

WORCESTER HISTORICAL MUSEUM

30 Elm Street
Worcester, Massachusetts

ARCHIVES

Workmen's Circle
Records

1987.34

Processed by William F. Carroll, C.A.
July, 1999

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Series		Page	Box
	Collection information.	3	
	Historical information.	4	
	Scope and Content.	5	
	Series Description.	6	
1	Broadside	7	1
2	Secretary's Records	8	1

Collection Information

Abstract: The Workmen's Circle was founded in 1900 by Jewish trade unionists, and, in part, provided financial benefits and social activities for its members. The collection includes secretary's records (1943-1960) and a broadside of activities. The records are written in Yiddish.

Finding Aids: Finding Aid in print form is available in the Repository. Series level description.

Preferred Citation: Archives of the Worcester Historical Museum, 30 Elm Street, Worcester, Massachusetts.

Provenance: Gift of Eva Blumenthal, Worcester, June 9, 1987; given in memory of her parents, Sophie and Nathan Apelbaum.

Access: The Finding Aid is cataloged in MARC under the following subject headings (lcsh, aat, rbgenr, etc.

Workmen's Circle of America. Branch No. 712 (Worcester, Mass.)

Workmen's Circle of America. Branch No. 907 (Worcester, Mass.)

Workmen's Circle Ladies Branch. No. 824 (Worcester, Mass.)

Jews – Massachusetts – Worcester

Jews – Massachusetts – Worcester – Social conditions

Jews – Massachusetts – Worcester – Social life and customs

Jews – Massachusetts – Worcester – Societies, etc.

Yiddish letters

Manuscripts, Yiddish

Broadsides, Yiddish (gmgpc)

Record-keeping works, Yiddish – Massachusetts – Worcester (rbgenr)

See also: Other records of Workmen's Circle.

Notes on numbering: Many items of this collection cannot be found. Numbers in parentheses (in inventory lists) reflect original item accessioning numbers.

Historical Background

The Workmen's Circle (Arbiter Ring) was founded in 1900 by Jewish trade unionists dissatisfied with the existing orders. Of Socialist origins and purpose, the organization was composed primarily of immigrants. It offered members financial benefits in case of illness, death benefits, and a variety of social activities. The Worcester branches of the Workmen's Circle were established in 1902. The organization operated from a two-story building on Water Street, with credit union and office on the first floor, and meeting hall on the second.

Scope and Content

The collection consists of a 1940 broadside advertising an organizational event, and Secretary's manuscript records of Workmen's Circle Ladies Branch No. 824, from 1943 to 1960. All items

are in Yiddish. The collection is described to series level.

Series Description

Series 1: Broadside. The collection consists of one broadside, advertising an organizational event in 1940. Printed in Yiddish.

Series 2: Secretary's Records. Includes 221 single sheets of manuscript minutes, memoranda, notes from Workmen's Circle Ladies Branch No. 284, between 1943 and 1960. Written in Yiddish.

Workmen's Circle Records
1987.34
Series 1, Broadside

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	1	1987.34.1 (.3)	Broadside. Advertisement of 40 th year jubilee of Workmen's Circle, May 5, 1940. Printed in Yiddish.

Workmen's Circle Records
1987.34
Series 2, Secretary's Records

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	2	1987.34.2 (.29)	Manuscript records of the Workmen's Circle Ladies Branch No. 824, 1943-1960. Written in Yiddish. 221 sheets.

