

**Collection Title:** Virgil Elliott and Elmer Lewis Administrative Records, 1899-1949, bulk 1944-1949, undated

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**Repository:**

The Holloway Archives at Milligan University  
P. H. Welshimer Memorial Library  
200 Blowers Blvd.  
Milligan, TN 37682  
Email: [archives@milligan.edu](mailto:archives@milligan.edu)  
<http://library.milligan.edu/archives/>

**Creator:**

Virgil Elliott, Elmer Lewis, J. Fred Holly, J. Goff Long

**Title:**

Virgil Elliott and Elmer Lewis Administrative Records, 1899-1949, bulk 1944-1949, undated

**Collection No.**

C0039

**Extent:**

1.5 cubic feet (2 boxes)

**Language:**

English

**Abstract:**

The Virgil Elliott and Elmer Lewis Administrative Records contain correspondence, financial records, student information, and administrative information from the time that Virgil Elliott and Elmer Lewis were president of Milligan College (now Milligan University). Virgil Elliott was president from 1944 to 1948, and Elmer Lewis was Acting President from 1948 to early 1950. These men were president during the transition period from the World War II/Navy V-12 Program years to the Dean Walker years.

**Biographical Note:**

Virgil Leroy Elliott was born in 1906. Originally from California, Elliott graduated from Bethany College in 1928, Yale Divinity School in 1931, and the University of Pittsburgh in 1942. During World War II, he served as a chaplain for a Naval Training School for Radio in Bedford, Pennsylvania. He and his wife Geneva, who also attended Bethany, came to Milligan College (now Milligan University), where Elliott served as president from 1944 to 1948. During his tenure, Elliott worked to grow the school, promoting athletics – especially football – and using the choir as a recruitment tool. He wanted to build more buildings on campus, but unfortunately, those plans were never realized during his time. One of his greatest accomplishments was bringing Mildred Welshimer to the school, who would serve as Dean of Women and eventually bring in funds to the school. After resigning from Milligan's presidency in 1948, Elliott became the chaplain at American Community Mutual Insurance Co. Elliott died in 1992.

Elmer Clifford Lewis was born September 21, 1896 in Homestead, Pennsylvania. An ordained minister in the Restoration Movement, Lewis preached in Pennsylvania during the 1920s. He graduated from Pittsburgh Academy in 1923, received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Bethany College in 1927, a Master of Arts and a PhD from the University of Pittsburgh in 1937 and 1957 respectively. Lewis taught at Belle Vernon High School in Pennsylvania from 1928 to 1942 while attending the Carnegie Institute of

Technology and the University of Pittsburgh. Lewis further attended the Army Chaplain School at Harvard University in 1943 before going overseas and serving as a chaplain during World War II. In 1946, Lewis came to Milligan College (now Milligan University), where he served in many roles until 1954. At various times, he was the public relations director, director of printing, chaplain, and a professor. On the resignation of Virgil Elliott in 1948, Lewis became Acting President of Milligan until Dean Walker was installed as president in early 1950. Lewis was teaching at Johnson Bible College in 1957 when he earned his PhD. Lewis spent the last years of his life as the pastor of Squirrel Hill Christian Church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He died May 4, 1984.

J. Fred Holly graduated from Milligan in 1937. Holly taught social science at Milligan from 1940 to 1946. He also served as the business manager and treasurer from 1945 to 1946.

J. Goff Long graduated from Milligan in 1924. He later taught English and education at Milligan from 1937 to 1946 and then served as Milligan's treasurer and business manager 1946-1949.

**Arrangement:**

This collection was found in the archives under Virgil Elliott's name. A box list that somewhat correlates with the contents of this box was also found. Katherine Banks arranged the material in the box into eight series and named the collection after both Virgil Elliott and Elmer Lewis because both names as president were found. The collection was also called the Administrative Records of these two presidents because the bulk of the material is administrative files, such as financial records and Board of Trustees files. Files were also removed from C0135 C. E. Burns Papers (Accession 2020-10) and placed into this collection, as they were files dealing with Virgil Elliott's time as president and not C. E. Burns. The collection is arranged into eight series, in alphabetical order, with each series' files arranged in alphabetical order except for the Board of Trustees series, which is arranged chronologically : I. Series: Alumni, 1945, undated ; II. Series: Athletics: 1944-1949, undated ; III. Series: Board of Trustees, 1944-1949, undated ; IV. Series: Correspondence, 1899-1949, undated ; V. Series: Navy Programs, 1944-1949, undated ; VI. Series: President's Files, 1944-1945, undated ; VII. Series: Student Files, 1944-1948, undated ; and VIII. Series: Financial Records, 1944-1948, undated.

**Scope and Content Note:**

The collection is organized into eight series: Alumni, Athletics, Board of Trustees, Correspondence, Navy Programs, President's Files, Student Files, and Financial Records.

The Alumni series has items from 1945 and undated items. This series contains alumni contact information, most likely for fundraising efforts.

The Athletics series spans 1944 to 1949 and includes undated material. This series contains correspondence, contracts, and purchase orders relating to athletics.

The Board of Trustees series spans 1944 to 1949 and includes undated material. This series contains Board of Trustees member lists, as well as reports.

The Correspondence series spans 1899 to 1949 and includes undated material. This series contains several folders of correspondence to and from Milligan administrators, mostly Virgil Elliott. The folder Correspondence – Elliot Admin. has a note which says, "Representative sample of college and 'Church' correspondence," presumably from a previous Milligan archivist.

The Navy Programs series spans 1944 to 1949 and includes undated material. This series contains paperwork related to Milligan's status as a school operating as part of the Navy V-12 program during

World War II, including financial documents and correspondence, as well as a naval aviation program after the war ended.

The President's Files series spans 1944 to 1945 and includes undated material. This series includes some of Elliott's financial documents as well as a file of information on the review of the president.

The Student Files series spans 1944 to 1948 and includes undated material. This series includes student enrollment files and work contracts, matriculation information, and prospective student information, as well as a file of Spanish tests.

The Financial Records series spans 1944 to 1948 and includes undated material. This series contains financial statements and fundraising information.

### **Administrative Information**

#### **Acquisition Information**

Accession 002-10-2007, 2020-10

Note: There was no accession year available when this collection was processed, therefore the year when processing started is used for the accession record.

#### **Access Restrictions:**

Collection is open for research.

The Student Files and the Financial Records series are restricted at this time, but may be able to come open in the future.

The archivist reserves the right to determine on a case-by-case basis if certain folders within the collection that have been requested for viewing cannot be made available due to various restriction compliance, including but not limited to student information, private personal information, and organizational information of a restricted nature.

### **Preferred Citation**

[Item], Virgil Elliott and Elmer Lewis Administrative Records, Collection C0039, The Holloway Archives at Milligan University, Milligan, TN.

### **Processing Information**

Processed by: Katherine Banks

Completed in 2020.

### **Folder List**

#### **Box 1 I. Series: Alumni, 1945, undated**

Alumni Appeal, undated

Alumni Information '45, 1945, undated

#### **II. Series: Athletics: 1944-1949, undated**

Baseball, 1945

Basketball, 1944-1945, undated

Football, 1944-1948

Letter Sweaters, 1947, undated

Volunteer State Athletic Conference, 1949

### **III. Series: Board of Trustees, 1944-1949, undated**

Board of Trustees Milligan College, 1944-1946, undated  
Board of Trustees – June 1946, 1946  
Board of Trustees – 1947, undated  
Board of Trustees – February 1949, 1948-1949, undated

### **IV. Series: Correspondence, 1899-1949, undated**

Bra-Brn 1944-45, 1945  
Bro-Bt 1944-45, 1944-1945  
Bro-Bt 1945-46, 1946  
Bu-Bz 1944-45, 1944-1945  
Bu-Bz 1945-46, 1946  
Ca-Cd 1944-45, 1945  
Ca-Cd 1945-46, 1945-1946, undated  
Ce-Cn 1944-45, 1944-1945, undated  
Ce-Cn 1945-46, 1946  
Coa-Con 1944-45, 1945-1946  
Coa-Con 1945-46, 1946  
Coo-Cq 1944-45, 1944-1945  
Coo-Cq 1945-46, 1946  
Correspondence – Elliott Admin., 1947-1948  
Cr-Ct 1945-46, 1944-1946  
Cu-Cz 1945-46, 1946  
Da-Dh 1944-45, 1944-1945  
Da-Dh 1945-46, 1946  
Di-Dq 1944-45, 1944-1945  
Di-Dq 1945-46, 1946  
Dr-Dz 1944-45, 1945  
Dr-Dz 1945-46, 1946  
duPont, Jessie Ball – Very Important, 1947  
Ea-En 1944-45, 1944-1945  
Ea-En 1945-46, 1946  
Fe-Fk 1944-45, 1945  
Fe-Fk 1945-46, 1946  
Fi-Fq 1944-45, 1944-1945  
Fl-Fq 1945-46, 1946  
Form Letters and Lists 1944-45-46, undated  
Fr-Fz 1944-45, 1944-1945  
Fr-Fz 1945-46, 1946  
Ga-Gh 1944-45, 1945-1946, undated  
Ga-Gh 1945-46, 1945-1946  
Gi-Gq 1944-45, 1944-1946  
Gi-Gq 1945-46, 1945-1946, undated  
Gr-Gz 1944-45, 1944-1945, undated  
Gr-Gz 1945-46, 1946  
Haa-Haq 1945-46, 1946  
Har-Hd 1944-45, 1945  
Har-Hd 1945-46, 1946  
Hayden Correspondence, 1947-1948  
He-Hh 1945-46, 1946

Hi-Hn 1944-45, 1944-1945  
Ho-Ht 1944-45, 1944  
Ho-Ht 1945-46, 1945  
Holly, J. Fred – Correspondence, 1944-1945, undated  
Hu-Hz 1944-45, 1944-1945  
Hu-Hz 1945-46, 1946, undated  
I 1944-45, 1944-1945  
I 1945-46, 1946  
J 1944-45, 1944-1945  
J 1945-46, 1946  
Ka-Kh 1944-45, 1945  
Ki-Kq 1944-45, 1945  
Ki-Kq 1945-46, 1946  
Kr-Kz 1944-45, 1945  
La-Ld 1944-45, 1944  
La-Ld 1945-46, 1946  
Le-Lh 1945-46, 1946-1947  
Li-Lz 1944-45, 1945, undated  
Li-Lz 1945-46, 1946  
Long, G J Correspondence, 1945-1949, undated  
Ma-Mb 1944-45, 1944-1945  
Ma-Mb 1945-46, 1946  
McA-McD 1944-45, 1945-1946  
McA-McD 1945-46, 1944-1946  
McE-McK 1944-45, 1944-1946  
McE-McK 1945-46, 1946  
McL-Md 1944-45, 1945  
Me-Mn 1944-45, 1899-1946  
Me-Mn 1945-46, 1946  
Mo-Mx 1944-45, 1944-1945  
Mo-Mx 1945-46, 1946  
My-Mz 1945-46, 1946  
Na-Nm 1944-45, 1945  
No-Nz 1944-45, 1945  
No-Nz 1945-46, undated  
O 1944-45, 1945  
Organization Charts, 1945, undated  
Pa-Ph 1944-45, 1944-1946  
Pa-Ph 1945-46, 1945-1946  
Pi-Pq 1944-45, 1944  
Pi-Pq 1945-46, 1946  
Pr-Pz 1944-45, 1944-1945  
Pr-Pz 1945-46, 1946  
Q 1944-45, 1945  
Ra-Rh 1944-45, 1944-1945  
Ra-Rh 1945-46, 1946  
Ri-Rof 1944-45, 1944  
Ri-Rof 1945-46, 1946  
Rog-Rz 1944-45, 1944-1945  
Rog-Rz 1945-46, 1946  
Sa-Scq 1944-45, 1944-1945

Sa-Scq 1945-46, 1946  
Sch-Sd 1945-46, 1946  
Se-Shd 1944-45, 1944-1945  
She-Shz 1945-46, 1946  
Si-Sn 1944-45, 1944-1946  
Si-Sn 1945-46, 1946  
So-Ss 1944-45, 1945  
So-Ss 1945-46, 1946, undated  
Sta-Sth 1944-45, 1944-1946  
Sta-Sth 1945-46, 1946  
Sti-Stz 1944-45, 1945  
Sti-Stz 1945-46, 1946  
Su-Sz 1944-45, 1945  
Su-Sz 1945-46, 1946  
Ta-Tn 1944-45, 1944-1945, undated  
Ta-Tn 1945-46, 1946  
To-Tz 1945-46, 1946  
To-Tz, 1945-1946  
V 1944-45, 1944-1945  
V 1945-46, 1946  
Wa-Wd 1944-45, 1944-1946  
Wa-Wd 1945-46, 1946  
We-Wg 1944-45, 1945  
We-Wg 1945-46, 1946  
Wh 1944-45, 1945  
Wh 1945-46, 1946  
Wia-Wil 1944-45, 1944-1945  
Wia-Wil 1945-46, 1945  
Wo-Wz 1944-45, 1946  
Wo-Wz 1945-46, 1946  
X-Y 1945-46, 1946

**V. Series: Navy Programs, 1944-1949, undated**

Conversion from V-12 College, 1945-1946, undated  
JGL: Veteran Benefits, 19447-1948, undated  
Naval Aviation College Program c. 1946-48, 1947-1949, undated  
Navy Surplus, 1945-1948  
Navy V-12: General, 1944-1945, undated

**VI. Series: President's Files, 1944-1945, undated**

Review of the Work of the President Since 1944, undated  
Virgil L. Elliott, Milligan College, Tennessee (S-38), 1944-1945, undated

**VII. Series: Student Files, 1944-1948, undated [RESTRICTED]**

Matriculation Cards, 1946  
Prospective Students 1945-46, 1944-1946, undated  
Spanish Tests, 1947, undated  
Student Material – Enrollment, Queries, etc., 1946-1948, undated  
Student Work Assignments for Fall 1946, undated

**Box 2 VIII. Series: Financial Records, 1944-1948, undated [RESTRICTED]**

Balance Sheets/Financials: 1936-1944, 1944-1945  
Balance Sheets: 1946-1948, 1946-1948  
Bookstore, 1944-1945  
Building and Endowment Campaign '45, 1945, undated  
Church Relations, 1948  
Compton, Viola Annuity, 1944, undated  
Contributions, 1943-1947, undated  
Financial – Elliott Admin., 1945-1946, undated  
Financial Lists (Tenn. Contributions Teacher's Salaries 1944-45) Financial Arrangement with  
athletes for 1946-47, undated  
Financial Statement (Spring 1946), 1946, undated  
Fundraising, undated  
Hopwood Fund, Sarah LaRue, 1945  
Pension Fund, 1947-1948, undated  
Waddy Trust, 1944-1945, undated