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Guide to MC001 - The Walter L. Oblinger, Jr. Papers

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The Walter L. Oblinger Jr. Papers, 1935-1990

Overview of the Collection

Creator:	Walter L. Oblinger, Jr.
Title:	Walter L. Oblinger, Jr. Papers
Inclusive Dates:	1935-1990
Identification:	MC-001
Accessions:	None
Extent:	6.46 linear feet (13 boxes, 1 oversized box)
Location:	Room 985, shelves 1A-1C
Processor:	Jona Whipple, July 2013
Repository:	The IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law Archives, 565 W Adams St., Chicago IL 60661
Preferred Citation:	[Description of item], The Walter L. Oblinger Jr. Papers, MC001, Box []. IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law Archives, Chicago, Illinois.

History

Walter L. Oblinger (July 5, 1914-April 11, 1990) graduated from Chicago-Kent College of Law in 1939 with an LL.B. At Chicago-Kent he met Josephine Kneidle Harrington (February 14, 1913-September 27, 1998) and the two were married in 1940. Upon graduation, Walter entered the FBI. He was appointed to Pittsburgh, then San Antonio, Washington D.C, and Detroit. At the beginning of World War II, Walter was put in charge of the FBI division on German spies in the Detroit area. During his tenure with the FBI, Walter was involved in several infamous cases, including the hunt for and subsequent arrest of Hans Peter Krug, a German POW who escaped from a British camp in Canada, the subsequent arrest of Krug's safehouse contacts, and the investigation of the Illiopolis munitions plant explosion.

In 1954, Walter and his wife Josephine opened a law practice in Springfield, Illinois (Oblinger & Oblinger Attorneys at Law) where they practiced until their retirement in 1985. In 1969, Oblinger was awarded a J.D. from Chicago-Kent when his original LL.B. degree was phased out in favor of the adoption of the J.D. as the first law degree. Josephine served as a Republican Illinois State Representative from 1979-1985. In 1985, Walter began writing his autobiography of the time he spent in the FBI. The completed book, *Admissions of an FBI Man*, was intended to be published by Carlton Publishers in 1989 but was never released.

Scope and Contents

The Walter L. Oblinger, Jr. papers contains records dating from 1935 to 1990 and fills 13 document boxes and 1 flat box. A majority of the material is made up of notebooks from Oblinger's law studies (and those of his wife's studies). A large part of the collection is research and original clippings and photographs supporting the writing of Oblinger's memoir. The collection also includes notebooks and binders from Oblinger's law practice.

Provenance

The provenance of this collection is unknown. These items had been preserved uncataloged in library storage several years before they were reorganized and the finding aid was created in July 2013.

Restrictions

None – Note that Box 13 folder 4 contains a graphic image of a munitions plant explosion victim.

Separations

Oversized framed documents were removed and placed in Box 14.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into 5 series arranged chronologically where possible:

- I. Law School Materials
- II. FBI In-Service Materials
- III. Law Practice Materials
- IV. Materials for *Admissions of an FBI Man*
- V. Personal ephemera

Container List

Series I. Law School Materials, 1935-1939, 3.75 linear ft

Box Folder

1	1	Chicago-Kent College of Law transcript	1936
1	2	Notebook 1: Torts, Professor Burke	1935-1936
1	3	Loose items from Notebook 1	1936, undated
		Deep Vein Coal Company advertisement	undated
		Handwritten note, "3 Defenses"	undated
		Torts II Final Examination	1936
		Handwritten note, "Defamation"	undated
		Handwritten note, "Trespass..."	undated
		Handwritten note, "Types of Duties"	undated
1	4	Notebook 2: Contracts, Professor Hemingway	1936-1937
1	5	Loose items from Notebook 2	1936-1937, undated
		Contracts II Examination	1937
		Handwritten note, "Accord is made..."	undated
		Typed notecard, "IV. And be it further enacted..."	undated
		Typed note, "Statute of Frauds"	undated
		Typed note, "Joint Obligors"	undated

		Contracts II Final Examination	1936
1	6	Notebook 3: Personal Property, Professor Tupes	1937-1938
1	7	Loose items from Notebook 3 Personal Property schedule Handwritten note, "Negligent ..."	undated undated undated
1	8	Notebook 4: Persons, Professor Zacharias	1937
1	9	Loose items from Notebook 4 Persons Final Examination Deep Vein Coal Company advertisement Persons Final Examination Typed note, "A will or convey property..." Handwritten note, "Should one act of cruelty..." Persons schedule	1936-1937, undated 1937 undated 1936 undated undated 1936-1937
2	1	Notebook 5: Agency, Professor Stansell	1937
2	2	Loose items from Notebook 5 Clipping, Chicago Tribune Agency Final Examination Typed note, "Hiring for \$1000 a year..." Handwritten note, "May 7..."	1937, undated undated 1937 undated undated
2	3	Notebook 6: Trade Regulation, Professor Severns	1937
2	4	Loose items from Notebook 6 Trade Regulation Final Examination Burdette Smith Company advertisement Handwritten note, "Fed. Trade Com. Act 1914" Handwritten note, "Review p. 8" Schedule, First Semester Business card, Hyde Park Chevrolet Handwritten note, "See p. 382" University Book Exchange advertisement Handwritten note, "Trade Regulation" Administrative Law Final Examination	1937-1938, undated 1937 undated undated undated 1937-1938 undated undated undated undated undated 1937
2	5	Notebook 7: Criminal Law, Professor Zacharias	1937-1938
2	6	Loose items from Notebook 7 Small notebook, "Jot It Down" Handwritten note, "I. Arrest..." Criminal Law schedule Handwritten note, "Exam Schedule..." Criminal Procedure Test DIFCO bookmark Letter to Josephine Harrington from University Of Illinois fundraising department	1937-1938, undated undated undated 1937-1938 undated 1938 undated undated

3	1	Notebook 8: Real Property, Professor Tupes	1937-1938
3	2	Loose items from Notebook 8	1937, undated
		Property II schedule	1937
		Handwritten note	undated
3	3	Notebook 9: Suretyship, Professor Tupes	1938
3	4	Loose items from Notebook 9	1938-1939, undated
		Suretyship schedule	1938
		Handwritten notes	undated
		Individual Program	1939
		Suretyship Examination	1938
3	5	Notebook 10: Code Pleading, Professor Zacharias	1938-1939
3	6	Loose items from Notebook 10	1939
		Letter from W. Oblinger to Ed Herman, "I am interested in a gray suit..."	1939
4	1	Notebook 11: Property V & VI, Professor Tupes	1938
4	2	Loose items from Notebook 11	undated
		Handwritten note, "Review p 71 on"	undated
		Handwritten note, "I. Adverse possession"	undated
4	3	Notebook 12: Private Corporations, Mr. Campbell	1939
4	4	Loose items from Notebook 12	1935, 1939, undated
		Typed note, "Corporations"	undated
		Booklet, "The Business Corporation Act"	1935
		Corporations Final Examination	1939
		Irvin Jacobs Company advertisement	undated
4	5	Notebook 13: Practice III, Mr. James	1939
4	6	Loose items from Notebook 13	1939
		Practice III Final Examination	1939
		Handwritten note, "Probate Practice"	1939
		Typed note, "Sec. 17"	undated
5	1	Notebook 14: Conflicts of Law, Professor Severns	1939
5	2	Loose items from Notebook 14	undated
		Conflicts Examination (includes handwritten note, Severns & Oblinger)	undated
5	3	Notebook 15: Negotiable Instruments	undated
5	4	Notebook 16: Future Interests	undated
5	6	Loose items from Notebook 16	1939, undated

		Handwritten note, "p 987 income of trust..."	undated
		Handwritten note, "Perpetuitus in a nutshell"	undated
		Handwritten note, "16 rev."	undated
6	1	Notebook 17: Constitutional Law	undated
6	2	Notebook 18: Evidence I and II	undated
6	3	Notebook 19: Equity	undated
6	4	Loose items from Notebook 19	undated
		Up-To-Date Laundry Co. advertisement	undated
		Handwritten note, "Decree in equity..."	undated
		Typed note, "Exam Guide in Equity"	undated
7	1	Notebook 20: Quasi Contracts	undated
7	2	Notebook 21: Trusts	undated
7	3	Loose items from Notebook 21	1952, undated
		Article clipping, "A Model Will for a Moderate Estate"	1952
		Handwritten notes, "Remainderman..."	undated
		Typed note, "Trusts by implication of law..."	undated
7	4	Partnership – Property of W.L. Oblinger, Jr.	undated
7	5	Notebook 22: Crimes I, Prof. Zacharias (J. Harrington)	1938
7	6	Loose items from Notebook 22	1938-1943, undated
		Crimes I Test	1938
		Examination Book – Crimes I	1938
		Handwritten paper, "Crimes 2-23-43"	1943
		Crimes I Mid-semester Test	1938
		Handwritten note, "sec. 6-Entrapment"	undated
		Crimes I Final Examination	1939
		Typed notes, "Criminal Law"	undated
		Handwritten note, "Chapter 38 – Homicide"	undated
8	1	Notebook 23: Persons, Prof. Zacharias (J. Harrington)	1939
8	2	Loose items from Notebook 23	1938-1943, undated
		Handwritten paper, "Northern Pacific Ry. Co. v. North Dakota"	1943
		Public Utilities Final Examination	1943
		Handwritten paper, "Chapter 9 – Emblements"	undated
		Typed note, "Chapter 80 – Distress for rents"	undated
		Property I Final Examination	1939
		Property I Mid-semester Test	1938
		Handwritten notes, "Bailments"	1942-1943

8	3	Notebook 24: Personal Property, Prof. Tupes (J. Harrington)	1939
8	4	Loose items from Notebook 24 Booklet, <i>State of Michigan Laws Relating...</i> Persons Mid-semester Test Handwritten note, "Part I - Marriage & Divorce" Persons Final Examination	1939, 1942, undated 1942 1939 undated 1939
8	5	Notebook 25: Equity I (J. Harrington)	1940
8	6	Loose items from Notebook 25 Clipping, Chicago Tribune Clipping, Chicago Tribune Schedule, Second Semester Handwritten notes, "Equity" Handwritten note, "Deb's Case" Handwritten paper, "158 U.S. 564-600"	1939-1940, undated undated undated 1939 undated 1940 undated
9	1	Notebook 26: Actions (J. Harrington)	undated
9	2	Loose items from Notebook 26 Actions Final Examination – Part 2 Handwritten note, "Debt" Handwritten note, "Covenant" Handwritten note, "Assumpsit"	undated undated undated undated undated
9	3	Notebook 27: Contracts II (J. Harrington)	undated
9	4	Notebook 28: Sales (J. Harrington)	undated
9	5	Loose items from Notebook 28 Form, Uniform Order Bill of Lading Handwritten note, "Trust Receipts" Handwritten note, "Secs. 13-14-15"	undated undated undated undated
9	6	Chicago-Kent College of Law diploma (LL.B.)	1939
9	7	Chicago-Kent College of Law diploma (J.D.)	1969

Series II. FBI Materials, 1939-1951, 1.25 linear ft

Box	Folder		
9	8	Notebook 29: "Illinois Court Manual", FBI policy notes	1939
10	1	Notebook 30: Notes	1939-1940
10	2	Loose items from Notebook 30 List of agents, In-Service Agents #9 Miss Hoyt's Evening School advertisement	1941, undated 1941 undated

10	3	Notebook 31: In-Service Class #21 notes	1942
10	4	Loose items from Notebook 31 Personnel – Detroit Field Office Camera Training Form	1941, undated 1941 undated
10	5	In-Service Class #37: Class list	1944
10	6	Notebook 32: In-Service Class #7 Notes	1944-1951
10	7	Notes from In-Service Class #2	1946
11	1	Notebook 33: Notes from In-Service Class #16	1947-1949
11	2	Loose items from Notebook 33 List of agents, In-Service Class #16 Booklet, "Recent Changes in the Federal Civil Service Retirement System" Typed paper, "Civil Rights and Domestic Violence" Special Agents Mutual Benefits Association – Application for Membership Clipping, The Washington Post, "Heel Print Leads to Arrest of Two in Robbery-Assault" Clipping, (Source unknown), "Crime Traced To War Injury Gets Vets Special Treatment" Clipping, (Source unknown), "Class to Hear Lt. Johnson" Clipping, (Source unknown), "Our Laws Are Made For All Of Us..." Booklet, "The Constitution of the United States Of America" List of organizations, "Appendix A"	1935, 1947-1948, undated 1948 1948 undated undated 1947 1947 1947 1947 1947 1935 undated
11	3	Former Agents Newsletter	1989-1990

Series III. Law Practice Materials, 1939-1987, .63 linear ft

Box Folder

11	4	Cook County attorney's license	1939
11	5	Southern District of Illinois attorney's license	1951
11	6	Illinois State Bar Association Illinois Bar Journal Forms	1964
11	7	Notebook 34: Sangamon County Bar Association notes Sangamon County Bar Association Roster By-laws, Sangamon County Bar Association	1964-1987 1963-1964 undated

		Program, American Academy of Forensic Sciences	1964
		Program, American Academy of Forensic Sciences	1965
11	8	Loose items from Notebook 34	1963-1966, undated
		A Study of Needs and the Development of Curricula in the Field of Forensic Science	undated
		Identi-Code Index, Second Edition	1966
12	1	IICLE "New Divorce Law: The Illinois Marriage And Dissolution of Marriage Act"	1977
12	2	IICLE "Simplified Probate and Independent Administration of Decedent's Estate"	1977

Series IV. Materials for Admissions of an FBI Man, 1941-1990, .83 linear ft

Box Folder

12	3	News clippings	1941-1944
		Detroit Free Press, "Police Slay FBI's Fugitive"	1942
		The Detroit News, "Miss Ingalls Called Nazi"	undated
		The Detroit News, "Stephan Case Ends; Jury Awaits Charge"	undated
		The Detroit News, "Krug's Story of Escape"	1942
		The Detroit News, "Treason Suspect Hides His Face"	1942
		The Detroit News, "Stephan Jury Given Charge"	undated
		The Detroit News, "Ex-Detroit Agent Kills Self in N.Y."	undated
		The Detroit News, "Town Talk---by Stark"	1942
		The Detroit News, "31 Seized..."	1941
		Illinois State Journal, "Ruins of Sangamon Ordnance Plant Dormitory"	1944
		Unknown, "Flames Destroy Ordnance Plant Dormitory Unit"	1944
		The Detroit News, "Ford Looting Hunt Widens"	1941
		The Detroit News, "U.S. Indicts 7 as White Slavers"	1942
		Detroit Free Press, "Detroit Inspires Local Novelist as Epitome of Modern Life"	1943
		Unknown source, "19 Detroiters Arraigned in Ford Looting"	undated
		Unknown source, "F.B.I. Reveals Stories of Six Held As Spies"	undated
		Unknown source, "FBI Shakeup Reported On"	undated
		Unknown source, "New F.B.I. Chief"	undated
		Unknown source, "Financial Deal by John Lewis Probed by FBI"	undated

		Unknown source, "19 Taken to Court in Ford Thefts"	undated
		Chicago Daily Tribune, "7 Indicted by U.S. in Million Dollar White Slave Ring"	1942
		Unknown source, "Krug Keeps Faith With FBI as He Condemns Benefactor"	undated
		Unknown source, Sam Rimer photo	undated
		The Detroit News, "Defendants in Gigantic Ford Theft Ring Are Arraigned"	1941
		Unknown source, "Countess, Once Chicagoan, Held In Nazi Spy Quiz"	undated
		The Detroit News, "Plants Looted, FBI Charges"	undated
		The Detroit News, "Allies Convoy Nazi Flier"	undated
		The Detroit News, "Ford Looting Hunt Widens"	1941
12	4	Photocopied articles	1941-1957
12	5	Research in FBI Records	1984, 1988
12	6	FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin	1985
12	7	Manuscript mailing receipts	1985-1990
12	8	Correspondence	1985
12	9	Correspondence	1989
12	10	Correspondence	1990
12	11	Correspondence	undated
12	12	Carlton Press materials	1989, undated
12	13	Photograph copyright information/requests	1989, undated
12	14	Publication agreement/contract	1989
12	15	Galley proof	1989
12	16	Footnotes, handwritten	undated
13	1	Miscellaneous notes	undated
13	2	Carlton Press promotional materials	undated
13	3	Persons Mentioned list	undated
13	4	Photographs	1944, 1949, undated
		#6 Body of John Sullivan	1944
		#7 Scene of Residence Hall Fire	undated
		Max Stephan, holding cigar	undated

Close up of tools & handbooks	undated
Tools & handbooks, two men	undated
Hans Peter Krug, full	undated
Hans Peter Krug, close-up	undated
Aftermath of Illiopolis fire	undated
Aftermath of Illiopolis fire: Beauty Shop, Barber Shop, Residents Recreation Parlor	undated
Aftermath of Illiopolis fire: white buildings	undated
Aftermath of Illiopolis fire: Beauty Shop, Barber Shop, Residents Recreation Parlor, view 2	undated
Aftermath of Illiopolis fire: Beauty Shop, Barber Shop, Residents Recreation Parlor, close-up	undated
Aftermath of Illiopolis fire: burned building	undated
FBI badge	undated
FBI agent on firing course, seated	undated
FBI agent on firing course, standing	undated
Portrait, Dwight J. Dalbey	undated
"Photograph #2", firearm forensics close-up	undated
"Photograph #3", firearm forensics close-up	undated
"Photograph #4", firearm forensics close-up	undated
Aftermath of Illiopolis fire: building remains	undated
Aftermath of Illiopolis fire: burned foundation	undated
Building, "Europe Import Company"	undated
Oblinger with FBI seal	undated
Oblinger with cows	undated
Oblinger with dog	undated
Oblinger in cornfield	undated
Oblinger on porch	undated
Young Oblinger	1949
Young Oblinger, seated	undated
Young Oblinger, seated (copy 2)	undated
Young Oblinger in office at desk	undated
Young Oblinger in office at window	undated

Series V. Personal Ephemera, 1947-1987, .31 linear ft

Box Folder

13	5	Book, <i>The Nine Young Men</i>	1947
13	6	Notebook: Sangamon County Bar Association assorted notes	1963-1987

Separations, .92 linear ft.

Box Folder

14	1	Chicago-Kent College of Law diploma (LL.B.)	1939
14	2	Chicago-Kent College of Law diploma (J.D.)	1969

14	3	Cook County attorney's license	1939
14	4	Southern District of Illinois attorney's license	1951