

**Title:** Progressive Lodge No. 270 of the Western Fraternal Life Association Collection

**Reference Code:** Mss-2384

**Inclusive Dates:** 1923 – 2000

**Quantity:** 0.4 cu. ft.

**Location:** CV, Sh. 288

**Abstract:** Z.C.B.J. stands for Zapadni Chesko-Bratsrke Jednoty which in Czech means Western Bohemian Fraternal Association. This organization later changed its name to Western Fraternal Life Association. Progressive Lodge No. 270 was formed when four members of the old Milwaukee Lodge No. 48 joined with 25 young Czechs, with the purpose of establishing the first lodge in Wisconsin with young English-speaking people of Bohemian descent. An aging and declining membership forced Progressive Lodge #270 to merge with Milwaukee Lodge #48 on January 1, 2000.

**Scope and Content:** The collection consists of articles and by-laws of the national and local organization, proceedings and programs from the national conventions, anniversary programs, certificates, auditors' reports, treasurers ledger sheets, and handbooks.

**Access and Use:** No restrictions

**Language:** English, Czech

**Notes:** The collection was originally processed by Steve Daily, Nov. 2, 1996, and added to by Kevin Abing, July 21, 2000.

**Arrangement:**

<b>Folder Heading</b>	<b>Box #</b>	<b>File #</b>
Articles and by-laws – National - 1933 (in Czech) 1967 (in Czech) - 1959, 1967, 1971, 1975, 1979, 1983, 1987, 1991, 1995 (2 copies), 1999	1	1
Articles and by-laws - Progressive Lodge No. 270: 1923, 1940	1	2
Proceedings of National Conventions: 1947, 1951, 1959, 1963, 1979, 1983, 1987, 1991, 1995	1	3
Programs of National Conventions: 1937, 1979, 1983, 1991, 1995	1	4
Anniversary programs - Progressive Lodge No. 270: 1973, 1977, 1983	1	5
Certificates and misc. items - Membership in International Institute of Milwaukee County, March 13, 1969 - Flood relief award from Black River Falls for contribution to Lodge Ratolest No. 196, 1994	1	6

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Contribution for restoration of Statue of Liberty</li> <li>- Wisconsin Fraternal Congress Annual Conference booklet, 1982</li> <li>- Page from <i>Sokol Americky</i> announcing approval of a 100th anniversary commemorative stamp on founding of Sokol movement, 1965</li> <li>- WBFA life insurance booklet</li> <li>- Certificate commemorating 75th anniversary of Lodge 270</li> <li>- List of Lodge 270 officers, 1924-1999</li> <li>- History of European Village, Milwaukee Public Museum, and Contents of the Czech Domecek House</li> <li>- Pamphlet, "Fraternalism is"</li> </ul>		
Auditors Reports, 1982-1998	1	7
Survey of Fraternal Activity, 1983, 1985	1	8
Treasurers Ledger Sheets, 1995-Jan. 31, 2000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Balance sheets, Funds, Educational, Entertainment, Receipts, Disbursements</li> </ul>	1	9
State Convention, 1977 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Minutes, plans, program</li> </ul>	1	10
Handbooks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Book of Rites (3), Funeral Handbook, "Helpful Hints on How to Conduct a Meeting"</li> </ul>	1	11
Merger-Related Material	1	12
Treasurer's cash book for Progressive Lodge, 1937-39. Petty Cash Book, 1976-1999	1	Loose
VHS Videotape of State Meeting, 1994; WFLA National Convention, 1995; District Meeting of Lodge 126, 1996; Lodge 48 State Convention, 1996 (See Multimedia Collection, Video Cassette #39)		