

United Shoe and Machinery Company (USMC)
“The Shoe”

MSS: #011
Volume: 3 boxes

Processed by: Christian Guerra
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- Abstract:** The USM Collection contains patent records, Quarter Century Club Membership records and other ephemera demonstrating the connection to the City of Beverly.
- Provenance:** The USMC Collection donated to the Beverly Historical Society by Cummings Center in 2012.
- Conservation:** Materials placed in acid-free folders. Removed all Metal Paperclips and replaced with archival quality paper clips. Mount photos on acid-free paper and encapsulate them in Mylar sleeves.
- Copyrights:** Request for permission to publish material from the Collection must be submitted in writing to the curator of Collections in the Cabot House of the Beverly Historical Society & Museum.

Historiographical sketch:

Founded in 1899 by a merger of the supposedly noncompeting Goodyear Machinery Company, Consolidated Hand Lasting Machine Company, and McKay Shoe Machinery Company, became the United Shoe Machinery Company. The USMC, revolutionized shoe equipment manufacturing and the shoe industry itself, its establishment of an international division made it one of the first three international companies ever formed, and it became a worldwide powerhouse. The USM designed, developed and marketed approximately 800 new and improved shoe machines, and patented more than 9,000 inventions.

In 1902, the United Shoe Machinery Corporation (USMC) built a quarter-mile stretch of factory buildings in Beverly. The stretch was an early landmark example of reinforced concrete construction, devised by concrete pioneer Ernest L. Ransome. In 1906 it went into production. The Shoe became away of life for literally thousands of Beverly area

families, many with multi-generational ties to this hugely successful property. Between 1900 and 1910, immigrants quickly swelled Beverly's population from 13,888 to 18,650.

Scope and Content Note:

The United Shoe and Machinery Company Collection contains a large quantity of the companies Patents most of which pertain to the production and manufacture of shoes. Additionally there are patents for golf balls, nail guns, and magnetic closures. A majority of the remanding material are Quarter Century Club documents ranging from financial and membership records, to pictures and other ephemera. The remainders of the collection are miscellaneous objects including sample knives and knife parts from the Booth Brothers Company.

Processors Note:

The USMC collection was donated to the Beverly Historical Society in five large banker boxes. The content of these boxes were separated into three categories: patent records, documents, and objects. The patent records were ordered chronologically and then separated from the rest of the collection due to their sheer quantity and size. Objects were surveyed and stored, with the exception of a large wooden desk organizer. The remainders of the documents were divided further into financial records which were sorted chronologically. The membership records of the Quarter Century Club include a blank application, members log, correspondence, and event planning materials. The Quarter Century club member's card catalogue, which include by-laws and amendments that were kept separate from the rest of the collection due to size restrictions. Pictures of Quarter century outings, were all mounted on acid free paper with archival quality photo corners and then encapsulated in Mylar sleeves. Publications, such as news paper clippings and other fragile documents were encapsulated in Mylar sleeves to protect themselves and the surrounding documents. The Patent Documents, Members Catalogue and desk organizer will be placed in appropriately sized archival storage containers, remanding have been stored in three archival storage boxes.

Series List:

- Series I:** **Patents**
- Series II:** **Quarter Century Documents**
- A) Financial Documents**
 B) Membership Records
 C) Pictures/ cards
 D) Publications
- Series III:** **Objects**

Content List:

Series I: Patents

Box: TBA Separated due to size

1. Shoe Form Co. Inc. & Dun-Deer Sandals Inc. Patents;
Various patents belonging to Shoe Form Co. Inc including patents on shoe forms, fish bates, fish hooks, boxes and other miscellaneous things. Smaller sections of patents belonging to Dun-deer Sandals Inc. pertaining to shoe and sandal making.
Dates range from 1915-1957
2. Krippendorf Kalkulator Company Patents;
Various patents owned by the Krippendorf Kalkulator Company pertaining to calculators and calculating devices. Patents include a calculator, a computing device, and an area estimating device for sheet material.
Dates range from 1915-1939.
3. Sibley-pym Corporation Patents;
Various patents owned by Sibley-pym Corporation pertaining to golf-ball construction patents include golf-balls, dispensing devices, and winding machine. Dates rang from 1931 to 1940.
4. Hoague-Sprague Corporation (also Lightship cloth Board Corruption) Patents;
Various patents owned by the Hoague-Sprague Corporation pertaining to the process and construction of various boxes. Dates range from March 13, 1910- August 12, 1930. Patents include “paper box construction”, “machine for making covered boxes”, “method of making one-piece boxes”.
5. Shoe Lace Company Patents;
Various Patents owned by Shoe Lace Company Pertaining to Shoe lace production. Patents include a shoe lace tipping machine, a packing machine, and a box. Dates from 1919 to 1964.
6. Tanning Process Company;
Licensing application for a process to produce aryl sulfonxl Chlorides. Not adopted. March 2, 1967

7. Service Engineers LTD. Patents;

Various patents owned by Service Engineers LTD. Pertaining to ceramic making. Patents include a machine for making patterns, a machine for finishing ceramics, and a machine for dyeing ceramics. Dates rang from 1962-1967.

8. Goddu Sewing Machine Company Patents;

Various patents owned by the Goddu Sewing Machine Company Pertaining to different types of sewing machines and sewing machine patents. Patents include a machine for shanking soles, a sole sewing machine, and sole channeling machine. Dates rang from 1895 to 1914.

9. Goddu Sons Metal Fastening Co. patents (expires June 1, 1917)

Various patents owed by Goddu Sons Metal Fastening Co., pertaining to metal fastenings. Patents include a nailing machine, a nail making machine, and a screw threading machine. Dates ranging from 1896 to 1910.

10. Globe Sewing machine Company Patents;

Various patents owned by the Globe sewing machine company pertaining to sewing machines. Patents include a shuttle for a sewing machine, a thread tension device, and a sole sewing machine. Dates ranging from 1889 to 1895.

11. Littleway Process Company Patents (shoemaking);

Various patents owned by Littleway Process Company pertaining to shoe making and specific ways of manufacturing shoes. Dates rang from October 13, 1910-June 1, 1937.

Patents include: New ways of making shoes.

12. The Turner Tanning Machinery Company, Patents;

Various patents owned by The Tuner Tanning Machinery Company pertaining to machines which aid in tanning and producing quality leather. Dates rang from: April 3, 1926-July 26, 1977. Patents include: Shacking Machinery, Tanning and Hiding Machinery.

13. Ross-Moyer Manufacturing Company (patents later bought by U.S.M.C), Patents;

Various patents owned by the Ross-Moyer manufacturing Company pertaining to machines for shoe finishing. (Embossing, Polishing, Beading etc.) Dates rang from August 25, 1887-August 13, 1901. Patents include: Beading machines, Embossing Machines, and Polishing Machines (Sand Paper).

14. Manhattan Manufacturing Company Patents. Various Patents owned by the Manhattan Manufacturing Company pertaining to compound metal,

metal working, metal finishing etc...

Dates rang from December 16, 1901- January 17, 1902

Patents include the construction of Golf Balls.

15. Rimmon Eyelet Company, Patents;

Various Patents owned by the Rimmon Eyelet Company, Patents;

Various Patents owned by the Rimmon Eyelet Company pertaining to
“Japanning small articles” Dates ranged from March 1, 1898- May 20,
1910.

Patents include: eyelet Punching Machine for “Japping small article”,
grommet and washers.

16. Victoria Self-Lacing Company, Patents;

Various patents owned by the Victoria Self-Lacing Company pertaining to
things regarding shoe laces, things holding shoes laces, etc... Dates range
from April 20, 1897- August 10, 1909. Patents include: Attachment for
lasing shoes, holders for the files of boots and shoes.

17. Trimmings, Inc. (expired October 10, 1951), Patents;

Various patents owned by Trimmings, Inc. pertaining to different types of
shoes. Dates range from November 28 1940-November 6, 1942. Patents
include shoe designs.

18. The Lamson Company, Patents;

Various patents owned by The Lamson Company pertaining to
shoemaking and conveyer belt technology. Dates rang from August 3,
1926- December 30, 1952. Patents include “vertical conveyer system”,
“Industrial Conveyer System”, and “Manufacture of shoes”.

19. The Turner Tanning Machinery Company, Expired patents

Volumes 1 of 2

Dozens of patents owned by the Turner Tanning Machinery Company.
Patents include leather working machineries, a whitening machine, a
machine for applying liquid to skins, and many other similar machines.
Format consists of a handful of diagrams illustrating the device followed
by a few pages of information on the specifics of the device and its patent.

Volumes 2 of 2

Together both volumes cover patents made in 1907 up to patents from
1932. Newer looking paper in the back of volume with two patents, one
from 1979 and the other from 1980.

20. United Shoe Machinery Corporation; Patents April 2, 1928 (date of
creation)

Lists of patents on first six pages. The rest of the book takes the format of

patent diagrams followed by written information on the patent. Patents include a shoe tacking machine, a heel breasting machine, a shoe sewing machine, and many other machines involved in the shoe making process. Patents span from 1912 to 1930.

21. Hoague-Sprague Corporation
Patents Volume 2 (1931)

Various patents owned by the Hoague-Sprague Corporation pertaining to box making. Patents include several box making machines, coating machines, a stocking apparatus and a machine for creating box blanks. Patents rang from 1931 to 1967.

22. S.A Felton and Son Co. Patens,

Various Patents owned by S.A Felton and Son Co. pertaining to steel rotary brushes. Patents include a several brushes, a brush making machines, and artificial skiing surface. Dates from 1882- 1971

23. 409 Subject Matter Vibrac

A small booklet containing the patents. One patent from 1970 for a Torque Meter and another from 1972 for “magnetic devices”. There is no indication as to who owned these patents.

24. Corrugated Wire Fastening Company, Patents

Various patents owned by the corrugated wire Fastening company. Patents include a nailing machine, a pegging machine, and painting mechanism for nailing machine. Patents rang from 1880 to 1890.

25. Automatic Weighing Machine ; Patents

Various patents for different parts of an automatic weighing machine. Patents include a door for an automatic weighing machine, a can filling machine, and an automatic weighing apparatus. Patents from 1895 to 1905.

26. Cambell- Bosworth Machinery Company, Patents, Expires as of April 1943

Various patents belonging to the Cambell- Bosworth Machinery Company. Patents consist mainly of sewing machinery parts such as a sewing machine shuttle, a throat plate for a sewing machine, and an angle sewing attachment. Patents rang from 1895 to 1919.

27. Cable Lacing Machine Study

June 25, 1962

A study done on cable lacing machines including machines specifications, economic analysis, and a list of major cable manufactures.

Series II: Quarter Century Documents

A) Financial Documents

Box: 1

1. Beverly National Bank Checks

Checks written out to various companies, high school programs, and people from the USMC Quarter century club. Dates range from:
June 27, 1974 to August 6, 1989.
July 19, 1961-December 9, 1966
May 11, 1954- June 27, 1974

2. Quarter Century Club Checkbooks

Six blue 3'x 7" checkbooks belonging to the quarter century club. Dates rang from June 16, 1947 to June 29, 1964.

Box: 1

File: 1

3. Beverly Savings Bank Account Book

An Account book a Beverly Savings Bank for the Quarter Century Club of USMC. Transaction dates from April 29, 1939 to October 1953.

4. Financial Records

-Financial Records from the USMC 75th Anniversary party for the machinery division.

Paper bound gray booklet, detailed plans of costs and specs for the 75th party. For 1974

-Financial Records in Blue Notebook; payroll checks dates from June 29, 1965- October 24, 1969.

-Bank Receipts and Statements, Dates rang from 1964-1970

-Bank Statements from 1954-1970,

5. The Compact Recorder

A record of company purchases mainly for recreational events and company functions. Dates range from 1983-1987 for the Quarter Century Club.

6. Black Book with red Binding

Financial Record of the Quarter Century Club outings including invitation prices, fees, and food costs. Dates rang from 1926-1984.

B) Membership Records

Box: 1

File: 2

1. Quarter Century Club membership Application
A blank Quarter Century Club membership application card.
2. Memberships to the USM Co. Inc. Quarter Century Club
Membership Log Book, Small Black leather 3 ring binder with tabs for
Stock, Active, Inactive, and Deceased Members.

Box: 1

File: 3&4

3. Correspondence of the OCC, coordinating retirement and Obituary
announcements. Memberships to the USM Co. Inc. Quarter Century Club
Membership

Box: 1

File: 5

4. Plans for the 75th anniversary of the USM. Co. Inc. coordinated by the
Quarter Century Club.

Box:

Stored separately due to size

5. Active Memberships to the USM Co. Inc. Quarter Century Club
Membership cards for the United Shoe Machinery Company Inc.'s
Quarter Century Club spanning from A-Z all dated between 1970 and
1990. Blue dividers broken into alphabetical sections.
6. Inactive memberships to the USM Co. Inc. Quarter Century Club
Inactive memberships to the United Shoe Machinery Company Inc.'s
Quarter Century Club alphabetically ordered from A-Z. Cards span 3
boxes and are broken up by tan dividers.
7. USM Co. Inc. Quarter Century Club By-laws
Small booklets containing the various rules, conditions, and procedures
pertaining to the Quarter Century Club.
8. Amendments to articles III-VI
A list of amendments to a handful of articles in the USM Co. Quarter
Century Club By-laws booklet.

C) Pictures/ cards

Box: 2

File: 1-4

1. Photographs
-10x8 Black and white photo of former USMC employees; Albert S.
Dumas, Robert H. Deering, and Vincen Terry. Has no date.

- Series of photos taken at the Quarter Century Club outing in 1959
- Series of photos taken at the Quarter Century Club outing in 1958
- Shelton Pictures, black and white, 5"x7",
- Portraits of Georg F.C Burk and Fred T.C
- U.S.M.C photos from 1977 farewell gifts given to two male employees.

Box: 2

File: 5

2. Christmas Cards

Three Christmas Cards with Hand Drawn illustrations on the front. All three cards are for the A-3 Office Christmas Party. Dates range from 1952-1954.

3. Postcards from Charlie

A series of Postcards depicting a trip to Oregon all signed by Charlie. Locations include Yosemite Crater Lake, and Tioga Pass. Dates rang from 5/21/1977 to 6/28/1977.

D) Periodicals/ Published Materials

Box: 2

File:6

1. Quarter Century Club News Letter for October 31, 1966

Content for the Christmas issue and its timing, reports on what has happened in the month, and employees retiring that month.

2. Quarter Century Club News (May –June 1974 issue)

“A Bit of Nostalgia!!” is the title and it focuses on the USMC as at the beginning of the company around 1900.

3. Newspaper Articles

-Article recognizing William Starratt and Thomas Jewell who turned 104 and 103 respectively. William Starratt was a former USMC employee. Includes a picture of the two with a birthday cake.

-1976 Beverly times articles, Quarter Century Club.

- November 21, 1978 copy of the Beverly Times , front page headline Jim Jones mass suicide in Cape town (make copy)3. Stamp for the Quarter Century Club

4. Block Last Specifications

Two page booklet with diagrams, directions, and specifications regarding united last companies block shoe making mold. Copyrighted in 1922.

Series III:

Objects

Box: 3

1. Postage Stamp Informational- in frame
Small Framed paper talking about postage stamps with perforated initials.
Appears to have been part of a display or exhibit.
2. Foam Stamp Pad
Black ink foam stamp pad with flip open cover. Ink is all dried up, made by
Denhison Cafter Co. 4.5"x 3"
3. Eastman "Thin Covered Glass" for lantern Slides
Displays diagrams shows the inner workings of a U.S M.C machine.
4. Sample Knives from Booth Bro's
A Board with sample knives and Knife parts from the Booth Brothers Company.
Samples left by Mr. Hammann manager of Booth Brothers.
5. USM. Co. Quarter Century Club bag

Box: Separated due to size

6. Wooden Desk Organizer
22" long, 4" high at the edges, 6.5" at the peak
this has no distinguishing marks, looks custom made.