

MASSACHUSETTS SOCIETY FOR SOCIAL HYGIENE (M.S.S.H.)

Records, 1932-1957 (with gaps)

Charities Collection – CC26

1 manuscript container	Processed February 2000 by Pat Perreault
2.5 linear inches	Supervising Archivist: Claire Goodwin
Accession number – 2000.07	

ACQUISITION: In 1911 the Boston Children's Aid Society gave its entire library to the Simmons College School of Social Work Library. This library included the annual reports of many local and international welfare and charitable organizations. With the passage of time this collection took on historical significance and in 1991 it was transferred to the Simmons College Archives.

As part of donations in 1988 and 1989, Donald Moreland, a local social worker and collector of social work history, gave the Simmons College Archives a large number of annual reports, pamphlets and other materials related to various welfare and charitable organizations. Because neither of these donations a discrete collection, the materials transferred in 1991 from the School of Social Work Library and the related materials donated by Donald Moreland were combined to form the Charities Collection. The Simmons College Archives Charities Collection consists of numerous small collections. Accession numbers for the individual collections are assigned during processing.

ACCESS: Unrestricted

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HISTORY:

The Massachusetts Society for Social Hygiene was founded in 1911 through the efforts of Charles Eliot of Harvard, Bishop Lawrence and other socially minded men and women of Massachusetts, who recognized a need for a voluntary organization of citizens to carry on an educational program to help correct some of the evils which resulted from a lack of understanding of the part that sex plays in the lives of men and women.

The Massachusetts Society for Social Hygiene was incorporated in 1915, and during the war and for sometime afterward, it's work was largely determined by the need for a medical and protective program to combat syphilis and gonorrhea and war related problems.

Reorganized in 1928, the program was mainly concerned with educational measures to help in the development of a sane and rational attitude towards sex, to assist individuals in adjusting their personal problems and to help in the prevention and control of genitoinfectious diseases.

All information taken from the Bulletin of the Massachusetts Society for Social Hygiene, Vol. IX, No. 4, June 1939.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE:

The Massachusetts Society for Social Hygiene (MSSH) records, 1932-1957 is arranged alphabetically, and includes an Annual Report, Newsletters and Bulletins of the Society. The Annual Report includes the financial report and a list of Officers and Directors for the year 1951, as well as reports on activities and programs.

The Newsletters, 1951-1957, with occasional gaps, are bound into one volume documenting activities and objectives of the Society. Published irregularly when funds were available, their purpose was to keep the members well informed. There are 4 newsletters (Sept. 56, Nov. 56, Jan. 57 and Mar.-Apr. 57) bound at end of this volume.

Bulletins, 1932-1939 and 1940-1952, with occasional gaps, are bound into two volumes respectively, and Bulletins, Sep. 1956 through Mar.-Apr. 1957, are bound at the end of the Newsletter volume. The Bulletin was a means of keeping members informed of the Society's fight against syphilis and gonorrhea.

CONTAINER LIST:

BOX	FOLDER	CONTENTS
1	1	Annual Report – 1950
	2	Bulletins – 1932-1939
	3	Bulletins – 1940-1952
	4	Newsletters – 1951-1957
	5	Bulletins – Sep 1956-Mar/Apr 1957