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Lillie Edens Herndon Papers - Accession 385

Lillie Edens Herndon

Parents and Teachers, National Congress of

Parents and Teachers, South Carolina Congress of

Corporation for Public Broadcasting

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LILLIE EDENS HERNDON PAPERS

1962-1965, 1973-1981

2 Boxes, 10 Folders, &
2 Bound Volumes

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LOUISE PETTUS ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

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DATE: March 22, 1982
NO. OF SECTIONS: 3

LILLIE EDENS HERNDON PAPERS

I

The Lillie Edens Herndon Papers were deposited with the Archives in July, 1981 by Mrs. Lillie Edens Herndon.

Linear feet of shelf space occupied: .50
Approximate number of pieces: 1000

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 NUCMC on March 22, 1982 (For additional notices see the collection control file)

Scope and Content: **The Lillie Edens Herndon Papers consist of photocopies of speeches, correspondence, articles, program notes and other papers relating to Lillie Herndon's activities as President of the national Congress of Parents and Teachers and as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. Also included are some biographical sketches of Lillie Edens Herndon (1916-2009) and papers relating to honors which she has received.**

II

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

LILLIE EDENS HERNDON

Chronology

- 1916 Born in Sumter, South Carolina.
- 1932 Valedictorian of the 1932 Class of Blaney High School
- 1934 Graduated from Draughn's Business College, Columbia, South Carolina.
- 1932-1951 Bookkeeper, Buyer, Manager, Owner, Kay's Department Store, Columbia.
- 1939, Apr. 7 Married Wayne Woodrow Nidiffer
- 1953 Married James Marvin Herndon
- 1962-1965 President, South Carolina Congress of Parents and Teachers (PTA).
- 1968 Divorced James Marvin Herndon
- 1973-1975 President, National Congress of Parents and Teachers (National PTA).
- 1978 "South Carolinian of the Year".
- 1978-1979 Chairman, Board of Directors, Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB).
- 1986 Chair of the Richland County Council
- 1986 Graduated with honors with a degree in Government from Columbia College
- 1988 Chair of the Board of Trustees of Columbia College.
- 1988 Vice Chairman of the Columbia Urban League
- 1988-2006 Appointed by the South Carolina Supreme Court to the South Carolina Commission on Judicial Standards
- 1992- Received the "Service to Mankind" Award by the Richland Sertoma Club.
- 2009, Dec. 3 Died



II

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

LILLIE EDENS HERNDON

Obituary (*The State*, December 6, 2009)

Lillie Edens Herndon died peacefully December 3, 2009, at her home. Born at Second Mill in Sumter County, SC, in 1916, she was the daughter of Robert Manning and Lillie Frazier Edens.

Ms. Herndon lived nearly all of her life in Richland County and Columbia. She was valedictorian of the 1932 Class of Blaney High School. She completed Draughon's Business College and earned a degree in Government at Columbia College, graduating with honors in 1986.

Ms. Herndon was a founding member of the Business Association of Columbia. She began her own career just after high school at Edens and Faust Grocery and Dry Goods. She bought Faust Department Store when she was 28 years old, and renamed it for her daughter, Kay. She sold this business to the Lourie family in 1951.

Her commitment to education included service as President of the SC Congress of Parents and Teachers, and President of the National PTA. She served as Chair of the South Carolina Board of Education, and Vice Chair of the National Association of State Boards of Education.

Ms. Herndon influenced school law and education policy at the state, national and international levels. She was instrumental in the development of educational television and the Education Improvement Act. She chaired the National Action for Foster Children, and served on the National Consortium for Child Mental Health Services.

By appointment of Presidents Ford and Carter, Ms. Herndon was Director of the Corporation of Public Broadcasting (CPB), serving three terms as Board Chairperson, and later as a Director of the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS).

She traveled worldwide to better educational opportunities for children. By appointment to numerous delegations, she visited Department of Defense schools in Europe and the Middle East, and served as observer to international family and teaching conferences. Ms. Herndon represented the United States Office of Education in field study in the Soviet Union, Egypt, and Israel, and as delegate to the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development Conference on Teacher Education in Paris.

In 1988, she was appointed by the South Carolina Supreme Court to the South Carolina Commission on Judicial Standards, serving as lay member until she retired in 2006.

Ms. Herndon's commitment to community and economic development included her service on Richland County Council, where she was Chair in 1986. By gubernatorial appointment, as Trustee of Richland Memorial Hospital she served as Treasurer, Vice Chair, and Chair. She was a Trustee of Columbia College, and chaired the Board in 1988. She was Interim Director for the Leadership Institute and Forum at Columbia College. Ms Herndon served as Vice Chairman of the Columbia Urban League (1988).

II

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

LILLIE EDENS HERNDON

Obituary (*The State*, December 6, 2009) (cont.)

Lillie Edens Herndon was widely recognized for her leadership and service. Her many honors and awards include Honorary Fellow of American Schools Health Association; South Carolinian of the Year (1979), an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Humanities from Columbia College, National Public Radio's Distinguished Service award; the "First Woman in Broadcasting" by the American Women in Radio and Television; the South Carolina "Women of Achievement" Award; and the 1992 "Service to Mankind" Award by the Richland Sertoma Club.

Central to Ms. Herndon's life were her faith and her family. She served her church as Sunday School teacher, deacon and deacon chair, member of Pastoral Search committees, and as member of the General Board of the South Carolina Baptist Convention, chairing the scholarship committee. Most recently, Shandon Presbyterian was her church home.

Ms. Herndon was predeceased by her son, Wayne Woodrow Nidiffer; three sisters, Naomi Edens Moore, Ruth Edens Oehmig, and Nancy Edens Shumake; six brothers, J. Drake Edens, Pete Mowry Edens, Joe Edens, Robert Marion Edens, Walter (Doc) Edens, and Jack Allen Edens.

She is survived by her daughter, Kay Nidiffer Rogers of Saluda, NC, her grandson, James Clark Seabrook Langley, Jr. and his wife, Rebecca of Charlotte, NC, and two grandchildren, Geoffrey Wayne Edens Langley and Katherine Elizabeth Langley; nieces Martha C. Edens, Gene Edens Bode, Marjorie Edens Youngblood, and Robin Edens Spires; and nephews, Joe Edens, Allen Edens, Greg Edens, and their families.

After a private family burial in Greenlawn Memorial Gardens, the family will welcome friends as they celebrate Ms. Herndon's life on Monday, December 7 at 2:00 p.m. at Shandon Presbyterian Church, 701 Woodrow Street, Columbia. Dunbar Funeral Home, Devine Street Chapel, is assisting the family.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials to the Gene Lindler Memorial Music Fund, Shandon Presbyterian Church, 701 Woodrow Street Columbia, SC 29205, the Endowment Fund, Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration, P.O. Box 275, Saluda, NC 28773, or the Lillie Edens Herndon Endowed Scholarship Fund, Columbia College, 1301 Columbia College Drive, Columbia, SC 29203.

III

DESCRIPTION OF SERIES

| <u>Box(es)</u> | <u>Folder(s)</u> | <u>Series</u> | <u>Year(s)</u> |
|---|------------------|---|----------------------|
| A) BIOGRAPHICAL FILE | | | |
| 1 | 1 | BIOGRAPHICAL FILE Consists of biographical sketches, articles and awards relating to Lillie Herndon and her work. No arrangement. | 1973-1981 |
| B) PAPERS RELATING TO THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS (PTA). | | | |
| 1 | 2-3 | SPEECHES AND NOTES Consists of speeches and notes made by Lillie Herndon while she was President of the National PTA. | 1973-1978, nd |
| 1 2 Bd. Vols. | 4-5 | PUBLICATIONS Consists of two bound volumes of the "South Carolina Parent Teacher" magazine from May 1962-January 1963 & February 1964-May 1965. Also included is a "South Carolina Parent Teacher" September, 1973; the "National PTA Bulletin", March 1974, April 1974 and March 1975; the "PTA Magazine," October 1973-June 1974 and September 1974-November 1974; and "Parents Magazine," August 1975. In chronological order. | 1962-1965, 1973-1975 |
| 2 | 6 | VARIOUS PAPERS Consists of information concerning the World Confederation of Organizations of the Teaching Profession that was held in Nairobi, Kenya from July 24, 1973 to August 8, 1973, PTA convention programs, articles, correspondence, list of the General Powers and Duties of School Trustees and papers about how to be an effective PTA member. In chronological order. | 1973-1978, nd |
| C) PAPERS RELATING TO THE CORPORATION FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING (CPB) | | | |
| 2 | 7-8 | SPEECHES Consists of speeches made by Lillie Herndon while she was Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB). | 1977-1978, nd |

III

DESCRIPTION OF SERIES (cont.)

| <u>Box(es)</u> | <u>Folder(s)</u> | <u>Series</u> | <u>Year(s)</u> |
|----------------|------------------|---|---------------------------|
| 2 | 9 | LETTERS Consists of letters of congratulations upon her appointment as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the CPB. | 1978, nd |
| 2 | 9 | PUBLICATIONS Consists of the "CPB Report," September 25, 1978, September 27, 1979, May 26, 1980, June 9, 1980, September 29, 1980, and April 6, 1981. Also included is the 1980 CPB Annual Report, the SECA Signal, November, 1980 and a news release concerning the Annenberg School of Communications \$150 million gift to CPB. | 1979-1981 |
| 2 | 10 | PHOTOGRAPHS Photos of Ms. Herndon making speeches to various groups and organizations. | 1979, 1982, 1989, 1992 |