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McCammon, Josephine Y. (1886-19??), Papers, 1893 - 1968

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#66 McCammon, Josephine Y. (1886-19??), Papers, 1893 - 1968
8 folders

INTRODUCTION

Papers of Josephine McCammon, a woman from Valley Center, Kansas, and graduate of Washburn College, now Washburn University located in Topeka, Kansas. The papers consist of correspondence, photographs, school memorabilia, and miscellaneous materials.

DONOR INFORMATION

The Josephine McCammon papers were purchased by Pittsburg State University on July 24, 2008.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Josephine McCammon was born in 1886 to George W. and Lelle McCammon. She lived in Valley Center, Kansas, and graduated from its high school in 1904. Miss McCammon went on to attend Washburn College and graduated in 1908. While enrolled at Washburn, Miss McCammon was involved in the Gamma Sigma sorority. She graduated with honors and was elected a member of Tau Delta Pi, honorary fraternity.

Little is known about McCammon's life after graduation except she moved to Junction City, Kansas; taught piano and pipe organ; and was considered a "musician of ability."

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Josephine McCammon papers consist primarily of letters written by family members to Josephine while she was attending Washburn College. Other items include school memorabilia, newspaper clippings, photographs, invitations, other personal correspondence, and miscellaneous items related to Josephine and the McCammon family. The papers are arranged into five series: **Family Correspondence; General Correspondence and Invitations; School Memorabilia; Photographs; and Miscellaneous.**

The **Family Correspondence** series contains letters from 1895 to 1908, arranged chronologically. Included in this series are letters and post cards sent to Josephine McCammon from family members, including her father, George W.; her mother, Lelle; her sisters, Leah, Edith Lua, and Constance; and her grandfather, G. McCammon, who lived in Hopewell, Ohio. The letters discuss family news, business activities, church services, a box supper hosted by the church, and accounts of other activities. Several letters to Josephine, and one to Edith Lua, written by the father, George W. McCammon, in 1902 describes his visit and activities in Las Vegas, New Mexico. Many of these letters were sent to Josephine while she was attending Washburn College and discuss her father's bad health. These letters give a good representation of what was expected of a female college student by her family and are typical of family correspondence during this time period.

The **General Correspondence and Invitations** series contains invitations sent to Josephine from friends and family. Also included is a letter from L. H. Murlin, president of Baker University, in 1904 indicating the awarding of a prize scholarship to Josephine. There are also two letters to Josephine in 1908 from friends, J. B. Hughes and Fred Sigler. This series would be indicative of the kinds of events considered to be important in this time period as well as the form and function of invitations in the early 1900s.

The **School Memorabilia** series is comprised of programs, certificates, clippings, and souvenirs collected by Josephine McCammon during her enrollment in both high school and college. Included is a brief collection of cheers used by Washburn College and a clipping with information about Josephine's election to Tau Delta Pi.

The **Miscellaneous** series consists of newspaper clippings about Josephine McCammon and her relatives, the Legler family; 1951 campaign cards for Constance L. Brown of Morris County, Kansas; a letter to Marlin Brown in 1968 from Ben King, a soldier stationed in Vietnam; information about the Hiawatha and Black Hills Sanitarium located in South Dakota; a mailing label for George W. McCammon; a valentine sentiment; and several empty envelopes. The letter from King discusses the positive influence of Marlin Brown on Ben King after the loss of King's father. It is uncertain why this letter is included in the collection but is likely part of a family relationship and was part of the original accession. The newspaper clippings in this series are of particular importance as they contain the only information in the collection on Josephine McCammon's life after her graduation from Washburn.

The **Photographs** series contains various group pictures of the McCammon, Brown, Allen, Kendall, Goodrich, and Bumgardner families from the early 1900s, as well as individual portraits of some members of the family. Many of the individuals in the photographs are unidentified. Also included is a photograph of a 1902 football team identified as P.S.T., and a photograph of a family pet.

FOLDER LIST

Family Correspondence Series

- f. 1 Correspondence, 1895-1902
- f. 2 Correspondence, 1902-1905
- f. 3 Correspondence, 1905-1908

General Correspondence and Invitations Series

- f. 4 Correspondence and Invitations, 1902-1916

School Memorabilia Series

- f. 5 Various Items, 1903-1908

Miscellaneous Series

- f. 6 Various Items, 1893-1968

Photographs Series

- f. 7 Portraits, c. late 1800s-early 1900s
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