University of California Cooperative Extension Records, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties UCCE.SBSLO

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Biographical / Historical
At the turn of the previous century, growing concern over the quality of life for rural Americans prompted President Theodore Roosevelt to appoint a Commission on Country Life in 1908. One of the direct outcomes of the Commission's recommendations was the passage of the Smith-Lever Act in 1914, which established a national extension service to place the knowledge generated at land-grant universities into the hands of farmers and rural citizens. The Agricultural Extension Service formalized and built upon existing efforts of land-grant universities to enhance the knowledge of farmers and apply scientific discoveries for improved agricultural practices. Beginning in 1913, the Agriculture Extension Service, later known as UC Cooperative Extension, placed farm advisors employed by the University of California in every county that formed a farm bureau and agreed to sponsor Extension Service work. While arrangements have evolved, advisors continue to work in all California counties today and address problems ranging from soil conditions and land reclamation to irrigation; from livestock breeding to improved varietals; and from mechanization to disease and pest management, to enable farms to increase efficiency and productivity.

"In 1927 the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors created a county support base to work with the University of California and the United States Department of Agriculture in providing educational programs for county residents on topics of agriculture, foods and nutrition, food safety, family relations, food preservation, family economics, and youth development. Support for family and consumer sciences was added later."

Content Description
Records from the Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Cooperative Extension Counties Offices. These records were shipped to us from the office and original order may have been destroyed.

Conditions Governing Use
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Conditions Governing Access
This collection is open for research. A portion of the records have been digitized and are freely available online. The material is located at the University of California, Merced Library. For help locating material please contact library@ucmerced.edu.

Arrangement
The bulk of the materials in this collection were discovered during the Cooperative Extension Office's remodel in 2017 and were shipped to the University of California, Merced in 8 large boxes. The remainder of the materials came in sporadically over 2018 and 2019. The materials were moved reorganized an unknown number of times before shipment to the archive. As such, the original order has been largely lost and the collection has been arranged by topic into 3 series and 12 sub-series.
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