

K Commercial Club of Kansas City Scrapbooks, 1886-1913  
0264 8 reels  
[NSA]

## MICROFILM

This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri-Research Center, Kansas City](http://www.shsmo.org). If you would like more information, please contact us at [kansascity@shsmo.org](mailto:kansascity@shsmo.org).

## INTRODUCTION

The scrapbooks of the Commercial Club of Kansas City trace the media coverage of the activities of the Club, as well as many of Kansas City's civic events. Most of the articles originated from Kansas City area or other Missouri newspapers and chronicle events and activities that spanned from 1886 to 1913.

## DONOR INFORMATION

The scrapbooks were donated to the University of Missouri on behalf of the Native Sons and Daughters of Greater Kansas City on July 17, 1990 (Accession No. KA0590).

## COPYRIGHT AND RESTRICTIONS

The Donor has given and assigned to the University all rights of copyright which the Donor has in the Materials and in such of the Donor's works as may be found among any collections of Materials received by the University from others.

## RELATED COLLECTIONS

*E.M. Clendening Papers (K0262)*

*Kansas City Conventional Hall Records (K0269)*

*Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce Minutes Records (K0274)*

*Kansas City Chamber of Commerce Civic Department Scrapbooks (K0356)*

*Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce Records (K0527)*

## ORGANIZATIONAL SKETCH

The Commercial Club of Kansas City was founded in August 1886 to promote civic projects and events in the city. The goals of the initial membership of fifty-seven businessmen were to encourage good will and the widening of the trade territory of Kansas City. Shortly after its founding, the Club adopted the slogan: "Make Kansas City A Good Place To Live." Scrapbooks were kept on the activities of the Club from 1886 to 1913, when the Club reorganized as the Chamber of Commerce.

The Commercial Club was housed on the second floor of the Board of Trade building. Its first president was William B. Grimes and first active secretary was Ryerson Ritchie, who was succeeded by E.M. Clendening. Clendening was active through the Club's lively years, including the rebuilding of the burned Convention Hall, the 1903 flood, and a good portion of what is considered the heyday of the "Kansas City Spirit."

Many of Kansas City's leading citizens were associated with the Commercial Club, including August R. Meyer, C.J. Schmelzer, Uriah S. Epperson, and many others. Members took an interest in local affairs, political issues, as well as their own business interests.

#### SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection is comprised of fifty-five volumes of scrapbooks that contain numerous newspaper articles. The articles chronicle the growth of various aspects of Kansas City such as parks, boulevard systems, flood control, and local politics. Events such as the deaths of prominent Kansas City citizens, floods, and those held by the Priests of Pallas are also reported. This collection is available on microfilm only.

#### PREFERRED CITATION

Specific item; box number; folder number; *Commercial Club of Kansas City Scrapbooks (K0264)*; The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-KC].

#### INVENTORY

Reel 1	v. 1-7, 1886-1894
Reel 2	v. 8-16, 1894-1899
Reel 3	v. 17-24, 1899-1904
Reel 4	v. 25-31, 1904-1906
Reel 5	v. 32-38, 1906-1908
Reel 6	v. 39-45, 1907-1910
Reel 7	v. 46-51, 1910-1912
Reel 8	v. 52-55, 1912-1913

*Processed August 2017*