

# Rupert H. Fike Papers Mss.0034

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Clemson University Libraries Special Collections and Archives

230 Kappa St.

Clemson, SC 29634

[cuscl@clemson.edu](mailto:cuscl@clemson.edu)

URL: <http://library.clemson.edu/depts/specialcollections/>

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## Table of Contents

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Summary Information .....	3
Biographical Note .....	3
Scope and Contents .....	4
Arrangement .....	5
Administrative Information .....	5
Related Materials .....	6
Controlled Access Headings .....	6
Collection Inventory .....	6
Research materials and correspondence .....	6
Athletic Council .....	6
Class of 1908 .....	7
Correspondence .....	7
<i>Fifty Some Odd Years of Football at Clemson</i> .....	8
IPTAY .....	8
Photographs .....	9
Oversize .....	9
Memorabilia .....	10

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Clemson University Libraries Special Collections and Archives
<b>Creator - other_unmapped:</b>	Fike, Rupert Howard, 1887 or 1888-1956
<b>Title:</b>	Rupert Howard Fike Papers
<b>ID:</b>	Mss.0034
<b>ID [Archivists Toolkit Database::RESOURCE]:</b>	42
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1908-1972
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1922-1956
<b>Physical Description:</b>	2 Cubic Feet consisting of 4 boxes; 1 oversize folder with 3 diplomas, two newspapers and a blueprint; 4 woven christmas cards; 1 badge; 31 photographs and 22 negatives.
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English .

### Preferred Citation

Mss 34 Rupert Howard Fike Papers, Special Collections Library, Clemson University, Clemson SC 29634-3001.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Biographical Note

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Rupert Howard Fike was born on November 25, 1887 in Spartanburg County, SC. He was the son of George Olean Fike (1850-1912) and Ella Estelle McKinney Fike (1857-1941). He graduated from Clemson College in 1908 with a degree in civil engineering and from medical school at Lincoln Memorial University in Tennessee in 1912.

Fike began practicing medicine in Chesnee, South Carolina and then joined the staff of Steedly Hospital in Spartanburg. He specialized in x-ray diagnosis (radiology) with post-graduate work at Johns Hopkins University, Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School, the Mayo Clinic and the Curie Institute in Paris. He observed cancer clinics in England and Europe

before becoming roentgenologist and physician-in-charge at Steiner Cancer Clinic hospital in Atlanta from 1921 to 1944. While at Steiner, he taught classes at Emory University and the Atlanta Southern Dental College. He also served as director of the American Society for the Control of Cancer from 1931 to c1940.

Fike was staff roentgenologist at St. Joseph's Infirmary in Atlanta from 1944 to 1949. In 1949, he joined Vereen Memorial Hospital in Moultrie, Georgia and remained there until his death in 1956. He also was associated with hospitals in Camilla and Adel, Georgia.

Rupert H. Fike is credited with being one of the main organizers of IPTAY (originally standing for I Pay Ten A Year). The organization was founded by nine Clemson graduates at Fike's Atlanta home on August 20, 1934 to raise money for Clemson's athletic teams, particularly football. At first a secret club with a number of rituals, IPTAY became public in the late 1930s. Today IPTAY is the largest collegiate booster club in the country.

Fike served as president of IPTAY and as an alumni representative on the Clemson Athletic Council from the mid-1930s until his death in 1956. He held IPTAY membership #1. Fike was awarded an honorary Doctor of Science degree from Clemson College in 1952.

Rupert H. Fike was married to Ethel Lee Ewing (1890–1976) of Knoxville, TN. They had two children: Rupert Howard Jr. (1913-1978) and Eleanor (1916-1988 ). He was a long time Mason and a member of Rotary International. Fike died on October 30, 1956. He is buried on Cemetery Hill on the Clemson University campus. Clemson's Board of Trustees named the school's field house for Fike in 1966.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Scope and Contents

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The Rupert Howard Fike Papers cover the period 1908-1972, with the majority of the material dating from 1922-1956. The collection contains correspondence primarily related to IPTAY, Clemson football, the Clemson Athletic Council, a testimonial dinner for J.C. Littlejohn and reunions of the Class of 1908. There is research for and a draft of an unpublished book "Fifty Some Odd Years of Football at Clemson" written by Fike. Photographs and negatives primarily are related to the history of Clemson football and were intended for inclusion in the book. Other photographs document a portrait of Fike donated to Clemson after his death. Artifacts include cloth greeting cards woven by students in Clemson's Textile School. Correspondents include Frank Howard, Calhoun Lemon, and James C. Littlejohn; there is also a letter from Margaret Mitchell.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Arrangement

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Alphabetical by folder title, chronological within each folder. Photographs are filed at the end of the collection.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

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### Revision Description

Additional materials were added to the collection. Folder names were revised. November 2013

### Immediate Source of Acquisition

IPTAY transferred papers to the University Libraries in 1983. Eleanor Fike donated the manuscript and the memorabilia in 1984. Correspondence between Henry Tillman and Fike was donated by Henry T. Snead in 1987. Additional papers were donated by Rupert Fike III in 1998.

### Processing Information

The collection was re-processed and the finding aid created by Susan Hiott in 2013.

### Custodial History

Calhoun Lemon received the papers from Fike and gave them to IPTAY.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Related Materials

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### Separated Materials

Newspaper clippings about Clemson's athletic programs were added to the Clemson University clippings files. The book *Clemson's Foot Ball: An Historical Sketch of Foot Ball at Clemson College* was cataloged and added to the Clemson Special Collections book collection.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Histories
- Diplomas
- Photographs.
- Clemson University -- Alumni and alumnae
- Clemson University -- Football -- History
- Littlejohn, James C. (James Corcoran)
- Howard, Frank, 1909-1996
- Lemon, Clinton Calhoun, 1910-
- Clemson Tigers (Football team)
- IPTAY (Organization)
- Clemson University. Athletic Council
- Mitchell, Margaret, 1900-1949

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## Collection Inventory

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### Research materials and correspondence

#### Athletic Council

Title/Description	Instances	
1922-1925	box 1	folder 1
1945-1949	box 1	folder 2
1950-1951	box 1	folder 3
1952-1954, n.d.	box 1	folder 4

Athletic Department - Financial, 1951-1956	box 1	folder 5
Atlantic Coast Conference - Constitution and Bylaws, 1954	box 1	folder 6
Cancer, 1936-1947	box 1	folder 7

## Class of 1908

Title/Description	Instances	
Correspondence, 1927	box 1	folder 8
Correspondence, 1928	box 1	folder 9
Correspondence, 1930-1953, no date	box 1	folder 10
Printed Materials, 1928-1948	box 1	folder 11
Class of 1926, 1946	box 1	folder 12
Clemson Agricultural College "A Special Announcement for Prospective Students", 1945	box 1	folder 13
Clemson Alumni Corporation, 1933-1951, undated	box 1	folder 14
Clemson Alumni Corporation - "Preliminary Report On the Damage to the Property of Clemson Agricultural College By The Proposed Hartwell Dam Development", April 1951	box 1	folder 15
Clemson Clubs, 1928-1949, undated	box 1	folder 16
<i>Clemson World</i> , January 1975	box 1	folder 17

## Correspondence

Title/Description	Instances	
1926-1929	box 2	folder 1
1936-1937	box 2	folder 2
1938-1939	box 2	folder 3
1940-1945	box 2	folder 4
1946	box 2	folder 5
1947	box 2	folder 6
1948	box 2	folder 7
1949 January - May	box 2	folder 8
1949 June - December	box 2	folder 9
1950-1951	box 2	folder 10
1952	box 2	folder 11
1953	box 2	folder 12
1954	box 2	folder 13

J.C. Littlejohn Testimonial Dinner, 1954	box 2	folder 14
Moultrie (GA) City Stadium Dedication, 1954	box 2	folder 15
1955-1956	box 2	folder 16
no date, fragments	box 2	folder 17

### ***Fifty Some Odd Years of Football at Clemson***

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
Correspondence, 1951	box 3	folder 1
Correspondence , 1952-1953	box 3	folder 2
Draft Introduction	box 3	folder 3
Draft pages 3-25, 1896-1903	box 3	folder 4
Draft pages 26-69, 1904-1922	box 3	folder 5
Draft pages 71-99, 1923-1936	box 3	folder 6
Draft pages 101-134, 1937-1950	box 3	folder 7
Excerpts from <i>The History of Southern Football</i> by Fuzzy Woodruff, 1897-1906	box 3	folder 8
Page mock-ups	box 3	folder 9
Research, 1895-1952	box 3	folder 10
Team scores, 1896-1952	box 3	folder 11
Football - ephemera, 1927 - 1951, no date	box 3	folder 12
I Pay One A Year (IPOAY) - ephemera, 1948-1950	box 4	folder 1

### **IPTAY**

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
1934 - 1955, no date	box 4	folder 2
"The Beginning of IPTAY"	box 4	folder 3
"Dear IPTAY" newsletters, 1937 - 1954, no date	box 4	folder 4
ephemera	box 4	folder 5
Miscellaneous	box 4	folder 6
Music, songs and cheers	box 4	folder 7
National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), 1948	box 4	folder 8
Postcards	box 4	folder 9
Posthumous, 1956 - 1957, no date	box 4	folder 10
Southern Conference, 1946 - 1952, no date	box 4	folder 11



Speeches	box 4	folder 12
Vereen Memorial Hospital, 1955	box 4	folder 13

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Photographs

### Description

The positive prints and their corresponding negatives are copies Fike had made for inclusion in his book *Fifty Some Odd Years of Clemson Football*. They are primarily team photographs though there are two of scrapbook pages with newspaper clippings circa 1936, one of cadets in formation in front of Tillman Hall and one of Tillman Hall burning. Most seem to have been reproduced from *Taps*.

Title/Description	Instances	
Positives (1)	box 4	folder 14
Positives (2)	box 4	folder 15
Negatives	box 4	folder 16
<u>Physical Description</u> : 22 item(s)		

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Oversize

Title/Description	Instances	
Bachelor of Science in Agriculture and Animal Industry, Clemson Agricultural College of South Carolina diploma, 1908	oversize_folder	1
Columbian Literary Society, Clemson College diploma, 1908	oversize_folder	1
Certificate completed in red crayon, Clemson Agricultural College of South Carolina, "to certify that Rube Fike has satisfactorily completed the course and is awarded the degree of Master of Bull 'M.B.'"	oversize_folder	1
blueprint: "Proposed Swimming Pool / Clemson College"	oversize_folder	1
<i>The Tiger</i> , 8 January 1930	oversize_folder	1
<i>The Tiger</i> , 23 October 1939	oversize_folder	1

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Memorabilia

Title/Description	Instances
Four woven Christmas greetings, 1937, 1939, undated	object 1-3
IPTAY badge	object 4

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)