

Collection Name:

Lorence M. Woodside papers, 1888-1953

Collection Number:

P1362

Extent:

2.0 cubic feet (5 archive boxes)

Biography/History:

Born in Hamilton County, Iowa, to Norwegian immigrant parents Sivert and Mesine Munson, she graduated from Highland Park Normal College in Des Moines in 1893 and later pursued studies at the University of Chicago and Boston University. She taught elocution at Buena Vista College in Storm Lake, Iowa, and briefly served as director of Physical Culture for the Iowa Woman's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU).

From 1901 to 1927, she worked as a reader and occasionally a manager for the Redpath Lyceum, Eastern Lyceum, and the Chautauqua system. In 1909 she married Alonzo Woodside, a veteran of the Spanish-American War who also served in World War I and later became superintendent of the inquiry section at the Boston Post Office. Her interests extended beyond public speaking: she developed a cut-flower dahlia known as the "Mrs. Woodhouse" and devoted significant energy to community service. She held positions with the Massachusetts Food Administration (1918), the Advisory Council of Women at Massachusetts State College, Amherst (1926-1953), Boston Rental Housing (1951-1952), and numerous local organizations.

Her travels to Norway in 1906, 1913, and 1926 – her final visit as an honorary fellow of the American-Scandinavian Foundation – connected her with contemporary Norwegian writers. Among her most notable accomplishments were her translations of Sverre Brandt's *Sonja's Search for the Christmas Star*, produced by the New York Junior Players in December 1929, and Barbra Ring's *Peik*, published by Little, Brown in Boston in 1932.

Scope and Content:

This extensive collection covers all aspects of Woodside's impressive career as educator, public speaker, author, translator, civic leader, and gardener.

Access Rights:

This collection is open to research.

Bibliographic Citation:

[Indicate the cited item here]. Lorence M. Woodside Papers. Norwegian American Historical Association, Northfield, Minnesota.

Box	Folder	Description
1	1	Will of Sivert Monson, 1919, and some family history, speech given by Lorence Woodside's sister, Elizabeth Monson Nelson
1	2	Biographical items, 1888-1920
1	3	Photos
1	4	Certificates 1983-1952
1	5	Contracts, correspondence, clippings, Lyceum Bureau, Redpath Bureau, Chautauqua, 1901-1927
1	6	Trip to Norway, 1906, Notes, photos, postcards
1	7	Diary, 1906, picture postcards;
1	8	Postcard album, 1904-1907
1	9	many addressed to Mrs. Mesine, Fatland, Ellsworth, Iowa
1	10	Programs, Lorence Munson, reader, 1908-1937
1	11	Trip to Norway (photos), 1913
2	1	Trip to Norway, 1926, Notes and memorabilia
2	2	Danish School Theater, pamphlets
2	3	Clubs, community service
2	4	Gardening
2	5	"Thrift Exposition," article published in "Woman's Home Companion," January, 1921
2	6	Article about Grace Coolidge, wife of Calvin Coolidge, Gov. of Massachusetts, later President of U.S., published in "Woman's Home Companion" 1920
2	7	Republican Club, Winchester, Massachusetts
2	8	Ceremonial Occasions;
2	9	Town meetings, Winchester, Massachusetts
2	10	Moberg, Vilhelm, " Jungfrukammere": and a summary in English
3	1	Correspondence, McCarthy, J.H. (1893-1909)
3	2	Correspondence, Wells, George (1898-1931)
3	3	Correspondence, Lynn, Victoria (1910-1943)
3	4	Correspondence, Woodside, Alonzo, to Lorence (1901-1918)
3	5	Correspondence, Woodside, Lorence to Alonzo (1907-1927)
3	6	Woodside, Alonzo, Miscellaneous, (1917-1950)
3	7	Woodside, Lorence, Miscellaneous (includes "Til Mor" by Walborg Amandsen, c. by Lorence Munson, 1901)
Stories and Essays		
4	1	"Americanism," by Olaf Lange (7p)
4	2	"Catherine Louise" (17p)
4	3	"Frøken Jorstad" by Lorence Woodside (10p)

4	4	The Gentle Reader" by Samuel M. Crothers, a review by Lorence Woodside (5p)
4	5	"Getting Ready for Christmas in Norway" by Lorence Woodside (7p);
4	6	"Helpless" (30p)
4	7	"Just Hens" (8p)
4	8	"Just Spuds, a Toast" (3p); Folder 9: "Shall Hawaii Be Annexed?" essay by Lorence Woodside -critique by Lewis B. Gray (9p)
4	10	"Students from the Farms" (9p)
4	11	"That Patch of Dirt" by an Iowa woman down East (8p, 6 photographs);
4	12	"The Two Roads" by Jean Paul Richter (3p)
4	13	"Where the Flowers Go" (6p); Translations, by Lorence M. Woodside:
4	14	"The Battle of the Seasons" by Carl Ewald (35p)
4	15	"The Blue Flower" (8p)
4	16	"The Father" by Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson (8p)
4	17	The Grecian Profile" by Henrik Wergeland (4p)
4	18	Little Dunn" by Jacob Bull (15p)
4	19	"The Man Without a Heart" by Vilhelm Moberg (41p)
4	20	"The Old Candlestick" by Ester Stahlberg (17p)
4	21	"Sally Sourly and Peter Peevish" by Ferdinand Rojahn (5p)
4	22	"Six Boys and a Boat" by Aksel Akselson (30p)
4	23	"The Snoop" (12p)
4	24	The Sport Fiend" by Stein Balstad (74p)
4	25	"The Sprite" (11p)
4	26	"What Happened to Christmas"
5	1	Correspondence, Library of Congress, regarding: Copyrights
5	2	Barbara Ring, Correspondence, Stories
5	3	Barbara Ring, "The King's Heart" and translation (44p)
5	4	Barbara Ring, "Peik" (the book in Norwegian), Aschehoug, 1919 (159p);
5	5	Barbara Ring, "Peik", Contracts, correspondence (1915-1932)
5	6	Brandt, Sverre, contract and correspondence, 1927-1948
5	7	"Sonja's Search for the Christmas Star" translation by Lorence Woodside of "Reisen til Julestjernen"
5	8	Correspondence regarding "Sonja's Search for the Christmas Star" (1929-1942)
5	9	Photos and music regarding "Sonja's Search for the Christmas Star", includes photostat of song "Compensation", text by Paul Lawrence Dunbar, music by Johan Backer-Lunde (c1940) (4p)
5	10	Programs, clippings regarding "Sonja's Search for the Christmas Star", New York Junior League Players 1929, Children's Theater of Syracuse University.

Rokke Name Index

Wells, George

Woodside, Lorence Munson

Richter, Jean Paul

Holmes, Elizabeth Ann

Nordland Girls (performing group)

Fridthjof statue

Coolidge, Grace

Lynn, Victoria

McCarthy, J. H.

Woodside, Alonzo

Ewald, Carl

Lange, Olaf

Stahlberg, Ester

Brandt, Sverre

Winchester, Massachusetts

Akselson, Aksel

Balstad, Stein

Bull, Jacob

Amundsen, Walborg