



The New York Public Library
Manuscripts and Archives Division

Guide to the

Florence Ryerson papers

1924-1948

MssCol 2657

Summary

Creator: Ryerson, Florence

Title: Florence Ryerson papers

Date: 1924-1948

Size: .9 linear feet (2 boxes)

Source: Gift, 1949

Abstract: Florence Ryerson (1892-1965) was an American playwright and screenwriter. Collection consists of Ryerson's diaries, correspondence, notes, and memoranda. Work diaries kept by Ryerson, chiefly at her homes in Beverly Hills and Canoga Park, California, describe her life and work; the writing of her plays with the aid of her husband, Colin Clements, including "Harriet," based upon the life of Harriet Beecher Stowe, "June Mad," "Strange Bedfellows," and "Welcome Home"; her work as a screenwriter for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer; and her personal life. Also, correspondence with literary agents and producers, and production notes and memoranda relating to the staging of "Harriet" in New York City in collaboration with Charles MacArthur and Helen Hayes. Includes references to stage and screen personalities and Ryerson's reaction to international events in the World War II period.

Preferred citation: Florence Ryerson papers, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

Creator History

Florence Ryerson (1892-1965) was an American playwright and screenwriter.

Scope and Content Note

Collection consists of Ryerson's diaries, correspondence, notes, and memoranda. Work diaries kept by Ryerson, chiefly at her homes in Beverly Hills and Canoga Park, California, describe her life and work; the writing of her plays with the aid of her husband, Colin Clements, including "Harriet," based upon the life of Harriet Beecher Stowe, "June Mad," "Strange Bedfellows," and "Welcome Home"; her work as a

screenwriter for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer; and her personal life. Also, correspondence with literary agents and producers, and production notes and memoranda relating to the staging of "Harriet" in New York City in collaboration with Charles MacArthur and Helen Hayes. Includes references to stage and screen personalities and Ryerson's reaction to international events in the World War II period.

Key Terms

Subjects

American drama

Motion picture industry -- United States

Theater -- New York (State) -- New York

Theater -- Production and direction

Geographic Names

Beverly Hills (Calif.) -- Social life and customs

Canoga Park (Calif.) -- Social life and customs

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Diaries

Occupations

Dramatists

Screenwriters

Names

Ryerson, Florence

Clements, Colin, 1894-1948

Hayes, Helen, 1900-1993

MacArthur, Charles, 1895-1956

Stowe, Harriet Beecher, 1811-1896

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer