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Renfro, Thelma Fowler, collection, 1920-1965

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Renfro, Thelma Fowler, Collection, MS 183

Thelma Fowler Renfro Collection

Overview of the Collection

Creator	Unknown
Title	The Thelma Fowler Renfro Collection
Dates	1920- 1965
Quantity	1 linear foot
Collection Number	MS 183
Summary	Primary and secondary documents regarding Thelma Renfro's student days at the Kansas State Teacher's College at Pittsburg (now Pittsburg State University), and her teaching career. There is personal correspondence, as well as articles relating to Mrs. Renfro.
Repository	Pittsburg State University, Leonard H. Axe Library, Special Collections & University Archives 1701 S. Broadway Pittsburg, Kansas 66762 (620) 235-4883 speccoll@pittstate.edu
Access Restrictions	There are no restrictions and collection is open for research. Researchers must use the collection in accordance with the policies of the Special Collections & University Archives, Leonard H. Axe Library, Pittsburg State University
Languages	English
Biographical Note	Robert Fowler, born December 24, 1829, in Lincolnshire, England. The Fowler family came to the United States from England in 1835, originally settling in Sangamon County, New York. Robert Fowler (born in 1829) married Minerva Bilyeau, (born February 9, 1828). They both lived until 1903. In 1857 Robert and Minerva Fowler came to Kansas from Texas where they had relocated. They settled on a homestead in what would later become Crawford County. Robert established a trading business and later served during the Civil War. Robert and Minerva had twelve children. Eleven survived to adulthood, including Elizabeth, Lois, George, Tom, Pete, Millie, Jennie, Fannie, Robert, Victoria and William.

Thelma Fowler Renfro is the granddaughter of Robert Fowler's son, George. Several of the Fowlers in this line worked in the banking business, including James Thomas "J. T." Fowler, the son of George Fowler and father of Thelma Fowler, who helped establish the Home State Bank in Arcadia, Kansas in 1908.

Thelma May Fowler Renfro was born December 22, 1901 and died August 31, 1992. She married Raymond Reid Renfro (1901-1985) in 1946. She attended the Pittsburg State student from 1920-1928. She received a degree in speech, art, and English. She was assistant editor of the Collegio from 1922-1924 and the only girl on the debate team. Thelma was also a member of the Kappa Delta Pi sorority.

Content Description

This collection is primary and secondary resources and is divided into the following series:

1. Personal
2. Education
3. Teaching
4. Photographs
5. Newspapers and magazines
6. Miscellaneous

Processing Note

Collection formally processed in November 2017

Detailed Description of Collection

Series 1: Personal

F. 1 Diary of trip to Estes Park, Colorado 1921

Series 2: Education

Notebook of school essays and study materials for literature

F. 2 College diaries 1920-1922, Kansas State Teacher's College at Pittsburg graduation reports 1920s

F. 3 Raymond Reid Renfro's (husband) yearbooks *Odaroloc* 1921 and 1922; *Alumnian* 1940 and 1941; 1929 *Eurekan*

Series 3: Teaching

Renfro, Thelma Fowler, Collection, MS 183

F. 4 Teaching contracts and evaluations from Eureka school district in Eureka, Kansas.

Series 4: Photographs

F. 5 Photographs of Kansas State Teacher's College of Pittsburg classmates 1922, 1924, and undated; other photographs of Thelma and family

Series 5: Newspapers and magazines

Flat box

Series 6: Miscellaneous

F. 6 Playbooks and songs; Rocky Mountain Climbers Club; Delta Sigma Epsilon and Kappa Delta Pi booklets; KSTC Christmas card; Kansas City Star June 25, 1933

B.S. plaque 1928

Photo album of Colorado

Alumni association certificate

Dorothy Lou Fowler Harmony book

LeClaire box

IQ blocks colored and black

Flat box

KEN magazine was a political magazine which ran from March 1938 to Fall 1939. It was investigated for Communist leanings. There are four issues in the collection: May 5, 1938; May 19, 1938; June 2, 1938; January 26, 1939

National Geographic maps of Australia and the Caribbean

1936-1937- abdication of King Edward VIII and coronation of King George VI

1941- 1965 - World War II, death of President Harding, John F Kennedy assassination, Lee Harvey Oswald, past headlines including Abraham Lincoln assassination, sinking of Titanic, and World War I

The Sacramento Bee: 1957 printed as a 1918 newspaper, "Bee Headlines in History", The Bee's Centennial Album: Furbelows, Gingerbread, and Gewgaws; The Bee's Centennial Album: Agriculture and Commerce

Art portfolios of student art work: drawings and watercolors