ESTHER EVERETT LAFE

1925-1978
The papers were donated to the Library on June 1, 1982, by Olga M. Bendix and The Bank of New York, the executors of Miss Lape's estate. Miss Lape's copyright interests in these papers have been donated to the United States Government.

**Quantity:** 3 linear feet

**Restrictions:** Material that constitutes an unwarranted invasion of privacy has been closed.

**Related materials:** Eleanor Roosevelt's Papers, Anna Halsted Papers, the President's Official File.
Esther Everett Lape, a social scientist, was a close friend of Eleanor Roosevelt.

Description: The papers consist of correspondence, reports, clippings, and printed matter.

Quantity: 3 linear feet

Donor: Olga M. Bendix and The Bank of New York

Finding Aids: An unpublished 5-page finding aid is available at the Library.

Restrictions: Material that constitutes an unwarranted invasion of privacy has been closed.

Copyright: Miss Lape's copyright interests in these papers have been donated to the United States Government.
Esther Everett Lape was born in Wilmington, Delaware in 1881. She attended Bryn Mawr on a scholarship and received a bachelor's degree from Wellesley College. During her teaching career, she taught English at the University of Arizona, Swarthmore, Barnard, and Columbia.

In accordance with her efforts to promote American understanding of the need for international cooperation, Miss Lape served as Member-in-Charge of The American Peace Award Policy Committee in 1924. That same year the American Foundation was established with Esther Lape as director. She held that position until her retirement in 1956, but even then remained as a member of the Board of Directors. Her work with the Foundation prompted Calvin Coolidge to send her to Europe in 1927 as an unofficial envoy to secure the renewal of negotiations regarding the United States participation in the World Court. Miss Lape's work for the Foundation also included promoting U.S. recognition of the Soviet Union in 1933 and studies on the problems of medical care in the United States.

Miss Lape worked closely with Eleanor Roosevelt, Narcissa Vanderlip, and Helen Reid in the women's suffrage movement in New York. In the early 1960's, Esther Lape, Lady Stella Reading, and Helen Reid established the Organizing Committee for the group asking the Nobel Committee to consider granting a posthumous award of the Peace Prize to Eleanor Roosevelt.

In July of 1972, Esther Lape donated her 147 acre Connecticut country estate, Salt Meadow, to the Federal Government as a wildlife refuge. Miss Lape died in 1981.

This collection is arranged in a single alphabetical series. It consists almost exclusively of incoming correspondence.
Esther Lape Papers, 1925-1978

Collection Overview

Title: Esther Lape Papers, 1925-1978
Creator: Lape, Esther
Extent: 2.4 Cubic Feet
Arrangement: This collection is arranged in four series: Correspondence, Subject Files (arranged in two subseries), Manuscripts, and Clippings and Printed materials.
Date Acquired: 06/01/1982

Abstract

This collection consists of correspondence, memoranda, reports, manuscripts, clippings, and printed materials documenting the life and career of Esther Lape.

Scope and Contents of the Materials

This collection consists of correspondence, memoranda, reports, manuscripts, clippings, and printed materials documenting the life and career of activist and educator Esther Lape. Materials range in date from 1925-1978 and the majority of correspondence is incoming.

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions: Material that constitutes an unwarranted invasion of privacy has been closed. The remaining materials are available for use by the general public.

Use Restrictions: Esther Lape's copyright interests in these papers have been donated to the United States Government. This material is subject to copyright restrictions under Title 17 of the U.S. Code.

Acquisition Source: Olaga M. Bendix, The Bank of New York

Acquisition Method: Gift

Box and Folder Listing

Series 1: Correspondence
Box 1
  Folder 1: A - General
  Folder 2: B - General
  Folder 3: Boettiger, John and Franklin D. Roosevelt III (Joint Book), 1968
  Folder 4: Bok, Curtis
  Folder 5: Bok, Nellie Lee
Folder 6: Bowles
Folder 7: Corr, Maureen, 1956-1969
Folder 8: Edgar, Margaret T.
Folder 9: G - General
Folder 10: H., Caroline
Folder 11: Halsted, Anna and Jim
Folder 12: Hickok, Lorena, 1962
Folder 13: Holst, W. (Mrs. Roland)
Folder 14: Huxley, Aldous
Folder 15: Kiskadden, William
Folder 16: Lash, Joseph
Folder 17: Litvinoff, Maxim
Folder 18: Loveland, Frank
Folder 19: M - General
Folder 20: Phillips, Eleanor
Folder 21: R - General
Folder 22: Roosevelt, Eleanor, 1941-1944
Folder 23: Roosevelt, Eleanor, 1945-1946
Folder 24: Roosevelt, Eleanor, 1925, 1933-1939
Folder 25: Roosevelt, Eleanor, 1947
Folder 26: Roosevelt, Eleanor, 1948-1950
Folder 27: Roosevelt, Eleanor, 1951-1955
Folder 28: Roosevelt, Eleanor, 1956-1959

Box 2
Folder 1: Roosevelt, Eleanor, 1960-1962
Folder 2: Roosevelt, Eleanor, undated
Folder 3: Roosevelt, Eleanor (From Lape to E.R.)
Folder 4: Roosevelt Family
Folder 5: Schulmerich Carillons: Publications
Folder 6: S - General
Folder 7: Schulmerich Carillons
Folder 8: Thompson, Malvina, 1946
Folder 9: Thompson, Malvina, 1938-1945
Folder 10: Thompson, Malvina, 1947
Folder 11: Thompson, Malvina, 1948-1952
Folder 12: Thompson, Malvina, undated
Folder 13: Vanderlip, Narcissa
Folder 14: Winternitz, M.C.
Folder 15: W - General

Series 2: Subject Files
Includes some correspondence
Sub-Series 1: Noble Peace Prize
Materials pertaining to Esther Lape's effort to have Eleanor Roosevelt nominated for the Nobel Prize. Includes some correspondence arranged at the beginning of the subseries.
Box 3
Folder 1: Correspondence, Memorandums, and Research Notes Concerning Efforts to Secure The Nomination of Eleanor Roosevelt
Folder 2: Correspondence with Possible Signers of the Nomination of Eleanor Roosevelt: A - F
Folder 3: Correspondence with Raymond Corry (of FDRL Staff)
Folder 4: Correspondence with Possible Signers of the Nomination of Eleanor Roosevelt: G - K
Folder 5: Correspondence with the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
Folder 6: Correspondence with Possible Signers of the Nomination of Eleanor Roosevelt: L - O
Folder 7: Correspondence with Possible Signers of the Nomination of Eleanor Roosevelt: P - R
Folder 8: Correspondence with Lady Reading
Folder 9: Correspondence with Helen Reid

Box 4
Folder 1: Correspondence with Possible Signers of the Nomination of Eleanor Roosevelt: S - Y
Folder 2: Complete File of Materials Sent to Nobel Committee, 1965
Folder 3: Copies of Cover Letter and Enclosures Sent to Noble Committee
Folder 4: Copies of Letters Nominating Eleanor Roosevelt and Sent to Nobel Committee: A - M
Folder 5: Copies of Letters Nominating Eleanor Roosevelt and Sent to Nobel Committee: N - U
Folder 6: Rules of the Nobel Committee and the Eligibility of Eleanor Roosevelt
Folder 7: Working Lists of the Possible Signers of the Nomination of Eleanor Roosevelt

Sub-Series 2: Other Subject Files
Box 5
Folder 1: The American Foundation
Folder 2: The American Foundation: Studies on Correction
Folder 3: The American Foundation: Financial Matters and Minutes
Folder 4: The American Foundation: "Proposal for a New Baltimore City Detention Center for Women," 1965
Folder 5: The American Peace Award
Folder 6: Cadet Honor Code at West Point
Folder 7: Da Capo Press, Inc.
Folder 8: Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
Folder 9: Lawyers Constitutional Defense Committee, 1966
Folder 10: Medical Research (reports on)
Folder 11: National Broadcasting Company

Box 6
Folder 1: Roosevelt, Eleanor: Materials Concerning
Folder 2: University of Nebraska Commencement Speech, May 24, 1943
Speaker unknown.

Series 3: Manuscripts
Box 6
Folder 3: "Knowing the Ropes" or "So Naturally"
Folder 4: "Salt Meadow"

Series 4: Clippings and Printed Materials
Box 6
Folder 6: Clippings - General
Folder 7: Clippings - General
Folder 8: Printed Matter: Eleanor Roosevelt
Folder 9: Printed Matter: Franklin D. Roosevelt
Folder 10: US and USSR - Report on Relations (1)
Folder 11: US and USSR - Report on Relations (2)
Folder 5: The American Foundation Studies in Corrections Publications, 1964
  5 Publications