



The New York Public Library Manuscripts and Archives Division

Guide to the

Jane Cowl papers

1907-1949 [bulk 1927-1945]

MssCol 682

Summary

Creator: Cowl, Jane, 1884-1950

Title: Jane Cowl papers

Date: 1907-1949 [bulk 1927-1945]

Size: .8 linear feet (2 boxes)

Source: Gift, Public Administrator (via New York Municipal Archives), 1955

Abstract: Jane Cowl (1884-1950) was an actress, playwright and theatrical producer. She appeared in her most famous acting roles in the 1920s and 1930s and co-authored several plays during this period with Jane Murn. During World War II she was co-director of the Stage Door Canteen, an entertainment center for U.S. servicemen and women in New York City. She also hosted a radio program in the 1940s. Collection consists of correspondence, financial papers, diary, and biographical materials collected by Cowl. Correspondence, 1923-1948, is with noted playwrights, directors, actors, and theater managers; other correspondence, 1943-1946, concerns her charitable work with disabled veterans and underprivileged children. Also, diary written during Cowl's first trip to Europe in 1907 in which she described the European stage; materials she collected for a planned autobiography; and personal financial accounts.

Preferred citation: Jane Cowl papers, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

Creator History

Jane Cowl (1884-1950) was an actress, playwright and theatrical producer. She appeared in her most famous acting roles in the 1920s and 1930s and co-authored several plays during this period with Jane Murn. During World War II she was co-director of the Stage Door Canteen, an entertainment center for U.S. servicemen and women in New York City. She also hosted a radio program in the 1940s.

Scope and Content Note

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Key Terms

Subjects

Acting
Radio programs -- United States
Theater -- Europe
Theater -- New York (State) -- New York
Women in the theater
World War, 1939-1945 -- Civilian relief

Occupations

Actors
Dramatists

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Diaries

Names

Cowl, Jane, 1884-1950
Morse, Frank
Murfin, Jane, d. 1955