



**St. James Literary Society (St. Francis Seminary)  
Records, 1885-1961  
AS 11**

**Volume**

1.4 cubic feet

**Access**

Open/unrestricted.

**Historical Note**

This society was organized, possibly as early as 1879, by students of the Classical Department of St. Francis Seminary. This society encouraged and helped students develop a love for English literature. It also improved the speech and debating skills of its members in order to prepare them for the priesthood.

In 1941, it appears that as part of the St. Francis Seminary reorganization into Major and Minor Departments, that the St. James Literary and Debating Society become part of the Minor Department under a new name, the St. James Literary Society.

Around 1962 the society again appears to have taken on a new name--the St. James Speech Society.

**Scope and Content**

Constitution and by-laws, minutes, financial records and membership information. Programs, photographs, letters, and newspaper clippings of this student organization are also found within the minute books.

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Folder Title</b>
B 1	F 1	"Archives" (Histories/Orations), 1915-1926
B 1	F 2	Honorary Members, n.d.
B 1	F 3	Constitution, By-Laws, Minutes, 1885-1890
B 1	F 4	Constitution, By-Laws, Minutes, 1890-1914
B 2	F 1	Minutes, 1914-1928
B 2	F 2	Minutes, 1929-1941
B 3	F 1	Minutes, 1948-1961
B 3	F 2	Programs, n.d., 1906-1933
B 3	F 3	Quotations, 1891-1905
B 3	F 4	Roll Call, 1911-1921
B 3	F 5	Treasurer's Record, 1914-1927