

COLLECTION FINDING AID

Collection number:	Univ. 4.3
Title:	Richard Foster Crocker papers
Dates:	1924-1946, undated
Creator/collector:	Crocker, Richard Foster, 1891-1963
Extent:	1 box (.45 cubic feet)
Provenance:	Material was acquired from the University of Maine at Fort Kent, 2008
Language:	English
Conservation notes:	Some materials have been flattened.
Access restrictions:	No restrictions on access.
Physical restrictions:	None.
Technical restrictions:	None.
Copyright:	Copyright has been assigned to Blake Library Special Collections, UMFK. All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to Blake Library Special Collections.
Citation:	Richard Foster Crocker papers, Univ. 4.3, Special Collections, Blake Library, University of Maine at Fort Kent
Separated materials:	Not applicable.
Location of originals:	Not applicable.
Location of copies:	Not applicable.
Related materials:	Not applicable.
Published in:	Not applicable.

Biographical information:

Richard Foster Crocker was born on September 4, 1891 in Stockton Springs, Maine, the son of Edwin M. and Estelle Mudgett Crocker. He attended the University of Maine at Orono, graduating with B.S. He married Matilda Weed Moholland on July 19, 1916. Moholland was born on August 8, 1893 in Veazie, Maine, the daughter of James H. and Annie Page Moholland. They raised four children: Richard F., Jr.; Barbara Ellen; Anna Maria; and Hope Mavis. Matilda died April 29, 1964.

In 1914, Crocker moved to Fort Kent, Maine, where he became a teacher at the Madawaska Training School and served as an assistant to Principal Mary P. Nowland. During the 1925-26 academic year, Crocker became the assistant principal, in addition to teaching courses in agriculture, biology, general science, and psychology; at this time, he was also responsible for the MTS athletics program. When Nowland retired in June 1926, Crocker became the principal of the Madawaska Training School. Under Crocker, MTS expanded to include the normal school curriculum, a physical education program, and several sports programs; enrollment expanded and a new gymnasium was constructed. Crocker served as principal at MTS until his retirement in 1955; he was the last principal of the Madawaska Training School, for in this same year, the institution changed its name to the Fort Kent State Normal School.

Crocker died on May 12, 1963.

Scope and content:

This collection primarily consists of carbon copies of correspondence written by Richard Crocker while serving as president of the Madawaska Training School. The correspondence covers a broad range of subjects including billing, infrastructure, and other daily concerns. In addition, the correspondence discusses the university's service to the education of Aroostook County's remote areas, the university's community during World War II, agriculture on campus, and many other topics. Crocker also writes stressing the importance of the existence of this campus during a time when the state contemplated closing the Madawaska Training School.

The collection also includes a number of other, personal materials, including a 1945 mileage ration certificate; teaching certificates from 1924, 1934, 1939, 1943, and 1946; a graduate registration book for a Master's in Education from the University of Maine at Orono; a certificate from the Town of Fort Kent appointing Crocker as a school board member for

1942-43; and a certificate appointing Crocker as captain of the Maine State Guard Reserve, headquartered in Fort Kent, on June 8, 1943.

The collection is divided into 2 series: personal materials and correspondence.

Inventory:

Series 1: Personal materials, 1924-1946

Personal materials, 1924-1946

Folder 1

Series 2: Correspondence, 1929-

Correspondence, 1929.

2

Correspondence, 1930.

3

Correspondence, 1931.

4

Correspondence, 1935.

5

Correspondence, 1936.

6

Correspondence, 1937.

7

Correspondence, 1938.

8

Correspondence, 1939.

9

Correspondence, 1940.

10

Correspondence, 1941.

11

Correspondence, undated.

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