



Guide to the Alfred C. Darrow Papers, 1808-2019 — 123.4066

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Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Brian Sutton-Smith Library and Archives of Play at The Strong

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Summary Information

Repository:	Brian Sutton-Smith Library and Archives of Play at The Strong
Creator:	Darrow, Alfred C.
Title:	Alfred C. Darrow papers
ID:	123.4066
ID [aspace_uri]:	/repositories/3/resources/298
Date [inclusive]:	1808-2019
Date [bulk]:	1960-2010
Physical Description:	29.5 Linear Feet (10 record cartons, 19 letter document boxes, 7 legal document boxes, 7 oversize flat boxes)
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	This collection contains material related to the game of checkers, also known as draughts, collected by an enthusiast and competitive player, Alfred C. Darrow, throughout his life. Materials date from 1808 to 2019 with the bulk of materials dating from 1960 to 2010. The collection is comprised of checkers match annotations and analyses, correspondence, manuscripts, newsletters, notes and reference materials, published material, scrapbooks, tournament programs, and more.

Preferred Citation

Alfred C. Darrow papers, Brian Sutton-Smith Library and Archives of Play at The Strong.

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Biographical Note

Alfred "Al" Charles Darrow, Jr. was an American checkers enthusiast and tournament player. Darrow was born February 11, 1935, and died April 2, 2020, at the age of 85. He earned a master's degree in mathematics from Kansas University, and worked as a mathematics teacher

and as a software programmer for General Dynamics and Computer Sciences Corporation. Darrow married Margaret "Peggy" Vadas and had a son, Frank.

Darrow played checkers competitively in tournaments, winning several awards including the Connecticut State Championship in 2009. He was a member of the American Checker Federation (ACF) and served as editor of the ACF Bulletin in 2003 and 2004. He was active in the checkers community and had connections to authors and competitive players.

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Collection Scope and Content Note

This collection contains material related to the game of checkers, also known as draughts, collected by an enthusiast and competitive player, Alfred C. Darrow, throughout his life. The collection includes Darrow's personal papers as well as material he collected from other sources. The personal material includes awards, correspondence, checkers organization membership documents, notes and reference, photographs, presentations, and analyses of checkers strategies.

Collected materials include clippings, checkers tournament programs, correspondence checkers (play-by-mail) materials, checkers clubs' and organizations' documents, material from Darrow's time in the role of editor of the ACF Bulletin, published materials, and unpublished manuscripts. Materials from other checkers players and authors, including Ben Boland and Richard L. Fortman, are also represented in the collection.

The collection dates from 1808 to 2019, with the bulk of materials dating from 1960 to 2010. The materials are housed in 10 record cartons, 19 letter document boxes, 7 legal document boxes, and 7 oversize flat boxes. The contents have been arranged into eight series with Series I and Series VI further divided into two sub-series. For more information on series and sub-series, see each series' Scope and Content Notes.

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System of Arrangement

Series I: Biographical, 1953-2015

Subseries A: Personal, 1963-2015

Subseries B: Correspondence, 1953-2009

Series II: Reference, 1870-2014

Series III: Game analyses, 1960-2008

Series IV: Checkers organizations, 1915-2018

Series V: Tournament play, 1890-2009

Series VI: Publications, 1808-2019

Subseries A: Serials, 1925-2019

Subseries B: Books, 1808-1990

Series VII: Manuscripts, 1880-2007

Series VIII: Scrapbooks and clippings, 1860-2008

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Conditions Governing Access

The Alfred C. Darrow papers are open for research use by staff of The Strong and users of its library and archives.

Conditions Governing Use

Though the donor has not transferred intellectual property rights (including, but not limited to any copyright, trademark, and associated rights therein) to The Strong, they have given

permission for The Strong to make copies in all media for museum, educational, and research purposes.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

The papers were donated to The Strong in December 2023 as a gift of Frank Darrow, in honor of Alfred Charles Darrow, Jr., and accessioned under Object ID 123.4066.

Processed by

Laura Boland, 2024-2025.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Checkers
- Checker players
- Checker problems
- Checkers--Tournaments
- Correspondence checkers--Tournaments
- Checkers--Openings
- American Checker Federation
- Banks, Newell W., 1887-1977
- Boland, Ben, 1910-
- Deweber, Donald "Mr. Checkers"
- English Draughts Association
- Frazier, Eugene
- Hall, L. L. (Leonard Leslie), 1900-
- International Checker Hall of Fame
- King, Ron "Suki"
- Lees, James, 1864-1899
- Moiseyev, Alex, 1959-
- Pask, Richard
- Wiswell, Tom, 1910-
- Walker, Charles C.
- Fortman, Richard L.
- Freeman, Clarence H.

Collection Inventory

Series I: Biographical, 1953-2015

ID [[aspace uri](#)]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45841

Series Scope and Content Note

This series contains Alfred C. Darrow's personal papers and correspondence.

Subseries A: Personal, 1963-2015

ID [[aspace uri](#)]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45866

Subseries Scope and Content

This subseries consist of Alfred Darrow's collected personal papers. The materials include photographs, checkers tournament awards, membership cards for checkers clubs and associations, presentations, correspondence addressed to Alfred and his wife Peggy, travel information, and more.

Title/Description	Instances	
Biographical materials, 2003, undated ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45868	box 1	folder 1
Checkers tournament awards and photographs, 2000-2007 ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45869	box 1	folder 2
Membership cards and correspondence, 1963-2015 ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45871	box 1	folder 3
Al and Peggy correspondence and personal material, 1978-2007 ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45870	box 1	folder 4
"Classic Endings: Dean's Position," presentation by Al Darrow, undated ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45874	box 1	folder 5
Connecticut State Tourney, "Paradise Lost," by Al Darrow, 2009 ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45872	box 1	folder 6
Connecticut State Tourney references and notes, 2009 ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45873	box 1	folder 7
7th International Match USA vs. UK and Ireland - correspondence, travel information, notes, 2001 ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45875	box 1	folder 8

Subseries B: Correspondence, 1953-2009

ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45867

Subseries Scope and Contents

This subseries consists of Alfred Darrow's personal correspondence. Correspondents include friends of Darrow, figures from the competitive checkers community, and authors on the subject of checkers. The materials are arranged alphabetically by non-Darrow correspondent.

Some correspondents of note include: Ben Boland, author of many books on checkers strategy; Richard L. Fortman, champion checkers player and author; Don "Mr. Checkers" Deweber, owner of the World Checker Museum and the Caldwell-Windt Library of Checkers (now part of the Loras College Rare Book Library in Dubuque, Iowa); former American Checker Federation presidents Lester Balderson (1986-2003) and Alan Millhone (2003-2023); and Charles Walker, president of the International Checker Hall of Fame.

Of interest in Box 2 Folder 14 is a copy of *Wiswell v. Fraser, Free Style World Championship* (1959-1961) sent to Alfred Darrow personally by eminent author and checkers player Tommie Wiswell.

Title/Description	Instances	
Balderson, Lester A., 2002 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45880	box 1	folder 9
Banks, McLeod "Mac" , 2003 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45878	box 1	folder 10
Beckwith, Richard, 2003-2005 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45882	box 1	folder 11
Boatright, Bruce, 1968 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45879	box 1	folder 12
Boland, Ben [includes photograph], 1962-1974 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45881	box 1	folder 13
Brown, Floyd D. "Brownie", 1998 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/49319	box 1	folder 14
Caldwell, John J. Jr, 1968 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/49320	box 1	folder 15
Canning, Tommy, 2008 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45883	box 1	folder 16
Cayton, Dennis C., 2000 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45884	box 1	folder 17
Childers, Jerry, circa 1970s ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53752	box 1	folder 18
Clark, Matthew R., 2003	box 1	folder 19

ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45885		
Deweber, Don "Mr. Checkers" and Becky [includes ephemera], 1999-2008 and undated	box 1	folder 20
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45886		
Fortman, Richard L., 1999-2003	box 1	folder 21
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45887		
Frank, Sally, 2003	box 1	folder 22
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45888		
Goodwin, Don, 2000-2001	box 1	folder 23
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45889		
Hall, Leonard L., 1962	box 1	folder 24
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45890		
Hester, Gordon, 1964	box 1	folder 25
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45891		
Hill, Bavali, 2003	box 1	folder 26
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45892		
Hinkle, Brian - "Brian's favorite problems", 2003	box 1	folder 27
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45893		
Jenkins, Gary, 2009	box 1	folder 28
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45894		
Keene, James, undated	box 1	folder 29
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45895		
Meadows, Harry, 2003	box 1	folder 30
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45896		
Milhone, Alan, 2003-2008	box 1	folder 31
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45897		
Oldbury, Derek, 1966	box 1	folder 32
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46130		
Orcutt, Clayton G., 1967	box 1	folder 33
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/49318		
Parlow, A. - Christmas cards, 1955-1956	box 1	folder 34
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53939		
Peterson, L. W., 1968	box 1	folder 35
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/49326		
Piecuch, Margaret "In memory of James J. Piecuh", 2010	box 1	folder 36

ID [[aspace uri](#)]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45898

Rader, Gene W., 1988 ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53871	box 2	folder 1
Reekie, Chris, 2007 ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45899	box 2	folder 2
Ross, Karl, 1970 ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/49321	box 2	folder 3
Ryan, William F. "Willie", undated ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45900	box 2	folder 4
Schreiber, Louis - checkers strategy analyses, 1962-1972 and undated ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45901	box 2	folder 5
Stilson, Harry, 1968 ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/49322	box 2	folder 6
Walker, Charles C. [International Checkers Hall of Fame], 1983-2005 ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45902	box 2	folder 7
Wiswell, Thomas G. "Tom" or "Tommie" , 1953-1958 ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45903	box 2	folder 8
Wiswell, Tom - copy of "Wiswell v. Fraser, Free Style World Championship" , 1959-1961 ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46139	box 2	folder 9

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Series II: Reference, 1870-2014

ID [[aspace uri](#)]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45863

Series Scope and Content Note

This series contains reference material and notes compiled by Alfred Darrow in the course of his research on checkers history, checkers players, and some other topics including United States history and religion. Materials are arranged alphabetically by topic.

Title/Description	Instances	
Boland, Ben - "Boland's bridges in the game of checkers," notes, 2007, undated ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45905	box 2	folder 10
Book of Daniel, 2013	box 2	folder 11

ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46131		
"Check play", 2001-2008 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45906	box 2	folder 12
Checkers - general and players, undated ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46133	box 2	folder 13
Checkers publications reference copies, 1905-1990 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46134	box 2	folder 14
Collection of pocket sized checker problems, undated ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45907	box 2	folder 15
Computer software resources, 1997, undated ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45908	box 2	folder 16
Drummond, John (1806-1881), 2014 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45909	box 2	folder 17
"The Flint Ty. Games," by RLF [Richard L. Fortman], 1920-1982 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45910	box 2	folder 18
Fortman, Richard L. interview and photo, 1999-2003 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45911	box 2	folder 19
Freeman, Clarence Herbert (1863-1909), 2006 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45912	box 2	folder 20
History - Galileo 1543-1992 timeline, undated ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53951	box 2	folder 21
History - United States, 2007 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45913	box 2	folder 22
Long, Asa (1904-1999), undated ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46135	box 2	folder 23
McCullough, David - book recommendations, 2002 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45914	box 2	folder 24
Moiseyev, Alexander "Alex", 2004 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45915	box 2	folder 25
New Zealand checkers history, 2014 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45916	box 2	folder 26
Noether, Max (1844-1921) and Noether, Amalie "Emmy" (1882-1935), 2008	box 2	folder 27

ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46136		
Oldbury's Even Parameters, 1998 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46137	box 2	folder 28
Olmstead, Frederick Law (1822-1903), 2014 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45919	box 2	folder 29
"One Cut or Double Draw Three Move Restriction Checker Cards," by Clayton O. Beebe, undated ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45920	box 2	folder 30
"Paolo Boi and the Devil," by Victor Barthe (chess player) [translated from French], 1936 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53950	box 2	folder 31
"The Parsons Attack," Richard L. Fortman, undated ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46138	box 2	folder 32
Red Sox/Yankees World Series, 2004 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/49325	box 2	folder 33
Rochford, Earl of and Stuart, Harriet Andrews, 1950 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45921	box 2	folder 34
Rosenfeld, Leonard - Flint Tourney history, photograph (with Marion Tinsley), 1952-2003 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45922	box 2	folder 35
"There is a Certain Amount of Humor in Checkers," Tim Hensley, Smithsonian Magazine, August 1999 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45927	box 2	folder 36
Wales Game Systems "Point-a-minute," checkers puzzles games 1-20, 1950 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45923	box 2	folder 37
Wardell, Mortimer, census records [1870, 1880] and ancestry [Henry Clay Wardell], 2010 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45924	box 2	folder 38
West Yorkshire, England marriage records, 1874 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45925	box 2	folder 39
Wiswell, Thomas G. "Tom" or "Tommie" (1910-1998), undated ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45926	box 2	folder 40
Wiswell, Tommie - reference articles [copies], circa 1950	box 2	folder 41

ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53949		
"An attempt at a list of books, manuscripts, periodicals, engravings, pictures and photographs relating in whole or in part to the game of checkers or draughts," 1910-1945 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45904	box 3	folder 1
Memo book - Old 14th "for Ed", circa 1922 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53783	box 3	folder 2
Ephemera, 1995-2000, undated ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53788	box 3	folder 3
Notes, 1930-1981, undated ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53743	box 3	folder 4
"Old notes" - ephemera, notes, references, circa 2000s ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45918	box 3	folder 5
Notes found in library books, undated ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45917	box 3	folder 6
Checkers publications index, 1881-1925 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53747	box 3	folder 7
Checkers books catalogs, 1912, 1917, 1929 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53741	box 3	folder 8
Book indexes, 2009 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53952	box 3	folder 9
Book shelf inventory, undated ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46132	box 3	folder 10
Floppy disk unlabeled 3.5", undated ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53936	box 3	folder 11
"Frontiers of Analysis" folder - notations and comments on various checkers material, 1958 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53980	box 22	folder 1
"Some Studies in Machine Learning Using the Game of Checkers" IBM Journal [photocopy], 1959 July ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53981	box 22	folder 2
Notes on "Checkers: How to Win," by P.H. Ketchum, undated ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46170	box 22	folder 3

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Series III: Game analyses, 1960-2008

ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45862

Scope and Contents

This series contains annotations and analyses of checkers strategies created and compiled by Alfred Darrow. Darrow's original folder titles were maintained, box 3 folder 12 contains indexes and references for Darrow's personal system of organization which define the abbreviations used in the folder titles.

Note that some items in this series are marked with numbers indicating the variation, not to be confused with the date of the materials (e.g. 1901).

Title/Description	Instances	
Indexes and references for Darrow's personal system of organization, undated ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45988	box 3	folder 12
11-6, 1970-1979 ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45949	box 3	folder 13-14
BB, 1960-1969 ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45950	box 3	folder 15
BB I, 1960-1969 ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45951	box 3	folder 16
BB IV, 1960-1969 ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45952	box 3	folder 17
BC III, 1960-1969 ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53953	box 3	folder 18
BC I-VII, 1960-1969 ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45953	box 4	folder 1
BC IX-XII, 1960-1969 ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45954	box 4	folder 2
BM I/BM I-IV (3rd), 1960-1969 ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45955	box 4	folder 3
BM II/BM IV-XXIII, 1960-1969 ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45956	box 4	folder 4
BM III/BM XXV-XXXIII, 1960-1969 ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45957	box 4	folder 5
BM IV/BM XXXII, BM. LI, 1960-1969 ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45958	box 5	folder 1
BMS [notebook] notes from Ben Boland's 3x2 problems (unpublished), undated	box 5	folder 2

ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45959		
CCP III, correspondence (Chris Reekie), 1999 and 2007 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45960	box 5	folder 3
First I, 1960-1969 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45961	box 5	folder 4
F II, 1960-1969 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45962	box 5	folder 5
FT I, 1960-1969 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45963	box 5	folder 6-7
FT II, 1960-1969 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45964	box 6	folder 1-2
LPC 90.2 Glasgow reduction, 2008 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45965	box 6	folder 3
MXN I, undated ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/49333	box 6	folder 4-5
N.E. GAYP [Go-As-You-Please], 1999-2007 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45966	box 6	folder 6
SC 92, SDC 101, 2002 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45967	box 6	folder 7
Ayrshire Lassie, 2000 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45969	box 6	folder 8
Bristol, 2005-2006 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53954	box 6	folder 9
Bristol, 2007 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45970	box 6	folder 10
Cross choice, Kelso cross, 2001-2008 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45972	box 7	folder 1
Dyke opening strategy, 2005 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45973	box 7	folder 2
Early 10-14, 2008 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45974	box 7	folder 3
Edinburgh 3-move, 1999 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/49332	box 7	folder 4
Key landings, 2000-2006	box 7	folder 5

ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45975		
Margolin vs. Darrow N.E. Tourney, 2001 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45976	box 7	folder 6
Masters' defense, masters' choice, early apex defense, 2005 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45977	box 7	folder 7
Midgame strategy, 2000-2010 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45978	box 7	folder 8
Montrose cross, 2000 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45979	box 7	folder 9
Old fourteenth 5-9 gambit accepted and declined, circa 2000 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53955	box 7	folder 10
Old fourteenth, 2001 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45980	box 7	folder 11
Openings - no. 9, no. 62, no.91, undated ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45981	box 7	folder 12
Payne's Introduction, 1999 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/49331	box 7	folder 13
Pomeroy vs. Jordon "The forgotten prelim", 1999 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53937	box 7	folder 14
Second double corner, 2003 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45982	box 8	folder 1
Single corner, 1999-2001 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45983	box 8	folder 2
Standard positions, 2010 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45984	box 8	folder 3
Transposition studies openings 1-100, undated ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45985	box 8	folder 4-5
Wedges, 1970-2007 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45986	box 8	folder 6
White dyke opening strategy, circa 2000 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53956	box 8	folder 7
Published material - notes and diagrams, circa 1960-1970	box 8	folder 8

[ID \[aspace_uri\]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45989](#)

Cards - Edinburgh, double corner, Denny, old faithful, Dundee, circa 2000	box 8	folder 9
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[ID \[aspace_uri\]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45971](#)

Analyses (unidentified), circa 2000	box 8	folder 10
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[ID \[aspace_uri\]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45968](#)

Analyses (unidentified), undated	box 8	folder 11
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[ID \[aspace_uri\]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53957](#)

Checkerboard diagram printouts (unused), undated	box 8	folder 12
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[ID \[aspace_uri\]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45987](#)

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Series IV: Checkers organizations, 1915-2018

[ID \[aspace_uri\]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45864](#)

Series Scope and Content Note

This series contains administrative documents and printed material pertaining to checkers organizations which Alfred Darrow was involved or interested in. Organizations represented in this series include the American Checker Federation (ACF), English Draughts Association, the International Checker Hall of Fame (ICHF), regional checkers organizations in the United States and Canada, and more. The materials are arranged alphabetically by organization.

The American Checker Association (ACA), founded in 1906, and the National Checker Association (NCA) merged on Sept 1st, 1947 using the NCA as a temporary name with 665 membership. The new name of the American Checker Federation (ACF) was chosen by full vote on May 1st 1948.

The English Draughts Association (EDA) was formed in 1898 to promote the game of Draughts in the British region of the world, including members from England, Scotland, Wales, Republic of Ireland, Australia, Russia, Czech Republic, Northern Ireland, USA and Denmark. The EDA runs many events including the English Open and the British Open on alternative years.

Charles C. Walker opened the International Checker Hall of Fame (ICHF) in Petal, Mississippi in May 1979. The complex included a museum, library, hall of flags, gift shop, tournament rooms, and condominiums/efficiency apartments for retired checker players. Many local and national tournaments were held at the ICHF. In December 2006, Ron "Suki" King of Barbados defeated Jim Morrison of Kentucky to defend his World GAYP Title (3-0 and 18 draws). On September 29, 2007 a fire started in the tower and quickly engulfed the hall and the rest of the checker complex, destroying all of ICHF.

Title/Description	Instances	
Alberta (Canada) Checker Association yearbook, 1933 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46004	box 9	folder 1
American Checker Federation (ACF), 1970-2003 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45990	box 9	folder 2
ACF championship games and players, 1993-2004	box 9	folder 3

ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45991		
ACF Constitution rules and guidelines to checkers, 2002-2004, undated	box 9	folder 4
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45992		
ACFB editor correspondence, 2003-2007	box 9	folder 5
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45876		
ACFB editor correspondence - state tournaments' schedules and results, 2003	box 9	folder 6
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45877		
ACFB editor - correspondence and references, 2003	box 9	folder 7
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ACFB editor - correspondence and drafts, 2004	box 9	folder 8
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53959		
ACFB Correction Corner Gerry Lopez, 2003-2007	box 9	folder 9
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45993		
American Checker Federation 1st district (New England), 1980-2000	box 9	folder 10
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53933		
Boylston Chess Club, circa 1970	box 9	folder 11
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/49324		
English Draughts Association records, circa 1960s-1970, 2000s	box 9	folder 12
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45994		
International Checker Hall of Fame (ICHF), circa 2000	box 9	folder 13
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45995		
ICHF/Charles and Delores Walker v. Del Cox - lawsuit and dismissal, 2003	box 9	folder 14
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45996		
International Correspondence Club, 1966	box 9	folder 15
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45997		
Kansas State Checker Association "Why Don't You Join?", 1915	box 9	folder 16
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46003		
Minnesota State Checkers Association Checkers Times Annual Yearbook, 1940	box 9	folder 17
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46001		
Missouri Checker Association directories, 2001-2010, 2017-2018	box 9	folder 18

ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45998

National Checker Foundation, 1969 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53960	box 9	folder 19
North Carolina Checker Association, 2006 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/49317	box 9	folder 20
North Dakota Checkers Association yearbook [2 copies], 1920 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45999	box 9	folder 21
Ohio Checker Association "The Ohioan Yearbook", 1935, 2006 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46000	box 9	folder 22
Scottish Draughts Association "SDA Scrapbook", circa 1920-1930 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46005	box 9	folder 23
South Side Checker Club, Chicago, IL, 1916-1917 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46002	box 9	folder 24

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Series V: Tournament play, 1890-2009

ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/45865

Series Scope and Content Note

This series contains materials from and about checkers tournaments, including American, international, and correspondence checkers. Countries represented in the international tournaments include Australia, Barbados, Canada, England, Germany, Ireland, Scotland, and The United States. The materials are arranged alphabetically by organization or tournament title. Individual matches and correspondence tournaments are arranged separately at the end of the series.

In tournament checkers the preferred variation is three-move restriction, where the first three moves are drawn at random from a set of accepted openings. Two games are played with the chosen opening, each player having a turn at either side. This variation has been play in United States championships since 1934. A two-move restriction was used from 1900 until 1934 in the United States and in the British Isles until the 1950s.

Before 1900, championships were played without restriction: this style is called go-as-you-please (GAYP). Checkers clubs and organizations will sometimes host GAYP style tournaments in addition to the restricted tournaments.

Correspondence checkers is a version of checkers that allows players in different locations to take turns over time using methods such as postal mail or online communication.

Title/Description	Instances	
American Checker Association - The 1939 10th ACA National Tournament [published by ACF], 2005	box 10	folder 1

ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46006		
ACA - 10th National U.S. Checker Championship and Ladies Championship tournament, 1939	box 10	folder 2
ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46007		
ACF - District IV Tournament (North Carolina) invitation and forms, 2000	box 10	folder 3
ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46016		
ACF - Open New York and District Two Tournament - master division games, three-move, and Go-As-You-Please [GAYP] tournaments, 2005	box 10	folder 4
ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46020		
ACF - Three-move Qualifying National Checker Tournament forms, 2004	box 10	folder 5
ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46009		
ACF - Vegas 2007 annotations on all four tournaments [U.S. National GAYP, Arthur Niederhoffer National Youth Tournament, WCDF GAYP qualifying, WCDF GAYP qualifying - women], 2008	box 10	folder 6
ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46010		
ACF game notations booklet (unused), undated	box 10	folder 7
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Australian Championship - semi-final and final compilation, 1965	box 10	folder 8
ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46021		
Canadian match championship information [from Bruce Morrison], 2003	box 10	folder 9
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English championship checkers match notations, 1859, 1907, 1935	box 10	folder 10
ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46023		
English Tourney index, 1935	box 10	folder 11
ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46024		
German Draughts Association - German Open, 2005	box 10	folder 12
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GAYP U.S. national tournament - majors and masters results, 2003	box 10	folder 13
ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46011		
GAYP U.S. National Tournament - results, 2009	box 10	folder 14

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Illinois 101 Counties Checker Association - 71st Annual Open Tournament, 2005	box 10	folder 15
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46013		
Indiana Checker Tourney program, 1930 February 10-12	box 10	folder 16
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ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46026		
International matches - 1st and 2nd 2-move results compilation, undated	box 10	folder 18
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46027		
First International Match 1905 and 2D. International Checkers Match 1927 comparison Great Britain v. America, 1905 March 15-25, 1927 February 28-March10	box 10	folder 19
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53744		
3rd International Match - Great Britain v. USA, 1973	box 10	folder 20
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46028		
5th International Match Book - USA v. UK and Ireland, 1989	box 10	folder 21
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46029		
6th International Match - USA v. UK and Ireland lineup, 1995	box 10	folder 22
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7th International Match Book - USA v. UK and Ireland, 2001	box 10	folder 23
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46031		
The Lakeside Checker Association - 48th Annual Lakeside Ohio Tourney compilation, 1960	box 10	folder 24
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46014		
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USA 3-Move National Master Division - Alex Moiseyev, 2006-2007 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46038	box 12	folder 1
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Aaron v. Tony, unidentified notations, undated ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46056	box 12	folder 7
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Hall v. Wylie - Pacific Cost Championship [signed by L. L. Hall], 1960	box 12	folder 10
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46044		
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ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46046		
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Tinsley v. Chinook (computer program) - World Draughts Championship [1st man v. computer "championship"], 1992	box 12	folder 20
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ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46057		
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ACF inter-district mail play-offs, 1999-2000 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46063	box 13	folder 3
ACF inter-district mail play-offs, 2001-2005 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46064	box 13	folder 4
ACF play by mail reporting forms (Earl Hangen), 2000-2003 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46072	box 13	folder 5-6
Correspondence Tourney Games, D. Bryant, vol. 1, part 1 and 2, 1928, undated ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46065	box 13	folder 7
Daily News Cup, The Great Telegraphic Draughts Match, London v. Manchester [by wire], 1991 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46066	box 13	folder 8
Denvir Sportsman Master Mail Tourney, 1959 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/49327	box 14	folder 1
International Correspondence School of Checkers, 1926 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53961	box 14	folder 2
Southwest Nebraska Checker Club and Central Nebraska Checker Association - correspondence games compilation, 1915 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46067	box 14	folder 3
The Northampton Mercury Correspondence games, 1912 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46068	box 14	folder 4
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Paxton Tourney Games - ACF 17th Tourney, 1950	box 22	folder 5
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Series VI: Publications, 1808-2019

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Series Scope and Content Note

This series contains published materials on checkers. Subseries A consists of newsletters from checkers clubs and associations. Subseries B consists of books from Alfred Darrow's checkers library that contain extensive annotations or personalized inscriptions.

Note that a large volume of publications from Darrow's library were transferred to the library at The Strong.

Subseries A: Serials, 1925-2019

ID [[aspace uri](#)]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46190

Subseries Scope and Contents

Subseries A consists of newsletters produced by checkers clubs and associations. Materials are arranged chronologically by organization. Box 22 folders 7-9 are housed separately due to size.

Of interest in this subseries is a near complete run of the American Checker Federation Bulletin, for which Alfred Darrow served as editor from 2003 to 2004. Missing issues are noted in brackets in the folder titles.

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ACF Bulletin, no. 1-34 [missing no. 3, no. 11-13], 1952-1957 ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46078	box 14	folder 9
ACF Bulletin, no. 35-72, 1958-1964 ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46079	box 14	folder 10
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ACF Bulletin, no. 301-312, 2003-2004	box 15	folder 8
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ACF Bulletin, no. 325-336, 2007-2008	box 15	folder 10
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ACF Bulletin, no. 337-348 [missing no. 337], 2009-2010	box 15	folder 11
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ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46093		
ACF Bulletin, no. 373-385, 2015-2017	box 15	folder 14
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ACF Bulletin, no. 386-401 [missing no. 397-400], 2017-2019	box 16	folder 1
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Opening index for ACF Bulletin, National Tournaments no. 24-33, compilation, 1966-1987	box 16	folder 2
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"AT 18" 1952 National Tourney Games, ACF, 1952	box 16	folder 3

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"AT 20" Games of the 20th American Checker Championship, ACF, 1956	box 16	folder 4
ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46098		
"AT 2223" Choice games of 22nd and 23rd National Tournaments, ACF, 1960-1963	box 16	folder 5
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ACF Bulletin, 24th National Tournament, no. 81-89 supplement, May 1966-September 1967	box 16	folder 6
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ACF Bulletin, 25th National Tournament, no. 90-99 supplement, December 1967-June 1969	box 16	folder 7
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ACF Bulletin, 30th National Tournament, no. 155-168 supplement, October 1978-December 1980	box 16	folder 12
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ACF Bulletin, 31st National Tournament, no. 169-179 supplement, February 1981-October 1982	box 16	folder 13
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ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46108		
ACF Bulletin, 33rd National Tournament, no. 192-206 supplement, December 1984-April 1987	box 16	folder 15
ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46109		
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ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46111		
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ACF Bulletin, combined 38th and 39th U.S. National Tournaments, no. 253-264 supplement, 1992 August 10-15, 1994 August 1-6	box 16	folder 20
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Missouri Checker Association newsletters, 2019 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46128	box 16	folder 40
Northwest Draughts Federation Newsletter, 2001-2002 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46129	box 16	folder 41
Northern Federation of Draughts (Northern Ireland) newsletter, 2004 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53786	box 16	folder 42
Colorado Checker Bulletin, 1925 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53983	box 22	folder 7
"Earl's mail," The Empire, newsletter of NY State Checkers Association, 1979-1981 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46171	box 22	folder 8
Our Checker Player by You and Me [reference copies], 1936 December-1938 June ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53984	box 22	folder 9

Subseries B: Books, 1808-1990

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Subseries B consists of books from Alfred Darrows checkers library which contain extensive annotations or personalized inscriptions. The materials are alphabetically arranged in the content list of this finding aid. Items are physically housed in 3 record cartons, with some adjustments to the arrangement due to size.

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Alexander, J., <i>The Encyclopedia of Draughts</i> , volume 1 and supplement, 4th edition, 1950 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46192	box 41	object 1
Alexander, J., <i>The Encyclopedia of Draughts</i> , volume 2, 4th edition, 1950 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46253	box 41	object 2
Alexander, J. and Kear, J. A., <i>The Encyclopedia of Draughts</i> , volume 3, 4th edition, 1949 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46254	box 41	object 3
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Banks, Andrew J., <i>Pictorial Guide to Checkers</i> , with 1943 supplement, 1940 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46194	box 41	object 23
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Some materials may be inaccessible due to the condition of materials. Items that may be affected are noted as fragile in the finding aid. For access to fragile materials, contact the archivist.

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Bass, George W. "The 12-16's by Bass", 1952	box 17	folder 7
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Charles, J. "Modern Magic with a Draughts Board" pocket pamphlet , 1973	box 17	folder 12
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Chamblee, Maurice. Checkers and the Experts, reprint [signed by Tom Wiswell, 1988, April 5], 1988	box 17	folder 13
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Ginsberg, Louis C. Principles of Strategy in the Game of Checkers, 1932 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46151	box 19	folder 4
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Ketchum's Handy Manual no. 2 cross proof sheets [rolled manuscript, fragile], 1927	box 37	item 6
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Ketchum's Handy Manual no. 2 cross original manuscript [rolled manuscript, fragile], 1927	box 37	item 7
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Ketchum's Handy Manual no. 3 switcher original manuscript and proof sheets [rolled manuscript, fragile], 1927	box 37	item 8
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Boland's Famous Positions proof sheets [fragile], circa 1940	box 38	object 1
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Ben Boland "material to copy", 1974	box 39	folder 1
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ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53988

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Series VIII: Scrapbooks and clippings, 1860-2008

ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/46077

Series Scope and Contents

This series consists of clippings and scrapbooks pertaining to checkers. Some of the scrapbooks were compiled by Alfred Darrow and some belonged to other collectors and were later collected by Darrow. The majority of material is in English with some instances of Dutch, Italian, Portuguese, and Russian. The materials are physically arranged by size and format.

Checkers columns in newspaper have a history dating back to the early 19th century. Columns evolved from early individual publications to dedicated sections in major publications, often appearing alongside chess columns. Prominent checkers columnists include George F. Wales and Rex B. Wood. *The New York Clipper* (also known as *The Clipper*), a weekly entertainment newspaper published in New York City from 1853 to 1924, featured a chess and draughts (checkers) column.

Some items may be inaccessible due to the fragility of materials. Items that may be affected are noted as fragile in the finding aid. For access to fragile materials, contact the archivist.

Title/Description

Instances

"Chequers" column, 1860s ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53916	box 23	folder 1-4
Glasgow Weekly Herald [photocopies], 1870s ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53878	box 23	folder 5
1897 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53919	box 23	folder 6
1898 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53918	box 23	folder 7
1899-1900 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53917	box 23	folder 8
Various, circa 1890-1970 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53749	box 23	folder 9
Claxton's Draughts, 1930 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53903	box 24	folder 1
Harmon, Arthur - columns, 1931 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53909	box 24	folder 2
Rochester Sunday American [photocopies], 1935 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53905	box 24	folder 3
Bangor Daily Commercial [photocopies], 1938 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53902	box 24	folder 4
Columns, 1940 May 9-July 25, undated ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53914	box 24	folder 5
Cleveland Plain Dealer [photocopies], 1940s-1950s ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53904	box 24	folder 6
"Demon of the checkerboard," article Willie Ryan, True Magazine, circa 1950s ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53912	box 24	folder 7
Badger Checker Player, 1962 July 17 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53901	box 24	folder 8
"It's Your Move," column, 1962-1963 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53907	box 24	folder 9
"Checker game of the century: man vs. computer," article, Popular Mechanics, 1964 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53911	box 24	folder 10
The Sterling Journal, 1966-1967	box 24	folder 11

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Clippings and notes, circa 1960s	box 24	folder 12
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"Evans: ever onward and upward"/"Chess: Bobby's challengers," articles, circa 1970	box 24	folder 13
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Chess, 1970s	box 24	folder 16
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Chess, 1992	box 24	folder 17
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"Dubuque's Deweber has checkered past, future," [ICHF fire] article, Telegraph Herald, 2007	box 24	folder 18
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New York Clipper volume 12-13, 1864-1865	box 25	folder 1
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New York Clipper volume 25, 1877	box 25	folder 6
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New York Clipper volume 35, 1887-1888	box 25	folder 14
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New York Clipper volume 36, 1889	box 25	folder 15
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New York Clipper volume 38, 1890	box 25	folder 17
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New York Clipper volume 40, 1892	box 25	folder 19
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Our Checker Board, Our Draughts Column, Checkers [scrapbook pages], circa 1889	box 26	folder 3

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Clippings [scrapbook pages], 1939 September 28 - 1940 August 22 ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53589	box 28	folder 2
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Pittsburgh Sun-Telegraph [scrapbook pages and photocopies], 1951	box 28	folder 5
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Clippings [scrapbook pages], 1955 June 1 - 1962 June 13, undated	box 28	folder 6
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Notebook - William Fairgrew, West Troy, NY, 1877	box 31	object 1
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New London Day [scrapbook pages, no covers], 1903-1909	box 34	object 2
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Derry News [partial scrapbook], February 27, 1891 - May 1, 1896	box 34	object 3
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Pittsburgh Chronicle Telegraph [partial scrapbook, fragile], 1889-1900	box 35	object 1
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Leed's Budget by Frank Dunne [one scrapbook page mounted on cover], undated	box 35	object 2

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64 no. 26, supplement of Soviet Sport newspaper [Russian], 1969 June-July	box 21	folder 12
ID [aspace uri]: /repositories/3/archival_objects/53780		
Dama Short [Checkers Short] vol. 12 no.1, Italian Draughts Federation [Italian], 1970 January-February	box 21	folder 13
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Enciclopédia Damista [Encyclopedia of Draughts] No. 127, Dr. Sena Caneiro [Portuguese], 1970 April	box 21	folder 14
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Het Damspel [The Game of Checkers] vol. 61 no. 9, Royal Dutch Draughts Association [Dutch], 1969 September	box 21	folder 15
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