

**GUY AND NELL ROGERS PAPERS**

(Ms. 4848)

Inventory

Compiled by  
Catherine G. Jones  
2003

Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections  
Special Collections, Hill Memorial Library  
Louisiana State University Libraries  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Revised 2009

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**SUMMARY**

**Size.** 0.6 linear ft.

**Geographic locations.** Newllano, Louisiana; Gainesville, Florida

**Inclusive Dates.** 1920-1965, undated

**Bulk Dates.** 1930-1935

**Language.** English

**Summary.** Correspondence, legal papers, printed items, and speeches and essays, of the Rogers family of Newllano, La. and Gainesville, Fl. Items pertain principally to Newllano, a socialist co-operative colony, and The People's Industrial System, a socialist organization. Also included is a photograph of Nell Rogers, taken circa 1964.

**Access.** No restrictions

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**Citation.** Guy and Nell Rogers Papers, Mss. 4848, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

**Stack Location.** S:134, OS:G

**BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE**

Husband and wife Guy and Nell Foster Rogers were colonists at the Newllano colony (sometimes called New Llano), Louisiana, near Leesville in Vernon Parish. The Llano Colony was a socialist cooperative society, which was organized in California in 1914. Some of its members migrated to Newllano, La., in 1918. Guy Rogers printed the colony's newspaper *The Llano Colonist*. The Rogers came to Newllano from Michigan in late 1927 and left in early 1929 over what they deemed to be colony leader George T. Pickett's fraudulent dealings with the colony's property and goods. They migrated to Florida where they founded PINS, the People's Industrial System, another socialist organization. Guy Rogers edited the organization's newsletter *Pins*. He died in 1951. Nell Rogers became a lobbyist in Florida. She died in 1974.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

Correspondence consists primarily of responses to Guy and Nell Rogers' communications with other socialists. It relates principally to Newllano and The People's Industrial System. Legal papers include property and warranty deeds, as well as copies of stock certificates for the Llano Co-operative Colony. Printed items contain newsletters, applications for the colony, and a survey of property in Alachua County, Fl., as well as extensive tracts on socialist thought. Printed items also include a number of newspaper clippings concerning socialist politics. The speeches and essays relate to The People's Industrial System. Also present is a photograph of Nell Foster Rogers circa 1964.

**LIST OF SERIES**

- I. Correspondence, 1920-1963, undated
- II. Legal Papers, 1925-1958
- III. Printed Items, 1925-1967, undated
- IV. Speeches and Essays, undated
- V. Photograph, ca. 1964

**SERIES DESCRIPTIONS****I. Correspondence, 1920-1963, undated**

Correspondence, primarily received by Guy Rogers, pertains to the Newllano Colony, the People's Industrial System, and *Pins*, a newsletter which "spread news and views of the People's Industrial System." Many letters are in response to communications sent by Rogers, although some are approvals or criticism of *Pins*. Also included are letters among former Newllano residents explaining their dissatisfaction with the then current state of the colony. Several letters are from Sheridan Webster, a Missouri attorney, who developed the concept of, and helped Rogers, establish the People's Industrial System in Florida. A few letters are from local political leaders in response to Rogers's or Webster's pleas for appointments, donations, or, usually, recommendations concerning the People's Industrial System. Most contain details of the Newllano Colony, criticism of George T. Pickett, and attempts to establish the People's Industrial System and a readership for *Pins*.

**II. Legal Papers, 1925-1958**

Legal papers primarily include Guy and Nell Rogers official documents and relate to attempts in establishing the People's Industrial System. Included are copies of Llano Del Rio stock certificates (1929), property and warranty deeds among Elzie and L.M. Rogers, George Foster, William and Sylvia Lucas, A.D. Lucas, Alfred McGill, Aloha and Herman Fahselt, Ethel Van Boskirk, Guy and Nell Rogers, Lucy Foster, Flora and Frank Walker, Charles and Daisy Foster, C.V. and Lucy Mize and the heirs of George Foster, all regarding adjacent property in Alachua County, Fl. (1926-58), George Foster's tax deeds (1927-28), a power of attorney granting George Foster power for J.M. Barron, Hazel Barron, Stanford McCay, and Ed Gains in matters relating to "labors performed on land deeded to the People's Industrial System" (1931), Guy and Nell Rogers tax receipts for property in Louisiana and Florida (1920, 1934), a sales contract for an automobile purchased by J.M. Barron (1931), Hugh and Lillian Edwards quit-claim deed regarding property in Alachua County, Fl. (1958).

**III. Printed Items, 1925-1967, undated**

Printed items relate primarily to socialism, the Newllano Colony and the People's Industrial System. Regarding socialism, included is a Joint Conference on Unemployment meeting program (1932), a People's Party information sheet (undated), a pamphlets titled "The Development of Our Present-Day System of Mass Production and the Evolution of Money" and "The Sovereign Individual vs. Communism and Fascism" by Whitney H. Slocomb (1939, 1951), Charles Beard's book review of "The Chart of Plenty" (1935), and an excerpt from the *St. Louis Post Dispatch* (1930). Items related to the People's Industrial System include questionnaires regarding joining the People's Industrial System units (undated), a People's Industrial System information card (undated), a postal statement for *Pins* (1932), an application to the Florida Emergency Relief Administration for self-help cooperative projects (1934), a note regarding

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Sheridan Webster's 1925 book, "The People's Industrial System" (undated), and a land survey of Alachua County, Fl. (1958). The items pertaining to Newllano include minutes of the Llano Del Rio Company of Nevada Board of Directors meeting (1963), a stockholders meeting form (1967). Included are a number of newsletters regarding socialism, including *Pins* (1931-34), *The Llano Colonist* (1933-34), and *The Llano Reporter*. Several newspaper clippings relating to socialism are also present.

**IV.                   Speeches and Essays, undated**

Both the speech and essay were written by Guy Rogers and pertain to the People's Industrial System (undated).

**V.                    Photograph, ca.1964**

Photograph of Nell Foster Rogers (c.1964).

## INDEX TERMS

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Agricultural laborers--Louisiana--New Llano.  
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CONTAINER LIST

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		6	<b>Series II. Legal Papers</b> 1925-1958
S:134	1	7-9	<b>Series III. Printed Items</b> Printed items (1925-1967)
		10	News clippings (1931-1949, undated)
OS:G	--	1	Oversized newsletters (1931-34); newspaper articles (1930-31); Land survey (1958).
S:134	1	11	<b>Series IV. Speeches and Essays</b> People's Industrial System (undated).
		12	<b>Series V. Photograph</b> Photograph of Nell Foster Rogers (c.1964).