

Collection
M 0138
VC 0099

George Hess Collection
1833-1969

Table of Contents

User Information
Historical Sketch
Scope and Content Note
Container List

Processed by
Shane Keenan
13 September 2018

Thomas Balch Library
208 W. Market Street
Leesburg, VA 20176

USER INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1.33 cubic feet

COLLECTION DATES: 1833-1969

PROVENANCE: Robert Moler, Knoxville, VA

ACCESS RESTRICTIONS: Collection open for research

USE RESTRICTIONS: Physical characteristics and conditions affect use of this material. Photocopying not permitted. Visual materials may require special handling.

REPRODUCTION RIGHTS: Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from Thomas Balch Library.

CITE AS: George R. Hess Collection, 1833-1969 (M 0138), Thomas Balch Library, Leesburg, VA.

ALTERNATE FORMATS: None

OTHER FINDING AIDS: PastPerfect catalog records

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS: None

RELATED HOLDINGS: Hillsboro Circuit Methodist Episcopal Church, Virginia (M 0122), Thomas Balch Library, Leesburg, VA.

ACCESSION NUMBERS: 2015.091

NOTES: Original copies of St. Paul's Lutheran Church Records are housed in the Evangelical Lutheran Church's James R. Crumley Jr. Archives in Columbia SC.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

George Roy Hess (30 December 1891-7 July 1983) was born in Carroll County Maryland to George Washington Hess (17 May 1856-1945) and Laura Angell Hess (1858-1922). He graduated from Boy's High School in Frederick Maryland and edited a Brunswick, Maryland, newspaper. After serving in WWI he married Hazel Porter (21 August 1895-12 June 1980) on 16 January, 1919 and moved to Neersville, Virginia in Loudoun County.

Hazel's father, Joseph Jesse Porter (24 April 1859-6 December 1949), owned Porter's Store in Neersville. George Hess worked with his father-in-law and later took over the store, renaming it G.R. Hess General Merchandise. George and Hazel both taught in the Neersville School and George later became Director of the Purcellville National Bank.

Both George and Hazel Hess were active members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Neersville. St. Paul's Lutheran Church was founded in 1833 and was active until October 1970. The Ladies Mite Society records frequently list Hazel and her mother, Martha Elizabeth Abel Porter (27 January 1861-21 July 1949), among its members.

SOURCES

Federal Census, 1900-1940. Ancestry Library Edition.

www.ancestrylibrary.com. Accessed September 6, 2018.

"George R. Hess, 91, Formerly of Neersville." *Loudoun Times-Mirror*, July 14, 1983. A-6.

"Hazel Hess, 84, of Neersville." *Loudoun Times-Mirror*, June 19, 1980. A-10.

Fishback, Mary. *Images of America: Loudoun County: 250 Years of Towns and Villages*. Leesburg: Arcadia.

Loudoun County Cemetery Database. Accessed September 13, 2018. <https://www.leesburgva.gov/government/departments/thomas-balch-library/loudoun-county-cemetery-database>

Scheel, Eugene M. *Loudoun Discovered: Communities, Corners & Crossroads, Volume 5: Waterford, the German Settlement and Between the Hills*. Leesburg: Friends of the Thomas Balch Library, 2002.

U.S., *Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current* [database on-line]. Ancestry Library Edition. www.ancestrylibrary.com. Accessed September 13, 2018.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection is composed of personal papers of George R. Hess, Hazel Porter Hess, and their families. This includes George's scrapbook of 1912 Newspaper clippings, his journals from 1951-1954, Hess family photographs from the mid-nineteenth to early-twentieth centuries, and a poetry notebook of unknown origin. The Hess photographs are composed of two albums and one large photograph. The first album is from the mid-nineteenth century and comes from the "Lee Mumper & Co., Photographers, No. 25, Baltimore Street, Gettysburg PA." The first page also says "George W. Hess, Taneytown, Carroll County Maryland." The second album is composed of gelatin prints from the early twentieth century. Hazel's papers include a notebook from her Bible-study and a memorial card for another member of the Porter family.

The collection also includes meeting minutes and account books from the Ladies Mite Society. Documents from St. Paul's Lutheran Church, including church records, Sunday school accounts, and the church Constitution from 1833 to 1969 are also in the collection. Some of the earliest record books are copies. The originals were sent to the Virginia Lutheran Synod. The Evangelical Lutheran Church's James R. Crumley Jr. Archives in Columbia, South Carolina, currently houses the original copies.

The collection also contains a Neersville School attendance record book and two Loudoun County Court summonses. Any relation between the Hess or Porter families and the summonses is unknown.

CONTAINER LIST

M 0138

Box 1

Folder 1	Ladies Mite Society Notes and Bills Receivable, 1896-1899
Folder 2	Ladies Mite Society Records, 1914-1938
Folder 3	Program Papers Removed from Ladies Mite Society Records, 1914-1938
Folder 4	Ladies Mite Society Minutes, 1937-1938
Folder 5	1946 Dues Removed from Ladies Mite Society Minutes 1937-1946
Folder 6	Hazel Porter Papers
Folder 7	Old Testament Chart Removed from Hazel Porter Hess Papers
Folder 8	Hess Family Photographs
Folder 9	George R. Hess Scrapbook, 1912
Folder 10	Poetry Notebook, 1917
Folder 11	Newspaper Clippings Removed from Poetry Notebook, 1917
Folder 12	George R. Hess Journal, 1951
Folder 13	George R. Hess Journal, 1952
Folder 14	George R. Hess Journal, 1953

Folder 15 Letters Removed from George R. Hess Journal, 1953
Folder 16 George R. Hess Journal, 1954

Box 2

Folder 1 St. Paul's Lutheran Record Copies, 1833-1853
Folder 2 Original Copy Pulled from St. Paul's Lutheran Record Copies,
1833-1953
Folder 3 St. Paul's Lutheran Sunday School Records, 1849
Folder 4 St. Paul's Lutheran Record Copies, 1854-1938
Folder 5 Facts of Our Faith, 1925
Folder 6 St. Paul's Lutheran Constitution and Records, 1937-1969
Folder 7 Notes Removed from St. Paul's Lutheran Constitution and Records,
1937-1969
Folder 8 St. Paul's Lutheran Sunday School Accounts, 1953
Folder 9 Receipts pulled from St. Paul's Lutheran Sunday School Accounts,
1953
Folder 10 Neersville School Records, 1879-1881
Folder 11 Court Summonses, 1927
Folder 12 *Virginia Laws Made Plain: Laws and Legal Forms Prepared for the
Use of Farmers Mechanics and Business Men*, 1913

VC 099

Folder 1 vc_0099_0001-004 Hess Family Photo Album, 19th Century
Folder 2 vc_0099_0005-0048 Hess Family Photo Album, Early 20th
Century
Folder 3 vc_0099_ Hess Family Photo of Frederick Boy's
High School