

Theodore G. Keller Collection Biographical Notes

Theodore George (Ted) Keller was born in Toledo, Ohio on April 23, 1896 to Nicholas and Margaret (Koch) Keller. He was the fifth of eight children: Amalia, John W., Margaret, Lena, Nicholas T., Theodore G., Arthur C., and George W. His father died on May 23, 1907; his mother died on October 11, 1919.

Ted graduated from Morrison R. Waite High School in 1916 after attending Toledo Central High School for his freshman and sophomore years. He was Captain of the football team in 1915. He began his career in education in 1916 as a football coach at Waite High School.

Ted apparently began his college education with classes taken in the summer session of 1917 at the University of Wisconsin. The majority of his college education occurred at the University of Toledo with classes taken also at Cornell University, Columbia University and the University of California at Berkeley.

Ted enlisted in the Army on May 5, 1918 and was honorably discharged on February 5, 1919 as a 2nd Lieutenant. His military service was in Hancock, Georgia. After returning to Toledo, he taught at Scott and Waite High Schools. He became Director of Health, Physical Education and Safety for Toledo schools in 1926 and served in that capacity until retirement in 1965. As founder of the Toledo High School Athletic League in 1926, he was honored in 1988 by induction into the Toledo City Athletic League Hall of Fame.

He married Edna Christen (May 22, 1903-December 1, 1997) on August 19, 1931. They had two sons, Theodore, Jr. and Kenneth. Ted died on April 18, 1990.

Kenneth Keller donated this collection to the Local History Department in 2005. It contains memorabilia concerning Theodore's life and career as well as two scrapbooks of newspaper clippings. The 1925 *Scottonian* includes some handwritten notes from Ted.

Theodore G. Keller Collection Inventory

- Folder 1 Obituary (draft) with photocopy of *Blade* article, "School Safety Director, Ted G. Keller, Retires", June 1965
- Folder 2 Correspondence
1. T. J. Appleyard, Jr., Manager, Lakeland Chamber of Commerce [Florida] to Ted Keller, March 4, 1924 asking Keller to consider coaching at Lakeland High School
 2. Frank E. Wilson, Chief, Division of Examination and Licensing, Ohio Department of Education to Theodore Keller, January 29, 1926
 3. Steve Yarbrough, Councilman, to Theodore Keller, October 4, 1988 congratulating him on being named to the Toledo City League Athletic Hall of Fame
- Folder 3 Transcripts
1. Transcripts from the University of Wisconsin, Cornell University, University of California at Berkeley, University of Toledo, and Columbia University, 1917 – 1945
- Folder 4 Certificates
1. Morrison R. Waite High School, June 15, 1916
 2. State Teachers Retirement System, September 1, 1923
 3. Ohio Association for Health Physical Education and Recreation, 1958
 4. Baldwin-Wallace College, Department of Health and Physical Education, June 10, 1965
 5. American Legion, February 1, 1978
 6. American Legion, March 17, 1988
- Folder 5 Banquet Programs
1. 45th Annual Neillphyte Banquet Honoring Dr. William A. Neill, April 21, 1967 (recognition of Scott High School teams coached by Ted Keller)
 2. Seventh Annual Toledo City Athletic League Hall of Fame Banquet, November 14, 1988
- Folder 6 Newspaper clippings
- Folder 7 Phi Delta Kappa
1. Clipping from *The Key*, ca. 1988
 2. Certificate, Emeritus Membership, March 29, 1961
- Folder 8 Libbey High School
1. Page from publication with article by Ted Keller, ca. 1930
- Folder 9 *Program of Physical Education for Boys of Seventh and Eighth Grades*, Toledo Public Schools, 1940

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- Folder 10 *Program of Physical Education for Boys: Grades Nine Thru Twelve, Toledo Public Schools, 1958*
- Folder 11 *Swimming Instruction: Ninth Grade Boys, Toledo Public Schools, 1965*
- Folder 12 Articles written by Keller
1. "Athletics in the Toledo High Schools", ca. 1947
 2. "Report on Toledo High School Athletics from July 1, 1941 through June 30, 1948", 1948 (3 copies)
 3. Chart, "Basketball Attendance by Schools: 1941-42 – 1964-65"
 4. Chart, "Football Attendance by Schools: 1941-42 – 1964-65"
 5. Chart, "Attendance at Football Games for All Schools: 1941-42 – 1964-65"
 6. "A Plan for Group Purchasing of Equipment", n.d.
 7. "The Plan for an Equalization and Emergency Funds", n.d.
 8. "Administration of Athletics in Toledo, Ohio", n.d.
 9. "The Health and Physical Education Department", n.d.
- Folder 13 *Thistle*, ca. 1925 (Vol. 12 #3) Cover is profile of Keller by Marg. Kapp
- Folder 14 Program, Scott High School vs. Everett High School, January 1, 1920 (Everett, Washington)
- Folder 15 Ribbons (9 ribbons, 1914-1916)
- Folder 16 Scrapbook, 1927-1929
- Folder 17 Scrapbook, 1926-1960
- Folder 18 Scottonian, 1925