A Finding Aid to the

Hadassah (Cincinnati, Ohio) Records

Manuscript Collection No. 652
Collection Summary

Title Hadassah (Cincinnati, Ohio) Records
Dates 1921-1991
Collection Number MS-652
Repository The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives
Creator Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America. Cincinnati Chapter
Extent 12.6 linear feet (24 Hollinger boxes, 2 record cartons, 1 oversize box)
Language of the Material English

Administrative Information

Biographical Sketch
The Cincinnati Hadassah Group organized in December 1921 and applied to the national group for a charter, which was granted in February 1921. Objectives of the organization included "1. To assist Israel in the absorption and integration of all Jews... 2. To provide and promote in Israel a broad program of Health Activities, Social Services and Youth Welfare Work, 3. To foster Zionist ideals in America; further Jewish Educational work and to encourage its membership to study Hebrew, Jewish History, Literature, etc. ...." The first president was Mrs. Bessie Polansky who remained active in the chapter for the next quarter century. The vice-president was Miss Nan Berman and the secretary was Mrs. Mitchell Miller.

The activities of Cincinnati Hadassah closely paralleled the goals of their national organization. They were extremely active in fundraising for medical facilities in Israel including the Hadassah Medical School on Mount Scopus, the Rothschild-Hadassah University Hospital and vocational schools. They also supported the Youth Aliyah program and helped to educate Jewish youth through junior memberships and groups such as Young Judea. In later years, they were part of the tree-planting movement in Israel and supported the Jewish National Fund.

Cincinnati Hadassah membership continued to grow. A Chapter board for Cincinnati was formed, and a number of offshoot groups developed. The Avondale Group was the earliest, founded in 1921, and a Business and Professional Group emerged in 1936. By 1965, the Deborah, Szold, and Kadima Groups had all become part of the chapter.

A typical group of the Cincinnati Hadassah Chapter had its own slate of officers, a monthly group meeting and a monthly board meeting. Meetings featured a speaker, such as a local physician or an official at Hebrew Union College, who spoke on a topic relevant to the group's mission. Much time and effort was expended in maintaining and increasing membership and fundraising for National Hadassah. The Chapter board coordinated the groups and acted as the administrative center for the region.

Scope and Content
Organizational activities of the Cincinnati Hadassah Chapter including minutes, membership lists, newscuttings, photographs, programs, correspondence and conferences. Cincinnati, Ohio.

Arrangement
Organized into seven (7) series: A. Administrative Records; B. Presidential Records; C. Committees/Special Projects; D. Conferences; E. Young Judea; F. Photographs; G. Publicity.

Terms of Access
The collection is open for use; no restrictions apply.

Preferred Citation
Footnotes and bibliographic references should refer to the Hadassah (Cincinnati, Ohio) Records and the American Jewish Archives. A suggestion for at least the first citation is as follows:

[Description], [Date], Box #, Folder #. MS-652. Hadassah (Cincinnati, Ohio) Records. American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Provenance
Received from Lauren Scharf, Cincinnati, Ohio, January 1992.

Processing Information

Index Terms
Series A. Administrative Records, 1921-1988

Extent 4.2 linear feet (8 Hollinger boxes, 1 oversize box)

Arrangement

The series is organized into three (3) subseries: 1. Constitutions; 2. Groups; 3. Membership Rosters.


Extent 0.7 linear feet (0.5 Hollinger box, 0.5 oversize box)

Arrangement  The subseries is arranged chronologically.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 1. Folder 1. Constitutions, 1955-1979
Box 1. Folder 2. Model constitutions/bylaws from National Hadassah, 1961

Subseries 2. Groups, 1921-1988

Extent 2.4 linear feet (6 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note Contains chapter board minutes followed by individual group minutes and miscellaneous files.

Arrangement The subseries is arranged alphabetically. Material is arranged chronologically within each folder.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 1. Folder 3. Chapter board minutes, 1955-1959
Box 1. Folder 4. Chapter board minutes, 1959-1962
Box 1. Folder 5. Chapter board minutes, 1963-1964
Box 1. Folder 6. Chapter board minutes, 1964-1965
Box 1. Folder 7. Chapter board minutes, 1966-1971
Box 1. Folder 8. Chapter board minutes, 1972-1973
Box 2. Folder 1. Chapter board minutes, 1974-1979
Box 2. Folder 2. Chapter board minutes, 1980-1981
Box 2. Folder 3. Chapter board minutes, 1982-1985
Box 2. Folder 5. Avondale minutes, 1921-1933
Box 2. Folder 6. Avondale minutes, 1933-1952

Extent  1.1 linear feet (1.5 Hollinger boxes, 0.5 oversize box)

Arrangement  The subseries is arranged alphabetically.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 7. Folder 7. Membership rosters, 1962-1964
Box 8. Folder 1. Membership rosters, 1965-1966
Series B. Presidential Records, 1928-1982

Extent 0.6 linear feet (1.5 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note Common types of material found in these records are annotated agendas, speeches given by the president, and correspondence. Of special note is a partial journal of a trip to Israel in 1967.

Arrangement The series is arranged chronologically by the name of the president.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 9. Folder 5. Reports to the President, 1965-1969
Box 10. Folder 2. Fox, Debbie. Record book, 1983 August-September
Box 10. Folder 4. Correspondence, 1928-1982
Box 10. Folder 5. Presidential speeches, undated
Box 10. Folder 6. Trip to Israel, 1967

Series C. Committees/Special Projects, 1931-1991

Extent 1.2 linear feet (3 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note Most of the material in this series is related to the annual donor luncheon. Common types of material include committee minutes, correspondence, and publicity-related material.

Arrangement The series is arranged alphabetically by topic. Folders are arranged chronologically within topic.
Box and Folder Listing

Box 10. Folder 7. An Exhibit on Israel, 1958
Box 11. Folder 1. Donor luncheon, 1962-1963
Box 11. Folder 2. Donor luncheon, 1964
Box 11. Folder 3. Donor luncheon, 1965
Box 11. Folder 4. Donor luncheon, 1966
Box 12. Folder 1. Donor luncheon programs, 1931-1939
Box 12. Folder 2. Donor luncheon programs, 1946-1949
Box 12. Folder 3. Donor luncheon programs, 1950-1959
Box 13. Folder 1. Financial secretaries, 1956-1963
Box 13. Folder 6. Mount Scopus dedication dance, 1975

Series D. Conferences, 1928-1988

Extent 0.6 linear feet (1.5 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note Contains material relating to the regional and national conferences with an emphasis on regional conferences in years where they were held in Cincinnati.

Arrangement The series is arranged chronologically and alphabetically within years.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 13. Folder 12. Regional conference, 1970
Series E. Young Judea, 1938-1970

Extent 0.6 linear feet (1.5 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note Materials include information about conferences, nearprint, and a variety of educational materials used for group meetings.

Arrangement The series is arranged alphabetically by subject. Folders are arranged chronologically within topics.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 15. Folder 4. Central States Conference, undated
Box 15. Folder 7. Miscellaneous educational materials, undated
Box 16. Folder 1. Notebook, 1938-1941
Box 16. Folder 2. Nearprint, undated
Box 16. Folder 5. Songbooks, undated

Series F. Photographs, 1940-1987

Extent 0.6 linear feet (1.5 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note Most photographs are undated and unlabeled. Approximately half of the photographs have been removed from the historian's scrapbooks from series G. These photographs are in the order that they were removed from the scrapbooks.

Arrangement Photographs are arranged loosely into subject categories and arranged alphabetically.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 16. Folder 8. Events (unidentified).
Box 16. Folder 9. From Bloomers to Bikinis, undated
Box 16. Folder 10. Israel.
Box 17. Folder 1. Membership.
Box 17. Folder 2. Membership snapshots, circa 1961
Box 17. Folder 4. Miscellaneous groups of women.
Box 17. Folder 5. Officers of Hadassah.
Box 17. Folder 15. Scrapbook, 1984-1985
Box 17. Folder 19. Stage.
Box 17. Folder 20. Women.

**Series G. Publicity, 1933-1988**

**Extent** 4.8 linear feet (7 Hollinger boxes, 2 record cartons)

**Scope and Content Note** Includes brochures, newsclippings, publications, programs and the historian's scrapbooks.

**Arrangement** The series is arranged alphabetically by subject.

**Box and Folder Listing**

Box 18. Folder 1. Brochures, programs, 1953-1969
Box 18. Folder 3. Brochures, programs, 1983
Box 18. Folder 4. Brochures, programs, 1984
Box 18. Folder 5. Brochures, programs, 1985
Box 18. Folder 6. Brochures, programs, 1986
Box 20. Folder 2. Proclamations.
Box 20. Folder 3. Scrapbook, 1933-1945
Box 20. Folder 4. Scrapbook, 1948-1951
Box 21. Folder 5. Memorial scrapbook, 1966
Box 25. Folder 1. Scrapbook. Part.1, 1982-1983
Box 25. Folder 5. Scrapbook, 1984-1985