

## **MS-51: Historic Almanacs Collection**

**Collection Number:** MS-51

**Title:** Historic Almanacs Collection

**Dates:** 1814-1955 (bulk 1861-1949)

**Creator:** Unknown

**Summary/Abstract:**

This is a collection of 73 agricultural, medicinal, and family almanacs. Over half the collection consists of *The Hagerstown Town and Country Almanac* (24 issues) and *Agricultural Almanac* (16 issues), among others. Of local note are *Kimmel & Rice's Almanac* (Dayton, 1894) and *A. L. Scovill & Co.'s Farmers and Mechanics Almanac* (Cincinnati, 1868).

**Quantity/Physical Description:** 0.75 linear feet (73 items)

**Language(s):** English, German

**Repository:**

Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, Wright State University, Dayton, OH 45435-0001, (937) 775-2092

**Restrictions on Access:** There are no restrictions on accessing material in this collection.

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**Preferred Citation:**

[Item Description, Box Number, Folder Number], MS-51, Historic Almanacs Collection, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio.

**Acquisition:**

The collection is estimated to have been acquired by Wright State University sometime prior to 1978.

**Revisions:** Finding aid revised according to DACS by Lisa Rickey, June 2016.

**Processed by:** The collection originally processed by archives staff, about 1978.

**Arrangement:** The collection is arranged into a single series, organized chronologically.

## Scope and Content Note:

The collection consists of 73 agricultural, medicinal, and family almanacs, with dates ranging from 1814-1955, the bulk being from 1861-1949. Most were published in the Midwest or northeastern United States. Two titles in particular constitute over half the total issues: *The Hagerstown Town and County Almanac* and *Agricultural Almanac*.

The collection includes 24 issues of *The Hagerstown Town and County Almanac*, published at Hagerstown, Maryland, by John Gruber. The issue dates are scattered from 1866 to 1949, with the bulk being from the 1930s and 1940s. Several issues from the 1930s and 1940s have the following additional stamp on the front, presumably the store from which the copy was purchased: "Schmidt's Drug Store, 63 W. Main St., Springfield, Ohio."

The collection includes 16 issues of *Agricultural Almanac*, published at Lancaster, Pennsylvania, by John Baer's Sons, with scattered dates from 1886 to 1931, with the bulk being from the 1880s and 1890s.

Other titles include *Farmer's*, *Hostetter's* (Pittsburgh), *McLean's* (St. Louis), *Jayne's* (Philadelphia), *Housekeeper's* (Philadelphia), *Wright's* (New York), *Ransom* (Buffalo), *Cottage Garden* (Philadelphia), and *The Herbalist* (Indiana Botanic Gardens), among others.

The oldest item in the collection is a German language almanac published in 1814 by Johann Ritter at Reading. Two of the almanacs have local interest, having been published in Ohio: *Kimmel & Rice's Almanac* (Dayton, 1894) and *A. L. Scovill & Co.'s Farmers and Mechanics Almanac* (Cincinnati, 1868).

## Subject Terms

### Places

United States – Social life and customs

### Subjects

Almanacs

Almanacs, American – History – 19<sup>th</sup> century

Almanacs, American – History – 20<sup>th</sup> century

## Collection Inventory

Box	File	Item	Description	Date
1	1	1	<i>Ransom's Illustrated Encyclopedia</i> (Buffalo, NY: D. Ransom, Son, & Co., undated)	Undated
1	1	2	Almanac Fragment "List of Dreams... Everybody's Medical Guide"	Undated

Box	File	Item	Description	Date
1	2	1	German Almanac (in German) (Reading: Johann Ritter & Co., 1814)	1814
1	2	2	<i>Almanac for the Year of our Lord 1861</i>	1861
1	3	1	<i>Hostetter's United States Almanac for the use of Merchants, Mechanics, Farmers and Planters, and all Families</i> (Pittsburgh, PA: D. Hostetter & G. W. Smith, 1863)	1863
1	3	2	<i>McLean's Family Almanac for 1865</i> (St. Louis, MO: Dr. J. H. McLean, 1865)	1865
1	3	3	<i>Jayne's Medical Almanac &amp; Guide to Health 1865</i> (Philadelphia, PA: Dr. D. Jayne & Son, 1865)	1865
1	4	1	<i>The Farmer's Almanac for the Year 1866</i> (Philadelphia, PA: [publisher info torn], 1866)	1866
1	4	2	<i>The Hagerstown Town and County Almanac for the Year of our Lord 1866</i> (Hagerstown, MD: John Gruber, 1866)	1866
1	4	3	<i>Housekeeper's Almanac for the Year 1868</i> (Philadelphia, PA: American Almanac Manufactory King & Baird, 1868)	1868
1	4	4	<i>A. L. Scovill &amp; Co.'s Farmers and Mechanics Almanac</i> (Cincinnati, OH: A. L. Scovill & Co., 1868)	1868
1	5	1	<i>Farmer's Almanac for the Year 1869</i> (Philadelphia, PA: American Almanac Manufactory King & Baird, 1869)	1869
1	5	2	<i>Wright's Pictorial Family Almanac 1869</i> (New York: Wright's, 1869)	1869
1	5	3	<i>McLean's Family Almanac 1870</i> (St. Louis, MO: Dr. James H. McLean, 1870)	1870
1	5	4	<i>Jayne's Medical Almanac &amp; Guide to Health 1870</i> (Philadelphia, PA: Dr. D. Jayne & Son, 1870)	1870
1	6	1	<i>Farmer's Almanac for the Year 1871</i> (Philadelphia, PA: King & Baird, 1871)	1871
1	6	2	<i>Cottage Garden Almanac for the Year 1872</i> (Philadelphia, PA: King & Baird, 1872)	1872
1	7	1	<i>The Hagerstown Town and County Almanac for the Year of our Lord 1885</i> (Hagerstown, MD: John Gruber, 1885)	1885

<b>Box</b>	<b>File</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>
1	7	2	<i>Agricultural Almanac for the Year of our Lord 1886</i> (Lancaster, PA: John Baer's Sons, 1886)	1886
1	8	1	<i>Agricultural Almanac for the Year 1887</i> (Lancaster, PA: John Baer's Sons, 1887)	1887
1	8	2	<i>Agricultural Almanac for the Year 1888</i> (Lancaster, PA: John Baer's Sons, 1888)	1888
1	9	1	<i>Agricultural Almanac for the Year 1889</i> (Lancaster, PA: John Baer's Sons, 1889)	1889
1	9	2	<i>Agricultural Almanac for the Year 1890</i> (Lancaster, PA: John Baer's Sons, 1890)	1890
1	10	1	<i>Agricultural Almanac for the Year 1891</i> (Lancaster, PA: John Baer's Sons, 1891)	1891
1	10	2	<i>Agricultural Almanac for the Year 1892</i> (Lancaster, PA: John Baer's Sons, 1892)	1892
1	11	1	<i>Agricultural Almanac for the Year 1893</i> (Lancaster, PA: John Baer's Sons, 1893)	1893
1	11	2	<i>Kimmel &amp; Rice's Almanac for the Year of 1894</i> (Dayton, OH: Kimmel & Rice, 1894)	1894
1	12	1	<i>Agricultural Almanac for the Year 1895</i> (Lancaster, PA: John Baer's Sons, 1895)	1895
1	12	2	<i>Agricultural Almanac for the Year 1896</i> (Lancaster, PA: John Baer's Sons, 1896)	1896
1	12	3	<i>American Farmer's Almanac 1896</i> (Chicago, IL: Reuben H. Donnelley, 1896)	1896
1	13	1	<i>Agricultural Almanac for the Year 1897</i> (Lancaster, PA: John Baer's Sons, 1897)	1897
1	13	2	<i>Uncle Sam's Almanac for the Year 1897</i> (Philadelphia?, [no publisher info], 1897) (signed "R. E. Talley")	1897
1	13	3	<i>Farmer's Almanac for the Year 1898</i> (no publisher info) (copy 1)	1898
1	13	4	<i>Farmer's Almanac for the Year 1898</i> (no publisher info) (copy 2, signed "R. E. Talley, Mar. 16, 1898)	1898
1	14	1	<i>Agricultural Almanac for the Year 1899</i> (Lancaster, PA: John Baer's Sons, 1899)	1899

<b>Box</b>	<b>File</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>
1	14	2	<i>Dr. D. Jayne's Medical Almanac and Guide to Health 1901</i> (Philadelphia, PA: Dr. D. Jayne & Son, 1901)	1901
1	15	1	<i>Farmer's Almanac for the Year 1902</i> (no publisher info)	1902
1	15	2	<i>Agricultural Almanac for the Year 1906</i> (Lancaster, PA: John Baer's Sons, 1906)	1906
1	16	1	<i>August Flower and German Syrup Almanac 1913</i> (Woodbury, NJ: G. G. Green, 1913)	1913
1	16	2	<i>Hagerstown Town and Country Almanack for the Year of Our Lord 1916</i> (Hagerstown, MD: John Gruber, 1916)	1916
1	17	1	<i>Agricultural Almanac for the Year 1919</i> (Lancaster, PA: John Baer's Sons, 1919)	1919
1	17	2	<i>Hagerstown Town and Country Almanack for the Year of Our Lord 1922</i> (Hagerstown, MD: John Gruber, 1922)	1922
1	17	3	<i>The North American Almanac 1922</i> (Chicago, IL: North American Almanac Co., 1922) (hardcover)	1922
1	18	1	<i>Almanac and Year Book for the Reformed Church in the United States 1923</i> (Philadelphia & Cleveland: Reformed Church, 1923)	1923
1	18	2	<i>Hagerstown Town and Country Almanack for the Year of Our Lord 1925</i> (Hagerstown, MD: John Gruber, 1925) (copy 1)	1925
1	18	3	<i>Hagerstown Town and Country Almanack for the Year of Our Lord 1925</i> (Hagerstown, MD: John Gruber, 1925) (copy 2)	1925
1	19	1	<i>North American Almanac 1926</i> (Chicago, IL: North American Almanac Co., 1926) (hardcover)	1926
1	19	2	<i>Hagerstown Town and Country Almanack for the Year of Our Lord 1927</i> (Hagerstown, MD: John Gruber, 1927)	1927
1	19	3	<i>MacDonald's Farmer's Almanac 1927</i> (Binghamton, NY: Atlas Printing Co., 1926)	1927
2	1	1	<i>Agricultural Almanac for the Year 1928</i> (Lancaster, PA: John Baer's Sons, 1928)	1928

<b>Box</b>	<b>File</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>
2	1	2	<i>Agricultural Almanac for the Year 1931</i> (Lancaster, PA: John Baer's Sons, 1931)	1931
2	2	1	<i>Hagerstown Town and Country Almanack for the Year of Our Lord 1932</i> (Hagerstown, MD: John Gruber, 1932)	1932
2	2	2	<i>Hagerstown Town and Country Almanack for the Year of Our Lord 1934</i> (Hagerstown, MD: John Gruber, 1934)	1934
2	2	3	<i>Dr. Miles New Weather Almanac and Handbook of Valuable Information 1934</i> (Elkhart, IN: Dr. Miles Laboratories, 1934)	1934
2	3	1	<i>Hagerstown Town and Country Almanack for the Year of Our Lord 1935</i> (Hagerstown, MD: John Gruber, 1935)	1935
2	3	2	<i>The Herbalist Almanac 1935</i> (Hammond, IN: Joseph E. Meyer & Indiana Botanic Gardens, 1935)	1935
2	3	3	<i>Hagerstown Town and Country Almanack for the Year of Our Lord 1936</i> (Hagerstown, MD: John Gruber, 1936)	1936
2	3	4	<i>Dr. Morse's Almanac and Weather Forecaster 1936</i> (Morristown, NY, & Brockville, Ontario: The W. H. Comstock Co., Ltd., 1936)	1936
2	4	1	<i>Hagerstown Town and Country Almanack for the Year of Our Lord 1937</i> (Hagerstown, MD: John Gruber, 1937)	1937
2	4	2	<i>Hagerstown Town and Country Almanack for the Year of Our Lord 1938</i> (Hagerstown, MD: John Gruber, 1938)	1938
2	4	3	<i>Swamp-Root: Dream Book Almanac 1938</i> (Binghamton, NY: Dr. Kilmer & Co., 1938)	1938
2	5	1	<i>Telephone Almanac 1939</i> (New York: American Telephone & Telegraph Co., 1939)	1939
2	5	2	<i>Hagerstown Town and Country Almanack for the Year of Our Lord 1939</i> (Hagerstown, MD: John Gruber, 1939)	1939
2	5	3	<i>Hagerstown Town and Country Almanack for the Year of Our Lord 1940</i> (Hagerstown, MD: John Gruber, 1940)	1940

<b>Box</b>	<b>File</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>
2	6	1	<i>Hagerstown Town and Country Almanack for the Year of Our Lord 1941</i> (Hagerstown, MD: John Gruber, 1941)	1941
2	6	2	<i>Hagerstown Town and Country Almanack for the Year of Our Lord 1942</i> (Hagerstown, MD: John Gruber, 1942)	1942
2	7	1	<i>Hagerstown Town and Country Almanack for the Year of Our Lord 1943</i> (Hagerstown, MD: John Gruber, 1943)	1943
2	7	2	<i>Hagerstown Town and Country Almanack for the Year of Our Lord 1944</i> (Hagerstown, MD: John Gruber, 1944)	1944
2	8	1	<i>Hagerstown Town and Country Almanack for the Year of Our Lord 1945</i> (Hagerstown, MD: John Gruber, 1945)	1945
2	8	2	<i>Hagerstown Town and Country Almanack for the Year of Our Lord 1946</i> (Hagerstown, MD: John Gruber, 1946)	1946
2	9	1	<i>Hagerstown Town and Country Almanack for the Year of Our Lord 1947</i> (Hagerstown, MD: John Gruber, 1947)	1947
2	9	2	<i>Hagerstown Town and Country Almanack for the Year of Our Lord 1948</i> (Hagerstown, MD: John Gruber, 1948)	1948
2	10	1	<i>Hagerstown Town and Country Almanac for the Year of Our Lord 1949</i> (Hagerstown, MD: John Gruber, 1949)	1949
2	10	2	<i>The Herbalist Almanac 1949</i> (Hammond, IN: Indiana Botanic Gardens, 1949)	1949
2	10	3	<i>The Old Farmer's Almanac 1955</i> (Dublin, NH: Yankee, Inc., 1954)	1955