Pruitt Grocery - Account Book, 1936-1941 (MSS 214)

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CORPORATE HISTORY

The Pruitt Grocery opened on 14 August 1928 at Halfway in Allen County, Kentucky. In 1930 Kay E. and M.G. Pruitt began a produce business as part of the operation and it flourished; at one time the concern had seven trucks in their fleet. Eventually the fleet chiefly carried poultry from the Allen County hamlet to numerous other states. With the introduction of refrigerated trucks, the firm became shipping dressed chickens from Nashville. Due to poor health Kay Pruitt began to retired his trucks as they aged.

The grocery eventually became K.E. Pruitt Grocery, and it was an important focal point for the Halfway community. The store carried groceries, dry goods items, hardware; it also had gasoline pumps and served as the community’s post office. Kay served as the postmaster from 1943 to 1949 and from 1953 into the 1970s.

Kay was the son of Y.R. (a teacher) and Cornelia (Cooksey) Pruitt. He married Ora Jackson Pruitt in 1934. They had one son, Leland Pruitt.

COLLECTION

This collection consists of one large account book (276 p.) in which the purchase records of the K.E. Pruitt Grocery, in Halfway, Kentucky, were recorded. Most of the entries are legible, although the majority were marked through when the accounts were transferred to a new ledger book. The entries are typical of general stores in the area; they vary only in that they do record gasoline and oil charges. The years are rarely recorded on the entries, but most of the accounts run from 1936 to 1941.

SHELF LIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BOX 1</th>
<th>Pruitt Grocery</th>
<th>1936-1941; 1972</th>
<th>3 items</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Folder 1</td>
<td>Descriptive inventory and news clipping</td>
<td>1972</td>
<td>2 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folder 2</td>
<td>Account book</td>
<td>1936-1941</td>
<td>1 item</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BIBLIOGRAPHIC RECORD

MSS PRUITT Grocery – Account book 1936-1941
214

Account book (276 p.) for the K. E. Pruitt Grocery in Halfway, Allen County, Kentucky. The accounts are for local individuals and list debits for grocery, gasoline and oil, dry goods, and hardware items.

1 box. 2 folders. 3 items. Originals
1984.96.1

SUBJECT ANALYTICS

Account books – Store accounts – Allen County, 1936-1941
Allen County – Halfway – Relating to, 1936-1941
Halfway – Allen County – Relating to, 1936-1941
Pruitt Grocery – Allen County, 1936-1941
Pruitt, Kay E., d. 1973 – Relating to
Pruitt, Ora Jackson, d. 1988 – Relating to
Store accounts – Allen County, 1936-1941

Jeffrey 05/20/2008