

**CHERRY, JIM D., 1911-1980.**  
**Jim D. Cherry papers, 1947-1988**

Emory University  
Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library  
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**Descriptive Summary**

**Creator:** Cherry, Jim D., 1911-1980.  
**Title:** Jim D. Cherry papers, 1947-1988  
**Call Number:** Manuscript Collection No. 655  
**Extent:** 11 linear feet (11 boxes), 1 oversized papers box (OP), and 13 oversized bound volumes (OBV)  
**Abstract:** Papers of Jim D. Cherry, an Atlanta, Georgia educator and superintendent of DeKalb County schools.  
**Language:** Materials entirely in English.

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**Administrative Information**

**Restrictions on Access**

Unrestricted access.

**Terms Governing Use and Reproduction**

All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

**Source**

Gift, 1987.

**Citation**

[after identification of item(s)], Jim D. Cherry papers, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

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**Collection Description**

**Biographical Note**

Jim D. Cherry, nationally known educator, was superintendent of the DeKalb County, Georgia, school system for twenty-five years; led the school system through its period of initial integration; and was instrumental in the development of the Fernbank Science Center in cooperation with the school system. He retired in 1972 and died in Atlanta, Georgia, in 1980.

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**Scope and Content Note**

The collection consists of the papers of Jim Cherry from 1947-1988. The papers include correspondence, personal financial records, speeches, writings, printed material, scrapbooks, photographs, clippings, and memorabilia. The papers document Jim Cherry's career as superintendent of schools, his civic activities, his broad interest in education, and honors and awards he received.

**Arrangement Note**

Collection unprocessed; inventory available.

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## Container List

Box	Folder	Content
1	1	Ground breaking, members of staff, etc. 25 slides from 1967-1971 (slides)
1	2	<i>Good Schools are Good Business</i> (study of Georgia public school system) 1953
1	3	<i>The Georgia Industrialist</i> , 1957 September
1	4	Collection of Western Union telegrams protesting resignation of Jim Cherry, 1965 January 5, 6 (unfoldered)
1	5	3 copies of "Our Children Cannot Wait" profile of Jim Cherry, 1947-1967 (Biographical)
1	6	Blue folder, "The Public School Situation"
1	7	<i>The Georgia Industrialist</i> , 1957 September
1	8	<i>Georgia Bell Notes</i> , 1968 February
1	9	<i>Engineering News-Record</i> , 1961 October 26
1	10	<i>Catfishin is for Saturdays</i> , original shooting script, 1954 March 4
1	11	<i>Educating Georgia's People</i> , 1963 Jul
1	12	Stapled report on Estimate of Money Needed by University System of Georgia, 1953
1	13	2 copies of <i>The Georgia Industrialist</i> , 1957 September
1	14	3 copies of <i>Georgia Bell Notes</i> , 1963 February
1	15	Laminated copy of <i>Is it Well with the Child in School Education?</i> , 1951-1952 (side one); Committee on School Education and School Lunch, 1953-1956 (side 2)
1	16	Education-An Investment in People, 1950
1	17	Stapled report, Education is Good Business, 1950
1	18	Avondale vs. Campbell Football Program, 1964 September 11
1	19	Stapled report, "The Public School Situation" 1959
1	20	Proceedings of Georgia Congress of Parents and Teachers Convention, 1951-1952
1	21	<i>Engineering News-Record</i> , 1961 October 26
1	22	<i>Georgia Education Journal</i> , 1951 December
1	23	Laminated report, <i>What the Businessman Can Do for Education</i> , 1961 February 9
1	24	News Bulletin of the DeKalb County Chamber of Commerce, 1957 January
1	25	Stapled report, <i>Education is Good Business</i> , 1950
1	26	<i>Georgia Bell Notes</i> , 1968 February
1	27	<i>How Parent-Teacher Associations Can Help with the Drop-Out Problem</i> , 1963 Nov
1	28	4 copies <i>Education at the Crossroads</i> , pamphlet, 1959
1	29	Stapled report, <i>Education is Good Business</i> , 1950

- 1 30 *Data Processing Technology in Education* (a case study) 1966 Dec
- 1 31 Letters re resignation as superintendent Sechler vs. Cherry and May, 1965
- 1 32 Correspondence during GEA presidency, 1950-1951
- 1 33 Correspondence of NEA legislative commission, 1964
- 1 34 Correspondence, Georgia State Chamber of Commerce, 1950-1954
- 1 35 Parent-teacher associations
- 1 36 Letters on property, 1959, 1964
- 1 37 Letters on "Open Schools" (integration) 1960
- 1 38 Press releases on John Cherry, 1957
- 1 39 Correspondence state superintendency, 1957-1958
- 1 40 Speech file, no date
- 1 41 Membership cards etc., no date
- 1 42 Non-professional organizational associations, charities, etc.
- 1 43 Miscellaneous correspondence, many dates
- 1 44 Speeches and statements, 1970-1971
- 1 45 Statements concerning chairmanship of DeKalb Board of Education
- 2 1 Grady Peanut Co. and Washington County Peanut Co. financial correspondence, 1950-1951
- 2 2 Published articles on Cherry, 1973, 1975, 1976 (biographical)
- 2 3 Letters from committees, 1957, 1963
- 2 4 Freedoms Foundation, 1962
- 2 5 Financial information, miscellaneous, various years
- 2 6 Fernbank project, 1975-1976
- 2 7 Newspaper clippings, various dates
- 2 8 Photographs, no date
- 2 9 Georgia Southern College, includes Georgia Teachers College, various dates
- 2 10 Fernbank notes, contains coorrespondence with Associated Industries of Georgia
- 2 11 Correspondence re retirement of Dr. Cherry, 1972
- 2 12 Correspondence re Doctorate, 1972
- 2 13 Citations, various dates
- 2 14 News clippings, 1974
- 2 15 Bicentennial Conservation Covenant, 1976
- 2 16 Bicentennial correspondence, 1975-1976
- 2 17 Cancer Society chairman, also Rotary Club speech, 1962
- 2 18 Telegrams re resignation, Jan 1965
- 2 19 U.S. Savings Bonds and stamps (empty)
- 2 20 Platform (state superintendency) 1958
- 2 21 Correspondence, state school superintendency, 1964-1966
- 2 22 Statistics, report on Georgia teachers and material about U.S. Savings Bonds, various years

- 2 23 Press releases, 1957
- 2 24 Follow-up press releases, 1957
- 2 25 Speeches, information, 1971-1972
- 2 26 Correspondence, meetings and speaking engagements, various dates
- 2 27 Extra copies of articles by Jim Cherry, various dates
- 2 28 Correspondence, Tri County Development Corporation, 1958
- 2 29 Speeches, extra copies, various dates
- 2 30 Twentieth anniversary commemoration, 1967
- 2 31 Miscellaneous, correspondence, speeches, etc., 1970-
- 3 1 Notebooks: Speeches and statements, 1947-1952
- 3 2 Notebooks: Clippings, 1951
- 3 3 Notebooks: Clippings, 1963-1964
- 3 4 Notebooks: Speeches and statements, 1953-1955
- 3 5 Notebooks: Speeches and statements, 1959-1962
- 3 6 Notebooks: Clippings, 1958-1959
- 3 7 Notebooks: Clippings, 1956-1957
- 3 8 Notebooks: Speeches and statements, 1968-1972
- 3 9 Notebooks: Speeches and statements, 1956-1958
- 4 1 Notebooks: Biography of Jim Cherry
- 4 2 Notebooks: News clippings, 1955
- 4 4 Notebooks: Memoranda, position papers, and statements by the superintendent, 1971
- 4 4 Notebooks: Speeches and statements, 1963-1967
- 4 6 File boxes: A-G
- 4 7 File boxes: H-U
- 5 1 Photographs (unfoldered)
- 5 2 News article, no date
- 5 3 DeKalb Co. program for exceptional children, no date
- 5 4 Report, history of adult education department, 1968
- 5 5 News clippings, Board of Education minutes, and educational reports, 1946-1980
- 5 6 Letter from former student to Cherry family, 1980 (unfoldered)
- 5 7 2 thank-you letters, 1973
- 5 8 25th anniversary telegram, 1979
- 5 9 Newspaper clippings, no date
- 5 10 Chamber of Commerce reports, 1950, 1954
- 5 11 2 Appreciation Award letters, 1971 (unfoldered)
- 5 12 3 transcripts of speeches, no dates
- 5 13 Speeches, letter of condolence, 1980
- 5 14 Quotes and profiles on Jim Cherry, various dates
- 5 15 Newsprint of DeKalb Grand Jury report, 1951 (unfoldered)

- 5 16 Possible governorship correspondence, 1966
- 5 17 Biographical information and correspondence, no date (biography)
- 5 18 Cerebral Palsy Research Committee, 1951
- 5 19 Superintendent of DeKalb Schools election and appointment, 1948
- 5 20 News article on an award, no date (unfolded)
- 5 21 Mr. Cherry's chronology notes
- 5 22 Honeywell computer service seminar
- 5 23 Photographs (unfolded)
- 5 24 2 news clippings, 1966, 1981 (unfolded)
- 5 25 Biographical sketch and listings, 1973 (unfolded)
- 5 26 Letter to Mrs. Cherry and old envelope addressed to Mr. Cherry, 1974, 1981  
(unfolded)
- 5 27 News clipping, no date (unfolded)
- 5 28 Article and attached biographical sketch, no date (unfolded)
- 5 29 Correspondence about bronze sculpture at Fernbank, 1981 (unfolded)
- 5 30 Oglethorpe commencement program, 1972 (unfolded)
- 5 31 Collection of articles, programs, etc., various dates (unfolded)
- 6 1 *Monitor-Technology and Man*, 1970 November
- 6 2 *The Chalkboard*, 1972 Fall
- 6 3 News clipping on stationary, no date (unfolded)
- 6 4 Correspondence from personalities of the South
- 6 5 Letter of support for state superintendency, 1954
- 6 6 Tax digest issue, 1955
- 6 7 Letter for proposed Mountain View School
- 6 8 Collection of papers on Bond issue, 1949
- 6 9 Candidate of the Board of DeKalb Co., questionnaires, no date
- 6 10 Information on Negro classified schools, 1947
- 6 11 *The DeKalb Tribune*, 1965 August 12 (envelope)
- 6 12 National Education Association, study and news items, various dates
- 6 13 DeKalb Co. Schools, 1947-1972, A Quarter Century, 1972
- 6 14 The DeKalb School Study for the Decade of the 70s, 1968
- 6 15 Report on the study and evaluation of electronic data processing, 1966
- 6 16 News clippings, 1947
- 6 17 Letter from a member of the P.T.A., no date (unfolded)
- 6 18 Audit report, DeKalb County Board of Education
- 6 19 DeKalb Community College, 1973
- 6 20 Letter of support, 1971 (unfolded)
- 6 21 Format for Brochure on Jim Cherry's 20 years, 1967
- 6 22 Collection of correspondence and articles during 1970-1972
- 6 23 Correspondence, articles, and biographical sketches (biographical) various dates

- 6 24 *The Chalkboard*, 1972 Fall
- 6 25 Interview with Ellis Arnold, 1970 (unfolded)
- 6 26 News clippings, 1978
- 6 27 News clippings, 1947
- 6 28 2 copies of a P.T.A. speech, 1971 (unfolded)
- 6 29 Interview with Mr. J. E. Clowdis, 1970
- 6 30 News clippings, 1980
- 6 31 *The Bench Mark*, 1959
- 6 32 Education at the crossroads, 1959
- 6 33 Collection of news clippings, 1964-1978 (unfolded)
- 6 34 *Georgia Bell Notes*, 1968 February
- 6 35 This is Your Life, Jim Cherry P.T.A. program, 1953-1954
- 6 36 Award, speech, and budget sheet of schools, 1969
- 6 37 Interview transcript of Dr. Joseph Williams, 1971
- 6 38 Budget proposal, survey to Jim Cherry
- 6 39 Resume, John Clive Cragg, 1970
- 6 40 Suggestions for contacts in education, 1971
- 6 41 News clippings and honors, various dates
- 6 42 Special education and gifted program, 1969
- 6 43 Biography questionnaires on Jim Cherry, 1970
- 6 44 Interview with Carl Sanders, 1970
- 6 45 Interview with Dr. R. L. Johns, 1970
- 6 46 Interview with Aldine Richardson, no date
- 6 47 Interview with William A. Calder, 1971
- 6 48 Interview with Frank M. Hughes
- 6 49 Interview with Dr. Noah Langdale, 1971
- 6 50 Interview with John E. Burgess, 1970
- 6 51 Questionnaire for Jim Cherry's biography, no date
- 6 52 "A Dozen Points for a Two Dozen Year Man" no date
- 6 53 "Some Things I Have Observed/Heard About Jim Cherry" no date
- 6 54 Star-student sheet, 1968 (unfolded)
- 6 55 Speeches, Jim Cherry, 1960s
- 6 56 National Education Association investigation of DeKalb, 1968
- 6 57 Additions received 26 October 1988
- 7 Appointment Books for the Years 1947-1962
- 8 Appointment Books for the Years 1963-1971, 1973, 1975
- 8 File box: S-V
- 9 1 Weekly newsletter, 1955-1956
- 9 2 Weekly newsletter, 1956-1957

9	3	Weekly newsletter, 1957-1958
9	4	Weekly newsletter, 1958-1959
9	5	Weekly newsletter, 1959-1960
9	6	Weekly newsletter, 1960-1961
9	7	Weekly newsletter, 1961-1962
9	8	Weekly newsletter, 1962-1963
9	9	Weekly newsletter, 1963-1964
9	10	Weekly newsletter, 1964-1965
9	11	Weekly newsletter, 1965-1966
9	12	Weekly newsletter, 1966-1967
9	13	Weekly newsletter, 1968-1969
9	14	DeKalb Board of Education proposed budget, 1966-1967
9	15	<i>Atlanta Resurgens</i> , 1971
9	16	"School Boards and the Curriculum" 1958
9	17	Handbook for school administration, 1963 July 1
9	18	Tenants in common, folder on property interest, 1974 May 14
9	19	"Jim Cherry: Brilliant Educator or Dictator," 1994

### **Photograph Albums and Plaques**

10	1	Photograph Album, Volume I, 1949-1959
10	2	Photograph Album, Volume II, 1960-1966
10	3	Photograph Album, Volume III, 1965-1969
10	4	Photograph Album, Volume IV, 1968-1972
10	5	Photograph Album, Volume V, 1970-1972
10	6	Plaques: Georgia Heart Association, 1975
10	7	Plaques: The Optimist Creed, no date
10	8	Plaques: The "Sing Out, America" award, 1972 November 6
10	9	Plaques: American Cancer Society, 1956

### **Certificates and Plaques**

11	1	Certificates: DeKalb Education Association, no date
11	2	Certificates: Sing Out America Award, 1972 November 6
11	3	Certificates: National Education Society, 1954
11	4	Certificates: United States Treasury Award, 1957 June 14
11	5	Certificates: Atlanta Chapters for Exceptional Children, 1971
11	6	Plaques: D.F.G.C. Clean-up DeKalb, 1969
11	7	Plaques: Georgia School Food Service Association, 1970 April 18
11	8	Plaques: American Cancer Society, 1963 July 15
11	9	Plaques: DeKalb Co. Association of Classroom Teachers, 1969
11	10	Plaques: Civitan Clubs, 1965 December 11



11	11	Framed letters: Granting of Fernbank Center land, 1971
11	12	Framed letters: March of Dimes, 1970 January
11	13	Framed letters: U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, 1968-1971
11	14	Framed letters: Kiwanis Club of Decatur, 1972 May 25
11	15	Framed letters: Governor's Council on Physical Fitness, 1963 November 1
11	16	Framed letters: DeKalb Honors Program
11	17	Certificate of Alice McCellan Birney Endowment Fund, 1956 September 28
11	18	Certificates: American Cancer Society Inc., 1962 September 17
11	19	Certificates: Kiwanis International, 1960 May 13
11	20	Certificates: American Cancer Society Inc., 1956
OP1	1	Certificates: United States Treasury Award, 1957 June 14
OP1	1	Certificates: DeKalb Education Association
OP1	1	Certificates: DeKalb County Association of Classroom Teachers

**Scrapbooks**

OBV1	News clippings, 1943-1951
OBV2	News clippings, 1949
OBV3	News clippings, 1952-1953
OBV4	News clippings, 1958-1959
OBV5	News clippings, 1960-1961
OBV6	News clippings, 1962
OBV7	News clippings, 1963
OBV8	News clippings, 1964-1965
OBV9	News clippings, 1966
OBV10	News clippings, 1969
OBV11	News clippings, 1970
OBV12	News clippings, 1972
OBV13	Donated tributes to Mr. Cherry by schools, "Jim Cherry, 1947-1972"

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