

Il Crociato Records

CMS.018

This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

August 29, 2014

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Center for Migration Studies

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Summary Information

Repository	Center for Migration Studies
Creator	De Biasi, Carlo, 1896-1971
Creator	Il Crociato.
Title	Il Crociato Records
Date [inclusive]	1933-1973
Extent	1.0 Linear feet in two document boxes.
Language	English

Language of Materials note In Italian.

Abstract *Il Crociato* began publishing in 1933 as an Italian language Catholic newspaper, by the Italian clergy of the Diocese of Brooklyn. Monsignor Ciocia was the director and its managing editor for three decades was Carlo De Biasi. The highest weekly circulation was achieved during the 1945 when some 13,250 copies were distributed to the various Italian parishes, hospitals, clubs, and to the Italian prisoners of war. The paper was assisted in its perennial financial crises by the Catholic Crusader, an Italian Catholic lay organization, however, due to ever mounting costs, *Il Crociato* ceased publication in 1973. The collection contains reports, souvenir journals, correspondence, minutes, financial reports from 1933-1969, first through ninth annual dinner souvenir programs of the Catholic Crusaders, and correspondence regarding the Italian American poet Giuseppe Toscano.

Preferred Citation note

Center for Migration Studies of New York; Il Crociato Records (CMS 018); Box; Folder.

History of the Paper

Il Crociato began publishing in 1933 as an Italian language Catholic newspaper, by the Italian clergy of the Diocese of Brooklyn. The newspaper's office was located at 1669 Dean Street. Monsignor Ciocia was the director and its managing editor for three decades was Carlo De Biasi. The financial secretaries were Fathers Thomas Sala, A. Accese, and Mariano S. Pulco. Occasionally, Carlo De Biasi's brother Agostino, who wrote a column.

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The paper was assisted in its perennial financial crises by the Catholic Crusader, an Italian Catholic lay organization, however, due to ever mounting costs, *Il Crociato* ceased publication in 1973. 3. Soon thereafter, Father Nicholas Russo, a priest of the Diocese of Brooklyn, deposited the records with Father Lydio Tomasi.

Biography of Carlo De Biasi

Carlo De Biasi was born in 1896, the eighth and last child of three girls and five boys born to Giuseppe De Biasi, a prominent lawyer in his small town of Santa Lucia di Serino in the Avellino, Campania and Maria Antonello of Sant' Angelo dei Lombardi, also in Avellino. His father died in 1908, when he was twelve, and his mother and sister Flora moved to the United States. His oldest brother Agostino migrated to the United States in 1911. Carlo followed in 1913 and took out his first papers for citizenship immediately. During World War I, he volunteered with the American Expeditionary Force. Upon his return to the United States he commenced a career in print journalism. He published a weekly column in *Il Progresso Italo-Americano*, an American Italian-language paper to which his brother Agostino had previously contributed, focusing on Catholic life and culture and using the initials CDB. He edited several books for the Vatican City Religious Book Company of New York, translated Archbishop Amleto Cicognani's book *Sanctity in America* into Italian and edited the magazine *La Voce dell'Emigrato* published in New York by Monsignor Germano Formica, who represented the Italian-based emigrant-aid agency *Italica Gens* on Ellis Island. He was also active in civic affairs. Carlo De Biasi was also involved in Italian American community affairs. He helped found the Sant' Angelo dei Lombardi Mutual Help Society and served as its president. He also served as trustee secretary of the Italian Benevolent Institute and Hospital. In 1933, Carlo De Biasi began editing *Il Crociato*, an Italian Catholic newspaper published by the clergy of the Diocese of Brooklyn. De Biasi remained in this position until his retirement in the last 1960s. He lived to see recognition for his work, in the form of an honorary degree from Saint Johns University in Queens, New York, and installation as a Knight of Saint Gregory at the Vatican. He died in 1971.

Scope and Contents note

The collection contains nothing from the newspaper itself, but it does document the running of the newspaper. Its strength is in documenting Il Crociato's finances, as it contains a near-complete run of financial records and also a long run of the annual dinner that provided some of the funding. The collection also contains one folder of correspondence, meeting minutes and notes about Crociato itself, and another folder of correspondence between De Biasi and Italian-American poet Giuseppe Toscano.

Arrangement note

CMS.018 consists of four folders: Financial Reports, 1933-1969 Annual Dinner Souvenir Programs, 1953-1963 Corciato correspondence, minutes and notes, 1958-1973 Toscano, Giuseppe, Correspondence, undated

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Center for Migration Studies

Revision Description

In 2014 Mary Elizabeth Brown entered this finding aid into Archivists' Toolkit in compliance with DACS. Nicole Greenhouse checked the work. August 2014

Conditions Governing Access note

Open to researchers by appointment.

Conditions Governing Use note

Copyright is owned by the Center for Migration Studies. Permission to publish materials must be requested before use.

Immediate Source of Acquisition note

The Rev. Nicholas Russo, a priest of the Diocese of Brooklyn, deposited the collection with CMS.

Processing Information note

There is no date on the original finding aid to CMS.018. In 2014 Mary Elizabeth Brown entered the finding aid into Archivists' Toolkit in compliance with DACS. Nicole Greenhouse checked the work.

Related Materials

Related Archival Materials note

The Italian Catholic newspaper Il Crociato was the work of Carlo De Biasi, part of the family whose papers comprise CMS.011. A microfilm run of Il Crociato is also available.

Controlled Access Headings

Personal Name(s)

- De Biasi, Agostino, 1875-

Subject(s)

- Italian American newspapers
- Italian Americans |v Newspapers.
- Italian Americans |z New York (State) |z New York |v Newspapers.

Collection Inventory

	Box	Folder
Financial Reports 1933-1969	1	1
Annual Dinner Souvenir Programs 1953-1969	1	2
Crociato correspondence, meeting minutes and notes 1958-1973	2	3
De Biasi, Carlo, 1896-1971 Toscano, Giuseppe, Correspondence	2	4

Controlled Access Headings

Subject(s)

- Crociato
- Italian American newspapers