

Dayton Manufacturing Company

MS – 202

Wright State University  
Department of Special Collections and Archives

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Summer 1991

## Introduction

The records of the Dayton Manufacturing Company were accessioned into the Wright State University Department of Archives and Special Collections in June 1990. Mr. Kirby Turner, Director of the Montgomery County Historical Society, provided the University with these records.

The documents in the collection date from 1883 to 1956, and occupy 3 record center boxes, and 17 shelves of oversized materials. The collection is arranged into the following series:

Series 1: Administrative Records

Series 2: Legal Records

Series 3: Financial Records

Series 4: Miscellaneous Records

Series 5: Oversized Records

Series 6: Photographic Materials

No restrictions exist on the use of this material.

## Brief Agency History

The Dayton Manufacturing Company was established in January 1883, and located itself at the corner of Third and Garfield Streets. As the company grew, it added new buildings and annexes.

The principle business of the company was the manufacture of railway car hardware such as: lamps, door locks and hinges, washstands, and water closets, which were used in passenger, dining, sleeping, and private cars. The company branched out into other areas such as: electric and oil headlights, ornamental statues and grilles, and bronze and brassworks.

The Dayton Manufacturing Company was an international company with business in Canada, Australia, and South America. The company was known for quality of product and the development of innovative designs and inventions.

## Scope and Content

The records within the Dayton Manufacturing Company fall into six series: (1) Administrative Records; (2) Legal Records; (3) Financial Records; (4) Miscellaneous Records; (5) Oversized Records; and (6) Photographic Material.

Series 1 contains reports about the activities of the Dayton Manufacturing Company. Included in these records are the amount of Car Lamps shipped from 1887, Trustee's statements of patent royalties, Employee oaths which declare their monthly reports to be accurate and true, and quarterly and annual reports to outside companies and the State of Ohio. These records span from 1887-1909.

Series 2 is comprised of agreements and contracts between the Dayton Manufacturing Company and outside companies. The majority of the legal documents concern the ownership of, petitions for, or royalties from patents. These materials date from 1895-1929.

Series 3 consists of various financial reports including: inventories, stock reports, loan notes, and commission reports, and covers from 1897-1919.

Series 4 contains various types of records, among them the records of companies with which the Dayton Manufacturing Company did business. These companies include: A.J. English Company, H.C. Hart Manufacturing Company, U.S. Headlight Company, and Covington Brass Manufacturing Company. Also included in this series are the licensing, manufacturing, and sales reports of Car Lamps and Signal Lamps by the various companies, miscellaneous newspaper articles, and a biography of General Manager John Kirby, Jr. An important component of this series is the documentation concerning the Metal Polisher's Union strike from 1900-1901. These records contain names of union members and their addresses, police blotters with brief accounts of Union demonstrations, and details of attacks on replacement workers and boycotts of non-Union establishments. The newspaper articles contain information about the legal action taken against the Dayton Manufacturing Company and the striking Union members. The documents date from 1867-1901.

Series 5 provides information about the daily operating activities of the Dayton Manufacturing Company through ledgers, journals, and other financial records. The documents date from 1883 to 1956.

Series 6 contains 11 glass plate negatives of an unknown neighborhood. The photographs are of houses, street scenes, and people. The negatives are undated, but based on the people's dress appear to be of the late nineteenth or early twentieth century.

## Inventory

### **Series 1: Administrative Records**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	1	Reports to A.J. English Company	1887-1906
	2	Report of Car Lamps Shipped	Apr. 1887-Mar. 1891
	3	Report of Car Lamps Shipped	June 1887-Feb. 1894
	4	Report of Car Lamps Shipped	Apr. 1894-Dec. 1897
	5	Trustee's Statement of Royalties	July 1896-Aug. 1900
	6	Trustee's Statement of Royalties	July 1896-June 1906
	7	Oaths of the Dayton Manufacturing Company	Aug. 1896-Nov. 1900
	8	Oaths of the Dayton Manufacturing Company	Dec. 1900-July 1906
	9	Commission Reports D.C. Noonan	Mar. 1902-Mar. 1904
	10	Reports to Department of State, Ohio	1902-1910
	11	Sales Reports to Wm. E. Reau Company	Mar. 1904-Oct. 1913
	12	Royalty Reports	July 1906-Oct. 1909

### **Series 2: Legal Records**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	13	Hicks and Smith Contracts	1887-1891
	14	Transfer of Patents to Dayton Manufacturing	Oct. 1888-Aug. 1895
	15	Original Car Trimmings License Agreement	July 1891-Oct. 1903
	16	Contracts For Manufactured Items	Feb. 1891-Apr. 1915
	17	Report of Trustees under Lamp Maker's Agmt.	July 1894-Dec. 1897
	18	Contracts and Agreements	Aug. 1894-Oct. 1899
	19	Contracts and Agreements	Oct. 1894-Jan. 1899
	20	Hebrecker Suit Company	Oct. 1894-Sept. 1902
	21	Patents and Contracts with Inventors	July 1895-Apr. 1918
	22	Insurance Stove Company-Pending Suit	Sept.-Oct. 1895
	23	Agreement with J.A. Tackaberry	Apr. 1901-July 1915
2	1	Car Trimmings Agreement Papers	1896
	2	I.A. Williams Lawsuit	Nov. 1897-Feb. 1901
	3	Price Fixing Agreement	Apr.-Nov. 1898
	4	Inventory-Insurance Stove Dept. of DMC	Sept. 1899
	5	Acid Contract-Gasselli Chemical Company	1901-1916
	6	Contract with General Electric Company	Aug. 1903-Mar. 1904
	7	Rochester Sash Lock-description and license	May-Feb. 1904
	8	Legal Matters-Miscellaneous	Feb. 1906-July 1929
	9	Legal Matters	1916
	10	Papers Concerning purchase of Post & Company	Feb. 188?-Nov. 1893
	11	Correspondence with Offield and Towle	Apr. 1887-Oct. 1897
	12	Oliver Kinsey Loan Matters	Feb. 1893-Sept. 1897
	13	Correspondence with Powell Crosley	Aug. 1894-Oct. 1899

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
2	14	Correspondence-Adams & Westlake to Headlight	Mar. 1895-Dec. 1896
	15	White Separators	June 1895-May 1898
	16	Sales and Commissions	June 1895-June 1917
	17	Central Union Telephone Company	Aug. 1895-Mar. 1912
	18	Correspondence with William T. Buckner	Nov. 1896-Feb. 1901

### **Series 3: Financial Records**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
2	19	Account Settlement Statement	Jan. 1897-May 1905
	20	Union Vapor Stove	Aug. 1897-Apr. 1905
	21	National Vapor Stove & Manufacturing Company	Aug. 1898-Sept. 1900
	22	Complete Inventory Insurance Gas Stoves	Sept. 1899
	23	Manufacturing Information Bureau	May 1900-Dec. 1901
	24	Oliver Kinsey Loan	1900-1902
	25	Correspondence-General matters	1900-1908
	26	National Metal Trades Association	May 1901-June 1905
	27	Stock Options and Stock Payments	May 1902-Aug. 1916
	28	Commission Requests	Apr. 1904-Nov. 1910
	29	Bureau of Smoke Prevention	July-Aug. 1907
	30	Industrial Commission of Ohio	1913
	31	American Pure Coffee and Spice Company	1914
	32	Correspondence with Irving National Bank	May-Sept. 1915
	33	Papers Concerning Liberty Bonds	July-Oct. 1917
3	1	Liberty Bonds	1917-1919
	2	Liberty Bonds Ledger Sheets	1918-1919

### **Series 4: Miscellaneous Records**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
3	3	H.C. Hart Manufacturing Company Papers	1881-1899
	4	H.C. Hart Manufacturing Company Patents	June 1891-Dec. 1894
	5	Signal Lamp Pool Papers	June 1891-Aug. 1903
	6	Signal Lamp Pool Papers	June 1891-May 1904
	7	Car Lamp Pool Agreements and Meeting Minutes	1887-1905
	8	Car Lamp Pool Patents	1867-1887
	9	Car Lamp Pool Correspondence	March-April 1887
	10	Car Lamp Pool Miscellaneous Papers	July 1891-Nov. 1889
	11	A.J. English Company Miscellaneous Papers	June 1894-Aug. 1899
	12	U.S. Headlight Company Royalty Report	June 1891-June 1913
	13	U.S. Headlight Company Report to Wellman	May 1900-Dec. 1913
	14	U.S. Headlight Company Report to Becker	Oct. 1900-Mar. 1913
	15	U.S. Headlight Company Report to A & W Co.	July 1906-Dec. 1913

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
3	16	U.S. Headlight Company Royalty Report	June 1907-June 1909
	17	U.S. Headlight Company Royalty Report	Apr. 1907-Dec. 1913
	18	F.E. Hunter's Royalty Report	Jan. 1900-Dec. 1913
	19	F.E. Hunter's Commission Report	Oct. 1905-May 1910
	20	F.E. Hunter's Commission Report	June 1910-Dec. 1915
	21	Covington Brass Manufacturing Company	Feb. 1893-Oct. 1894
	22	Miscellaneous Papers	1896-1917
	23	Papers Concerning Labor Problems	1900
	24	Organized Labor in Kansas Booklet	n.d.
	25	Biography John Kirby, Jr.	n.d.
	26	Miscellaneous Newspaper Articles	1900-1901

### **Series 5: Oversized Records**

#### Ledgers

1	General	6 vols.	1883-1907
2	Indices	4 vols.	n.d.

#### Financial Records

1	Notes and Bills Received	1 vol.	1883-1896
2	Expenditures	2 vols.	1883-1907
3	Day Book	3 vols.	1883-1913
4	Trial Balances	11 vols.	1883-1921
5	Payroll	13 vols.	1883-1924
6	Cash Books	20 vols.	1883-1926
7	Checks	45 vols.	1883-1927
8	Inventory	5 vols.	1884-1921
9	Accounts Drawn by Hand	2 vols.	1887-1901
10	Blotter	1 vol.	1889-1897
11	Sales Books	7 vols.	1892-1956
12	Purchasing Log	1 vol.	1894-1895
13	Petty Cash	2 vols.	1909-1917

#### Stove Department Records

1	Ledgers	2 vols.	1896-1899
2	Indices	2 vols.	n.d.
3	Notes and Bills	1 vol.	1896-1900
4	Blotter	1 vol.	1897-1899
5	Cash Books	2 vols.	1897-1900
6	Journal	1 vol.	1913-1918

### Miscellaneous Volumes

1	Record of Accounts	1 vol.	1883-1891
2	Record of Orders	1 vol.	1884-1887
3	Record of Apprentices	2 vols.	1884-1914
4	Legal Briefs	3 vols.	1886
5	Car Light Record	1 vol.	1891
6	Notes from Hobrecker Suit	1 vol.	1895-1897
7	Harvard File Wrapper	1 vol.	1900-1920
8	Drafts out for Collection	1 vol.	1907-1908
9	Amer. Pure Coffee & Spice	1 vol.	1912-1914
10	Accounts with Foreman	1 vol.	1914-1923
11	Howard Door Locks	3 vols.	1927 & 2 n.d.
12	Car Light Fixture Catalog	1 vol.	n.d.

### **Series 6: Graphic Material**

1	Glass Plate Negatives	11 plates	n.d.
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