Guide to the Shenk Family Papers, 1898-1940

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Descriptive Summary
Title: Shenk Family Papers,
Date (inclusive): 1898-1940
Box Number: 451-455
Collector: Shenk family
Extent: 5 boxes
Repository: California State Library
Sacramento, California
Language: English.

Access
Unrestricted.

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Access Points
Imperial Valley (Calif.) -- History
Real estate development
Mines and mining -- California -- Columbia
Methodists--California
Imperial Land Company (Calif.)
Portland Cement and Railroad (Puget Sound, Wash.)

Contents
Business and personal papers of John Wesley Shenk, Sr., John Wesley, Jr., Susanne, Mary, William W., and Edmund Shenk and Henry Wilson including correspondence, deeds, receipts, bills, and photographs.

Biography
John W. Shenk, Sr., a Methodist minister, and his sons were instrumental in the development of Imperial Valley. In 1900 John W. Shenk, Sr. purchased an interest in the Imperial Land Company, and in 1901 his family, except for son William, moved to Imperial Valley from Omaha, Nebraska. In 1913, the family moved to Los Angeles, maintaining an involvement in the land business in Imperial County.

John Wesley Shenk, Jr., to whom some letters in the collection are addressed, became Los Angeles City Attorney, Superior Court Judge, and was appointed to the California Supreme Court in 1924.

William W. Shenk eventually settled in Seattle, where he was a Methodist minister. His business interests there included cement and railroads. This collection includes the extensive correspondence with his father and brother John regarding their joint business dealings in California and Washington.

Fergusson, S. W.
Shenk, W. W.

Other Correspondents
Blattner, F. S.
Browne, G. , 1877-
Crail, Charles S. (for A Non-Partisan Organization)
Crane-Gartz, Kate
Creighton, J. H.
Dodson, George W.
Freeman, Edwin Wandesforde, 1860-
Gordon, Hugh
Graham, 'Leonard' & Stub
Holt, S. M.
Hunt, G.
Kuck, Arthur G.
McMillan, Raymond
Remington, W. H.
Richards, A. M.
Rockmel, Edward J.
Shenk, J. W. (Jr.)
Shenk, Marie
Shenk, Susanna C.
Senior, George
Sowers, Daniel H.
Sty[, Thomas J.
Wells, Rex W.
Wilson, Henry

Box 451 Business papers, clippings, ephemera, legal papers, notes, photos, n.d.-July 7, 1928
Box 452 Incoming correspondence A-Ho
Box 453 Incoming correspondence Hu-W
Box 454 Outgoing correspondence 1901-1910
Box 455 Outgoing correspondence 1912-1928