HISTORICAL NOTE

On November 11, 1865, a group of citizens of Peru, Nebraska, met to discuss the need for an institute of higher learning. Such a school began under the "management and care" of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The institution was incorporated as Mount Vernon School on December 2, 1865. On February 12, 1866, the territorial legislature granted the charter in the name of the Peru Seminary and College. In June, 1867, presumably due to shortage of funds, the executive committee voted to deed the grounds and building to the State of Nebraska for use as a normal school.

The Nebraska State Normal School became the third school of its type west of the Missouri. It was also the major teacher college in Nebraska for nearly forty years. The programs were one and two years in length until 1921 when four year programs were instituted. In 1986, a masters degree program in education was incorporated into the curriculum.

Listed below are the name changes that occurred in 1921-1963.

1921 - Nebraska State Teachers College
1949 - Peru State Teachers College
1963 - Peru State College

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of one box of material relating to Peru State College as the State Normal School. It is arranged into two series: 1) Records Books, 1863-1903; and 2) Miscellaneous, 1865-1908.

The record books contain minutes and financial reports of the body known as: the organizers, the Board of Trustees of Mount Vernon College, the Board of Trustees of Peru Seminary and College, the Executive Committee, and as the Board of Education of State Normal Schools. The minutes record the hiring of teachers and other employees and their salaries; regulations of the school; building programs; operations of the institution;
ADDED ENTRIES:

Mount Vernon College--Peru, Nebraska
Peru Seminary and College--Peru, Nebraska
Nebraska State Normal School--Peru, Nebraska
Nebraska State Teachers College--Peru, Nebraska
Jewell, Samuel E., -1954

TEACHERS COLLEGES
NEBRASKA. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
TEACHERS--NEBRASKA
UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES--BUILDINGS
UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES--NEBRASKA
courses of study and lists of graduates. Volume two also contains principals reports. Volume One, page eleven, gives a description of the plans for the original structure of the college. Rules and regulations are entered on page thirteen. A list of texts to be used is found on page 56. The 1869 catalogue is pasted on page sixty-eight.

DESCRIPTION

Box One
SERIES ONE RECORD BOOKS, 1865-1903

V.01 1865-1871
pp.27-49 & 143-241 are blank
V.02 1874-1903
pp.2-10 & 450-481 are blank

SERIES TWO MISCELLANEOUS, 1865-1908

f.1 Transcripts (typewritten), 1865-1869
Minutes and financial records (13 pp)
f.2 Boiler Specifications, 1885
f.3 Certificates and Grade Reports, 1900-1902
of Samuel E. Jewell
F.4 Graduation Announcement - Class of 1908
Name card - Edward P. Hodapp
List of Graduates - 1908

END OF INVENTORY

DAB/HEK/sw07/29/1966
SRW/CLS 10/26/1990

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