

Bemis

BERNARD F. BEMIS (b. 1868)
Papers, 1885-1925.
3 boxes, 1 vol. (ca. 1000 items)

Biographical Note:

Bernard F. Bemis was the only son of Samuel Dana Bemis, a prominent citizen of Harrisville. He was born December 28, 1868, graduated from the Cushing Academy, Ashburnham, Mass. and became a "valuable assistant to his father." (Biographical Review, Hillsboro and Cheshire Counties, 1897, page 187. Like his father he served on many town boards and committees. He was selectman of Harrisville for ~~about~~ 48 years, chairman of the school board for about 40 years, forest fire warden, treasurer of the Grange. (See Harrisville, New Hampshire, 1870-1970, Centennial Commemorative Book, page 53, "The Bemis Family"; John Borden Armstrong, Factory Under the Elms, pp. 213, 217, 233.)

Description of Papers:

The papers are interesting as showing town and school affairs in Harrisville in the first quarter of the twentieth century. Box II contains bills and receipts, orders for payment and cancelled checks, the financial affairs of the school board, with some correspondence concerning the employment of teachers. Boxes I and III concern the selectmen's business, notes taken for the invoice of polls and rateable estates with the finished returns for 1906 and miscellaneous business. There is also miscellaneous material relating to the Grange, to his private business as agent for the Grange Mutual Fire Insurance Company, agent for the American Surety Company of New York, and agent for the American Agricultural Chemical Company. There is material for his work as Forest Fire Warden for Harrisville, and miscellaneous items.

Provenance:

The papers are a gift of Ralph B. Bemis, Chesham (Harrisville), N.H. 1973.

Cards for Catalogue:

Bemis, Bernard F.
Stevens, Raymond Bartlett

Harrisville, N.H. (2)

Agriculture - American Agricultural
Chemical Co., Boston
Forestry
Grange
Grange Mutual Fire Insurance Co.

INVENTORY

Container No.

Box I

Folder 1

Personal Miscellany, 1895- 1915.

Programs of Young Peoples Society Christian Endeavor, Baptist Church, Chesham, 1895, 1897, 1898; notice of selection as petit juror, 1910; appointment as Agent of American Surety Company of New York, Jan. 4, 1912 with other papers; Certificate from Independent Order of Odd Fellows; Certificate from New Hampshire Board of Underwriters, Jan. 1, 1915 with printed manual of General Rates and Rules, 1813; a little correspondence; cancelled checks, memoranda, newspaper clippings.

Folder 2

Silver Lake Grange No. 105, 1885-1911.

Bond as treasurer, 1898; printed calendar of Monadnock Grange 1896, 1897; Program of Literary Exercises of Pomona Grange No 6, 1895; Cheshire Co. Grange Fair Association, Keene, N.H. Premium List, Rules and Regulations, 1898; Treasurers Account Book, 1885-1905; check stubs, 1903-4.

Folder 3

Grange Mutual Fire Insurance Company, 1897-1914.

Authorization as agent of company, 1914; copies of eight policies; receipts for payment; printed annual reports, 1906, 1908, 1913.

Folder 4

American Agricultural Chemical Company, Boston, 1906-1915.

Contracts as agent for sale on commission of fertilizers; correspondence, orders and statements.

Folder 5

Forest Fire Warden, 1911-1916.

Appointment as Forest Fire Warden for Harrisville by New Hampshire State Forestry Commission; bills for fire fighting; correspondence; printed poster.

Town of Harrisville

Folder 6

Selectmen - Miscellaneous, 1908-1915.

Correspondence, claims against town; certificate for commitment of insane person, caucus plans, appointment of policeman, report on dog licenses; voting returns 1903-notice of town meeting.

Folder 7

Selectmen - Taxes, 1900-1914.

Correspondence; invoice and taxes of Harrisville taken April 1, 1906, 1 vol.

Folder 8

Selectmen - Roads, 1914.

Correspondence, especially relating to new bridge.

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Selectmen - Vouchers, 1923-1925.

Inventory (Cont.)

- Box II Harrisville School District
- Folder 1 Correspondence, 1905-1915.
Chiefly 1914. Employment of teachers, letter from R.B. Stevens, U.S. Representative, Washington, Feb. 7, 1914, offering to send government publications; letters from National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations.
- Folder 2 School order stubs, 1907-1910. 3 vols.
- Folder 3 Bills and receipts, 1910-1911.
- Folder 4 Disbursements, deposits, 1910-1911.
Record of disbursements; orders on the treasurer of the School District by the School Board; cancelled checks, The Citizens National Bank of Keene; record of deposits.
- Folder 5 Receipts for tuition, 1912-1914.
Students attending school in neighboring towns.
- Folder 6 Bills and receipts, 1913-1914.
- Folder 7 Orders and order stubs, 1913-1915.
- Folder 8 Bills and receipts, 1914-1915.
- Folder 9 Order stubs, 1915-1916, 1919-1920. 2 vols.
- Vol. 10 Check Stubs, 1911-1915. (not boxed)
Citizens National Bank of Keene.

Box III

Volumes

- Invoice Books, 1892, 1894, 1897, 1904, 1905, 1906, 1913. 3 vols.
Notes for the invoice of polls and rateable estates taken by the selectmen April 1st each year, 1894-1913. The ~~first~~ first vol., 1892-1902 is a memorandum of work on roads, etc.
- Fairbanks Standard Scales, 1904-1906. 1 vol.
Forms showing weigher and weight.
- Chesham Baseball Team. Accounts, 1906-1907. 1 vol.
- Notebooks of accounts, miscellaneous.