



QUEEN'S WORK COLLECTION
circa 1868-1988 (BULK circa 1913-1988)

MIS.3.005

Collection Summary

Collection number: MIS.3.005

Repository Code: MoSIJA

Repository: Jesuit Archives: Central United States

Title: The Queen's Work collection

Date [bulk]: circa 1913-1988

Date [inclusive]: circa 1868-1988

Extent: 38 linear feet (38 boxes)

Creator: Jesuits. Missouri Province.

Creator: Lord, Daniel A. (Daniel Aloysius), 1888-1955

Language of material: English and Latin

Abstract: The Queen's Work was founded by Jesuits of the Missouri Province, specifically at the bequest of Jesuit General Father, Francis Xavier Wernz, and the Missouri Province leadership in the persons of Alexander J. Burrowes and Edward Garesché, to provide "a journal of national character" which would "[publish] articles of interest to all Catholics." The Queen's Work collection contains an impressive amount of data concerning the lives of ordinary Catholics from the turn of the nineteenth century to the years of the Second Vatican Council. Far from being non-existent in the life of the Church, the laity driven Sodalties, which the magazine sought to showcase, depicted a vibrant and Catholic American landscape.

Processing history: Processed by Jesuit Archives Staff and interns. Additional description by Alexandra M. Bisio in 2016.

Conditions governing access: This collection is open for research.

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Preferred citation: [Identification of item], [Box number], [Folder number]. Queen's Work Collection, MIS.2.001. Jesuit Archives: Central United States, St. Louis, Missouri. [Date accessed].

Additional finding aids: A full, item level inventory for this collection is available [here as a pdf](#).

Historical note

The history of *The Queen's Work* is almost synonymous with the expansion of American prosperity following World War I. With a powerful and vibrant economy, the United States of America

dominated in its spheres of influence, which gave ordinary American citizens a peaceful state of mind to raise families, practice their religion, and contribute to society. In this space of time, *The Queen's Work* was founded by Jesuits of the Missouri Province, specifically at the bequest of Jesuit General Father, Francis Xavier Wernz, and the Missouri Province leadership in the persons of Alexander J. Burrowes and Edward Garesché, to provide “a journal of national character” which would “[publish] articles of interest to all Catholics.” The magazine often highlighted the particular activities of Sodalities throughout the country run by Jesuits, such as The Knights and Handmaidens of the Blessed Sacrament, the Sodality of Our Lady, the Summer School of Catholic Action, and the Shut-In-Sodality.

In later years, *The Queen's Work* was given a new direction under Jesuit Father Daniel Aloysius Lord, a prolific composer and writer of many articles, books, musical scores, plays, and pamphlets, to “publish the magazine strictly as a tool of Sodality promotion and instruction,” in order to better serve Sodalists who “were leading lives of fine virtue and [who work] energetically in parishes, schools, and hospitals” in their mission of “awakening the militant Catholicity” in the many places they were active. The Queen's Work continued production of books for children, teens, and adults, pamphlets, and periodicals for an ever-growing Catholic population. Lord also believed that “the Sodalists need a medium through which they can become better acquainted...They need help, practical help, in solving sodality problems. They need inspiration from a knowledge of the larger Catholic activity going on throughout the World.” Many Jesuits such as Aloysius Heeg, Gerald Kelly, and William B. Faherty and laywoman Dorothy Willmann would share in Lord's mission and continue publication until 1969.

Following the Second Vatican Council, many of the Sodalities featured in The Queen's Work publications were absorbed from the umbrella group known as the National Federation of Sodalities into a re-focused group named Christian Life Communities, which the Most Reverend Leo C. Byrne, Coadjutor Archbishop of Saint Paul and Minneapolis confided to his Archdiocese on May 15, 1968, “The ideals and the motivation are the same, but focus is directed more particularly to the needs of our present-day world...I believe it can be one of the best answers to Vatican II's invitation to holiness. Its updated principles are truly attractive and it will give a new look toward spirituality for the laity.”

The Queen's Work collection contains an impressive amount of data concerning the lives of ordinary Catholics from the turn of the nineteenth century to the years of the Second Vatican Council. Far from being non-existent in the life of the Church, the laity driven Sodalities, which the magazine sought to showcase, depicted a vibrant and Catholic American landscape. Thus, it appears that with the new emphasis on Christian Life Communities, the laity driven mission to promote Catholicism continued previous endeavors of the earlier Sodalities, which had garnered the praise and admiration of the Jesuits of the Missouri Province.

Sources

William B. Faherty, "A Half-Century with the Queen's Work," *Woodstock Letters*, XCII, no. 2 (1963): 99-114.

“We Beg to Announce,” *The Queen's Work*, XVII: 12, December, 1925.

Leone, Fred C. "Fred C. Leone to Most Reverend Leo J. Byrne, April 17, 1968". Letter. From Midwest Jesuit Archives, *The Queen's Work Correspondence 1960-1988*.

Byrne, Leo C. "Most Reverend Leo C. Bryne to the Reverend Clergy, Religious and Laity of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, May 15, 1968. Letter. From Midwest Jesuit Archives, *The Queen's Work Correspondence 1960-1988*.

Scope and content note

The Administration series contains basic forms, files, and pamphlets regarding the administration of Sodalties, and the operation of the Queen's Work Society. Correspondence includes individual correspondence, memos, letters, and stationary of the employees of the Queen's Work. The interchange of letters between Father Daniel A. Lord and many people such as President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Senator Huey Long, and Cecil De Mille is also included. Financial reports contain information regarding audits, taxes, and other financial reports are retained in this series.

The history series includes various files are contained in this series which expound upon the Queen's Work apostolate; historical objects are also contained. This publications series contains works produced under the Queen's Work publishing house. The works of Father Daniel A. Lord have been integrated into the entire publications range of the Queen's Work apostolate.

The sodality series contains correspondence, literature, manuals, professional material, and other administrative files of many sodalties run by the Queen's Work, or sponsored by the Missouri Province. The Summer School of Catholic Actions files have been integrated into this series. The non-Queen's Work Sodalties series contains articles, correspondence, and publications from organizations that were not conducted through the Queen's Work apostolate. Many non-United States Sodalties have been placed in this series.

Arrangement note

The Queen's Work collection is arranged in seven series:

1. Administration, circa 1915, 1931-1967
2. Correspondence, circa 1868-1988
3. Financial Reports, circa 1917-1989
4. History, circa 1913-1914, 1959-1967
5. Publications, circa 1926-1988
6. Sodalties, circa 1900-1988
7. Non-Queen's Work Sodalties, circa 1900-1988

Collection Contents

Series 1. Administration, circa 1915, 1931-1967

Scope and content note:

This series contains basic forms, files, and pamphlets which are specifically geared to the administration of Sodalties, and/or in relation to the operation of the Queen's Work Society.

Arrangement note:

This series is arranged in alphabetical order.

Boxes 526-529

Series 2. Correspondence, circa 1868-1988

Scope and content note:

The individual correspondence, memos, letters, and stationary of the employees of the Queen's Work are contained in this series. The interchange of letters between Father Daniel A. Lord and many people such as President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Senator Huey Long, and Cecil De Mille is also included.

Arrangement note:

This series is arranged in chronological order.

Boxes 530-532

Series 3. Financial Reports, circa 1917-1989

Scope and content note:

Information regarding audits, taxes, and other financial reports are retained in this series.

Arrangement note:

This series is arranged in topical groupings.

Boxes 533-535

Series 4. History, circa 1913-1914, 1959-1967

Scope and content note:

Various files are contained in this series which expound upon the Queen's Work apostolate; historical objects are also contained.

Arrangement note:

This series is in its original order.

Box 536

Series 5. Publications, circa 1926-1988

Scope and content note:

This series contains the combines many of the publications produced under the Queen's Work publishing house. The works of Father Daniel A. Lord have been integrated into the entire publications range of the Queen's Work apostolate.

Arrangement note:

This series is in its original order.

Boxes 537-565

Series 6. Sodalties, circa 1900-1988

Scope and content note:

This series of boxes contains correspondence, literature, manuals, professional material, and other administrative files of many sodalties run by the Queen's Work, or sponsored by the Missouri Province. The Summer School of Catholic Actions files have been integrated into this series.

Arrangement note:

This series is arranged in topical groupings.

Boxes 566-571

Series 7. Non-Queen's Work Sodalities, circa 1900-1988

Scope and content note:

Sodalities that were not featured, or conducted through the Queen's Work apostolate have been set aside in this series. Many non-United States Sodalities have been classified into this series; articles, correspondence, and publications are contained within this series.

Arrangement note:

This series is in its original order.

Box 572