

**University of Oklahoma Libraries  
Western History Collections**

**GENERAL NATIVE AMERICAN MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS**

**Collins, Arza Bailey and John D. Arnold  
Papers 1907-1936  
.75 foot**

**Government employee. Diaries (1912-1933) kept by Collins recording his travel and activities as a U.S. farmer for the Sac and Fox Indian Agency; correspondence (1924-1929) relating to lease disputes; weekly reports (1922-1925) to the Shawnee Indian agent, and other records (1907-1936) relating to the Sac and Fox and Iowa Indians in Oklahoma.**

Arza Bailey Collins served as a U.S. Farmer for the Shawnee Agency from 1912 to 1933. His instruction in the art of farming and livestock was directed to the Sac & Fox and Iowa Indians who were under the administration of the Shawnee Agency. Collins and other agency employees were required to keep accurate records of their activities, and to make weekly reports to the agency superintendent. Collins recorded his actions and travel in small, pocket-sized notebooks then used these notes to write his weekly reports. Thus, the bulk of this collection contains these diaries and reports. Collins also recorded births, deaths, and marriages of some of the Indians under his instruction, although the records are probably incomplete. He also recorded victims of a 1916 smallpox outbreak.

**Box 1 Travel diaries and ledger books, 1912-1937.**

1. April 10, 1912 - August 30, 1912
2. July 7, 1913 - May 2, 1914
3. May 18, 1914 - May 15, 1915
4. May 18, 1915 - March 4, 1916
5. March 11, 1916 - December 30, 1916
6. January 1, 1917 - February 17, 1917
7. March 19, 1917 - September 4, 1917
8. April 15, 1918 - May 18, 1918
9. January 2, 1922 - May 6, 1922