

## DeKalb History Center

### Smith Family Papers (1800-1986)

**Introduction:** The Smith Family Papers include photographs, books, letters, newsclippings, church bulletins, certificates, and honors collected by Judge Charles Whitefoord Smith and his wife, Mrs. Frannie Wright Smith, as well as their adopted daughter, Daisy Frances Smith.

**Provenance:** Gift of Daisy Frances Smith (#1981.77)

Single photocopies may be made for research purposes. Permission to publish materials from this collection must be requested from the archivist, DeKalb History Center. Citation should be as follows:

Description of specific item; Smith Family Papers, DeKalb History Center Archives

Processed by Beth Godbee, DHS intern, 1998. Updated by Megan Milford, DHS intern, 2001.

**Size:** 1.2 linear feet (three document boxes)

### Biographical Sketches of Daisy Frances Smith and Judge Charles Whitefoord Smith

Daisy Frances Smith was born in 1902 and was adopted by her aunt and uncle, Charles and Fannie Smith, after losing her mother at age six. Daisy attended the Girls High School in Atlanta, Agnes Scott College for her undergraduate work, and the University of Pennsylvania where she received a master's degree in history. She taught English at Agnes Scott College (Decatur, GA) and then Andrew College (Cuthbert, GA) as well as history at Peace College (Raleigh, NC). In 1932, Daisy organized the Decatur Girls High and served as principal for eleven years until she enlisted as a private in the U.S. Army Women's Army Corps. During this time, she was stationed in Florida, Texas, and Georgia; trained clerical workers in the army; and earned the position of Second Lieutenant. When discharged in 1945, Daisy returned to Decatur to find the Girls and Boys High Schools had merged, and she was not offered a position. Ms. Smith then chose a job with Esco's Garage and crossed gender barriers, wearing men's clothing and driving pick-up trucks. When the Escos left Decatur in the mid-1950's, Daisy took a teaching position at Hapeville High School. This later part of her life opened the doors for writing as she became a published poet. Her three volumes of poetry include the *Half-Breed* (1956), *A Fig and a Fither* (1967) and *Elegies* (1981). [These books are cataloged separately from this collection.] Although never married, Daisy Smith lived in companionship with Willa Barrett, "the most treasured person in her life," until 1981 when Willa died. Although distraught, Daisy remained active in professional organizations until her death in 1989.

Charles Whitefoord Smith was born April 21, 1856 in Beaufort, South Carolina. Charles received his primary education from both public and private schools in Atlanta before attending Wofford College (Spartanburg, SC). At age nineteen Charles was admitted to the Georgia bar,



Prayer—Books and devotions.  
 Smith, Fannie Wright (1859-1938).  
 United States—Description and travel—1865-1920.  
 Women--History—Georgia—DeKalb County.

### Folder List

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Date(s)</u>
1	1	Personal Papers	1800-1986
	2	Misc. manuscripts	1881-1982
	3	Business and calling cards	
	4	Legal Documents	1874-1920
	5	Death of Judge C.W. Smith	1903-1960
	6	Photographs	
	7	Photographs	
	8	Scrapbook	
2	1	The Westminster Shorter Catechism	1861
	2	Biennial Catalogue, Kappa Alpha Order	1873-1875
	3	The Book of Useful Recipes	1877
	4	Ordinances/Rules and Regulations of the town of Edgewood	1904
	5	The Philistine	1905
	6	Broken Swords	1916
	7	The Gift of Leadership	1916
	8	The Prayers of a Week	1916
	9	The Secret of Eternal Youth	1916
	10	Your Grandmother's Job and Yours	1916
	11	Pulling Together	1916
	12	Photograph/postcard album	
3	1	Oversized Certificates for C.W. Smith: 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt. of Governor's Horse Guard (3)	1887
		Georgia Court of Appeals (2)	1907
		32 <sup>nd</sup> Degree of Scottish Rite (2)	1911
		Noble, Mystic Shrine (Yaarab Temple)	1912
		Georgia Supreme Court	1915-1916, 1919
		Diploma, Boys High School	
		Wills of Fannie and Chas. W. Smith	