

# NEW HAVEN COLONY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## LIBRARY

Manuscripts  
No. B-18, Supplement C

Date processed: January, 1983

- I. Title New Haven Railroad YMCA. Collection. 1878-1945.
- II. The papers of The New Haven Railroad YMCA deposited in the Library on \_\_\_\_\_, by Maurice D. Kling In \_\_\_\_\_ converted the deposit to a gift.  
~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ as
- III. Linear feet of shelf space occupied: 1/2  
Approximate number of items: 8 plus 2 v.
- IV. Restrictions: None
- V. Literary rights of the unpublished writings of in these papers, and in other collections of papers in the custody of the New Haven Colony Historical Society Library, have been dedicated to the New Haven Colony Historical Society.
- VI. Press release was issued on \_\_\_\_\_
- VII. Biographical note: The germ of the idea for a Railroad YMCA in New Haven was born in August 1878 at a service in the Third Methodist Episcopal Church on George Street. The group formed for the primary purpose of holding prayer meetings, Sunday services and song services. It was a time of evangelical activity among the laboring people and Dwight L. Moody and Ira D. Sankey had successfully organized railroad workers in other places. The group's identity as a branch of the YMCA was not stressed which caused confusion later. In 1880 a meeting and reading room had been rented on Meadow St. and by 1881 59 men per day and 1800 per month were reported using it. A general secretary for New Haven, George C. Butterfield, was appointed but a faction preferred the previous man in charge, and two groups formed. To ease the conflict a Railroad Men's Reading Room Association was formed with George H. Watrous as President. As he was President of the Consolidated R.R., the group ceased to be completely employee run and the dissension persisted until (p. b)
- VIII. Analysis:

The Collection consists of three typescript histories of the Railroad YMCA of New Haven, by Amos B. Hulen, a few memorabilia, and a photograph. It is contained in one box.

Biographical note cont.

the project ended in 1886. A possible cause of dissatisfaction might have been the introduction of non-religious activities.

By 1888 a petition had been drawn up and signed for another Railroad YMCA, but because of the prolonged economic depression, the second organization was not formed until 1896. In this collection it was still in existence in 1958 with a new building and widely expanded services. [ Reports of the Railroad branch of the New Haven YMCA 1897-1900 are in the Library of the New Haven Colony Historical Society ]

## MSS B-18, Supplement C New Haven Railroad YMCA

Table of Contents

## Box I.

Folder: Correspondence Concerning the Collection.

Folder A. Early Days in the Railroad YMCA tss. (7p.lv.)

Folder B. The Rise and Fall of the First Railroad YMCA in New Haven 1878-1886 by Amos B. Hulen, New Haven, 1942. Bound tss. 57p. (lv.)

Folder C. The Rise and Fall of the First Railroad YMCA in New Haven 1878-1886.  
Records of the Second Railroad YMCA in New Haven after 1896  
Collected by Amos B. Hulen, 1942, completed 1966. Tss bound together. lv.164p. (lv.)

Folder D. R.R.YMCA in New Haven memorabilia, n.d., 1910, 1945. (6)

Folder E. Group photograph. [Date, place, people unknown] (1)

Folder F. Records. 1878

Folder G. Records. 1879

Folder H. Records. 1880

Folder I. Records. 1881, 1896