

## NEBRASKA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY COLLECTION RECORD

RG3442.AM: Rudge and Guenzel Department Store (Lincoln, Neb.)

Records: 1904-1942; mostly 1914-1942  
Lincoln, Lancaster County, Neb.; Department store  
Size: 22 cu.ft.; 11 boxes and 52 oversized volumes

### BACKGROUND NOTE

In 1886 Charles H. Rudge and J. F. Morris established a retail firm selling hardware, stove and tinware at 1122 N Street in Lincoln, Nebraska. Later, C. J. Guenzel assumed the stock of Morris, and the firm's name was changed to Rudge and Guenzel. The six-story Rudge & Guenzel building at 13<sup>th</sup> and N Street was constructed in 1918. Their department store retail operation was sold to Allied Stores in 1929, but continued to operate under the old name until its doors were closed in 1941.

For a more detailed history of Rudge & Guenzel, see Howard, Vicki, "The Rise and Fall of Rudge & Guenzel: From Independent Retailer to Department Store Chain," *Nebraska History* 89 (2008): 102-119.

### SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

In addition to general bookkeeping records, this collection contains minutes of stockholders and board meetings, stock certificates, merchandise registers, mortgage bonds and coupons and correspondence. The collection is not fully processed, but the following inventory is available.

**Note:** In many cases both the Expense Registers and the Merchandise Registers are titled on the inside – "Register of Merchandise Purchased by Department." The outside of the volumes are marked with either Expense Register or Merchandise Register. They seem to differ only in the various columns of information recorded.

### INVENTORY

#### Volume

1. Retail Ledger, 1932-1937 (including monthly summary and departmental accounts)
2. Departmental operating statements, 1930-1933
3. Departmental operating statements, 1933-1937
4. General Account Ledger, 1914-1924
5. General Account Ledger, 1925-1928
6. Record of Taxable sales, 1920-1923
7. Sectional Synopsis, 1915-1921 (similar to Retail Ledger)
8. Charge Accounts, 1916-1921

9. Proof Sheets, Sept-Oct 1941
10. Check Register, 1939-1941
11. Journal Voucher, 1929-1939
12. Invoice Register, 1929
13. Invoice Register, 1930
14. Invoice Register, 1931
15. Invoice Register, 1932
16. Invoice Register, 1933
17. Invoice Register, 1934
18. Invoice Register, 1935
19. Merchandise Register, 1929
20. Merchandise Register, 1930
21. Merchandise Register, 1931
22. Merchandise Register, 1932
23. Merchandise Register, 1933
24. Merchandise Register, 1934
25. Merchandise Register, 1935
26. Expense Register, 1929
27. Expense Register, 1930
28. Expense Register, 1931
29. Expense Register, 1932
30. Expense Register, 1933
31. Expense Register, 1934
32. Expense Register, 1935
33. Expense Register, 1936
34. Expense Register, 1937
35. Expense or Merchandise Register, 1940
36. Expense or Merchandise Register, 1940
37. Expense or Merchandise Register, 1941-1942
38. Expense or Merchandise Register, 1941
39. List of Creditors, 1919-1921
40. Payroll & Dept. Accountant Ledger, 1922-1923
41. Departmental Synopsis, 1923-1931
42. Dept. Account Ledgers, 1926-1927
43. Dept. Account Ledgers, 1927-1928
44. Dept. Account Ledgers, 1928
45. Dept. Account Ledgers, 1928-1929
46. Dept. Account Ledgers, 1929
47. Payroll Summary, 1928-1929
48. Payroll, 1937
49. Payroll, 1941
50. Misc. Recap Book, 1926-1928
51. Cash Disbursements, 1920-1922
52. Cash Disbursements, 1927-1930

Box 1

1. Paper & notebook - bookkeeping loose paper, notebook with hard cover
2. Black & burgundy hard bound book – by-laws
3. Blue cloth 3-ring binder – Common Carrier Claims, 1941-1942
4. Furs – letters regarding fur coats, notes, 1942
5. Lookups, Followups and Incoming mail – correspondence on Manufacturing Mutual Insurance Policy on Building, 1942
6. Treasury – correspondence letters, telegraphs, 1942
7. Furniture – handwritten notes, correspondence letters, 1941-1942
8. Gold Inventory Figures (part 1) – bookkeeping records, notes, 1941
9. Gold Inventory Figures, Gold Co. Purchases of Merchandise (?) by invoices (part 2) - paper about Gold purchases (**See OB125**)
10. Correspondence – legal claims/letters, notes, 1942
11. No. 8266, George S. Walsh Estate N1894 (part 1) – correspondence concerning Walsh estate, 1929-1936
12. No. 8266, George S. Walsh Estate N1894 (part 2) – financial figures, notes
13. No. 8266, George S. Walsh Estate N1894 (part 3) – correspondence, court materials, mortgage, deeds, 1904, 1919
14. No. 8266, George S. Walsh Estate N1894 (part 4) – all loose leaf materials, insurance papers, court papers, attorney papers, notes, claims, 1929-1935

Box 2

1. Loose material (part 1) – insurance
2. Loose material (part 2) – packets, 3 stacks
3. Loose material (part 3) – 1 stack packets, loose sheets, 1914-1918
4. Loose material (part 4) – correspondence b/w R&G & customers?, 1915-1917
5. Pamphlets and other (part 1) – insurance, misc.
6. Pamphlets and other (part 2) – insurance, misc.
7. Pamphlets and other (part 3) – insurance, misc. 1932-1936
8. Pamphlets and other (part 4) – insurance, misc. 1935-1938
9. Pamphlets and other (part 5) – insurance, misc. 1935-1938
10. Pamphlets and other (part 6) – insurance, misc., envelope, 1923 and 1939

Box 3

1. Two maps
2. Black & burgundy book – Register and Record of Certificates of Stock. Envelope inside – correspondence and memo's concerning stock records.
3. Black book – Minutes of Stockholders' Meetings Rudge & Morris Co. Feb. 20, 1892, and Rudge & Guenzel Co., to Jan. 19, 1917.
4. Gray book – Record-Minute book, Rudge & Guenzel Co. Board of Directors, 1907-1915
5. Black book – Record of Liberty Bonds Rudge & Guenzel Co. R & G, Employees from and to the Public

6. Black book – Record of the Proceedings of the Board of Directors ... 1915
7. Black book – Insurance Record of Mercantile Investment Co., et.al., 1932-1935
8. Long Black book – Certificates of Common Stock in Rudge & Morris Co., 1 to 53
9. Long beige-green book – Rudge & Guenzel Re-Issue and New Stock, July 26 1917, 1 to 100
10. Long black book – Certificates of Common Stock in Rudge & Guenzel Co., 101 to 179

Box 4

1. Letter file, January...Mut. – life insurance papers, 1926, 1929
2. Letter file, C.J. Guenzel Security Mut. – life insurance papers, 1918 and 1928
3. Letter file, C.J. Guenzel Bankers Life – life insurance papers, 1928
4. Letter file, C.J. Guenzel Mid West – life insurance papers, 1918
5. Letter file, C.J. Guenzel North Western – life insurance papers, 1918
6. Letter file, S.A. Sanderson Security Mut. – life insurance papers, 1918
7. Letter file, S.A. Sanderson Bankers Life – life insurance papers, 1928
8. Letter file, S.A. Sanderson Midwest – life insurance papers, 1928
9. Letter file, S.A. Sanderson North Western – life insurance papers, 1918 and 1922
10. Letter file, December Bankers Case, No. 30 – life insurance papers, 1928
11. Black tin box contents (part 1) – bookkeeping, insurance papers, 1941
12. Black tin box contents (part 2) – bookkeeping, insurance papers, 1940 and 1941
13. Inventory Statements Dept. P & L Statements and Buyers Settlements (part 1), 1931
14. Inventory Statements Dept. P & L Statements and Buyers Settlements (part 2), 1931
15. Inventory Statements Dept. P & L Statements and Buyers Settlements (part 3), 1931
16. Inventory Statements Dept. P & L Statements and Buyers Settlements (part 4), 1931
17. Inventory Statements Dept. P & L Statements and Buyers Settlements (part 5), 1931
18. Inventory Statements Dept. P & L Statements and Buyers Settlements (part 6), 1931
19. Inventory Statements Dept. P & L Statements and Buyers Settlements (part 7), 1931
20. Allied and various bookkeeping records (bundle) [part 1], 1941
21. Various bookkeeping records (bundle) [part 2], 1941
22. Various bookkeeping records (bundle) [part 3], 1941
23. Folder, Allied Purchasing Corp.-North East High (part 1) – Documents, 1941
24. Folder, Allied Purchasing Corp.-North East High (part 2) – Documents, 1941

Box 5

1. Copy of minutes of a meeting of the Board of Directors of Rudge & Guenzel Co. held on May 27, 1921

2. Black binder – Copy of letters to Olson Construction Company regarding work on new store building
3. Black binder – shares issues, 1920
4. September 1940 accordion file – account records, inventory, general bookkeeping
5. August accordion file – August 1940 bookkeeping records
6. July 1940 accordion file – bookkeeping records
7. January 1939 accordion file – bookkeeping records
8. October 1940 accordion file – bookkeeping records
9. November 1940 accordion file – bookkeeping records
10. December 1940 accordion file – bookkeeping records
11. Loose material – letter to Mr. Kohlman from Rudge & Guenzel Co. including carbon copies of statements, January 1942
12. January 1941 accordion file (part 1) – Manufacturers Mutual Fire Insurance Co., Treasury Division, bookkeeping records
13. January 1941 accordion file (part 2) – Allied bookkeeping records
14. W – Accounts Payable Ledger (part 1)
15. W – Accounts Payable Ledger (part 2)
16. X, Y, Z – Accounts Payable Ledger
17. 1942 folder – Allied Inter-Organization Letters
18. Accounts Payable Ledger Misc. (part 1)
19. Accounts Payable Ledger Misc. (part 2)

Box 6

1. A – Accounts Payable Ledger (part 1)
2. A – Accounts Payable Ledger (part 2)
3. B – Accounts Payable Ledger (part 1)
4. B – Accounts Payable Ledger (part 2)
5. C – Accounts Payable Ledger (part 1)
6. C – Accounts Payable Ledger (part 2)
7. D – Accounts Payable Ledger
8. E – Accounts Payable Ledger
9. F – Accounts Payable Ledger
10. G – Accounts Payable Ledger (part 1)
11. G – Accounts Payable Ledger (part 2)
12. H – Accounts Payable Ledger (part 1)
13. H – Accounts Payable Ledger (part 2)
14. I – Accounts Payable Ledger
15. J – Accounts Payable Ledger
16. K – Accounts Payable Ledger
17. L – Accounts Payable Ledger (part 1)
18. L – Accounts Payable Ledger (part 2)
19. M – Accounts Payable Ledger (part 1)
20. M – Accounts Payable Ledger (part 2)
21. Mc – Accounts Payable Ledger
22. N – Accounts Payable Ledger

23. O – Accounts Payable Ledger
24. P – Accounts Payable Ledger (part 1)
25. P – Accounts Payable Ledger (part 2)
26. Q – Accounts Payable Ledger
27. R – Accounts Payable Ledger (part 1)
28. R – Accounts Payable Ledger (part 2)
29. S – Accounts Payable Ledger (part 1)
30. S – Accounts Payable Ledger (part 2)
31. S – Accounts Payable Ledger (part 3)
32. T – Accounts Payable Ledger
33. U – Accounts Payable Ledger
34. V – Accounts Payable Ledger

Box 7

1. Census & Payroll Deduction Authority Card (part 1) – A-Z, 1940, 1941
2. Census & Payroll Deduction Authority Card (part 2) – A-Z, 1940, 1941
3. Various employee cards, insurance (part 1) – suspense, additions, cancellations, summary cards, current coverage, dead cards, 3 bundles, 1941
4. Various employee cards, insurance (part 2) – dead cards, 3 bundles, 1941
5. Approvals for store folder – Request for Central Office Approval\_records, Allied Inter-organization letters, 1937-1941
6. Bookkeeping records, 1941-1946 – incomplete records for various items
7. Bookkeeping records, 1935-1940 – records for various store items
8. Bookkeeping records, 1929-1934 – records for various store items
9. Mr. Foreman folder - % change in sales, gross margin %, M.U. %, M.D. %, selling cost, advertising, 1937
10. Sales records – half sheets in taped bundle, 1940-1941, 2 bundles
11. Photostatic Copies of Benefit Payments envelope – from Nebraska Unemployment Compensation Division, 1938
12. Unemployment Compensation folder – various unemployment security papers, State of Nebraska papers, 1939-1941
13. Various loose material – correspondence, bonus arrangement, bookkeeping, 1939-1942
14. Bookkeeping spiral notebook – 1937-1941
15. February 1940 – accordion file, various material, bookkeeping
16. Fixtures & Equipment, Saligman Latz – building costs, 1940
17. Fixtures & Equipment, Emporium World – Alfred Bloom Co., 1940
18. Fixtures & Equipment, Leasehold – Chicago Spring Hinge Co., 1937-1938
19. Fixtures & Equipment, Fixtures & Operating Equipment 1931-1939 – The National Cash Register Company, Remington Rand Co., various 1941 (part 1)
20. Fixtures & Equipment, Fixtures & Operating Equipment, 1931-1939 (part 2) – various companies

Box 8

1. Fixtures & Equipment, Floor covering – various companies, 1938-1939
2. Fixtures & Equipment, Fixtures – various companies, 1937-1939
3. Fixtures & Equipment, Display – various companies, 1937
4. Fixtures & Equipment, loose material – Register numbers on billing machines, Hill Maytag Co., 1936
5. Delivery equipment – various material, 1930-1938
6. April 1940 – bookkeeping
7. March 1940 – bookkeeping
8. May 1940 – bookkeeping
9. June 1940 – bookkeeping
10. January 1940 (part 1) – bookkeeping
11. January 1940 (part 2) – bookkeeping
12. April 1941 – bookkeeping, notes
13. May 1941 – bookkeeping, notes
14. June 1941 – bookkeeping, notes
15. September 1941 – bookkeeping
16. October 1941 – bookkeeping
17. November 1941 – bookkeeping
18. December 1941 – bookkeeping
19. August 1941 – bookkeeping
20. July 1941 (part 1) – bookkeeping
21. July 1941 (part 2) – bookkeeping
22. January 1942 – Allied Inter-Organization letters, Treasury Division, bookkeeping records
23. Various materials – provisions, Bad Checking Account, Fraud Purchases, P & L Ledger Control, 1940-1941
24. Shares Issued book – 1917
25. Rudge & Guenzel Company, Unit of Allied Stores Corporation – Big order book, 1941
26. Correspondence, 1907 – “To Whom it May Concern”

Box 9

1. Bond records
2. Envelopes with deposit records and other bond materials

Box 10          Cancelled bonds

Box 11          Receipts, Gold bonds, bonds, envelopes

Plans and specifications (oversize)

1. Foundation Plan
2. Basement Floor Plan
3. First Floor Plan
4. Balcony Floor Plan
5. Second Floor Plan
6. Third Floor Plan
7. Fourth Floor Plan
8. Fifth Floor Plan
9. Sixth Floor Plan
10. Seventh Floor Plan
11. Room, Motor Room, and Tank Room
12. South Elevation
13. East Elevation
14. Framing Plan of Marquise
15. Detail of Marquise 7 Cornice, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor
16. North Elevation
17. West Elevation
18. South Elevation of Seventh Story
19. Showing West Elevation of Adjoining Bldg. and Underpinning Work; & Showing So. Elevation of Adjoining Bldg and Underpinning work
20. Stair Details
21. Detail of Supports for Freight Elevator and Detail of Supports for Passenger Elev.
22. Door Schedule
23. Basement Restaurant Plan
24. West Wall of Basement Cafeteria and No. Wall of Dining Rm – Basement Restaurant
25. Section on Center Line of Basement Stair at 13<sup>th</sup> Street looking North

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| Sheet 1 | Footing Plan  |
| Sheet 2 | Plan of Ducts – Basement, Balcony, and Mezzanine  |
| Sheet 3 | First Floor Framing Plan  |
| Sheet 4 | Second Floor Framing Plan   |
| Sheet 5 | Third Floor Framing Plan  |
| Sheet 6 | 4 <sup>th</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> , 6 <sup>th</sup> Floor Framing Plan  |
| Sheet 7 | Seventh Floor Framing Plan  |
| Sheet 8 | Eighth Floor Framing Plan, Motor Room; Ninth Floor Framing Plan; Tenth Floor Framing Plan, Tank Room; Eleventh Floor Framing Plan, Roof Framing Over Tank |
| Sheet 9 | Column Schedule   |

DDM/pmc 01-31-1987  
Revised TMM 03-13-2017



**Subject headings:**

Guenzel, Carl John, 1868-1951

Hardware stores -- Nebraska

Lancaster County (Neb.) -- History

Lincoln (Neb.) -- Businesses

Merchants -- Nebraska

Morris, J. F.

Retail trade

Rudge and Guenzel Department Store (Lincoln, Neb.)

Rudge, Charles H., 1858-1921