



The New York Public Library
Manuscripts and Archives Division

Guide to the

Florence Holbrook scrapbooks

1897-1932

MssCol 6292

Processed by Laura Ruttum.

Summary

Creator: Holbrook, Florence, 1860-1932

Title: Florence Holbrook scrapbooks

Date: 1897-1932

Size: .4 linear feet (1 box)

Source: Donated in 1944 as part of the Schwimmer-Lloyd Collection.

Abstract: Florence Holbrook was an educator and author involved in the peace movement during the early years of the 20th century. This small collection consists of four scrapbooks compiled by Holbrook documenting her career, contacts, and interests, chiefly from the period 1914 through 1916.

Access: Advance notice required.

Preferred citation: Florence Holbrook scrapbooks, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

Language of the Material: English

Processing note: Processed by Laura Ruttum; machine readable finding aid created by FAKER.

Related Materials:

Lola Maverick Lloyd Papers. New York Public Library.

Schwimmer-Lloyd Collection. New York Public Library.

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom Collection (DG043). Swarthmore College.

Creator History

Florence Holbrook was an educator and author involved in the peace movement during the early years

of the 20th century. She was a member of the Chicago Peace Society, chair of the Women's Peace Committee of the Chicago Political Equity League, and President of the Chicago Division of the Illinois State Teachers Association. Holbrook managed Rosika Schwimmer's antiwar lecture tour of the United States after the outbreak of war in Europe. Holbrook was also an occasional speaker on the theme of peace. She attended the 1915 International Congress of Women at The Hague as part of the small American delegation headed by Jane Addams, and participated in Schwimmer's Ford Peace Expedition of 1915-1916.

Holbrook was born in 1860 in Peru, Illinois to Judge Edmund S. Holbrook, an early abolitionist, and his wife Anne, née Case. She spent most of her life in Chicago, attending the old Chicago University, which was originally founded by Stephen A. Douglas and closed its doors in 1886. Holbrook obtained an A.B. from the institution in 1879, and an A.M. in 1885. She began her fifty year career as an educator by teaching Greek and Latin for four years at Oakland High School in Hyde Park, after which time she became principal of the school. Following her time at Oakland, Holbrook served as principal at the Forestville Elementary School and then at the Phillips Junior High School. She was an early proponent of the arts and physical education as important elements of education, hosting student field trips to the Art Institute of Chicago, and bringing artists and performers to talk to the children in her school.

As evidenced by the clippings and flyers in her scrapbooks, Holbrook was an ardent pacifist, a suffragist, and a believer in public education as the foundation for a democratic society.

Florence Holbrook was the author of a number of children's books, primers and readers, among them *The Hiawatha Primer*, *The Book of Nature Myths*, *Northland Heroes*, and *Cave, Lake and Mound Dwellers, and other Primitive People*.

Florence Holbrook passed away in 1932.

Custodial History

Florence Holbrook's papers were donated as part of the Schwimmer-Lloyd Collection, and originally processed as part of series Q. This series was reprocessed in 2006 and Holbrook's materials now constitute a separate collection, although they remain under the administrative aegis of the Schwimmer-Lloyd Collection.

Scope and Content Note

This small collection consists of four scrapbooks compiled by Holbrook, documenting her career, contacts, and interests over the period 1897 through 1932. The scrapbooks contain printed material and a small number of letters and photographs. Correspondents include Jane Addams, Lola Maverick Lloyd, Louis P. Lochner, Rosika Schwimmer, and Holbrook's former students.

Key Terms

Subjects

Educators -- Illinois -- Chicago

Women and peace

World War, 1914-1918 -- Protest movements

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Photographs
Scrapbooks

Names

Addams, Jane, 1860-1935
Holbrook, Florence, 1860-1932
Lloyd, Lola Maverick, 1875-1944
Lochner, Louis Paul, 1887-1975
Schwimmer, Rosika, 1877-1948
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

Container List

Scrapbooks, 1897-1932

- b. 1 1914 Feb- Sep
- b. 1 1914 Oct-Dec
- b. 1 1914 Sep-1915 Jun
- b. 1 1915-1916
- b. 1 f. 1 Loose material from scrapbooks 1897-1932, n.d.