



1974

## Mary E. Frayser Papers - Accession 1

Mary E. Frayser

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.winthrop.edu/manuscriptcollection\\_findingaids](https://digitalcommons.winthrop.edu/manuscriptcollection_findingaids)

 Part of the [Home Economics Commons](#), [Social History Commons](#), [Social Work Commons](#), [Sociology Commons](#), and the [Women's History Commons](#)

---

### Finding Aid Citation

Louise Pettus Archives and Special Collections, Winthrop University, "Mary E. Frayser Papers - Accession 1". Finding Aid 6.  
[https://digitalcommons.winthrop.edu/manuscriptcollection\\_findingaids/6](https://digitalcommons.winthrop.edu/manuscriptcollection_findingaids/6)

This Finding Aid is brought to you for free and open access by the Louise Pettus Archives and Special Collections at Digital Commons @ Winthrop University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Manuscript Collection by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Winthrop University. For more information, please contact [bramed@winthrop.edu](mailto:bramed@winthrop.edu).



**WINTHROP UNIVERSITY  
LOUISE PETTUS ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**

**MANUSCRIPT COLLECTION**

**ACCESSION 1**

**MARY E. FRAYSER PAPERS**

1841-1961 (1930-1947)

38 Boxes, 364 Folders

WINTHROP UNIVERSITY  
LOUISE PETTUS ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

MANUSCRIPT COLLECTION

ACC. NO.: 1  
ADDITIONS: 17, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_

PROCESSED BY: Ron Chepesiuk, Head of Archives  
DATE: June 20, 1974  
NO. OF SECTIONS: 4

MARY E. FRAYSER PAPERS

I

The papers of Mary E. Frayser, educator, social worker, Home Economist and club woman, were received by the Archives near the latter part of May, 1970 from the Home Economics Department of Winthrop. The "Agreement of Gift" was executed on Oct. 10, 1974.

Linear feet of shelf space occupied: 9.5  
Approximate number of pieces: 19,000

Restrictions: Open to researchers under the rules and regulations of the Louise Pettus Archives & Special Collections at Winthrop University.

Literary Rights: For information concerning literary rights please contact the Louise Pettus Archives & Special Collections at Winthrop University.

Notices were released to the following journals and catalogs: *Library Journal* on May 27, 1974, *Journal of Southern History* on May 27, 1974, and NUCMC on June 14, 1974.

Scope and Content Note: **Educator, home economist, social worker, and club woman. Correspondence, speeches, reports, clippings, minutes, histories, family histories, constitutions and bylaws, membership lists, program notes, photographs, and other papers, relating to her work with the South Carolina Extension Service (1912-1940) Winthrop College, her involvement with the South Carolina Council for the Common Good (1935-1952), the South Carolina Federation of Women's Clubs (1926-1952), the South Carolina Status of Women Conference (1945-1952), the South Carolina Division of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) (1929, 1935-1949), the South Carolina Interracial Institute (1938-1942), the South Carolina Division of the Southern Regional Council (1944-1951), and the South Carolina Conference of Social Work (1936-1967). There are also papers relating to Frayser's efforts to promote social and economic legislation and participation by women in public affairs and her interest in libraries and work in the movement for the support of public libraries in South Carolina (1925-1968). Correspondents included G.H. Aault, Evan Chesterman, Wil Lou Gray, Sarah Hughes, Christine South Gee, and Maude Massey Rogers. This collection is a good source of women's club activities in the twentieth century. Important areas of research would include the way club activity affected social and economic legislation in the state and the various forces involved in the movement for state tax supported libraries. While the papers do range from 1841 to 1953, the greater bulk of the papers extend from the early 1930s to about 1947. Since the work of the various women's club organizations were so inter-related, a researcher working with the papers of a particular organization for a particular time span should consider the Frayser papers of all other organizations. The related papers for the "Correspondence and Related Papers" series for particular organizations are generally similar and include: memoranda, outlines, reports, resolutions, minutes, etc. Additional Frayser information can be found by referring to the Winthrop University Archives (official records).**

Transfer of items: A large group of publications were transferred to the Acquisitions Department for review.

II

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

MARY ELIZABETH FRAYSER

1868	Born in Richmond, Virginia.
1903-1908	Taught in Richmond, Virginia public schools
1911	B.S. Columbia University
1911-1912	Head of Home Economics Department, Bessie Tift College in Forsyth, Georgia
1912-1917	State Agent for Rural and Mill Village Community Extension Work, Winthrop College.
1917-1918	Assistant Inspector, Child Labor Enforcement, Federal Children's Bureau for the state of Georgia
1918	Emergency Urban Agent, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Richmond, Virginia.
1919-1920	Field Director, Virginia Tuberculosis Association.
1921-1926	(Summers) Instructor of Sociology, Winthrop College.
1922-1926	Director of Community Activities in Cotton Mill Villages, Rock Hill and Chester, SC
1926-1946	Home Economist, Clemson and Winthrop Colleges, co-operating research in Home Economics.
1968	Died



(For a list of organizations of which Mary E. Frayser was a member, see Mrs. T.B. Stackhouse's biography, Page 114, Box 2, Folder 11 in this collection inventory.)

III

DESCRIPTION OF SERIES

<u>Box(es)</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Series</u>	<u>Year(s)</u>
<b>A) PERSONAL FILES</b>			
1	1	<b>FAMILY PAPERS</b> Legal documents, letters, financial papers and family memorabilia. In general chronological order.	1841, 1865-1911, 1924
1	2-8	<b>GENEALOGICAL FILE</b> Ancestral charts and histories. There is no arrangement.	nd
2	2-11	<b>BIOGRAPHICAL DATA</b> Short biographies, resumés, applications, questionnaires, and a narrative biography written by Eunice Stackhouse in 1943 and consisting of 114 pages.	ca1911-ca1946
2-7	12-68	<b>PERSONAL CORRESPONDENCE</b> Mainly letters received. Most of the correspondence relates to business, personal and family affairs, but also includes correspondence related to matters of genealogy and employment. In chronological order.	1917-1952
8-9	69-84	<b>SUBJECT-MATTER FILE</b> Memoranda, reports, financial papers, memorabilia and clippings. All correspondence has been removed and filed in the personal correspondence series. The folders are arranged alphabetically by subject. There is little arrangement within folders.	ca1910-ca1951
9-10	85-89	<b>PHOTOGRAPHS AND PORTRAITS</b> They are of Mary Frayser, family and friends. Most are unidentified and undated. Includes a 35" x 30 3/4" framed oil portrait of Mary Frayser.	1920s-1940s
<b>B) PROFESSIONAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL FILES</b>			
11-12	90-102	<b>GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE</b> The correspondence generally relates to Mary Frayser's seeking of employment, her publications, activities in state and national organizations, research and interest in economic and political problems such as unemployment, child labor, and federal and state legislation. In chronological order.	1914-1920, 1924- 1951
12-14	103-123	<b>SUBJECT-MATTER FILE</b> Memoranda, reports, program notes, addresses, clippings, reference materials, etc. All correspondence has been withdrawn and filed in the general correspondence series. The folders are arranged alphabetically by subject. Box 12-Folder 103 contains a list of the subjects contained in the file. There is little arrangement within folders.	ca1926-1952

III

DESCRIPTION OF SERIES (cont.)

<u>Box(es)</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Series</u>	<u>Year(s)</u>
15-16	124-138	<b>SPEECH AND ARTICLE FILE</b> Drafts, outlines, notes and final copies in handwritten, typewritten and printed form. Includes speeches and articles of Mary Frayser and others. The originals and notes of many of the speeches and articles are difficult to determine. There is no arrangement.	ca1914-1946
<b>South Carolina Experimental Station</b>			
17	139-148	<b>CORRESPONDENCE AND RELATED PAPERS</b> Mainly letters received. Most of the correspondence occurs during 1941 and pertains to community development projects in South Carolina counties. Mary Frayser, through her work with the Experimental Station, tried to get communities in the state to solve economic and social problems on a cooperative basis. In chronological order.	1927-1929, 1935-1947
18	149-163	<b>COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FILE</b> Mainly drafts and final copies of write-ups of projects undertaken by various counties. The main subjects covered are: recreation, welfare, health, beautification, libraries, government, education, and nutrition. The correspondence has been separated and filed in the "Correspondence and Related Papers" series above. Many of the write-ups of the various projects are undated. The file is arranged alphabetically by county.	ca1940-1947
19-20	164-173	<b>REFERENCE FILE</b> Bulletins, reports, maps, studies, projects, lists, etc. No arrangement within the folders.	ca1927-ca1945
<b>South Carolina Federation of Women's Clubs</b>			
20-23	174-203	<b>CORRESPONDENCE AND RELATED PAPERS</b> Mary Frayser served as chairman of various important committees in the Federation, such as library chairman, 1930-1933, chairman of the Women in Industry committee, 1934-1937, and chairman of club institutes. In chronological order.	1926, 1929-1933, 1936-1952
23-24	204-208	<b>CLIPPING FILE</b> Mostly newspaper clippings. In chronological order.	1924-1941, 1947-1952
<b>South Carolina Women's Council for the Common Good</b> *The Council was responsible for the coordination of plans and policies of various state-wide organizations for women, trying to achieve greater accomplishment in South Carolina through a united effort.			
24	209	<b>CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS</b> Includes revisions and drafts. In chronological order.	1935-1944

III

DESCRIPTION OF SERIES (cont.)

<u>Box(es)</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Series</u>	<u>Year(s)</u>
24	210	ANNUAL REPORTS The council reports for 1941 and 1943 are the president's reports with the report for 1941 covering the previous three years, and the report for 1943 covering the period from October 1942 to October 1943. The report for 1945 gives a resumé of activities for certain bills and covers the period from 1942-1945.	1941, 1943, 1945
24	211-212	MINUTES AND RELATED RECORDS In chronological order.	1935-1945, 1951-1952
24-26	213-232	CORRESPONDENCE AND RELATED PAPERS Mostly pertain to attempts for improvement in the S.C. taxation system (1935-1940), the organization of county councils, libraries, education, appropriations and the work of council committees. Miss Frayser served in various capacities e.g. Legislative chairman and county organizer. In chronological order.	1935-1952
26	233	ANNUAL COUNCIL PUBLICATIONS Consists entirely of copies of "United We Stand". Each issue gives legislation favored by the council that was endorsed and legislation which the council supported for the coming year. In chronological order.	1945-1952
26	234	MEMBERSHIP LISTS There is no arrangement.	1935-ca1946
26	235-238	SUBJECT-MATTER FILE These papers relate to the origin of the White House Conference(Folder 235) and to community development in South Carolina. For each subject the papers are in chronological order.	1940-1941, 1944-1946
27	239-242	NEWSPAPER CLIPPING FILE In chronological order.	1937-ca1950
<b>South Carolina Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs</b>			
27	243	CONSTITUTIONS AND BY-LAWS	ca1939-ca1949
27	244-249	CORRESPONDENCE AND RELATED PAPERS In chronological order.	1933-1948, 1951-1952
28	250	FEDERATION BULLETINS The official bulletins of the organization: <i>The Torch</i> , and the <i>South Carolina Woman</i> . In chronological order	1926-1928, 1935, 1947, 1926-1928, 1926-1928, 1935, 1947

III

DESCRIPTION OF SERIES (cont.)

<u>Box(es)</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Series</u>	<u>Year(s)</u>
28	251-254	NEWSPAPER CLIPPING AND PAMPHLET FILE In chronological order.	1929-1931, 1934-1947
<b>South Carolina Library Movement</b>			
28	255	HISTORICAL DATA Includes a bulletin by Mary Frayser titled "The Libraries of South Carolina" (1933) and a brief history of the State Library Board (1938).	1933, 1938
28	256	ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE STATE LIBRARY BOARD Narrative reports from the State Library Board to the State Superintendent of Education. In chronological order.	1943/1944, 1951/1952
29-31	257-286	CORRESPONDENCE AND RELATED PAPERS The series generally relates to the creation of the State Public Library Commission, the work of the State Library Board in attempting to organize county libraries in the state and the movement on the part of various organizations, such as the Citizens Library Association, are also included. Mary Frayser served as chairman of the State Library Board. In chronological order.	1926-1952
32-33	287-301	SUBJECT-MATTER FILES	ca1926-1952
32	287	--Monthly narrative reports made by field representative, Nancy Blair.	1944-1945
32	288	--Financial records of the State Library Board	1944-1945
32	289-296	--Questionnaires sent to black and white schools, gathering Library statistics.	1938
33	297	--Brochures, bulletins, and publications	ca1926-ca1952
33	298	-- <i>The History and Present Status of School Libraries in South Carolina, 1868-1938.</i> Thesis written by Azile Wofford in 1938.	1938
33	299	-- <i>Libraries of the South, a Report on Developments</i> , by Tommie Dora Barker. Published in 1936 by the American Library Association (ALA).	1936
33	300	--Lists of S.C. Libraries and Librarians	1944
33	301	--Outline of the development of some South Carolina County Libraries	ca1942
33	302-306	NEWSPAPER CLIPPING FILE In chronological order.	1925-1953



III

DESCRIPTION OF SERIES (cont.)

<u>Box(es)</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Series</u>	<u>Year(s)</u>
33	307	PHOTOGRAPHS County libraries in Charleston, Greenville, and Richland Counties in South Carolina.	nd
		<b>South Carolina Status of Women's Conference</b> *The purpose of the conference was to promote participation of women in public and governmental affairs. It was originally called the White House Conference, but changed its name on January 31, 1949.	
34	308	CONSTITUTIONS AND BY-LAWS	1947?-1953?
34-36	309-330	CORRESPONDENCE AND RELATED PAPERS Mary Frayser served first as chairman of the conference and later as its president. In chronological order.	1940, 1943-1952
36	331-339	SUBJECT-MATTER FILE Reference materials and short histories of the conference. See folder 331 for a list of subjects. Arranged non-alphabetically by subject.	1938, 1945-1951
36	340-341	NEWSPAPER CLIPPING FILE There is no arrangement.	1947-1949
		<b>South Carolina Division of the American Association of University Women (AAUW)</b>	
36	342	CONSTITUTION	nd
37	343-352	CORRESPONDENCE AND RELATED PAPERS Relate to Mary Frayser's work as publicity chairman and then as chairman of the committee on the Legal Status of Women. In chronological order.	1929, 1935-1949
		<b>Interracial Cooperation</b>	
38	354	PAPERS RELATED TO SOUTH CAROLINA INTERRACIAL INSTITUTE	1938-1942
38	355-360	PAPERS RELATED TO SOUTH CAROLINA DIVISION OF SOUTHERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE Includes correspondence, related papers and newspaper clippings.	1944-1948, 1951
		<b>South Carolina Conference of Social Work</b>	
38	361-364	CORRESPONDENCE AND RELATED PAPERS	1936, 1938, 1943, 1945-1961

IV

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Box(es)</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>No. of Folder(s)</u>	<u>Series</u>	<u>Year(s)</u>
<b>A) PERSONAL FILES</b>				
1	1	1	FAMILY PAPERS	1841, 1865-1911, 1924
1	2-8	7	GENEALOGICAL FILE	nd
2	9-11	3	BIOGRAPHICAL DATA	ca1911-ca1946
2	12-19	8	PERSONAL CORRESPONDENCE	1917, Mar. 1938
3	20-30	11	“ “ “ “	Apr., 1938-July, 1940
4	31-39	9	“ “ “ “	Aug., 1940-Dec., 1942
5	40-48	9	“ “ “ “	Jan. 1, 1943-Apr. 10, 1944
6	49-59	11	“ “ “ “	Apr. 11, 1944-Mar., 1946
7	60-68	9	“ “ “ “	April, 1946-1952
8	69-79	11	SUBJECT-MATTER FILE	ca1930-ca1951
9	80-84	5	“ “ “ “	“ “
9	85-86	2	PHOTOGRAPHS AND PORTRAITS	1920s?-1940s
10	87-89	4	“ “ “ “	“ “
<b>B) PROFESSIONAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL FILES</b>				
11	90-100	11	GENERAL CORRESPONDANCE	1914-1940
12	101-102	2	“ “ “ “	“ “
12	103-109	7	SUBJECT-MATTER FILE	ca1926-1952
13	110-117	8	“ “ “ “	“ “
14	118-123	6	“ “ “ “	“ “
15	124-132	9	SPEECH AND ARTICLE FILE	ca1914-1946
16	133-138	6	“ “ “ “	“ “

IV

CONTAINER LIST (cont'd.)

<u>Box(es)</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>No. of Folder(s)</u>	<u>Series</u>	<u>Year(s)</u>
<b>South Carolina Experimental Station</b>				
17	139-148	10	CORRESPONDENCE AND RELATED PAPERS	1927-1929, 1935-1947
17	149-151	3	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FILES Abbeville-Charleston	ca1940-1947
18	152-163	12	“ “ “ “	“ “
19	164-171	9	REFERENCE FILE	ca1927-ca1945
20	172-173	2	“ “ “ “	“ “
<b>South Carolina Federation of Women's Clubs</b>				
20	209	1	CORRESPONDENCE AND RELATED PAPERS	1926, 1929-1933, 1936-1941
21	181-187	7	“ “ “ “	1942-Oct. 15, 1945
22	188-196	9	“ “ “ “	Oct. 16, 1945-Feb., 1949
23	197-203	7	“ “ “ “	Mar. 1949-Mar. 1952
23	204-206	3	CLIPPING FILE	1929-1941, 1947-1952
24	207-208	2	“ “ “ “	“ “
<b>South Carolina Women's Council for the Common Good</b>				
24	209	1	CONSTITUTIONS AND BY- LAWS	1935-1944
24	210	1	ANNUAL REPORTS	1941, 1943, 1945
24	211-212	2	MINUTES AND RELATED RECORDS	1935-1945, 1951-1952
24	213-216	4	CORRESPONDENCE AND RELATED PAPERS	1935-Feb. 1941
25	217-226	10	CORRESPONDENCE AND RELATED PAPERS	Mar. 1941- Dec. 1944
26	227-238	12	“ “ “ “	Jan. 1945-Oct. 1952
27	239-242	11	NEWSPAPER CLIPPING FILES	1937-ca1950

IV

CONTAINER LIST (cont'd.)

<u>Box(es)</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>No. of Folder(s)</u>	<u>Series</u>	<u>Year(s)</u>
<b>South Carolina Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs</b>				
27	243	1	CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS	ca1939-ca1949
27	244-249	6	CORRESPONDENCE AND RELATED PAPERS	1937-1948, 1951-1952
28	250	1	FEDERATION BULLETINS	1926-1928, 1935, 1947
28	251-254	4	NEWSPAPER CLIPPING AND PAMPHLET FILE	1929-1931, 1934-1947
<b>South Carolina Library Movement</b>				
28	255	1	HISTORICAL DATA	1933, 1938
28	256	1	ANNUAL REPORTS OF STATE LIBRARY BOARD	1943/1944-1951/1952
29	257-266	10	CORRESPONDENCE AND RELATED PAPERS	1926-May 1938
30	267-276	10	“ “ “ “	July, 1938-Jan., 1943
31	277-286	10	“ “ “ “	Feb., 1943-Feb., 1952
32	287-297	10	SUBJECT-MATTER FILE	ca1926-1952
33	297-301	5	“ “ “ “	“ “
34	302-306	5	NEWSPAPER CLIPPING FILE	1925-1953
34	307	1	PHOTOGRAPHS	nd
<b>South Carolina Status of Women's Conference</b>				
34	308	1	CONSTITUTIONS AND BY-LAWS	1947?-1953?
34	309-317	9	CORRESPONDENCE AND RELATED PAPERS	1940, 1944-Jan. 9, 1947
35	318-327	10	“ “ “ “	Jan. 10, 1947-Jan. 1950
36	328-330	3	“ “ “ “	Feb. 1950-1952
36	331-339	9	SUBJECT-MATTER FILE	1938, 1945-1951
36	340-341	2	NEWSPAPER CLIPPING FILE	1947-1949

IV

CONTAINER LIST (cont'd.)

<u>Box(es)</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>No. of Folder(s)</u>	<u>Series</u>	<u>Year(s)</u>
<b>South Carolina Division of AAUW</b>				
36	342	1	CONSTITUTION	nd
37	343-352	10	CORRESPONDENCE AND RELATED PAPERS	1929, 1935-1949
37	353	1	NEWSPAPER CLIPPING FILE	ca1936-1937, 1940
<b>Interracial Cooperation</b>				
38	354	1	PAPERS RELATED TO SOUTH CAROLINA INTERRACIAL INSTITUTE	1938-1942
38	355-360	6	PAPERS RELATED TO DIVISION OF SOUTHERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE	1944-1948, 1951
<b>South Carolina Conference of Social Work</b>				
38	361-364	4	CORRESPONDENCE AND RELATED PAPERS	1938, 1943, 1945-1961

**APPENDIX #1**

**LIST OF CORRESPONDENTS**

AMONG THE CORRESPONDENTS OF MARY FRAYSER ARE THE FOLLOWING:

G.H. Aaull

Evan Chesterman

Christine South Gee

Wil Lou Gray

Sarah Hughes

Maude Massey Rogers