ARCHIVAL RECORD

RG1954.MI  Gadd, Ben Sr., 1905-1995

Lincoln, Nebraska: Musician, Insurance Agent, home movie photographer, railroad enthusiast.
Size: 178 reels of 8mm motion picture film

BACKGROUND NOTE

Ben Gadd Sr. was born in Hastings, Nebraska in 1905. Gadd was one of the founders and conductors of the Collegian Orchestra, originally known as the U of N Collegians, in Lincoln, Nebraska. The Collegians where a popular dance band in the late 1920's and early 1930's. They played at the Antelope Park Pavilion and the Lindel Party House.

Gadd worked as a general agent for Guarantee Mutual Life Insurance Co. He was a home movie photographer making movies of everything from his family to steam engines going across the country. He died on September 19, 1995.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The home movies of the Ben Gadd collection are arranged in chronological order based on subject.

Reels 1-147: Home Movies of the Gadd family, consists of home movies taken between 1934 and 1974. These films depict Gadd family members and friends at home for holidays and celebrations. Footage also includes family vacations across the country. This series is arranged into five groups by decade.

Reels 148-178: Home movies of trains, consists of home movies taken during the 1950's and 1960's of trains from several railroads including the UP, CB&Q, IC, and the California Zephyr. These films were taken track side as well as from moving trains.

DESCRIPTION

Motion Picture Film - Family

Group 1 - 1930s
Reel: 1. November 1934, Sandra 16 months Claude and Dorothy's Wedding, June 1935
   2. July 1, 1935 to Christmas 1935
   3. Spring/Summer, 1936
   4. September 1936, Wedding - Eleanor
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Event/Location/Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>December 1936</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Easter and Spring, 1937</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>July 4, 1937 to Wyoming Trip</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Summer, 1937, Wyoming Trip and home</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Christmas, 1937</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>1938, Spring to July</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>July 4th to October, 1938</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Christmas 1938 - skates - Ben's 1st time out</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Trip - Des Moines to Quebec</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Trip - Quebec to New York</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Trip - New York to Illinois to Lincoln</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Summer, 1939</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Winter, 1939-1940</td>
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**Group 2 - 1940s**

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<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Event/Location/Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Summer, 1940</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Summer and Fall, 1940 Aunt Myrtle and May</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>January 1941, Jimmy to New Orleans, April, 1941</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>New Orleans Trip, April, 1941</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>Summer 1941, Wyoming and Ben's first day of school</td>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>1942, Sandra at Kewanis, first time, ends with Jr. Commando Scrap Drive</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>Spring 1943, January 1945</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>August 1943 and Linda, January 1945</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>Summer, 1944, 2 Birthdays, Aunt Myrtle</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>1944, Linda - birth, 1st Christmas, Ben's dog</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>Summer, 1945</td>
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<td>29</td>
<td>1945, 1946</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>1946, Wyoming</td>
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<td>32</td>
<td>January 1947, Florida convention, Rick and Eva, Key West trip, Ford and Eleanor, Washington and Mt. Vernon, Skywalkers</td>
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<td>33</td>
<td>Spring 1947, Tripp's yard</td>
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<td>34</td>
<td>April 1947, Linda's Birthday, age 3</td>
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<td>35</td>
<td>July 4th, 1947</td>
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<td>36</td>
<td>July 1947, Camp Kewanis</td>
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<td>37</td>
<td>Winter 1947-1948, Ruth Ann family in Lincoln, snow pictures</td>
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<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>Easter 1948, Birthday party, 4 years, Becky</td>
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<td>39</td>
<td>1948, 4th Birthday Party, Agency party, Crete</td>
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<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Summer 1948, Agency Picnic</td>
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<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>July 4th, 1948, Milt Elber's picnic</td>
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<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>August 1948, Lake Okaboji, IA</td>
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<td>43</td>
<td>August 1948, Lake Okaboji, IA</td>
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44. Summer/Fall, 1948, Lake Okaboji, Abbeot Steam Engine, Nita and Mary, Paulson, Spice, Linda and trike
45. Winter/Spring, 1949, Jim, Han, Ruth Ann and Rod
46. Winter/Spring, 1949, Easter, 1949, Tripps/Gadds, Aunt Stell, Polly, Irv, Sandpile, Linda, Karlyn, Tripps’ roses

**Group 3 - 1950s**

**Reel:** 47. April 1950, Fly's Estate, birthday party
48. April 1950, birthday, June 1950, Eva and Dick Peck family and picnic, Linda at age 6
49. June and July, 1950, Eleanor and Aunt Myrtle
50. August 1950, Vacation with Mullen's, Rushmore Memorial, Wyoming, Corine and Linda
51. August 1950, Vacation
52. 1950, Wyoming Trip, last roll
53. November 1950, Fly's house 1951, Easter
54. 1951, Mexico
55. July 4th, 1951, picnic at Minneapolis with Pecks, Tripp's yard and flowers, not too good, Ben leaving scout camp for canoe trip
56. 1951-1952, May, 1951, Pecks, Groth, Claus, Mary Story Baccalaureate, Jones baby, July 4th, 1951, Ben leaves for Scout Camp
57. 1952, Dot and Kristi, Spring, house, tulips and lilacs, Linda
58. 1952, Golden Wedding Anniversary, Ben's run at stadium
59. 1952, Golden Wedding Anniversary, picnic, golf, Patty
60. Summer and Fall, 1952 (described on original film box as "splendid film") Lake Okaboji, fish, swimming, home again, Larry's last leave
61. Fall 1952, Ray and Sandy, Linda's prize vegetable, our flower garden and Militzers, Rita and Dennis
62. 1953 Trip - Washington, Cape Cod, Plymouth Rock
63. 1953 Trip - Longfellow home, Bunker Hill, Dartmouth, New York City
64. October 1953, Rediger's baby, Hugh and Pauline, Grandma's birthday
65. April 1954, H.S. Track, Linda's party, Houston, Southern Pacific Steam Shots, Hotel Shinook, 1954, Convention Trip #1
66. April 1954, Convention shots in New Orleans, Convention Trip #2
67. April 1954, train pictures, "City of New Orleans," trip home from Convention, convention trip #3
68. April 1954, Relations in Illinois, steam engine shots, Illinois Central streamliner Chicago, Burlington, California Zephyr, steam engine at Lincoln Roundhouse, convention trip #4
69. September 1954, Sandra and Jack's wedding
70. September 1954, Family picnic, backyard, Aunt Myrtle, Sandra, Jack, Larry, Amy, train shots, CB&O large steam engine
71. September - October, 1954, Aunt Myrtle, Polly and Irvin, train shots of UP, Linda on a bike
72. 1954, Christmas, our house, Jack and Sandra's apartment, train
73. 1955, Christmas, all the family and office party, Militzer's, all inside pictures
104. August 1960, visit to Franklin, Lori swimming
105. August 1960, California Trip, Ford, Eleanore and Peggy, Leta, Linda and Mother Gadd, Trip to Sandra J. in California
106. August 1960, train in mountains, enroute west
107. August 1960, California Zephyr, train into Sacramento, trailer, Seminary
108. September 1960, trailer, Saucolita, the beach, park, beautiful film, Sandi and Linda
109. September 1960, return, Ben and Linda, train in mountains, Salt Lake City, Linda, Mormon Square, trip to Denver, brief shot of the Holmes
110.  1960, Christmas, #1 Florida trip, Smokies, Myldred and Jim, Sandie, Lori, Jack
and Ben

106. January 1961, #2 Florida Trip, Eleanore's, Chicago
108. June 1961, rail fan trip, Dad, Neoma, and relative picnic
109. June, July, August 1961, Neoma and Corine, Lori and Davie and baby Ben, trip west #1
110. August 1961, west bound, Glenwood Springs, Colorado, Pocket Canyon, California
111. August 1961, trip west San Francisco and Linda Leta, home bound color bad
112. Fall 1961, Colorado train back from California, Rene, Lori and Ben III, Nancy and Shirley
113. June/Summer, 1962, Uncle Bob, Monterey Park, Long Beach
114. June 1962, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Jim, Linda, Sandie
116. June 1962, Victoria, Vancouver, Canadian Pacific
117. June 1962, Banff
118. August 1962, Wilsonville, Lori, Bunny, Nancy B., Linda, Leta, Ben Sr., boat
119. 1962, Christmas, Stephen, Lori, Bend and early spring, 1963, short shot of train in basement
120. June 1963, Dad, Neoma, Corine, Ben, Nancy, and Children, backyard playing, David Dudek and Lori, and Benny
121. October 1963, Hayes Center, field day, (very good of all children)
122. Spring, 1963, Rail trip, David and Harmon girls, Graduation Harmon Hall
124. 1963, Christmas
126. November 1964, Grand Canyon, S & J in California
127. November 1964, Grand Canyon, S & J in California
128. May 1, 1966, at Blue Hill, Ben's family and house
129. June 1966, last of Colorado Rail Fan Trip, good of narrow gap, July-August, Lori, Glen, Steve at Children's Zoo
130. September 1966, Mediz Pa, 69th St., terminal street car, Eleanore, ford, house
133. June 1968, Graduation Party, B&N, family, Kevin, Brian, Sheri, Eleanore, Janet (labeled on original box as "Outstanding")
134. June 1968, Sandra and Children, Ben, Nancy and children, sandpile, watermelon, hose and showers, Karlyn's baby
135. May 1969, Fulton, Churchill, Chapel Memorial, William Woods Campus, Oklahoma City, Zoo, family
136. May - July 1969, Oklahoma City, Ben's family, house, Father's Day, patio meal, Colorado Springs, Cripple Creek
137. July 1969, Cripple Creek, Colorado, Keenes, Shickle's, 1st day Jeep trip
138. August 1969, 2nd day Jeep trip, Bob Kar
139. August 1969, Lori, Ben, Steve, flowers, September 1969, Harny and Kay Miller,
January 1, 1970, sledding, all 6 grand children, Ben Jr.

140. January 1, 1970, inside, New Year's dinner talk preparations, evening, children
Ginny, kitchen

**Group 5 - 1970s**

trip, Denver, Laramie
142. May 1970, steam, trip, Denver, Laramie, August 1970, Benny and Stevie in
Sandpile, Sheri and Sandie
143. 1971, Wyoming, Buffalo Bill Lake and Dam at Cody, Granddad fishing
144. 1971, trip to Black Hills and Wyoming
145. Spring, 1973, trip with Militzer's to Oklahoma, Gadd's and house, Walt's sister
and husband, and house in Tulsa
146. Summer, 1973, Grandchildren and all here, backyard, Holmes Park, picnic, in
boats
147. 1974, April, train at Fremont, July 1, Gadd's home, Linda and Charlie, Berry's
mother, Nancy, Steve, and Donna

**Motion Picture Film - Trains, 1950s and 1960s**

Reel: 148. May 1961, Iowa Railfan Club trip (2 days)
149. August 27, 19, train shots at Valley, Nebraska, Millard crossing, Summit and
Vinton Street Viaduct of UP power; railfan trip from Omaha to Spaulding,
Nebraska, October 22, 1955; November, 195, shots at CB&Q Roundhouse in
Lincoln, Nebraska.
150. 1949, Colorado convention
151. July 4, 5, and 6, 1958, steam trip CB&Q 5618 4-8-4 along the Mississippi River;
Duluth, Missabi & Iron Range steam double header from rear car.
152. C&NW passenger station in Chicago, then tracks south of downtown Chicago
showing New York Central Hudson on a mail train; at Cincinnati steam on the
N&W going along Ohio River, shots from observation car of "our" train,
154. Steam trip Chicago to Lincoln, Illini Rail Club, CB&Q 632 4-8-4.
155. October, 1957, Columbus to Spaulding UP trip.
156. October, 1957, Columbus to Spaulding UP trip.
157. Spring of 1965, 0 gauge layout Bernard Corbin at Red Oak, Iowa, also family
158. May 1973, Denver to Laramie and return trip with UP 8444.
159. May 1973, Denver to Laramie and return trip with UP 8444.
162. January 1954, Colorado trip and train shots at Cheyenne.
163. September 12, 1956, Chicago IC shots including Pan american and commuter
trains, Chicago to Roanoke, steam action out of Roanoke (several trains).

164. Spring 1960 and steam trip to Lincoln, June 1960, CB&Q 5632 with engine at roundhouse.

165. Spring 1960 and steam trip to Lincoln, June 1960, CB&Q 5632 with engine at roundhouse.

166. 1966 railfan trip to Colorado including Durango and Silverton.

167. 1966 railfan trip to Colorado including Durango and Silverton.

168. June 8-13, 1959, Trip to Yesterday, CB&Q 5632 to Lincoln, CB&Q 5632 Lincoln to Denver, over Cumbres Pass, Durango and Silverton.

169. September, 1957, UP steam Valley, Nebraska.

170. 1958, UP steam Valley.

171. 1958, UP steam Valley.


173. 1954, Colorado trip, railroad shots supposedly removed.

174. 1954, Colorado trip, railroad shots supposedly removed.

175. June 1962, railfan excursion.


177. 1955, California Zephyr trip.

178. Spring 1955, trip to Nebraska City with railfan special, steam at roundhouse.