

Eloise Ramsey Collection
Papers 1910-1958
(Predominantly , 1930's-1950's)

4 linear feet

Accession Number 467

The papers of Eloise Ramsey, a nationally recognized expert in children's literature and teacher education, were given to the Wayne State University Archives in August of 1978 by Robert T. Grazier, Associate Director of University Libraries, on behalf of the Libraries.

Ramsey was an Associate Professor in English Education in the College of Education and taught at Wayne for some 36 years. She received her Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Ohio State University and spent some time teaching school in Ohio and South Dakota. She began teaching at Detroit Normal School in 1919. The school became the Detroit Teachers College in 1920 and in 1933, the College of Education, when Wayne became a university. Ramsey remained at the University until her retirement in 1956. Her titles ranged from teacher to Assistant Professor to Senior Assistant Professor to Associate Professor.

Ramsey insisted that courses in children's literature be offered to future teachers. She was responsible for initiating such courses in the College early in her career. She provided materials from her personal library as samples of good children's books for her students to view and examine in their classes. After the arrival of Dr. G. Flint Purdy as Director of the University Library in 1936, Ramsey launched a campaign to establish a section in the library for children's books. Purdy not only agreed to this, but also allowed Ramsey space for an office near her precious books. She again provided the nucleus of the children's collection. Library money was soon allocated for the purchase of new children's books. Ramsey also provided over 400 rare and notable books which exemplified the best in children's literature. These became known simply as the Case Collection, a non-circulating collection to be used for research. The Collection was later renamed the Eloise Ramsey Collection of Literature for Young People to recognize Ramsey's pioneering efforts.

Ramsey was well known throughout the United States for her work in children's literature, folklore, and the education of children. She was an active member of the Association of Childhood Education, National Council of Teachers of English, National Education Association, and the American Folklore Society; taught summer sessions at Johns Hopkins and Northwestern universities; was involved in developing ideas for the establishment of various centers and institutes dealing with children; and served on the editorial board of *Childhood Education*, *Story Parade*, *Reading for Fun*. Ramsey co-authored three books and was working on another at the time of her death in 1964.

The Eloise Ramsey Collection reflects Ramsey's work in children's literature, folklore, and children's education. It documents her involvement with professional associations and her teaching career. The collection includes teaching materials from the 1930's and '40s, papers given at conferences and seminars, miscellaneous writings as well as book manuscripts. It also includes correspondence from many significant persons in the field of children's literature and publishing such as Lucy Sprague Mitchell, Helen Ferris, May Masee, Elizabeth Coatsworth, and Carolyn Snedeker. Ramsey was a contemporary and friend of such notables as May Hill Arbuthnot and Evelyn Gardner.

Important subjects covered in the collection are:

Children's literature
Curriculum
English Education, Wayne University
Ferris, Helen
Folklore
Graham, Hazel
Poe School, Detroit
Williams, Helen

An index to subjects in the collection will be found on p. 11.

Contents

4 storage boxes

Series I, General, 1910-1958, Boxes 1-2:

Correspondence, notes, programs, and clippings. The files contain biographical material, information on committees and professional organizations to which Ramsey belonged, proposals for the establishment of various centers and institutes dealing with children, teaching materials, papers presented, and items written by Ramsey without corresponding information as to whether published or presented. Ramsey was also considered a folklorist with emphasis on materials for children, and material representing those interests is found in this series.

Series II, Correspondence, 1922-1958, Boxes 2-3:

Professional (1922-1958) and personal (1932-1958) correspondence.

Series III, Manuscripts, n.d.; Boxes 3-4:

Manuscripts, drafts, research notes, outlines, background materials, clippings and charts. Most of the material is undated. Some files are not readily identified as part of a specific book while others are identified as parts of three distinct titles.

Series I
General, 1923-1958
Boxes 1-2

Box 1

1. Michigan State Fair Teachers' Day Awards; vita and eulogy, 1957
2. Personal; miscellaneous
3. Employment; 1914-1919
4. ; Wayne University records and correspondence, 1919-1956
5. ; Johns Hopkins University correspondence, bulletins, 1935
6. ; Northwestern University correspondence, bulletins, photos, 1946
7. Retirement; correspondence, 1953-1956
8. Ann Arbor Public Schools; course of study in literature for the elementary school prepared by Ramsey, 1927-28
9. Annual book exhibit bibliography, 1929, 1936
- 10-11. Association for Childhood Education Literary Committee, 1942-1944, n.d.
12. Children's Book Fair, Detroit, 1957
13. Children's literature; clippings, 1938-1945
14. Christmas exhibit, 1937
15. Christmas festival, 1932
16. College of Education; committees, 1955-56
17. ; Committee on Administrative Organization, 1956
18. ; Initial Teacher Education, 1942
19. ; Teacher Certification Code revision, 1956
20. ; Teacher training programs, 1943
21. Curriculum materials prepared by various schools: Brady, Goodale, Nichols, Tappan, Thirkell, 1932-1936
22. Detroit Public Schools; Children's Museum exhibits, 1946-47
23. ; Department of Language Education; Program on Literature for the Elementary schools, 1936
24. ; and *The Detroit News* Father's Day Contest letters, 1941
25. Educational Policies Commission, 1944-1945
26. *English Through Broadening Experiences*, c1938
- 27-28. *Handbook of Children's Literature*; corres., contracts, 1925-Apr 1928
29. Kipling; miscellaneous notes
30. Letters of Edward Lear, Lady Strachey; notes, n.d.
31. Library of International Relations; *Story Cove*, Bibliography of children's books, 1933
32. Music and Literature at Home; n.d.
33. National Assn. for Nursery Education; biennial conference, Detroit, 1941
34. National Council of Teachers of English; study of library facilities in American schools (study of journal holdings), Michigan, c. 1928
35. ; book luncheon, Nov. 22, 1940
36. National Education Association; 78th annual meeting, 1940
37. Northwestern University; conference on The Role of Language in Modern Life, 1946
38. Ohio State University; student poetry, 1934-1935

Box 1 (cont'd)

39. Pageants and plays booklets, 1908, 1912, 1919, n.d.
40. Progressive Education Association; Symposium, Feb. 1936
41. Progressive Education Association, 1939, 1940, 1941
42. "Semantics Course of Study," C.L. Meade; outline and class materials, paper by Ramsey, 1947-48
43. Wayne University; book ordering information, n.d.
44. Proposals; Center of Children's Literature, correspondence and notes, 1956
45. ; Educational Foundation to adjust education to the needs of democracy and to human personality, 1938-1939
46. ; Institute for the uses of books, 1938
47. ; School of Library Science, n.d.
48. Teaching materials; Art 254, 1932-1934
49. ; Class handouts, n.d.
50. ; Creating a room environment for literary activities, 1936
51. ; Critique of book exhibit
52. ; English 103, 1930
53. ; Education 202, 203, 204, n.d.
54. ; Education 205, 2e, 1936
- 55-57. ; English Education 220, n.d., 1942
58. ; examinations
59. ; English Education 221, syllabus and notes, 1937
60. ; English Education 222
61. ; English Education 225
62. ; English Education 227
63. ; Bibliography used in all sections, n.d.
64. ; Handwriting—judgments on the sex of handwriting, 1910
65. ; Handwriting—preliminary study of family resemblance in handwriting, 1910
66. ; "Huckleberry Finn," MGM screen guide, 1939
67. ; Introductory literature unit on China, Jan 1943
68. ; "Made in China" exhibits at Detroit Children's Museum, n.d.
69. ; Manuscript writing charts, 1935
70. ; Marr School (Detroit) Plan of Work, summer session, 1929
71. ; Nichols School (Detroit), 1938
- 72-73. ; Poe School—children's works, 1932,
74. ; Poe School—"Poe Reporter," 1938
75. ; Roosevelt Nursery School (Detroit), 1941
76. ; Roosevelt School—student works, 1938-39
77. ; Summer school, 1935, n.d.
78. ; Student papers, 1939, 1946, 1948, n.d.

Box 2

1. Teaching materials; Style Book for Grades One through Six, 1935
2. ; Units of work, 1936
3. ; Folktales and fairy tales, 1935
- 4-7. American Folklore Society; correspondence, Mar 1950-1954
8. ; Program, Dec. 1946, Dec 1947
9. Folk music, 1947-53
10. Clippings, 1923-53
11. Folk Rhymes/Cries; notes and clippings
12. Folk tales; notes
13. ; tabulations
14. National Folk Festival, "Place of Folklore in Teacher Education";
correspondence, 1953
- 15-16. Folklore; international—clippings and notes
17. ; Local History: A Neglected Resource, 1942
- 18-19. ; Miscellaneous,
20. ; NORSE
21. ; "St. Valentine," paper by Ramsey, book review of *Index to Fairy Tales, Myths and Legends*
22. Michigan Folklore Society; correspondence 1953-1955, programs, misc.
23. Papers presented; Association for Arts in Childhood, New York University
Reading Conference, 1938
24. ; Association for Childhood Education, Michigan Conference, 1941
- 25-27. ; Ohio Conference on Reading—correspondence, programs, Feb-July
1941
28. ; St. Louis Radio WEW "Experiences with Literature," November 26, 1938
29. ; Western Arts Association—correspondence, notes, program, 1938
30. ; Windsor Teachers Institute, 1936
31. Writings; comparisons of two editions of Andrew Lang's fairy books
32. ; Introducing the illustrator, 1938
33. ; Notes, Why Some stories are Favorites
34. ; *Packet*; Articles written by Ramsey, correspondence, 1947
35. ; Randolph Caldecott, Caldecott Medal, 1938
36. ; Reviewing *Lost Horizons*, n.d.

Series II
Correspondence, 1922-1958
Boxes 2-3

Box 2

37. Professional correspondence; acknowledgments and appreciation, 1949-1957
38. ; D.C. Heath & Co., 1941-1954
39. ; Doubleday Doran & Lesser, Margaret, 1935-1951
- 40-44. ; Junior Literary Guild, Helen Ferris, Nov 1932-1955, n.d.
45. ; Masee, May, 1933-1936, n.d.
- 46-47. ; Methodist Church, Board of Education, 1941, 1944-1945
48. ; *Trails for Juniors*, 1944, 1945
49. ; National Council of Teachers of English, 1940-1941
- 50-58. ; miscellaneous, 1922-1944, 1946-1956
59. ; *Reading for Fun*, 1937-1940
60. ; Snedeker, Caroline, 1936
61. ; *Story Parade*, 1938-1941
- 62-64. ; Wayne University, 1933-1945, 1952-1958
65. ; Coatsworth, Elizabeth, n.d.
66. Personal correspondence; Angelescu, Victor, 1958
67. ; Bovill, Celia, 1937-1956
68. ; Carlisle, 1937-1944
69. ; Callison, Mabel (Mrs. John Oscar), 1933-1954
70. ; Chase, Fred, 1941-1957
71. ; Compton, Claudia, 1932-1937, n.d.
72. ; Crawford, Susan, 1953-1955, n.d.
73. ; Eleanor, 1957, n.d.
- 74-75. ; Gordon, Ruth, 1937-1957

Box 3

1. Personal correspondence; Gordon, Ruth, n.d.
- 2-4. ; Graham, Hazel, 1933-1956, n.d.
5. ; Jagendorf, Moritz, 1950-1956
6. ; Jonson, Raymond and Vera, 1934-1953
7. ; Josephine [?], 1935-1954
8. ; Kane, Beatrice Collins, 1938
9. ; McGinnis, Mary F., 1938, n.d.
10. ; McPharlin, Paul, 1934-1943
- 11-12. ; miscellaneous, 1933-1957
- 13-14. ; miscellaneous, n.d.
15. ; Pixley, Margaret Bice and children, 1936-1955, n.d.
16. ; Schaal, Kennetha, 1928-1955
17. ; Taitt, Mary Louise Langley, 1952, n.d.
18. ; Thompson, Alta E., 1936-1937, n.d.
19. ; Weiss, Morris, 1937-1955 (includes Weiss paper with Ramsey notations)

Box 3 (cont'd)

- 20. ; Wesebau, Carl and Aldine, 1934-1957
- 21. ; Williams, Evan, 1940-1953, n.d.
- 22-23. ; Williams, Helen, 1938-1955
- 24-25. ; Williams, Helen, n.d
- 26. ; Williams, Ned, 1946-1956, n.d., and photo
- 27. ; Williams, Sydney Arthur

**Series III
Manuscripts, n.d.
Boxes 3-4**

Box 3

- 28-29. Unidentified title; background material and notes
- 30-31. ; background material, chapters 3 and 4
- 32-33. ; Background material, chapters 16 and 19
- 34. ; background material, chapter 21
- 35-36. ; background material and notes, part 6, chapter 19
- 37. ; background material and notes, part 6, interests, capacities, enjoyment, chapter 19
- 38. ; chapter 3
- 39. ; chapters 3, 6, 18
- 40-42. ; chapters 3, 4,
- 43. ; chapter 4

Box 4

- 1. Unidentified title; chapter 5, notes and cards
- 2. ; chapter 15, 30, 21, n.d.
- 3. ; Drawing—the mouse in *Reading for Fun*, "Mice in books"
- 4. ; Miscellaneous notes
- 5. ; Notecards
- 6. ; (on education) chapters 2 and 3, notes and clippings, n.d.
- 7-8. ; Outline and notes, chapters 1 and 2
- 9. *Experiences with Children's Literature*; biographical materials
- 10. ; child characters in literature, art and children
- 11. ; current chapter
- 12-13. ; early outline, 1942
- 14. ; layout and notes
- 15. ; photos for montage
- 16. ; stories to tell
- 17. ; chapter 1
- 18. ; chapter 2
- 19. ; chapters 1 and 2
- 20. ; chapters 4 and 5
- 21-23. ; chapter 5
- 24. ; chapters 5 and 6, notes
- 25. ; chapter 8, note cards
- 26. ; chapter 12 (see chapter 5)
- 27. ; chapter 16 "Charting a Course," teachers' questions
- 28. *Handbook of Children's Literature* by Gardner and Ramsey; proposal, notes for revision, drafts, letters, clippings, 1939
- 29. *How We Plan Our Work*, an analysis
- 30. ; uses of books with children, curriculum material
- 31. ; notes, organization and format
- 32. ; selection of literary materials, first and second levels

Box 4 (cont'd)

33. ; third level (pages 244 - 265 are missing)
34. ; Part 4, basic literary materials
35. ; wall chart

Index to Subjects

Arbuthnot, May Hill, 2:52, 53
 Center of Children's Literature, proposed, 1:44
Childhood Education, 2:53
 Children's literature, 1:13, 23, 26-28, 32, 44, 46, 48-63; 2:23, 28, 31-34
 Children's Museum, Detroit exhibits, 1:22; 2:37
 Curriculum, 1:8, 52-63; 2:1, 2
 D. C. Heath & Co., 2:38
 Dance Program, Wayne University, 2:37
 Education Foundation, proposed, 1:45
Experience with Children's Literature, 2:38; 4:9-28
 Ferris, Helen, 2:40-44
 Folklore, 2:4-22
 Gardner, Evelyn, 2:38
 Graham, Hazel, 3:2-4
Handbook of Children's Literature, 1:27, 28; 4:28
 Helen Williams Nursery School, 3:25
 Helen Williams School, 3:22
 Howard, Dorothy, 2:4-7
 Jacobs, Leland, 2:37
 Jagendorf, Moritz, 2:5; 3:3
 James, Thelma, 2:4, 7, 37
 Junior Literary Guild, 2:40-44
 Lessey, Margaret, 2:39
 Masee, May, 2:45
 Methodist Church, 2:46-48
 Michigan State Fair Teachers' Day Award, 1:1
 Mitchell, Lucy Sprague, 2:50
 Murray, Ruth, 2:37
 National Council of Teachers of English, 1:34, 35; 2:49
 Old Red House (Rochester, Mich.), 3:23, 24
Reading for Fun, 2:59
 Rochester, Michigan, 3:23-25
 School of Library Science, 1:46
 Scott, Foresman & Co., 2:52, 53
 Snedeker, Carolyn Dale, 2:39, 60
Story Parade, 2:61
Trails for Juniors, 2:47, 48
 Viking Press, Inc., 2:45
 Wayne University, Box 1, 2:62-64
 Williams, Helen, 3:22-25
 Woman's Exposition Award 2:51