NEW HAVEN Colony Historical Society

LIBRARY

Manuscripts
No. B-26

Date processed: January 9, 1981

I. Title NEW HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION RECORDS 1799-1970

II. The papers of The New Haven Board of Education deposited in the Library on Sept. 8, 1980, by The New Haven Board of Education in converted the deposit to a gift.

III. Linear feet of shelf space occupied: 15
Approximate number of items: 13,881, including 24 bound volumes.

IV. Restrictions: Discretion recommended in use of individual names of personnel or students.

V. Literary rights of the unpublished writings of in these papers, and in other collections of papers in the custody of the New Haven Colony Historical Society Library, have been dedicated to the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 original colonists of New Haven included a schoolmaster, Ezekiel Cheever, who set up a school in 1638, the colony's first year. A fund for schools from the sale of lands owned by Connecticut in the Western Reserve was set up by the State Legislature in 1795. In 1799 the School Society of New Haven, composed of inhabitants inside the local limits of the First Ecclesiastical Society, voted to apply to the State for support for schools from this fund. After a few years of progress the depressed economy following the War of 1812 focussed public attention on transportation and developing local industry. Schools suffered as a result. By 1819 the Connecticut Journal reported a decline in the number of public schools in New Haven although population had increased. The State funds were thought to have been unwisely spent. Public spirited citizens of whom Noah Webster was one, organized for improvement. A Lancastrian school was opened in 1822. This method used older (see p. 2)

VIII. Analysis:

The records of the New Haven Board of Education are arranged in the following series:


2. Records of the Board of Education 1856-1958
   a. Records of meetings of the Board of Education. Executive sessions 1924-31 at end. [Boxes V-XX]
   b. Records of committees of the Board:
      1) Committee of the Whole. [Occasionally minutes of Committee of the Whole incorporated into (See p. 3)]

Processed by: Anne H. Willard
students to teach younger, and by 1831 860 boys and girls were attending school out of a child population of 2682. In 1853 the First School District had a graded school, considered a more effective method than the Lancastrian, and the beginning of a modern school system. Three years later due to the state-wide efforts of the reform Commissioner of Education, Henry Barnard, an act of the Connecticut Legislature of May 1856 enabled certain school societies of which the First Society of New Haven was one, to control their own schools under a local Board of Education whose chief powers were set forth in the act. The first Board members were: Harmanus M. Welch, Chairman, William S. Charnley, Daniel Coit Gilman (School Visitor), Charles Atwater, Jr., Franklin W. Fish, Charles L. Chaplain, Judson Canfield, James M. Townsend, Benjamin Noyes. Clerk: James M. Mason, Treasurer: John English, Collector: Frederick L. Bostwick. The first committees of the Board were: Finance and Buildings (similar to former committees under the First Society) and Teachers and Schools (comparable to the former School Visitors Committee). The City School District included sub-districts Washington, Webster, Dwight, Skinner, Wooster, and Eaton. The South School District of East Haven was consolidated with New Haven in 1902, and Westville in 1921. At the time of the act Daniel Coit Gilman was Chairman of the School Visiting Committee. An additional act of 1857 mandated the position of Acting School Visitor or Superintendent, appointed by the Board as a full time administrator. The first superintendent was Horace Day.

On July 7, 1869 the Board of Education voted to integrate the schools of New Haven, abolishing the separate schools for black and white students. After Jan. 1, 1898 taxes for education were levied by the city, rather than the Board of Education. With modifications such as unionization of teachers and employees, the original structure of the Board of Education set up in 1856 remained fairly constant.

Concern for the safety of the records was expressed as early as 1923 when the secretary stated that he had no facilities with which to protect these records or many other records of the New Haven City School District from loss by fire, but that he would give them such care as was possible. In 1980 an arrangement was made between the Board and the New Haven Colony Historical Society for the transfer of the records for processing, conservation, storage, and service to researchers.

Board of Education. Report of School Visitors of the First School Society of New Haven at the Annual School Meeting held at the Lancastrian School House, Oct. 5, 1850, New Haven, 1850
Board of Education, Annual Report 1956-57
New Haven Board of Education: Annual Reports 1856-57-1935: 5 reels of microfilm Yale University Library.
Analysis cont.

...minutes of the Board of Education. Also, Committee of the Whole occasionally reconvened as Committee on Labor Relations. These included in those of Committee of the Whole [Box XXI]

2) Committee on Schools [ Records of Committee on Schools occasionally found in minutes of Board of Education] [Boxes XXI-XXII ]

3) Committee on Labor Relations. [Box XXII]

4) Committee on Special Instruction [Box XXI, Folder G]

5) Committee on School Buildings.
   a) Committee on New School Buildings [Boxes XXIII- XXIV]
   b) Special Committee on new high school [BoxXXIV]
   c) Special Committee on High School addition [Box XXIV]
   d) Special Committee on Scranton Street School Building. [Box XXIV]
   e) Special Committee on Abraham Lincoln addition. [Box XXIV]

Series 5. Financial and Business Records of the Board of Education.
   a. Receipts and Disbursements. [Box XXV]
   b. Tuition ledger [Oversize and Box XXIV]
   c. Retirement Funds: Teachers and Custodians [Boxes XXVII-XXXIII]
   d. Government Bond Records [Box XXXIV-XXXV]
   e. New Haven City School District Bonds. [Box XXXVI]

Series 7. Records of the Superintendents Cabinet. [Box XXXVII]

Series 8. Records of Boardman School. [Boxes XXXVIII-XXXIX ]

   a. Westville [Box XXXX ]
   b. South School District of East Haven. [Box XXXXI]

The collection is contained in 41 boxes measuring 15 linear feet. There are 8 oversize items which are listed in sequential order in the register. Whenever possible, agendas are integrated with minutes of the relevant meeting. In some cases the minutes are missing and the agendas are the only record of the meeting. Some of the deliberations involve personnel or individual students. Individual names in these matters should be used with discretion. Researchers should request material by box or folder number. Correspondence concerning the collection is in the front of Box I. A list of names of individuals prominent in the early days of the New Haven School District(1799-1804) is an appendix at the end of the register. Material relating to the schools of New Haven will also be found in the following MSS collections: MSSB 7 Celentano, William C.(1904-1972); MSS B-16 Hillhouse High School Collection(1859-1970); MSS 17 School Records (1714-1977).
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1. Copies of the printed annual report of the Board of Education, 1857, 1858 included here. A complete run of the printed annual reports of the Board of Education is in the Library Collection under LB 2802 N4 A67
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Commercial High School Restaurant 1939-49
Sheridan Junior High School Cafeteria
Oct. 1943-June 1949
(3)

No. 7 Payroll account [computer printout] 1952-55
(1)
No. 8 Payroll account [computer printout] 1954
(1)
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Folder B. Minutes of the Board of Retirement of the Teachers Pension Fund June 11, 1931-March 24, 1947
Transfer Records to State Teachers Retirement System 1946
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Records of Teachers Retirement Fund
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### Box XXXI

Records of Janitors-Custodians Retirement Fund  
(original sequence maintained)

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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Cash receipts and disbursements of Custodians Retirement Fund 1946; 1952-68 (Jan.-June 1968)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Records of Custodians Retirement Fund Jan.-June 1968</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Jan. 1959-1965</td>
<td>(12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Jan. 1956-Dec. 1956</td>
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</tr>
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<td>L</td>
<td>Jan. 1953-Dec. 1953</td>
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### Box XXXII

Individual Records Non-Teaching City Employees and Custodians Pension Plans.

<table>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
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<td>1939-57</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>City Employees Pension Plans. C</td>
<td>1939-66</td>
<td>(68)</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>1934-69</td>
<td>(76)</td>
</tr>
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<td>D</td>
<td>E-F</td>
<td>1941-68</td>
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<td>E</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>1943-60</td>
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<td>H, I, J</td>
<td>1938-1975</td>
<td>(82)</td>
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<td>K-L</td>
<td>1939-69</td>
<td>(93)</td>
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<td>H</td>
<td>M</td>
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<td>I</td>
<td>N, O</td>
<td>1939-70</td>
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<td>J</td>
<td>P, Q</td>
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### Box XXXIII

Individual Records Non-Teaching City Employees and Custodians Pension Plans.

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<td>B</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>1943-68</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>T, U, V</td>
<td>1942-70</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>W, X, Y, Z</td>
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<td>E</td>
<td>[Custodians] A</td>
<td>1952-59</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>1952-68</td>
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<td>G</td>
<td>C</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>1944-69</td>
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<td>Folder I. E-F 1955-1970</td>
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<td>Folder J. G-J 1950-1969</td>
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<td>Folder K. K-L 1946-1967</td>
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<td>Folder L. M 1950-1967</td>
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<td>Folder P. T-Z 1948-70</td>
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| Box XXXIV | Employee Government Bond Records |
| | Binder [Computer Print-out] Bonds purchased by Custodians 1974-75 | (1) |
| | Binder [Computer Printout] Accounting Register | (1) |
| | Binder [Computer Printout] Bonds purchased by Custodians | (1) |

| Box XXXV | Employee Government Bond Records |
| | Binder [Computer Printout] Accounting Register |
| | Bonds purchased by Cafeteria Employees and Custodians | (1) |

| Box XXXVI | Ledger. New Haven City School District Bonds. 1888-1897 | (1) |

| Box XXXVII | Records of the Superintendent's Cabinet |
| | Folder A. Jan. 5-July 25, 1949 | (50) |
| | Folder B. Sept. 8, 1949-Dec. 15, 1949 | (29) |
| | Folder C. Jan. 4, 1950-July 12, 1950 | (36) |
| | Folder D. July 19, 1950-Dec. 20, 1950 | (36) |
| | Folder E. Jan. 3, 1951-Dec. 19, 1951 | (38) |
| | Folder F. Aug. 22, 1951-Dec. 19, 1951 | (28) |

| Box XXXVIII | Records of Boardman School |
| | Folder A. Committee on Construction Boardman Manual Training School and High School Oct. 1893-May 22, 1895 | (1) |
| | Folder B. Committee on Boardman Apprentice Shops Sept. 29, 1913-Feb. 16, 1914 | (50) |
| | Folder C. March 2, 1914-July 27, 1914 | (48) |
| | Folder D. Aug. 3, 1914-Feb. 1, 1915 | (50) |
| | Folder E. Feb. 8, 1915-June 21, 1915 | (50) |
| | Folder F. June 28, 1915-Nov. 16, 1915 | (33) |
| | Folder G. Nov. 23, 1915-Feb. 8, 1916 | (32) |
Box XXXVIII cont.

Folder J. Jan. 2, 1917-June 30, 1917 (48)
Folder K. July 10, 1917-Dec. 31, 1917 (40)
Folder L. Jan. 15, 1918-May 28, 1918 (37)
Folder M. June 4, 1918-Jan. 2, 1919 (32)
Folder N. Jan. 2, 1919-Jan. 22, 1920 (42)
Folder O. Jan. 29, 1920-June 23, 1922 (41)

Box XXXIX

Boardman School Consignment Account [original order maintained] (41)
Folder A. 1947-1944 (41)
Folder B. 1944-1941 (54)
Folder C. 1941-1938 (26)
Folder D. 1939-1938 (38)
Folder E. 1931-29 (40)
Folder F. 1929-1938 (24)
Folder G. 1919-1933 (28)
Folder H. 1919-1934 (26)
Folder I. 1939-1951 (26)
Folder J. 1939-1950 (89)
Folder K. 1953 (30)
Folder L. 1956-1950 (26)

Box XXXX

Records of the Westville School District (1)
Folder A. Meetings of the Westville School District Sept. 9, 1904-Sept. 30, 1914 [bound volume]
Folder C. Meetings of the Westville School District Nov. 24, 1914-June 30, 1921 [bound volume] (1)

Box XXXXI

Folder A. Records of the South School District of East Haven Oct. 1851-Aug. 6, 1902 [bound volume] (1)
Folder B. Printed items and ephemera. (13)
Oversize Items.

Oversize item:

No. 1. Ledger. No title. 1915-1918
    Ledger. No title. 1918-1921
    Ledger. No title. 1924-1927

No. 2. Ledger. No title. 1927-1932
    Ledger. No title. 1932-1940

No. 3. Ledger. No title. 1940-1948
    Ledger. No title. 1944-1949
    Ledger. No title. 1948-1949

[Box XXVI]

Oversize item:


    Ledger: Commercial High School Restaurant Account 1939-49
    Ledger: Sheriden Junior High School Cafeteria

No. 7. Payroll account [computer print-out ] 1952-1955

No. 8. Payroll account [computer print-out ] 1954

No. 9. Janitor's Retirement Fund 1911-1941
Appendix to Register
Some Significant Names in Early History of Schools in New Haven 1799-1804.

Alling, Amos
Alling, Chauncey
Atwater, Jeremiah
Baldwin, Simeon
Ball, Stephen
Beecher, Thaddeus
Beers, Isaac
Bradley, Abraham
Brainard, Jehu
Brown, Francis
Crocker, Daniel
Daggett, Henry
Dana, James
Darling, Samuel
Drake, Joseph
Dummer, Abraham
Gimmel, John
Goodrich, Elizear
Haughton, Samuel
Hotchkiss, Hezekiah
Hotchkiss, Silas
Hubbard, Bela
Hubbard, Levi
Hughes, Samuel
Jarvis, Abraham
Lucas, Amariah
Lynde, John
Merriman, Marcus
Mills, Isaac
Munson, Elijah
Osborne, Midad
Peck, Elinour
Pierpont, Eveline
Prescott, James
Punderson, Thomas
Reed, Daniel
Rowe, Stephen
Shipman, Elias
Skinner, John
Stillwell, Elias
Townshend, Ebenezer
Webster, Noah
White, Dyer
Wyllys, Samuel