

**Title:** Lee, Mordecai Collection

**Call Number:** Mss-2878

**Inclusive Dates:** 1910 – 2004

**Bulk:** 0.8 cu. ft.

**Location:** ER, Sh. 097

**Abstract:** The collection consists of research done by Mordecai Lee, Professor of Governmental Affairs at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, on the Milwaukee Bureau of Economy and Efficiency. Later this bureau was reorganized into the Citizens' Bureau of Municipal Efficiency, which was then renamed the Citizens' Bureau of Milwaukee. The collection includes publications and reports by the Bureau, as well as articles and histories relating to the Bureau.

**Historical Note:** The Milwaukee Bureau of Economy and Efficiency was first created in 1910 in response to corruption in city government as well as a large vice problem in the city. Mayor Emil Seidel wanted to create a group that would help the government operate and spend more efficiently. In 1912, the organization ceased to exist with the election of a new mayor, but prominent Milwaukee industrialists wanted to maintain the organization, so they used private funds to create the Citizens' Bureau of Efficiency, which served the same basic purpose as its predecessor.

**Administrative Note:** The collection was donated by Mordecai Lee in 2011. It was processed by Amy Burkart-Paulson in March 2012.

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