



DuPont Collection, 1942-1997

Collection Summary:

Title: DuPont Collection

Summary: A collection of publications from the DuPont Company and the DuPont Plant located in Old Hickory, TN. Dates range between 1942 and 1997. Bulk dates: 1943-1952.

Physical Description: 1.5 Hollinger boxes, 0.63 linear feet

Language: English

Stack Location: S12-1

Repository: Metropolitan Government Archives of Nashville-Davidson County, 615 Church Street, Nashville, TN 37219

Historical/Biographical Note:

The E.I. Du Pont Nemours Company (later simply shortened to "DuPont") first targeted the city of Old Hickory, Tennessee in 1917, when it became likely that the United States would be entering World War I. Ordered by the federal government, Old Hickory became the site for the world's largest smokeless powder plant, making Nashville "the powder city of the world."

The plant went into operation on July 2nd, 1918, and the city of Old Hickory Village housed the 35,000 people who worked at the plant. The plant itself included 3,867 buildings and 7.5 miles of double-tracked railroad. While a significant contribution to the war effort, the building of the DuPont plant was a significant impact on the local economy in several ways, including a boom in real estate values and an increase in overall commerce.

After World War I, Old Hickory's population dropped dramatically. The federal government, no longer seeing a need for the plant, intended to sell it. However, in July of 1923, DuPont announced its return to Old Hickory in order to build a \$4 million plant for the manufacturing of Rayon. By 1929, the company began adding a cellophane plant to the site, making the Old Hickory plant the second plant to produce the material. The plant celebrated its 60th anniversary in 1985 by planting a time capsule, which was installed in a monument near the plant's entrance. Most recently, 25 acres of the site were sold to a railroad company.

Scope and Contents of the Collection:

The bulk of this collection contains issues of *Rayon Yarns*, a monthly publication for the employees of the Old Hickory DuPont plant, and dates range from 1942 to 1952. A later publication for the employees and pensioners of the DuPont plant in Old Hickory, Tennessee, *Old Hickory Record*, is also included. Dates for this publication fall between 1991 and 1997, with a gap between 1991 and 1995. Other publications include company-wide magazines for DuPont employees, as well as published reports from the Old Hickory Employees Credit Union. These publications give insight into the history and workings of the DuPont plant, particularly during World War II and in the post-war years.

Index Terms:**Subjects:**

E.I. du Pont de Nemours & Company
E.I. du Pont de Nemours & Company--History.
E.I. du Pont de Nemours & Company. Old Hickory Plant
Old Hickory (Tenn.)

Arrangement:

This collection is arranged into only one series, *Publications*, which is arranged alphabetically by publication title.

Contents Listing:**Box 1: Publications**

Fol. 1: Publications--Better Living (1948-1967)
Fol. 2: Publications--DuPont Magazine (Oct.-Nov. 1953)
Fol. 3: Publications--DuPont Today (1979)
Fol. 4: Publications--Flashes from Cellophane (Nov. 1946)
Fol. 5: Publications--Money Memos (1990)
Fol. 6: Publications--Newspaper Clippings (c.1940s-1997)
Fol. 7: Publications--Old Hickory Employees Credit Union, 25th Anniversary (1959)
Fol. 8: Publications--Old Hickory Employees Credit Union, Annual Meeting (1974)
Fol. 9: Publications--Old Hickory Rayon Plant, 25th Anniversary (1950)
Fol. 10: Publications--Old Hickory Record (1991)
Fol. 11: Publications--Old Hickory Record (1995)
Fol. 12: Publications--Old Hickory Record (1996)
Fol. 13: Publications--Old Hickory Record (1997)
Fol. 14: Publications--Rayon Yarns (Nov. 1942)
Fol. 15: Publications--Rayon Yarns (c.1943)
Fol. 16: Publications--Rayon Yarns (c.1944)

Fol. 17: Publications--Rayon Yarns (1945)
Fol. 18: Publications--Rayon Yarns (1946)
Fol. 19: Publications--Rayon Yarns (Jan.-May 1947)
Fol. 20: Publications--Rayon Yarns (Jul.-Dec. 1947)
Fol. 21: Publications--Rayon Yarns (Feb.-Sep. 1948)
Fol. 22: Publications--Rayon Yarns (Jan.-Apr. 1949)

Box 2: Publications

Fol. 1: Publications--Rayon Yarns (Jun.-Nov. 1949)
Fol. 2: Publications--Rayon Yarns (Jan.-Apr. 1950)
Fol. 3: Publications--Rayon Yarns (Jul.-Dec. 1950)
Fol. 4: Publications--Rayon Yarns (Jan.-Dec. 1951)
Fol. 5: Publications--Rayon Yarns (Jan.-Apr. 1952)
Fol. 6: Publications--This is Du Pont (1949)

Restrictions:

Restrictions on Access: In-library use only.

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Administrative Information:

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Provenance: John Owsley

Processing Information: Processed by Kelley Sirko, September 2020.

Accruals: No further accruals expected.