

**University of Oklahoma Libraries**  
**Western History Collections**

**Mullen Coal Company Collection**

**Mullen Coal Company Collection. Records, 1900–1946. 11.33 feet.**

Mining company. Correspondence (1902–1946); monthly account ledgers (1907–1945); payroll records (1931–1945); notebooks of production costs (1940–1943); bank statements (1909–1946); and bills and receipts (1900–1948) from the Mullen Coal Company, near McAlester, Oklahoma.

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**Biographical Note:**

William P. Mullen, a pioneer in the Oklahoma coal fields, settled in the Choctaw Nation at the turn of the century and entered the coal business in the vicinity of McAlester. For the next half-century, he was associated with many coal-producing concerns, including the Reidt, Savanna, and Mullen firms. Mullen came to be recognized as an authority on mining conditions in the McAlester-Wilburton field.

**Box 1 - Bills (1900-1930)**

Summary of contents: This box contains 5 folders of bills' receipts for various purchases made between 1900 and 1930. Classified by year, the folders offer an interesting glimpse of the everyday workings of a coal company and its owner, as well. Such diverse items as telephone bills, bond purchases, life insurance premiums, funeral expenses, coal orders, machine repairs and purchases, Mullen's lodge orders can be found. These files are arranged chronologically for the years 1900 and 1930, with the years 1917, 1918, 1920, 1922-23, 1925-26 missing.

**Box 2 - Bills (1931-1948)**

Summary of contents: This box is identical to Box #1 in the sense that it covers a variety of items concerning the expenses of operating the Mullen Coal Company in Oklahoma during the 1930's & 1940's. It has a few additions, such as numerous orders for safety equipment, unlike the earlier bills and the companies, for the most part, are still in existence today. A few receipts were from organizations like the Boy Scouts of America or the Red Cross, but the vast majority concerns monthly statements from electric companies, wholesale coal outlets, oil companies, railroads and other business establishments in the surrounding area.

**Box 3 - Bank Book Stubs**

**Folder:**

1. three books 5/37 to 2/38, #14701-15376.

2. three books from 2/38 to 4/40, #15580-18724.
3. unbound books, from 3/16/44 to 8/18/45, #23092 to 24306 inclusive.

**Box 4 - Production Figures, Receipts**

**Folder:**

1. One notebook: handwritten, dated 2/1/43 to 8/25/43. Contains mine production figures and prices.  
  
Two looseleaf notebooks: handwritten. (a) 10/1/40 to 12/31/41 (coal sales & production costs), (b) 1/1/42 to 1/30/43 (coal sales & production costs).
2. One memoranda book from Ingersoll-Rand Company: lists purchases of powder, fuse, spikes, also long-distance phone calls (1934-38).  
31 bank receipts of returned checks, 11/7/35 to 11/12/41.  
Two envelopes from 1<sup>st</sup> National Bank of New York.  
Four check receipts on yellow paper to various employees and companies.  
One bound packet of Mullen Coal Company bank deposit slips, October 1913 to October 1935.  
One bound packet of W.P. Mullen's personal bank deposit postcards, January 1915 to January 1916.  
One bound packet of W.P. Mullen's personal bank slips (1910, 1900, 1911).  
Five banks books: two from 1916, two from 1915, one from 1934-35.  
One bound packet of bank sheets and company statements (1935-37).

**Box 5 - Bank Statements & Checks (1936, 41, 42)**

**Folder:**

1. July-September 1936 (inclusive) : Bank statements & checks
2. October-December 1936 (inclusive) : Bank statements & checks
3. February, August, December 1941 : Bank statements & checks
4. July-November 1942 (inclusive) : Bank statements & checks

**Box 6 - Bank Statements & Checks (1945, 1946)**

**Folder:**

1. January-October 1945 (inclusive) : Bank statements & checks

2. January 1946 : Bank statements & checks

### **Box 7 - Record Books**

One record book: personal finances of W.P. Mullen, monthly account, January 1929 to December 1945.

One record book: business finances of W.P. Mullen Coal Company, monthly account, December 1929 to December 1933.

One record book: business finances of Mullen Coal Company, monthly account, January 1922 to August 1925, also two p.p. business entries of August 1920.

### **Box 8 - Record Books**

One ledger of Mullen Coal Company, monthly accounts, August 1937 to January 1940.

One ledger of Mullen Coal Company, monthly accounts, January 1913 to January 1915.

One ledger of Mullen Coal Company, monthly accounts, December 1909 to December 1910.

One ledger of Mullen Coal Company, monthly accounts, by topic and month, 1916.

One ledger of Mullen Coal Company, monthly accounts, by topic and month, 1907-13.

One ledger of Mullen Coal Company, with accounts of household expenses. Also contains notes written by the Mullen children when young. January 1914 to December 1916.

### **Box 9 - Printed Material, Newspaper Clippings, Business Reports**

#### **Folder:**

1. folder contains miscellaneous newspaper clippings and magazine clippings pertaining to coal mining.
2. folder contains printed advertising material for mining equipment and supplies, and miscellaneous also, miscellaneous business cards, empty envelopes, and cards of poetry.
3. One packet of loose papers: shipping statements to the Edwards Coal Company, 7/31/20 to 5/28/29. Daily records giving car no., wt., price & amount.

One group of loose papers (yellow paper) labor wage statements, 1931-32.

Two work permits of McAlester Coal Company.

One packet of certificate of tonnage forms.

One group of daily shipping reports, Southern Coal Company, January-August 1941.

One license from Corporation Commission, November 1927.

One group of scrip balance sheets (in folder), 12/01/02.

One general balance sheet from J.J. McAlester Mercantile, 1/22/29.

Two pp. general balance sheets for Bolen-Darnell Coal Company, November 1904.

Two pp. general balance sheets fro Mullen Coal Company, 1936, 1937.

One folder containing two business reports of the Oyler Coal Company.

First lists exhibits of coal mine operations; including topographic description of the proposed mine and costs of developing the mine in the Grady Basin. Second proposed mine and costs of developing the mine in the Grady Basin. Second in a business report containing (a) balance sheet prior to October 15, 1930, (b) profit and loss statement from 10/15/30 to 12/31/30, (c) balance sheet of 12/31/30, and (d) comparative balance sheet as of October 15, 1930 & 12/31/30.

## **Box 10 - Correspondence B-I**

### **Folder:**

1. Correspondence under Letter B: (1904-1946).

-Bache Denman Coal Company, purchase of mine in North McAlester (1916).

-Bolen-Darnell Coal Company, purchases of explosives, mine transfers, etc.

-Bituminous Coal Producer Advisory Board, forms for cost and realization (1946).

-Banks of Haileyville, Hartshorne, McAlester First National.

2. Correspondence under Letter C:

-Clark Coal Company (1904-1905) large amount of correspondence concerning orders for coal by the Clark Coal Company.

-Others: various coal companies, cordage, lumber, and other supply companies concerning orders and sales.

3. Correspondence under Letter D:

-Don Coal Company, instructions to Mullen (then mine superintendent) 1904-1906.

-T.M. Duncan, coal orders and two personal letters.

-W.W. Dickenson Hardware, 1904, letter receipts for purchases by Don Coal Company.

-Dickenson Coal Company, 1945, concerns laborers wages, finance receipts.

Correspondence under Letter E:

No major items. Personal letter, receipts from McAlester Fuel Company, others.

4. Correspondence under Letter F:

5. Correspondence under Letter G:

-Choctaw, Oklahoma and Gulf Railroad: five personal letters and one on the opening of City National Bank, McAlester, 1902.

-S. Guerrier letters and mortgage cosigned by Mullen for W. Reid.

6. Correspondence under letter H:

-Hailey-Ola Coal Company: personal letters from Ed (no last name given).

7. Correspondence under Letter I:

-Department of Interior: folder contains correspondence on 1905 Indian land leases in Indian Territory and a series on the Bureau of Mines (Washington) threatening to rescind all explosives licenses for the Mullen Coal Company because of improper storage of records (145).

## **Box 11 - Correspondence J-Z**

### **Folder:**

1. Folder Title "J":

-W.C. Johnson & Sons Machinery Company, 1903, machinery orders.

Folder Title "K":

-Keystone Lubricating Company, coal orders 1914.

-H.L.S. Kniffen and Company, coal orders 1904.

2. Folder Title "L":

-American Federation of Labor: two workers' compensation replies (1915).

-A. Leschen & Sons Rope Company, rope and mine ad. (1904).

-Litchfield Foundry & Mining Company: series on machine parts orders (1913).

Folder Title "M":

-(1904-15) McAlester Coal Company, inventoried equipment sheets, coal orders, land purchases, deliveries.

-(1904-06) Milby & Don Coal Company, extensive correspondence on coal orders, shipments, etc.

-(1905-45) Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad, extensive correspondence on coal orders, shipments, leases, etc.

-(1906) Otto Marmet Coal Company: personal letters from Wm. A. Evans.

3. Newspaper Clippings

4. Folder Title "O":

-Olyer Coal Company: Mullen's interest in Olyer Coal Company (sold 1932).

Folder Title "P":

-J.G. Puterbaugh: Report from G.M. Brown (Mining Engineer) on Julian mine (no date).

-Phillips Mine & Supply Company: order for screen material.

-Others: Pure Oil Company, distillate order. Pabst Beer, advertisement.

5. Folder Title "Reid Coal Company" - February 1904-December 1904:

- (1904-05) Folder contains large amount of correspondence from W. Reid of Reid Coal Company, instructions for Mullen on coal operations at the Savanna Mining Company.
6. Folder Title "Reid Coal Company" - January 1905-May 1905:
    - Same as R-I (1904-05)
  7. Folder Title "Reid Coal Company" - June 1905-December 1905
  8. Folder Title "Reid Coal Company" - January 1906:
    - Redwine, Robertson, Roch Island Coal Company, T.H. Rogers, Rose Lyon Russell, Runsey Manufacturing.
  9. Folder Title "S":
    - Southern Coal Company: coal orders and vouchers (1905-06).
    - M.B. Schofield: coal orders and vouchers (1904-05).
    - Southwestern Interstate Coal Operators Association (1916), election of president to association.
    - Savanna Coal Company from Richardson & Company, rails & prices (1903-04).
    - R.E. Stowers Company, mine equipment (1903-04).
    - Sanford-Day Iron Works (1915) purchases of steel railings and coal cars.
    - South St. Louis Foundry: purchases of mine equipment (1908).
  10. Folder Title "T":
    - Treasury Department: (1926-45) tax information letters and income statements.
    - Oklahoma Tax Commission: tax information letters and income statements (1929-47).
    - Oklahoma Transfer & Storage Company (1916): receipt letters of coal orders.
    - Turner Hardware: pump orders, machine parts (1904).
    - Minute Trustees, Choctaw & Chickasaw Nations: transfer of mine leases (1903).
  11. Folder Title "U":

-United Iron Works Company: purchase of mine cars and demands of payment (1904-05), purchase of hoist engine (1903-04).

Folder Title "V":

-Victor Fuel Company: personal letters from Jim Imes?

12. Folder Title "W":

-Great Western Coal & Coke Company: leases (1905)

-Wichita Coal Company: coal orders, leasing information (1905)

-J.E. Whitehead: receipts of attorney fees (1906)

-Dr. F.W. Willard, Inc.: pyorrhea treatment notice (1915)

Folder Title "Z":

-W.A. Zelnicker: rail supplies (1905)

-Zainesville Coal Company: personal letter from Mullen's brother (1904)

13. Woodman Circle:

-Woodman Circle Receipts (1909-13)

### **Box 12 - Record Books**

Monthly Business Record Book: January 1934 - January 1936

December 1924 - November 1927

January 1934 - December 1943 (cost accounts)

### **Box 13 - Record Books**

Monthly Business Record Book: November 1916 - January 1920 (costs)

November 1916 - December 1928 (income assets)

1930 - 1940 (by subject)



**Box 14 - Record Books**

Monthly Business Record Book: May 1934 - January 1944 (charges)

January 1940 - January 1943 (worksheets, by name)

August 1937 - June 1945

**Box 15 - Record Books**

Account Book: 1929 - 1940 (various months, by firm)

1922 - 1933 (various months, by firm)

1930 - 1940 (by firm-coal companies)

also miscellaneous figures on loose paper, no dates

**Box 16 - Record Books**

Account Book, by subject: 1930 - 1940

1941 - 1945

**Box 17 - Payroll & Day Sheets (1934 - 1938)**

**Five Folders:**

Box contains unbound worksheets, each sheet covering approximately 15 days. List names mine laborers and hours worked each day from 1934 (not 35) to 1938. Several months are missing from 1934.

**Box 18 - Payroll & Day Sheets (1939 - 1943)**

**Five Folders:**

Same as Box #16. Payroll sheets are complete first and second halves of each month from January 1939 to December 1943, and one folder entitled "payroll sheets" handwritten figures on pay 1939 to 1943.

**Box 19 - Payroll & Day Sheets (1944 - 1945), Bank Deposit Receipts**

**Folders 1-2:**

Contains same material as in Boxes #16 & #17.

**Folders 3-6:**

Contain bank deposit receipts for the Mullen Coal Company from 1935-1945 (bound by Month). Deposited with the National Bank of McAlester.

**Box 20 - Oklahoma Department of Mines, Department of Interior**

**Folder:**

1. Weigh scales, receipts (in books), various weeks (1936 - 1945)
2. Five notebooks: giving weight of delivered coal
3. Letters including 1945 Annual Report by Chief Mines Inspector and letter of 1908 on mine safety from Department of Mines, oil and gas, Oklahoma; "Air Power League": (1946) information on Leagues' purposes; and "Department of Interior, Five Civilized Tribes": Indian land lease royalties (receipts) 1929, 1943, 1945.
4. "Bills of Lading": bills of lading with MK & T Railroad (1923 - 1927)
5. Two memo books: July 1926 and August 1932 from Hendrick Manufacturing Company, and one red-bound accounting notebook.

**Box 21 - Legal Papers**

**Folder:**

1. "Accounts of 1943-45": sales 1943-45.  
"Bills of Sales": purchases from defunct coal companies.  
"Garnishment Orders of Discharge": 1911, 1912, 1915.  
"Stock Certificate": Savanna Coal, 40 shares 1930.  
"Notices": four protest notices for insufficient funds on returned checks, also two notices of bankruptcy, 1936.  
"Contracts": three contracts, 1903, 1916, with Bolen-Darnell Coal Company and one with U.M.W., 1934.

“Litigation”: contracts taken into litigation, 1899-1945.

Litigation between U.M.W. and coal operators, jury summons, leases for gas wells, etc.

“Deeds & Mortgages”: real estate mortgage, Savanna Coal Company, 1905. Master in Chenery Deed, 1934 (Southern Coal Company), warranty deed from Bache-Denman Coal Company to Hartford Coal Company (1906).

2. “Employment Securities Commission”: Taxes paid by Mullen 19-3-45 for Social Security. Includes second notices for payment, quarterly wage reports, earning and bonus sheets (1941-45).
3. Accounts, 1918-32, for Julina mine.
4. Accounts, 1933-42.
5. Accounts, 1943-45.
6. Unidentified calculations.

## **Box 22 - Bureau of Mines, United States Coal Commission, Insurance**

### **Folder:**

1. Cost Reports:  
Series of cost reports of mining, U.S. Department of Interior, January 1940 - December 1943. One paper by Pete Hanraty, read to Mining Institute of America on firing shots in mines.
2. Southwestern Coal Operator Association:  
Constitution (1914) and membership list (1916).
3. Bureau of Mines:  
Regulations on explosives (1941-43), employers reports on mine injuries (1945-46), labor disputes (orders during wartime, 1943).
4. Diagrams and Plans:  
One plan of part working #5 shaft and #7 slope. Four Denman, Superintendent (1901). One plan for Mullen’s monkey run-no date. Four diagrams of the Wherton Railroad Switch Company.
5. Insurance:

Bulletins from Postal Life-Insurance Company and Provident Life Assurance, 1913 Policy (D.W. Mason) from Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, 1929.

6. Purchase Orders:  
From Cobden Fuel Company (1921-26).

United States Coal Commission:  
Report from the U.S. Coal Commission on the causes of strikes 1923,  
report of the engineer's advisory valuation committee, 1923.

7. Orders to Mine:  
From Southern Coal Company (1926).

### **Box 23**

#### **Folder:**

- 1-4. Miscellaneous individual and corporation tax returns, 1922-1945.
5. State Tax Papers:  
Assessment lists (1911-45) sales, tax forms, income tax forms, receipts,  
etc., homestead exemption, corporate state income tax returns (1926-46).
- 6-7. Letters from IRS, miscellaneous tax receipts, social security tax information, etc.,  
1918-45.

### **Box 24 - Account Book Pages (Unbound)**

#### **Folder:**

- 1-2. A-Z, 1922-37.
3. Miscellaneous expenses.
4. Payroll.

### **Box 25 - Account Book Sheets; Blank Checks**

#### **Folder:**

1. Unbound account sheets #1 - 84 (May 1911-May 1912).

2. Two payroll sheets, November 1903.
3. Monthly payroll sheets, January-December 1909, Savanna Coal Company.
4. Monthly account sheets, August-November 1922, Mullen Coal Company.
5. Unbound sheets of blank checks, Mullen Coal Company on National Bank of McAlester, #23405-23515 inclusive.

**Box 26 - Bank Statements & Checks, 1925, 26, 27**

**Folder:**

- 1-10. Bank statements and cancelled checks, January 1925-June 1927.

**Box 27 - Bank Statements & Checks, 1927, 28**

**Folder:**

- 1-5. Bank statements and cancelled checks, July 1927-September 1928.

**Box 28 - Bank Statements & Checks, 1928-1930, 1929**

**Folder:**

- 1-5. Bank statements and checks, October 1928-January 1930.

**Box 29 - Bank Statements & Checks, 1931, 1933**

**Folder:**

- 1-6. Bank statements and cancelled checks, February-December, 1931; January-August, 1933.

**Box 30 - Bank Statements & Cancelled Checks**

**Folder:**

1. Bank statements and cancelled checks, September-December, 1933; July-September, 1934.

**MULLEN COAL COMPANY COLLECTIONS**  
**Ledgers**

**Ledger Number**

- 1      Miscellaneous Accounts, with Index, 1911-1913.
- 2      Monthly Record of Expenses, January 1944-October 1945.
- 3      Miscellaneous Accounts, with Index, 1922-1925.

**Oversized Material**

**Box 1 contains the following newspaper sections:**

*Chicago Tribune Pictorial Weekly*, no date, approximately December, 1919.

*The Cincinnati Enquirer* (includes front page), December 12, 1913.

*The Daily Oklahoman*, June 19, 1921.

*The Dallas Morning News*, September 24, 1916.

*The Kansas City Journal*, March 13, 1913.

*The Kansas City Star*, May 5, 1915.

*The Kansas City Star*, (includes front page) May 18, 1916.

*The Kansas City Times*, May 17, 1916.

*McAlester News-Capital*, (includes front page) July 26, 1915.

*McAlester News-Capital*, October 15, 1919.

*Muskogee Daily Phoenix*, (includes front page) July 1, 1916.

*Muskogee Daily Phoenix*, (includes front page) June 30, 1926.

*The Times Recorder*, Zanesville, Ohio, January 4, 1921.

*Tulsa Daily World*, March 17, 1935.

*Tulsa Daily World*, June 2, 1935.