



2021

Myra Potter Bregger Family Papers - Accession 782

Myra Potter Bregger

Georgia Ann Weir

UNICEF

American Association of University Women

Bregger Family

See next page for additional authors

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.winthrop.edu/manuscriptcollection_findingaids

Finding Aid Citation

Louise Pettus Archives and Special Collections, Winthrop University, "Myra Potter Bregger Family Papers - Accession 782". Finding Aid 1277.

https://digitalcommons.winthrop.edu/manuscriptcollection_findingaids/1277

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 digitalcommons@mailbox.winthrop.edu.

Authors

Myra Potter Bregger, Georgia Ann Weir, UNICEF, American Association of University Women, Bregger Family, and Potter Family

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

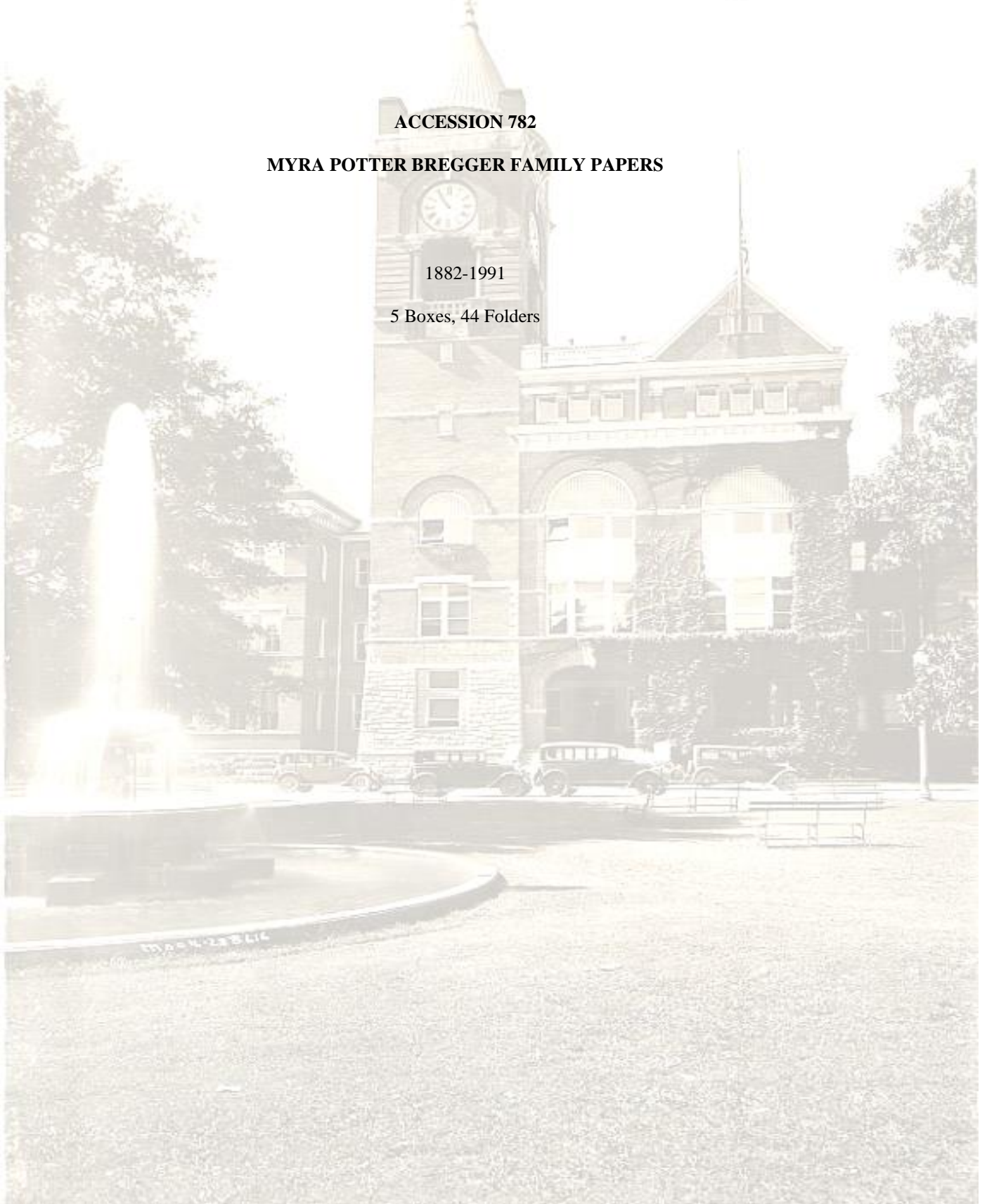
MANUSCRIPT COLLECTION

ACCESSION 782

MYRA POTTER BREGGER FAMILY PAPERS

1882-1991

5 Boxes, 44 Folders



WINTHROP UNIVERSITY
LOUISE PETTUS ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

MANUSCRIPT COLLECTION

ACC. NO.: 782
ADDITIONS: 763, _____, _____

PROCESSED BY: Deann Segal
DATE: August 12, 1994
NO. OF SECTIONS: 5

MYRA POTTER BREGGER FAMILY PAPERS

1

The papers of Myra Potter Bregger were deposited with the Archives in 1991 and 1992 by Mrs. Bregger. These papers are an addition to Acc. 763. Mrs. Bregger was a civic leader and activist awarded many community citations. Mrs. Bregger was a member of the UNICEF, the American Association of University Women, and the Unitarian Universalist Association.

Linear Feet of Shelf Space Occupied: 1.25
Approximate number of pieces: 2500

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.

Scope and Content: **This collection consists of the papers of Myra Potter Bregger (1905-2001), community leader and social activist. Included in the collection is an autograph book belonging to Georgia Ann Weir, mother of Myra Bregger, family account books, travel diaries and correspondence, papers concerning the Bregger-Potter Families, newspaper clippings, papers concerning UNICEF, the Unitarian Universalist Association, and Personal Correspondence.**

Related Collections:

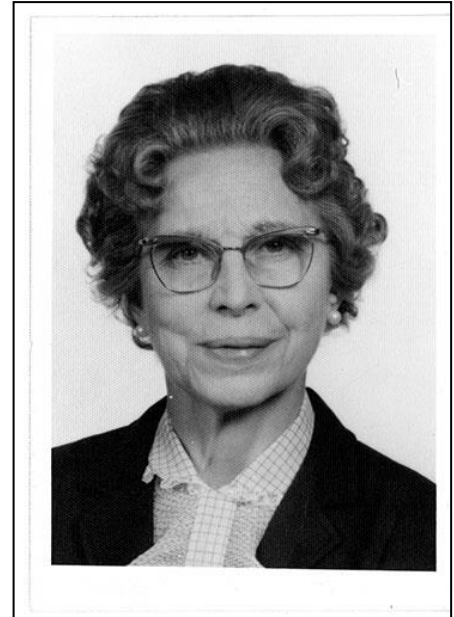
- Myra Potter Bregger Papers - Accession 763
- [John Taylor Bregger Papers](#), UA-10.3.74 are housed at the Michigan State University Archives and Historical Collections. (Myra Bregger donated the collection of her husband)
- [Louis A. Bregger Papers](#), UA-10.3.93 are housed at the Michigan State University Archives and Historical Collections. (Myra Bregger donated the collection of her father-in-law)

II

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

MYRA POTTER BREGGER

- 1905 Born in Mulvane, Kansas
- 1912-1918 Attended Mt. Pleasant Rural School in Sumner County, KS
- 1923 Graduated from Mulvane High School
- 1923-1924 Attended Kansas Teacher's College, Emporia
- 1924-1926 Attended Washburn, University, Topeka, Kansas
- 1926-1930 Attended Kansas State College of Agriculture and Applied Science.
- Aug. 1, 1928 Graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Home Economics from Kansas State College.
- July 31, 1930 Graduated with a Master of Science from Kansas State College.
- 1930 Accepted position at Washington State College, Pullman, Washington, to do research on Washington fruits and instruct in foods and nutrition.
- Nov. 3, 1930 Met John Taylor Bregger at a banquet at Washington State College.
- June 21, 1932 Married John Taylor Bregger in Spokane, Washington.
- 1932-1933 Lived in Ithaca, New York where John T. Bregger had a visiting professorship.
- 1936 Son, John E. (Jack) Bregger was born.
- 1939 Daughter, Margaret B. Bregger was born and moved to Clemson, South Carolina.
- 1945 Son, Louis Bregger born.
- 1951-1953 Chairman, Clemson branch of AAUW.
- 1953 Founded Clemson Center for Continuing Education.
- 1953-1980 Chairman and/or director of Clemson Center for Continuing Education.
- 1954 Chairman of South Carolina Citizens Committee on Children and Youth.
- 1957-1959 President of South Carolina Division of AAUW.
- 1965 Children and Nutrition Tour around the World.
- 1966-1977 South Carolina State Representative for UNICEF.
- 1970 Visit to Ecuador.
- 1981 Husband, John Taylor Bregger died.



II

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

MYRA POTTER BREGGER (cont.)

2001, Nov. 7 Myra Potter Bregger died

Obituary: The Greenville News, November 9, 2001

CLEMSON - An Upstate champion of children's causes for seven decades, Myra Potter Bregger died at home Wednesday at the age of 96.

Mrs. Bregger was South Carolina's UNICEF chairwoman for 11 years, established the school lunch program in Clemson, helped found the library, Girl Scouts and youth theater in Clemson, and served as state and Pickens County chairman of the Committee on Children and Youth. In 1960, she chaired and edited a White House Conference report on the future of children in Pickens County and South Carolina.

"More than anything she cared about children," said Louis Bregger, the youngest of her three children. "That was her deepest concern."

She also cared about education, women's issues, her church and her community.

Mrs. Bregger was founder and director of the Clemson Area Continuing Education Center, the first adult education center in the Upstate, from 1954-1980.

She helped found Clemson's Meals on Wheels, Clemson's League of Women's Voters, and was an officer and founding member of Clemson Community Council. She was a member of Clemson Theater Guild, past president of Clemson PTA, state president of the American Association of University Women, a member of the Federal Legislation Committee of the state Interagency Council on Aging and county chairman of the state Women's Council for the Common Good

She was a founding member of the Greenville Unitarian Fellowship in 1950 and of the Clemson Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in 1953.

"She was my mentor for many years," said Berniece Holt, a leader in the Clemson community, who recalls dinners at the Bregger home.

"She used dishes she'd gathered from around the world to entertain guests," Holt said. "She took great pride in making people sit next to someone besides their husbands and keep a lot of good conversations going. She stimulated lots of conversations in this community, too. She was way ahead of her time."

Mrs. Bregger was a teacher to those around her, speaking her mind bluntly but with love, and fully expecting others to work to make a difference in the world, Holt said.

Born on a Mulvane, Kan., farm, Mrs. Bregger earned a masters' degree in nutrition and chemistry from Kansas State University, and was doing research at Washington State University on the vitamin value of fruits when she met her husband, horticultural engineer John Taylor Bregger.

She moved to Clemson in 1939, when her husband took a job with USDA Soil Conservation Service to help start the peach industry in South Carolina, her son said.

"Mom came here and there was no school lunch program and she couldn't imagine how that could be and she changed that," Bregger said.

II

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

MYRA POTTER BREGGER (cont.)

The library, Girl Scouts, theater and UNICEF involvement all followed, he said.

"She was very much involved with children's issues," Bregger said.

The state American Association of University Women's Research and Projects Foundation was named in her honor in 1979. She received the state organization's Women of Distinction Award and the local International Relations Award. She is a recipient of the Clemson Rotary Award for Community Service, the Sydney Sullivan Award for Clemson University and the Unitarian Universalist Unsung Hero Award. Survivors: Son, John E. Bregger, of Tacoma, Wash.; daughter, Margaret B. Coston, of Windsor, Calif.; son, Louis D. Bregger, of Clemson; nine nieces and nephews; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

III

DESCRIPTION OF SERIES

<u>Box(es)</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Series</u>	<u>Year(s)</u>
A) WEIR FAMILY PAPERS			
1	1	GEORGIA ANN WEIR PAPERS An autograph book belonging to Georgia Ann Weir, mother of Myra Potter Bregger. See Appendix I for a list of signatures.	1882, 1883, 1885, nd
1-3	2-25	FAMILY ACCOUNT BOOKS Family living expenses, with Christmas card and gifts lists, phone numbers, various receipts, invitation, and correspondence relating to purchases. In chronological order, except whence Mrs. Bregger had old receipts in the next year's account book.	1962, 1963, 1965-1986, nd
B) TRAVEL DIARIES AND RELATED PAPERS			
3	26	POSTCARDS Postcards from Myra Bregger to John and Louis Bregger and Mr. and Mrs. D.F. Guell from her Around the World Study Tour. The collection includes cards from New York, Paris, Leningrad, Helsinki, Stockholm, Geneva, Rome, Lebanon, Jerusalem, Haifa, Bombay, Delhi, Agra, Bangkok, Taiwan, Kyoto, Tokyo, and Honolulu, In chronological order.	1965
3	27	TRAVEL DIARY OF AROUND THE WORLD STUDY TOUR Includes addresses and expenditures. See post card entry for a list of major cities visited.	1965
3	28	TRAVEL DIARY OF EUROPE AND GEORGIA Includes addresses and a recipe. The trip included Brussels, Prague, Budapest, Romania, Germany, Liechtenstein, Austria, and Georgia.	1972
3	29	TRAVEL DIARY OF EUROPE Written in 1965, engagement calendar, with a guide to the Castle of Gruyeres (pamphlet), and addresses. The trip included Switzerland and Germany.	1973
3	30	TRAVEL DIARY OF THE UNITED STATES Written in 1973 UNICEF Calendar, it includes addresses where she stayed. The trip included Washington D.C., Maryland, New York, Canada, Washington, Texas, and Louisiana.	1974
4	32	TRAVEL DIARY OF EUROPE Written in a 1966 Cat Calendar, with some entries of guests from 1966. The trip included Germany, Switzerland, and Austria.	1977
4	33	TRAVEL DIARY OF CHINA With addresses and expenditures.	1983
4	34	SLIDES AND PHOTOGRAPHS Slides of Myra Bregger in Machu Pichu, Peru, and photographs of Elvira de Velarde and family in Lima, Peru.	1970
4	35	TRAVEL ITINERARIES Includes the Fourth Unitarian Pilgrimage to Europe, Furman University Study Tour, Hawaii, Germany, and a family trip in the United States. In chronological order.	1970, 1972, 1983, nd

III

DESCRIPTION OF SERIES (cont.)

<u>Box(es)</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Series</u>	<u>Year(s)</u>
4	36	PAPERS WRITTEN DURING AROUND THE WORLD STUDY TOUR Reports by Myra Bregger concerning UNICEF, UNECO, and world nutrition programs for graduate credit from Norther Illinois University. In chronological order.	1965
C) AWARDS AND CITATIONS			
4	37	PAPERS REGARDING UNICEF Includes a press release, a copy of a certificate of appreciation, (a citation for a Creativity Encounter Conference from the American Association of University Women, in September 1976 is on the back), and a letter of thanks from the director of the Greeting Card Program. In chronological order.	1970, 1976, 1978, 1979
4	38	PAPERS REGARDING THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN (AAUW) Includes Named Endowment Award, Certificate of Life Membership, and nomination for Community Award with newspaper clippings. In chronological order.	1976, 1987, 1989, 1990, nd
4	39	PAPERS REGARDING THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION Includes a letter of nomination for the Unsung Unitarian Universalist Award, letters of recommendation, the Unsung Unitarian Universalist for the Thomas Jefferson District, and a biography written about Myra Bregger by Cindy Rogers. In chronological order.	1986, nd
4	40	ALGERNON SYDNEY SULLIVAN AWARD A copy of the presentation speech.	1982
D) BREGGER-POTTER FAMILY PAPERS			
4	41	PAPERS REGARDING THE BREGGER AND POTTER FAMILIES Includes a copy of "The Scotch Pine's Mission," published in <i>The Volante</i> , by Grace L. Taylor, "Michigan Matriarch Nears Ninety This Week" by John T. Bregger, "The William Mason Potter Family" reviewed by Myra Bregger and Mary Gruell, "Family Dates" of the Bregger-Potter families, a copy of the marriage service for John and Myra Bregger, "Becoming a Unitarian Universalist," and "My Pioneer Mother" by Myra Bregger, and photocopies of photographs of Myra Potter, her sister, and her school. Also included is a brochure listing the Bregger Print Collection on display at the Rudolph Lee Gallery at Clemson University and Rotary documents belonging to John Bregger. In chronological order.	1891, 1931, 1965, 1966, 1973, 1989, nd
4	42	NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS Articles and copies of articles about the Bregger Family. Also included is a copy of a letter to the editor by Myra Bregger. In chronological order.	1938, 1949, 1957, 1966, 1967, 1979-1982, 1985, 1988, 1990
5	43-44	PERSONAL CORRESPONDENCE Personal correspondence, mostly to John T. Bregger while he traveled or while Myra Bregger traveled. See Appendix II for a list of correspondents. In chronological order.	1933, 1935, 1938, 1959, 1966-1970, 1987, 1990, 1991, nd

III

DESCRIPTION OF SERIES (cont.)

<u>Box(es)</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Series</u>	<u>Year(s)</u>
6	45	PAPERS RELATING TO AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN (AAUW) Correspondence, Speeches, Histories, Nominations and other papers relating to Myra. P Bregger's membership and participation in the AAUW. In chronological order.	1953-1983, nd
6	46	NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS Clippings relating to AAUW, Biographical Information, UNICEF, Clemson continuing education, and other subjects of interest to Mrs. Bregger. In chronological order.	1957-1989
6	47	BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION Biographical Information of Myra P. Bregger. In chronological order.	1962-1991
6	47	PHOTOGRAPHS Photographs of Myra P. Bregger and others at AAUW conventions. In chronological order.	ca1950-1981

IV

APPENDIX I

SIGNATURES IN GEORGIA ANNA WEIR'S AUTOGRAPH BOOK

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>
William Welch	November 12, 1882	
Ella A. (Hanir)	June 26, 1882	Rose Hill, MO
J. (C. or W.) Tilden	March 21, 1882	
M.M McDonald (Aunt)	1882	California
Bernice Weir (cousin)	June 30, 1885	Holden, MO
[Lydia Jane (Epperson)] Weir [paternal grandmother]	July 28, 1882	Rio, IL
Ellie George	January 27, 1885	
Maggie	May 28, 1883	
Sam (uncle)	December 10, 1882	Woodhull, IL
Belle Campbell	December 20, 1882	Welch School
Sadie Welch		
Virgie ()	June (24), 1885	Holden, MO
Gracie		
Martha [Douglas] (maternal aunt)	November 15, 1882	
Walter Tilden		
(L)ade King	February 5, 1883	Bates, IL
Ella (Dryle) (teacher)	May 24, 1883	Moline, IL
Sue H. Douglas (Aunt)	April 1, 1882	Woodhull, IL
Sallie T. Douglas (cousin)	February 5, 1883	Old Berlin
Cornelia Weir (mother)		
Elvie [Douglas Rutledge] (maternal aunt)	March 26, 1882	
V. Jennie (Chitwood)	April 24, ()	Holden, MO
Cora Hodges	April ()	
Mollie (cousin, entry with drawing)		Columbus

IV

APPENDIX I (cont.)

SIGNATURES IN GEORGIA ANNA WEIR'S AUTOGRAPH BOOK

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>
Ben (8 years old)		Malvane, KS
(S.) Bennet	() 1883	
(_____) cousin	June 20, 1885	
Mary (D.E.) Weir [paternal aunt]	July 31, 1882	Rio, IL
Albert	June 10, 1885	
M.C.D. (step maternal grandfather, entry written in Swedish)		
Luther Overstreet	June 6, 1883	Woodhull, IL

*Key

() Indicates illegible word, date, or letter

[] Indicates notation of information by Myra Bregger

*Myra Bregger notes that Georgia Ann Weir was born April 16, 1874.

V

APPENDIX II

CORRESPONDENTS

<u>Box(es)</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>		<u>Dates</u>
5	43	PERSONAL CORRESPONDENCE Outgoing correspondence to John Bregger (Husband), Margaret Bregger (Wife), Edith Haslam, Mason Potter (brother). Correspondence from Margaret Bregger (daughter), Wilfred Hough, Georgia Ann Weir Potter (mother), Mason Potter (brother)	1933, 1935, 1938, 1959, 1966, 1967, 1968, nd
5	44	PERSONAL CORRESPONDENCE Outgoing correspondence to John Bregger, James Coffman, Maeline Farber, Ruth Hoeflen, Pamela Radcliffe, Barbara Stowe, Dr. Marguerite Tolbert. Correspondence from Bill Atchley (President of Clemson University), Inez Bregger (daughter-in-law), Jack Bregger (son), Marguerite Carpenter, Phil Churchfield (nephew), Dorothy T. Frye, Ruth Hoeflen, Roger Lovette, Virginia Moxley (Assistant Dean, College of Human Ecology, Kansas State University), Pamela Radcliff, Dr. Mary Frances Reed, Ada Lou Steiner, Jon Wefold (President, Kansas State University).	1968-1970, 1980-1982, 1986, 1987, 1990, 1991, nd

*Also included are copies of letters of recommendation for awards. Phil Churchfield's letter includes a copy of a family history by Anna Bernadene Hengs (John T. Bregger's mother). There is also a copy of a letter from Dr. Marguerite Tolbert to Clemson President Bill Atchley and his response concerning the Clemson Area Continuing Education Center, which Myra Breggers headed for a number of years.