

Inventory of the

**Farmers Elevator Company**  
Yorkville, Illinois

Records

In the

Regional History Center

**RC 109**

## INTRODUCTION

Steve Bazan, President, deposited the Farmers Elevator Company Records with the Regional History Center on August 27, 1980. An addendum was added at a later date.

Property rights in the collection remain with the Farmers Elevator Company; literary rights are dedicated to the public. There are no restrictions on access to the collection.

Linear feet of shelf space: 25.5  
Number of containers: 14 + 62 volumes  
Northern Illinois Regional History Center  
Collection 109

## SCOPE AND CONTENT

Primarily a collection documenting financial history, the Farmers Elevator Company Records trace the development of a large agribusiness in Kendall County, Illinois. Records date from 1908 to 1985 and include an incomplete set of meeting minutes containing the articles of incorporation and lists of stockholders, the constitution and by-laws, audit reports (1930-1975), correspondence, legal agreements, court claims, and financial ledgers. The financial ledgers document grain sales, shipments, and purchases, and coal sales. Of particular interest is the correspondence from the United States Food Administration (1917-1918) describing company reporting procedures for railroad shipments and grain purchases.

Researchers should note other collections held by the Regional History Center documenting agribusiness in northern Illinois: Embree Lumber Company (RC 7); Lindenwood Grain Co-op (RC 11); Uplinger Lumber, Grain, and Coal Company (RC 16); Mighell and Wakefield Smithy, Grain and Coal Company (RC 22); H. W. Colwill Collection (RC 47); North Corn Belt Seed Growers, Inc. (RC 90); Colehour Grain Elevator (RC 91); Will-DuPage Service Company (RC 94); Kendall-Grundy FS Company (RC 105); and the DeKalb, Kane, Winnebago, DuPage, Carroll, Kendall, and Grundy County Farm Bureau Collections (RC 52, 76, 79, 87, 96, 103, 106).

## HISTORICAL SKETCH

Incorporated on October 3, 1908, the Farmers Elevator Company's first board of directors elected J. Wampah, president, Lewis Christiansen, vice president, E. B. Thomas, secretary, L.C. Martner, treasurer, and appointed Guy Corzine, company manager. The Porport property in Yorkville, Illinois, purchased for \$2500 on December 5, 1908, became the site of the company's first business offices and elevators. On October 26, 1912, the firm approved a second elevator site in Kentland, Illinois. Annual picnics, started in 1909, provided social entertainment for stockholders and company employees.

In February, 1909 the Farmers Elevator Company signed an agreement with the Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy Railroad which agreed to construct a side track to the elevator to facilitate shipping and receiving operations. Two years later the Fox and Illinois Union Railroad built a short line between Yorkville and Morris, Illinois connected to the C. B. & Q. railroad in Yorkville. The Kentland elevator site used this track for moving grain, coal, and lumber. Working closely with area agribusinesses, the Farmers Elevator Company provides needed supplies to the farmers of Kendall County.

### SUBJECT TRACINGS

Coal Trade  
 Farm Supply Industries  
 Farmers Elevator Company  
 Grain  
 Kentland  
 Yorkville

### COLLECTION INVENTORY

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
1	1-3	Minute Books, 1908-1923, 1960-1969
	4	Constitution and By-Laws, 1909, 1922
	5	Financial Reports, 1926, 1967, 1970
	6-13	Audit Reports, (1930-1975)
	14	Agreement with Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy Railroad, 1909
	15	Correspondence and Contracts with C. B. & Q. Railroad, 1910-1915
	16	Correspondence From U. S. Food Administration, 1917-1918
	17	Complaint against Fox and Illinois Union Railroad, 1911-1914
	18	Contracts, 1911-1914
	19	Court Claim against Charlie Jones, 1933-1940
	20	Stock Certificates, 1909
	21	Proxies, 1930-1931
	22	Annual Meeting and Picnic Announcement, 1910
	23	Insurance Policy, 1910
Oversize	1 volume	Financial Account Ledger, 1909-1910
	1 volume	Daily Journal, 1909-1913
2	1 volume	Record of Paid Stock Shares. 1909-1915
	4 volumes	General Ledgers, 1915-1921

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
3	1 volume 1 3 volumes 2-6	General Ledger, 1921-1922 General Ledger Sheets, 1922 Kentland General Ledgers, 1915-1920 General Ledger Trial Balances, (1915-1920)
Oversize	2 volumes 7 volumes	General Ledgers, 1926-1929 General Ledger Trial Balances, 1922-1929
3A	1-3	General Ledger Trial Balances, 1951-1961
Oversize	12 volumes 11 volumes 2 volumes	General Ledgers, 1934-1951 Day Books, (1910-1942) (Kentland ?) Day Books, 1926-1927, 1936-1943
4	1-5 6 7 8-14	Financial Journals, 1910-1913 Wage Record, 1915 Treasurer's Cash and Ledger, 1908 Financial Record Books, (1909-1915)
5	1-5 6-10 11 12	Financial Record Books, (1913-1919) Sales Records, 1920-1925 Cash Book, 1931-1933 Lumber Price List, n.d.
Oversize	10 volumes 3 volumes	Financial Ledgers, (1912-1917) Check Registers and Index, 1909-1913
6	1 volumes	Inventories, 1914-1939
Oversize	4 volumes	Grain Scale Books, (1909-1913)
7	1-8	Grain Scale Books, 1920-1937
Oversize	3 volumes	Grain Scale Books, 1939-1943
8	1-9	Grain Scale Books, 1937-1939, 1943-1952
9	8 volumes 1 volume	Grain Scale Books, 1952-1961 Grain Purchase Account (Kentland?), 1915
Oversize	5 volumes 1 volume	Grain Sales, Shipments, and Returns, (1909-1966) Grain Receiving Ledger, n.d.

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	4
10	1 volumes	Kentland Grain Purchase Accounts, 1921-1926	
11	1 volume	Kentland Grain Purchase Accounts, 1937-1939	
	1-2	Coal Wagon Load Records, 1909-1911	
	3	Coal Sales Book, 1916-1917	
	4-5	Coal Record Books, 1958-1966	
12	1 volume	Grain Purchase Accounts, 1940-1947	
<u>ADDENDUM</u>			
13	1-2	Audit Reports, (1976-1984)	
	3	Share Holders, (1955-1962)	
	4	Statement of Financial Condition, 1963-1964, 1976	
	5	Trustee's Agreement, August 27, 1921	
	6	Court Case File - Gerald Anderson, 1977-1978	
	2 volumes	Minute Books, October 22, 1969-July 30, 1985	