam Locomotive Clippings, Unidentified, n.d.