



BHC-MSS 0164
Guide to the World War II Bonds Sales Collection
By Meg Rinn
October 2021

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Bridgeport War Council

Title: World War II Bonds Sales Collection

Dates: 1942-1945

Quantity: 3 linear feet (3 record cartons)

Abstract: During the second World War, the United States government issued war bonds to help fund war efforts. The material in the collection contains both the organizational information for the sale of war bonds, as well as how the bonds were promoted locally within Bridgeport.

Language: English

Repository: Bridgeport History Center

Biographical History:

War bonds are a means for governments to raise funding to support a war effort that ordinary defense spending would not otherwise cover. Citizens purchase war bonds to supply the funding needed, and then can cash in those bonds after they have matured for a number of years, increasing the investment. Bonds of this nature often rely on patriotic propaganda to increase the likelihood of purchase, and this was especially true during World War II.

In the United States of America, the second World War saw a large roll out of bonds. They could be purchased as ten cent saving stamps or as larger Series E bonds, which accounted for economic differences. Bond drives and rallies were often themed or had celebrities present in order to increase sales. There were also loan drives (eight in total.)

Scope and Content note:

The material in the collection contains both the organizational information for the sale of war bonds, as well as how the bonds were promoted locally within Bridgeport. This includes information about special campaigns, the second through eight loan drives, and the Women's Division that helped with sales.

Arrangement Note:

Series I, Administration, includes office payroll, correspondence, and memos relating to sales. Series II contains the various ways that bonds were promoted within Bridgeport, including special bond drives. Series III contains information regarding the Women's Division, including those involved and a newsletter, as well as instructional information. Series IV contains material related to specific loan drives on a local, state, and national level.

Administrative information:

Provenance: 1995.05, found in collection and processed by Diane Kurtz, rearranged in 2021 by Meg Rinn.

Preferred Citation:

World War II Bonds Sales Collection(BHC-MSS 0164), Bridgeport History Center, Bridgeport Public Library.

Names and Subject Tracings

Personal names

[info]

Corporate names

[info]

Subject [info]

tracings

Detailed box/folder listing

Box 1

Series I, Administration

1. Bonds, general, 1942-1945
2. Payroll, general, 1942-1945
3. Payroll deduction, Bridgeport, letters, 1942
4. Payroll deduction, Bridgeport, letters, 1942
5. Payroll deduction, Bridgeport, letters, 1943
6. Correspondence, misc. re: local office, 1942-1945
7. Purchase orders, invoices, 1942-1945
8. Memos from Hartford, 1942-1945
9. Memos from Washington, 1942-1945
10. Shipping receipts, bills of lading, 1942-1945

Series II, Promotion

11. Films 1945
12. Outdoor advertising , 1942-1945
13. Plays, 1942-1945
14. Posters, correspondence and samples, 1942-1945
15. Promotion projects, 1942-1945
16. Radio, 1942-1945
17. Retailers, 1942-1945

Box 2

1. Savings bond redemptions, 1942-1945
2. Schools, 1943-1945
3. Speakers, 1942-1945
4. Factual information about various war loans, 1942-1945
5. Publications of War Finance Divisions, 1942-1945
6. Special campaigns for bond sales, bond babies, 1944-1945
7. Special campaigns for bond sales, corsages, 1943
8. Special campaigns for bond sales, circus seats, 1943
9. Special campaigns for bond sales, buy a bomber, 1942-1943
10. Special campaigns for bond sales, visit a Japanese submarine, undated
11. Special campaigns for bond sales, Here's your Infantry, 1945
12. Special campaigns for bond sales, other campaigns, 1942-1945
13. Subject index to field memoranda and field bulletins, 1942-1945
14. War savings stamp, 1942-1945

Series III, Women's Division

15. Women's division, 1942-1945
16. Women's division, division lists, 1942-1945
17. Women's division, correspondence, 1942-1945
18. Women's Division, lists of organizations and individuals, 1942-1945
19. Women's division, reports, 1942-1945
20. Newsletter, CT Women's Division, 1942
21. Handbook for Women's state and local war savings committee, 1942-1945

Series IV, Loan drives

22. 2nd war loan, April 1942
23. Third war loan, 1943
24. Fourth war loan, 1944

Box 3

1. Fourth war loan, 1944
2. Fifth war loan, 1944
3. Fifth war loan, 1944
4. Sixth war loan, 1944
5. Sixth war loan, 1944
6. Sixth war loan, 1944
7. Seventh war loan, 1945
8. Seventh war loan, 1945
9. Seventh war loan, 1945
10. Victory loan, 1945
11. Victory loan, 1945
12. Victory loan, 1945
13. Victory loan, 1945