



The New York Public Library Manuscripts and Archives Division

Guide to the

Fran Lee papers

1925-1994

MssCol 1717

Compiled by JSD, January 1993. Additional materials were processed and integrated into the collection by Robyn Hjermstad, 2015.

Summary

Creator: Lee, Fran, 1910-2010

Title: Fran Lee papers

Date: 1925-1994

Size: 10.5 linear feet (18 boxes, 1 oversized folder); 50 vhs tapes

Source: Gift of Fran Lee, 1984 and 2007.

Abstract: Fran Lee (née Frances Lederman, 1910-2010) was an actress, model, consumer advocate, and television personality who appeared on early television programs as "Mrs. Fix-It." The collection dates from 1925 to 1994 and contains correspondence, professional files, video tapes, and films.

Conditions Governing Access:

Original tapes cannot be played, but VHS service copies are available for viewing.

Preferred citation: Fran Lee papers, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library.

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Creator History

Fran Lee was an actress and consumer activist who for many years was known as "Mrs. Fix-it."

Fran Lee (née Frances Lederman) was born in New York City in 1910. In 1929, she married Samuel Weiss and became an actress, often using the stage name Karen Stewart. In the 1940s, Lee took the name by which she is now known and appeared on television as "Mrs. Fix-it," providing household advice and handicraft ideas. She became a consumer advocate on both television and radio. In 1948 and 1949, she and her son Gene toured with the *Medea* touring company across the United States.

Fran Lee continued to make appearances on television for nearly fifty years. She had her own program entitled *Mrs. Fix-it*, and appeared on other programs as the "Tidy Dee Lady," "Mrs. Consumer," and "Granny Franny." Each of these personae offered advice on how to improve conditions in the home. She appeared regularly on *The Frances Langford - Don Ameche Show*, *The Skitch Henderson Show*, and *The New Yorker Show*. She made guest appearances on *The Ernie Kovacs Show*, *The Steve Allen Show*, *The Tonight Show*, and *The Mike Douglas Show*. Fran Lee was also seen in a series of commercials for various products in the 1950s and 1960s. In the 1970s, she appeared on a variety of New York City television channels, including WNEW, Channel Five, and WPIX Channel Eleven News, as their consumer editor.

Fran Lee continued to be a vocal spokesperson on consumer issues into the 1990s. She was one of several people responsible for the enactment of New York City's "pooper scooper" law, dealing with the disposal of dog waste on the city streets. She was the founder of Menonomous, a support group for women in menopause.

Fran Lee died in 2010.

Scope and Content Note

The Fran Lee papers date from 1925 to 1994 and document her career as an actress and consumer advocate. The collection contains correspondence, professional files, and video tapes and films of her appearances on television.

The films and video tapes make up the bulk of the collection. They document Fran Lee's career from the 1940s to the 1970s and include her appearances on early television programs, such as *The Skitch Henderson Show*, *Who Do You Trust?* (with Johnny Carson), *The Steve Allen Show*, and *The Frances Langford - Don Ameche Show*. There are also recordings of commercials in which she appeared, regular consumer news segments she hosted for WPIX and WNEW in New York City, and segments from *The Ladies Day Movie with Fran Lee*.

Professional files contain photographs, articles, contracts, press releases, and printed material pertaining to Fran Lee's career as a consumer advocate, model, and actress.

Key Terms

Occupations

Actors

Television journalists

Subjects

Broadcast journalism -- New York (State) -- New York

Consumer education -- New York (State) -- New York

Home economics -- New York (State) -- New York

Television advertising -- New York (State) -- New York

Television in home economics -- New York (State) -- New York

Television personalities -- New York (State) -- New York

Television programs for women -- New York (State) -- New York

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Commercials
Community affairs
Editorials
Instruction
Interviews
Live shows
Motion pictures
Outtakes
Panel shows
Photographs
Quiz shows
Series
Talk shows
Videotapes

Names

Allen, Steve, 1921-2000
Ameche, Don
Carson, Johnny, 1925-2005
Douglas, Mike
Henderson, Skitch, 1918-2005
Langford, Frances
Lee, Fran, 1910-2010

Container List

Series I: Correspondence 1944-1994 (4 boxes, 2 folders)

This series consists of correspondence received and sent by Fran Lee. Included are letters from Fran Lee's time with the touring company of *Medea*, as well as letters from viewers of her program, *Mrs. Fix-It*. Professional correspondence documents her acting, modeling, and consumer advocacy.

- b. 1 *Fran Lee letters concerning Medea* 1948-1949
Consists of letters written by Fran Lee as she toured with the cast of *Medea*. Most are written to her husband, Sam Weiss.
- b. 2 *Gene Weiss letters concerning Medea* 1948-1949
This is a group of letters written by Lee's oldest son, Gene Weiss (stage name Gene Lee), to his father. The letters discuss his experiences touring with *Medea*.
- b. 3-4 "Mrs. Fix-It" Correspondence 1950-1958
Consists of Fran Lee's correspondence with viewers of *Mrs. Fix-It*. Incoming letters usually requested information on issues discussed on the show. Outgoing letters responded to those requests and included notices of Fran Lee's upcoming television appearances.
- b. 5 f. 1-2 Professional Correspondence 1944-1994
- b. 5-16 Series II: Moving Images 1949-1976

This series consists of Fran Lee's television appearances in her role as a consumer advocate. They document her career and also highlight some of the celebrities she worked with.

The films and video tapes were all transferred to VHS viewer access copies.

2.1 Regular Appearances 1949-1969 (53 items)

Consists of Fran Lee's regular appearances on various television shows. She was known as "Mrs. Fix-it" on many of these and would offer household and handicraft tips. Fran Lee appeared frequently on *The Don Ameche-Frances Langford Show*, *The New Yorker Show*, *The Skitch Henderson Show* and *The Ladies Day Movie with Fran Lee*. Fran Lee's appearances on each of these shows are listed below, in chronological order:.

The Skitch Henderson Show 1968-09-20 to 1969-04-01; undated

The Skitch Henderson Show

00220 (Time: 1:30 (B&W))

This segment, Listen Fran, features Fran Lee giving advice to a father who has trouble with a child who is breast fed and only wants his mother.

The Skitch Henderson Show

00261 (Time: 7:10 (B&W))

Skitch Henderson introduces Fran Lee's segment by telling about all the things she's done. She talks about housing and the problems one faces in finding a proper home, in particular apartments. She offers advice for apartment hunting.

The Skitch Henderson Show

00263 (Time: 7:34 (B&W))

Fran Lee deals with carpet dealers in her weekly segment on The Skitch Henderson Show.

The Skitch Henderson Show

00270 (Time: 8:15 (B&W))

Fran Lee reads viewer complaints about her expose on the frozen foods of the city. She then goes on to a report on the Bowery section of Manhattan, in particular, a park in the Bowery and how no one can use it. She talks about her love for the city and reminisces about the past and bemoans the fact that many cannot enjoy the pleasure of parks because they are not well-maintained.

The Skitch Henderson Show

00331 (Time: 8:06 (B&W))

Fran Lee talks, in her weekly segment, about the dangers of using cyclamates as a sugar substitute. Cyclamates were being used in diet soda at that time.

Series II: Moving Images (cont.)

2.1 Regular Appearances (cont.)

The Skitch Henderson Show (cont.)

The Skitch Henderson Show

00334 (Time: 7:15 (B&W))

Fran Lee talks about the dangers of poisons and the caution parents should take when leaving medication about in front of children.

The Skitch Henderson Show

00347 (Time: 6:00 (B&W))

Fran Lee gives advice in response to viewers questions. For example, she advises a woman who is match her son up with a woman she has met.

The Skitch Henderson Show

00366 (Time: 8:36 (B&W))

Skitch Henderson introduces Fran Lee who relates her trip to Morocco and the purchases she made. She tells about the hospitality of the Moroccans and French.

The Skitch Henderson Show 09/20/1968

00345 (Time: 7:50 (B&W))

Fran Lee shows the problems with many of the panty hose products that are available. She urges women who buy faulty panty hose to take them back to the store and complain to the manufacturer.

The Skitch Henderson Show 09/27/1968

00268 (Time: 6:52 (B&W))

Fran Lee talks about fiber glass draperies and how they can cause irritation to those who own them. There is an apparent danger of actual glass slivers from the drapery catching people. The government stepped in and required manufacturers to put a notice about the possible danger of fiber glass draperies.

The Skitch Henderson Show 10/18/1968

00330 (Time: 5:20 (B&W))

Fran Lee talks about freezer units in supermarkets. The temperature is not kept properly in the frozen food section.

The Skitch Henderson Show 10/28/1968

00340 (Time: 6:55 (B&W))

Fran Lee praises the virtues of wool and offers advice on to care for it in her weekly segment.

The Skitch Henderson Show 11/15/1968

00333 (Time: 8:00 (B&W))

Fran Lee talks about the dangers of many of the toys that parents will buy for their children in the upcoming Christmas season. She urges parents to watch out for the toys they buy.

The Skitch Henderson Show 11/22/1968

00351 (Time: 6:32 (B&W))

Fran Lee talks about the virtues of the egg, from the taste to the nutritional value. She shows how to prepare the egg.

Skitch Henderson's New York 11/26/1968

00208 (Time: 2:20 (B&W))

Fran Lee talks about the trip to Morocco she is going to take and the shopping she will do there. She will not appear on the show for two weeks after this.

The Skitch Henderson Show 12/27/1968

00337 (Time: 8:10 (B&W))

Fran Lee appears in a bathtub, praising the virtues of bathing. She gives a history of bathtubs and talks about the best types.

The Skitch Henderson Show 01/14/1969

00352 (Time: 7:25 (B&W))

Fran Lee appears with her grandson, Jonathan Weiss, caring for him because her daughter-in-law had just had a baby girl. Fran Lee shows how to repair old chairs.

Series II: Moving Images (cont.)

2.1 Regular Appearances (cont.)

The Skitch Henderson Show (cont.)

The Skitch Henderson Show 01/31/1969

00329 (Time: 8:25 (B&W))

Fran Lee talks about prescription drugs in her weekly segment of the show. She tells the audience of the letters she receives telling her she should become the new consumer affairs commissioner. She also attacks the hippies.

The Skitch Henderson Show 02/04/1969

00203 (Time: 5:00 (B&W))

Fran Lee offers humorous advice in a segment called "Listen Fran". In this segment, she shows how to care for marble pieces.

The Skitch Henderson Show 02/07/1969

00256 (Time: 8:45 (B&W))

Fran Lee's weekly segment is introduced by Skitch Henderson and commented on by comedian Rip Taylor. Fran Lee tidies up some old business by talking about panty hose refunds and the recall of a Mennen product. She then goes on to discuss chopped meat and the government's protection of fresh meat. Rip Taylor appears at the end of the segment and marches off stage with Fran Lee.

The Skitch Henderson Show 02/08/1969

00367 (Time: 7:06 (B&W))

Fran Lee offers some corrections concerning information in earlier reports and then lectures on the cleaning enzymes used in many cleaning products.

The Skitch Henderson Show 02/11/1969

00365 (Time: 7:50 (B&W))

Fran Lee shows the art treasures she picked up on her trip to Morocco. She urges people to behave when they are abroad and not add to the image of the "ugly American". This drew some groans from the audience.

The Skitch Henderson Show 02/18/1969

00211 (Time: 4:10 (B&W))

Fran Lee is featured in a segment, "Listen Fran", of the Skitch Henderson Show answering people's mail. She urges viewers to enter a contest asking for suggestions to make the city smell a little sweeter. She insults Mayor Lindsey and complains about the men who do not care about the problems around them.

The Skitch Henderson Show 02/21/1969

00336 (Time: 7:25 (B&W))

Fran Lee talks about the troubles people face when they leave clothing to be cleaned at the cleaners. She offers suggestions as to how to make it easier for clothes to be returned in one piece.

The Skitch Henderson Show 02/25/1969

00338 (Time: 7:45 (B&W))

The winners of Fran Lee's "If I Were Mayor" contest are announced and Fran Lee reads the winners suggestions on the air. All entries were sent on to then Mayor Lindsey of New York.

The Skitch Henderson Show 02/26/1969

00355 (Time: 11:09 (B&W))

Skitch Henderson reads a poetic letter from a viewer who praises Fran Lee's consumer activism. Doctor Robert Feldman, a gynecologist, is Fran Lee's guest, and talks about estrogen treatments and menopause. Dr. Feldman talks about the troubles with doctor-patient relationships and relates it to the media's view and portrayal. The doctor defends his profession by showing examples of the difficulties faced by doctors today. Fran Lee argues that many doctors are unwilling to help women with estrogen treatments for menopause, which the doctor refutes. The doctor tells of the fears of doctors of giving estrogen treatments.

The Skitch Henderson Show 03/17/1969

00267 (Time: 8:19 (B&W))

Fran Lee welcomes Bess Myerson as the new Consumer Affairs Commissioner for New York City. She urges Bess Myerson to worry about her job and not her looks. She then talks about fruit juices and how very few of them contain actual fruit. She lists the ingredients of these concentrate drinks.

Series II: Moving Images (cont.)

2.1 Regular Appearances (cont.)

The Skitch Henderson Show (cont.)

The Skitch Henderson Show 03/18/1969

00228 (Time: 6:10 (B&W))

On this episode Fran Lee calls herself "Second Hand Fran". The segment opens with her singing. She shows how one can find cheap items at second hand sales, including used silverware. She also shows off an inexpensive dress she purchased. Arnold Stang also makes an appearance and they dance together. Charlie Callis, the comedian, is also featured, wearing a swimsuit circa 1920. He dances around with Fran Lee and Arnold Stang.

The Skitch Henderson Show 03/21/1969

00201

Skitch Henderson is joined by Tony Martin, Gene Baliss and Arnold Stang. Fran Lee appeared weekly on Skitch's show with a consumer report for the viewers. Her segment on the show opens with her singing "Young at Heart". She shows off her "Fix-it" for the day, her outfit. She then talks about cosmetics. She advises that a facelift is better than using miracle cosmetics or lots of makeup. She comments on the double standards of dating an older person. Tony Martin then proceeds to come up to her and plants a passionate kiss on her lips. The Skitch Henderson Show aired on WNEW (later WNYW Channel Five) at two in the afternoon in the late 1960s. Time: 6:20 (B).

The Skitch Henderson Show 03/25/1969

00354 (Time: 8:05 (B&W))

Fran Lee talks about the types of teas by playing the part of the older, kosher wife of a Chinese Nobleman. His younger wife, "who knew how to dip his tea just right" is played by Anne Meara. Fran Lee gives a history of tea as they hold a tea ceremony. She shows a small tea strainer used in making individual cups of tea.

The Skitch Henderson Show WNEW 04/01/1969

00243 (Time: 2:40 (B&W))

Fran Lee appeared in this segment as a heckler in the audience. She attacks the panel members who are into the swinging sexual lifestyle.

Ladies Day Movie with Fran Lee 1969-10-14 to 1969-12-05

Ladies Day Movie with Fran Lee, WNEW 1969 (Time: 58:35 (color))

These segments ran at the end of the afternoon movie on then WNEW, later WNYW Channel 5. Fran Lee offered suggestions and remedies for reusing old clothing and other items around the house. She asked viewers to write in with their own suggestions called, "My Fix-Its". She also told viewers to give themselves a rose each day; urged parents to vaccinate their children against German measles, which was reaching epidemic proportions in 1969; and stressed the importance cleaning bathrooms properly. In the next segment, demonstrated how to design a turkey out of a melon. This is followed by Fran Lee showing how to make lamp shade covers out of old stockings. She next talks about glassware. (Note: The video on this segment is skewed, but straightens out towards the end of the piece.) (Note: The next five segments are duplicates of 00254, which contains the complete segment and is a much better quality video.) This is followed by an appearance by Fran Lee's grandson, Jonathan Weiss. She then shows how to make mittens out of old sweaters. She then does a commercial for Mario's Greene County Ravioli. Fran Lee then shows how to make designs out of food cakes. Next she talks about the joys of eggs. Finally, she talks about the growing problem of dog waste on the street.

vid.00098a Part 1 (vhs video tape)

vid.00098b Part 2 (vhs video tape)

Ladies Day Movie with Fran Lee, WNEW 1969

00099 (Time: 57:20 (B&W))

Fran Lee shows how she makes various items out of old sweaters. Next, she shows how to make a bacon and creme cheese bagel. She shows an old woman doll she picked up in Russia as well as some other items. She relates some of her experiences there. She lambastes the quality of panty hose. (Note: The panty hose segment is a duplicate of 00100 which is in color.) Next, she shows how one can wear fancy clothes that can be found in thrift stores. The preparation of steaks follows. Her "rose for the day", a helpful tip to the ladies, is to wash one's hands and hair with lemon juice. Finally, she shows some of the pictures she took when she visited Russia. (Note: The video quality of this tape is poor. Not all the segments are complete.).

vid.00099a Part 1 (vhs video tape)

vid.00099b Part 2 (vhs video tape)

Series II: Moving Images (cont.)

2.1 Regular Appearances (cont.)

Ladies Day Movie with Fran Lee (cont.)

Ladies Day Movie with Fran Lee, WNEW 1969

00253 (Time: 25:30 (color))

This recording features a series of segments broadcast during the Ladies Day Movie. These include an appearance by Jonathan Weiss, who displays toys that children can make themselves and demonstrates how they can help their parents around the house. In the next segment, Fran Lee shows how to make mittens out of old sweaters. This is followed by a commercial for Mario's Green County Ravioli and a feature on making cute designs out of cakes for children's parties. Finally, there are segments on immunizing children for an epidemic of German Measles, and an interview with poultry and egg commissioner, Howard Helmer, on the uses of eggs.

Ladies Day Movie with Fran Lee, WNEW 1969

00254 (Time: 1:07:20 (color))

This features a series of segments including an appearance by Fran Lee's husband, Sam Weiss, celebrating their 40th anniversary. This is followed by a segment with Fran Lee's grandson, Jonathan Weiss. In the next segment, Fran Lee attacks the rats that infest the city, advertisers that do not proclaim the truth, the improper cleaning of one's home and the care of fur and wool products. The final piece is on hats and their care.

Ladies Day Movie with Fran Lee late 1960s

00100 (Time: 53:36 (color))

Segments featuring Fran Lee in this afternoon program include: a look at "Stockings", a trip on the "Moscow Subway", the care of "Pearls", the dangers of "Indoor Heaters" and making "Fur Hats Afghan Dresses". Each segment ran about ten minutes.

Ladies Day Movie 10/14/1969

00348 (Time: 22:18 (B&W))

This special segment features a live audience. The topic was menopause and Fran Lee's guests are Dr. Richard Craven and Margaret Hutz. Fran Lee relates the troubles she had as a woman with menopause. The guests then take questions from the audience. WNEW.

Ladies Day Movie with Fran Lee 11/03/1969

00237 (Time: 3:15 (B&W))

Cyclamate additives are the topic of Fran Lee's consumer break during the midday movie on WNEW Channel Five. Fran Lee also picks winners of a contest for fix-it suggestions that were sent in.

Ladies Day Movie, Menopause 11/07/1968

00364 (Time: 4:57 (B&W))

Fran Lee introduces the Ladies Day Movie starring Isadora Duncan, a woman she admires. Fran Lee also talks about menopause.

Ladies Day Movie 11/11/1969

00271 (Time: 15:40 (B&W))

Fran Lee introduces Sam Baker, author of *The Permissible Lie*. Before going into the interview with him, she extols the virtues of Whirlpool for improving their customer relations. Mister Baker is a former advertiser who wrote the book about how advertising is often fraudulent. Baker offers examples of how advertisers try to commit fraud.

Ladies Day Movie with Fran Lee 11/18/1969

00213 (Time: 10:22 (B&W))

This segment features Fran Lee talking about the sanitation situation in New York City, in particular the droppings left by walked dogs. She talks about the diseases one can get by being near or touching the dropping. She shows a pooper scooper. She also complains that dogs are often treated better than children. She updates the audience about her Fix-it contest, where one sends in ideas that can make life easier.

Ladies Day Movie 11/25/1969

00341 (Time: 10:00 (B&W))

Fran Lee talks about the wonders of chicken soup and shows how to make it.

Series II: Moving Images (cont.)

2.1 Regular Appearances (cont.)

Ladies Day Movie with Fran Lee (cont.)

Ladies Day Movie 11/27/1969

00273 (Time: 13:04 (B&W))

Fran Lee pitches Belgian Endives and Mario's Greene County Ravioli in separate commercials that ran during the midday movie. On her segment in the movie, she announces that it's her 40th anniversary with Sam Weiss, her husband. They talk about how they met and how they managed to stay together all the years. They show pictures of their younger days and their family. A chef comes on and cooks them a meal. The couple then dance. WNEW.

Ladies Day Movie 12/05/1969

00342 (Time: 13:10 (B&W))

This was Fran Lee's last feature on the Ladies Day Movie. She was promoted to consumer editor for WNEW channel five news. In her last segment, she talks about the selection and care of leather goods.

Our Fran 1968 to 1969

Our Fran, WNEW 1968

00097 (Time: 1:00:15 (B&W))

Fran Lee hosted this weekday afternoon program on then WNEW Channel Five in New York. In it she offered advice and household tips. Here, Fran Lee talks with Will Richardson, a tie-die designer. He shows how one can do tie dyeing at home. A report on sodium cyclamates follows. She was active in the removal of the additive from foodstuffs on the marketplace. Next, she talks about her trip to the Soviet Union, showing some of the items she picked up on the trip. This is followed by a way to keep kids amused during cross country rides. Finally, she shows the jewelry collection that she amassed over the years.

Our Fran, WNEW 1969

00252 (Time: 41:00 (color))

Fran Lee appears in the first of a series of weekday programs on WNEW Channel Five in New York, offering advice and household tips for her viewers. In this very first episode, she gives tips on vacuuming and making chicken soup. This is followed by another episode in which she tours Irvington Thrift Shop. She interviews several of the women who work there. Then she appears in a or the Whistle dish washer. This show eventually evolved into the Ladies Day Movie with Fran Lee, an afternoon movie with a ten-minute segment hosted by Fran Lee.

The New Yorkers Show 1967 to 1968-05

The New Yorker Show, WNEW 1967

00344 (Time: 7:50 (B&W))

Fran Lee shows host Sonny Fox how to make stockings and hats from old sweaters. She tries a hat on Sonny Fox, the same hat Ernie Kovacs, Johnny Carson, Steve Allen and Mike Douglas.

The New Yorker Show 09/08/1967

00353 (Time: 8:43 (B&W))

Fran Lee appears and demonstrates her flu remedies. Sonny Fox pretends to be ill with the flu; she puts him to bed and nurses him back to health.

The New Yorker Show WNEW 01/02/1968

00274 (Time: 14:45 (B&W))

Fran Lee appears on the New Yorker Show with Sonny Fox. She shows off her gown which she bought second hand. She once owned a second hand business called Rumbas Off.

The New Yorker Show 04/30/1968

00363 (Time: 10:20 (B&W))

Sonny Fox introduces Fran Lee who, with Linda Lavin, shows how to fix old lamp shades with old undergarments. Fran Lee seems to be competing with the band as she shows how to fix lamps. Critic Stuart Kline steps out towards the end to help her wrap the segment up.

The New Yorker Show, WNEW May 1968

00259 (Time: 8:45 (B&W))

Fran Lee appears on The New Yorker show with Joyce Susskind and Leon B. on WNEW Channel Five. At this point in her career, Fran Lee was modeling as a sick person for a series of ads for medical products. She shows how to care for furs and stoles.

Don Ameche/Frances Langford Show 1949

Series II: Moving Images (cont.)

2.1 Regular Appearances (cont.)

Don Ameche/Frances Langford Show (cont.)

Langford-Ameche Show 1949

00258 (Time: 10:05 (B&W))

Fran Lee appears, showing the audience how to take old furniture from the Salvation Army and remake it or turn it into something different. She shows a chest of drawers turned into a small closet for children, using the old drawers as end tables or as spice shelves as an example. Don Ameche then shows off his "fix-it", a wagon made from one of the drawers, trying to show up Fran Lee. She refers to him as "Mr. Fix-It".

Langford-Ameche Show 1949

00332 (Time: 5:27 (B&W))

Fran Lee shows how to make various items to decorate the Thanksgiving table and add a little spice to the holiday.

Langford-Ameche Show 1949

00346 (Time: 6:47 (B&W))

Fran Lee shows how one can fix up and make old lamps look like new.

Langford-Ameche Show 1949

00349 (Time: 6:56 (B&W))

Fran Lee shows how to care for a refrigerator. She also shows the types of foods to place in a refrigerator.

Langford-Ameche Show 1950

00356 (Time: 5:00 (B&W))

Fran Lee talks about to care for family members who come down with the flu. She puts Don Ameche to bed, and shows she would take care of him if he was ill.

"The Tidy Dee Lady" Mid-1950s to 1960s

Also includes Video 00269

The Tidy Dee Lady

00223 (Time: 2:25 (B&W))

Fran Lee is the "Tidy Dee Lady" in this segment for an unidentified program. She teaches children how to clean their refrigerator. The segment opens with Fran Lee singing the "Tidy Dee" song and is introduced by an unidentified man. According to Fran Lee, anyone who did things the right way was a "Tidy Dee"; one who did it the wrong way was a "Tidy Dum".

The Tidy Dee Lady 1960s

00265

Fran Lee shows how to clean a refrigerator. Time: 12:03 (B).

2.2 Guest Appearances 1958-1972 (24 items)

Consists of guest appearances by Fran Lee on various talk and variety shows. In these appearances she presented advice on home making and instructions on specific activities. For example she sometimes demonstrated how to make hats out of old sweaters. On other occasions she offered advice on caring for family members with the flu; she would place the host in bed and demonstrate what could be done to lessen his discomfort, usually humorous results.

The Alan Burke Show, WNEW 06/1968

00262 (Time: 33:10 (B&W))

Fran Lee appears on the Alan Burke show talking about menopause with Doctor Albert Ellis, author of *The Art of Erotic Seduction*. Estrogen treatment for menopause is discussed. She questions why the medical community is not doing enough for women. She tells about a group she started called Menonomous. They answer questions from the audience.

David Frost Show - panty hose 04/03/1970

00339 (Time: 9:00 (B&W))

Fran Lee talks about faulty panty hose with David Frost.

Eyewitness Exclusive, WABC 07/14/1972

00319 (Time: 21:34 (B&W))

Gil Noble and Roger Grimsby host this program featuring Fran Lee talking about the dog feces problem in New York. The show usually ran Sunday mornings.

Series II: Moving Images (cont.)

2.2 Guest Appearances (cont.)

Girl Talk - Menopause 05/25/1965

00359 (Time: 6:48 (B&W))

Virginia Graham hosts this show for women. Fran Lee appears with Doctor Ruth Francois and Doctor Sophia Friedman. They discuss menopause and Fran Lee talks about the problems she had physically and mentally when she went through menopause. Fran Lee started a group for women called Menonomous.

Fran Lee Talks to John Pitman

00266 (Time: 4:24 (color))

Fran Lee talks about how she became interested in consumer reporting. John Pitman is a talk show host from England. She explains her interest in panty hose and how she came to attack the hose industry.

Mary Ritt 06/09/1960

00357 (Time: 6:38 (B&W))

Fran Lee appears with Mary Ritt and shows how to make bathing suits out of old sweaters.

Memory Lane 03/08/1962

00264 (Time: 16:00 (B&W))

Fran Lee appears on Memory Lane with Joe Franklin on ABC. They talk about her early television appearances in the 1940s. This was apparently Fran Lee's comeback to television, dated 3/8/62. She attacks Madison Avenue for the decreasing number of innovative women on television. She then shows how to make hats out of old sweaters. Memory Lane was a morning show on ABC that featured people who were famous at one time or another. Joe Franklin.

Mike Douglas, Children Before Dogs

00317 (Time: 23:20 (B&W))

These recordings contains two segments. In the first, Fran Lee demonstrates her flu remedies on Mike Douglas, who pretends to be in bed with the flu. This is followed by a special report that was not seen on television because of the graphic nature of the footage and the language used. The report deals with the dog excrement on the city streets.

The Mike Douglas Show 05/10/1971

00272 (Time: 16:37 (B&W))

Fran Lee appears on the Mike Douglas Show talking about her campaign to rid the streets of New York City of dog feces; "Children Before Dogs" is what she called it. According to Fran Lee, she started on television in 1942. She warns about the dangers of children coming in close contact with dogs and their feces. The Mike Douglas Show was taped in Philadelphia.

Missing Links 1963

00316 (Time: 10:20 (B&W))

Fran Lee appears on the game show hosted by Ed McMahon and offers a panel of celebrities, including Tom Poston, clues to help them find the missing link in a puzzle.

Shari Lewis, Hi Mom, Sweater 02/14/1958

00320 (Time: 5:37 (B&W))

Fran Lee shows how to make different things out of old sweaters. The original container for this film was labeled Shari Lewis but Shari Lewis does not appear in the film.

Shari Lewis, WNBC 1958

00350 (Time: 5:00 (B&W))

Fran Lee appears showing Shari Lewis how to make hats out of old articles of clothing, including old hats.

Steve Allen Show 09/20/1962

00323 (Time: 14:20 (B&W))

Fran Lee shows host Steve Allen how to make hats and bikinis out of sweaters.

That Show starring Joan Rivers 12/31/1968

00321 (Time: 19:42 (B&W))

Fran Lee shows host Joan Rivers and guest Soupy Sales how she came to be known as Mrs. Fix-It. She shows off her hats and bikinis made of old sweaters.

Series II: Moving Images (cont.)

2.2 Guest Appearances (cont.)

Today Show 07/24/1961

00204 (Time: 5:33 (B&W))

Fran Lee appears on NBC's Today Show and demonstrates how to make a hat from the remains of an old fur coat. She is interviewed by a woman identified as Joan. She also shows how to make a stylish pocket book out of old furs. She shows her hats made from sweaters and home-made jewelry.

The Tonight Show starring Johnny Carson March 18, 1963

00358 (Time: 9:18 (B&W))

A kinescope of Fran Lee's appearance on the Tonight Show. She demonstrates how she would nurse a sick man back to health. She puts Johnny Carson to bed and offers him remedies, while he resists her treatments. Later in the show she is interviewed on "How to take Care of Your Husband".

The Tonight Show starring Johnny Carson 1963

00322 (Time: 15:43 (B&W))

Fran Lee appears on the Tonight Show and shows Johnny Carson how to make a hat or boot out of old sweaters.

TV-10 Around Town 01/02/1964

00086 (Time: 12:30 (black and white))

Fran Lee appeared on this local Philadelphia program showing viewers how to make simple roadside repairs on their cars. Bill Hart and Rosemary Haley are the hosts of the show.

Rosemary Haley, Lamp Shade

00335 (Time: 8:00 (B&W))

Fran Lee shows Rosemary Haley of TV-10 About Town how to repair old lamps and make them look like new.

Who Do You Trust? (Johnny Carson) 1962

00210 (Time: 7:30 (color))

Fran Lee's appearance on the game show Who Do You Trust? featuring Johnny Carson and Ed McMahon. She explains how she came to be known as Mrs. Fix-it. She shows Johnny Carson how she makes hats out of old sweater sleeves. He wears one of her homemade hats. She also makes a bra and a bikini bottom out of old sweaters. Fran Lee's husband Sammy Weiss also appears.

Johnny Carson - Who Do You Trust? 1962

00318 (Time: 4:45 (B&W))

Fran Lee appears with her husband Sammy Weiss in this game show hosted by Johnny Carson with Ed McMahon. She tells a little about herself and answers questions for money.

2.3 Commercials 1958-1969 (26 items)

Consists of a series of television advertisements that appeared both locally and nationally. Fran Lee usually played the woman who discovered the wonders of the product. In many of the local advertisements, however, she appeared as herself, pitching the product for the local television station.

Armstrong One Step Cleaner commercial

00225 (Time: 1:00 (B&W))

Fran Lee appears in this commercial as one of several women who praise the cleaning power of Armstrong One Step Floor Cleaner.

Betty Crocker Mixer Commercial 01/12/1963

00238 (Time: 1:00 (color))

Fran Lee is one of the "Betty Crocker Girls" who test to see that the Betty Crocker mixer is the best at making cakes.

Decorak Commercial 06/1958

00205 (Time: 1:00 (B&W))

Fran Lee shows how one can solve a closet space problem with use of a device, called the Decorak, that looks like a picture when not in use but can open out to something that can hold 24 coats. A duplicate exists at 00230.

Series II: Moving Images (cont.)

2.3 Commercials (cont.)

Drackett Car Drawing 1969

00229 (Time: 1:30 (B&W))

Fran Lee pulls the winner in the Drackett sweepstakes for a new car. This contest was run during the Matinee Movie on channel five, WNEW. The winner turned out to be a relative of the Drackett Company and the contest had to be redrawn. The new winner pick is on 00242.

Windex Commercial and Drackett Contest 1969

00232 (Time: 1:10 (B&W))

Fran Lee pitches Windex window cleaner and picks the daily winners in the Drackett contest. A grand prize winner for a car is picked at the end of the contest. The film is available at 00229 and 00242.

Endust Commercial and Drackett Contest 1969

00236 (Time: 1:10 (B&W))

Fran Lee pitches Endust furniture polish and picks the daily winners in the Drackett contest. A grand prize winner for a car is picked at the end of the contest. The film is available at 00229 and 00242.

Windex Commercial and Drackett Contest 1969

00239 (Time: 1:00 (B&W))

Fran Lee pitches Windex window cleaner and picks the daily winners in the Drackett contest. A grand prize winner for a car is picked at the end of the contest. The film is available at 00229 and 00242. The commercial ran on WNEW Channel Five.

Drackett Cleaner Contest Winner II 1969

00242 (Time: 1:12 (B&W))

Fran Lee picks another winner in the Drackett cleaner contest. The previous winner was a relative of the Drackett company and was ineligible.

Endust Commercial and Drackett Contest 1969

00244 (Time: 1:10 (B&W))

Fran Lee pitches Endust furniture polish and picks the daily winners in the Drackett contest. A grand prize of a car is picked at the end of the contest. The film is available at 00229 and 00242. The commercial ran on WNEW Channel Five.

Whistle Commercial and Drackett Contest 1969

00247 (Time: 1:10 (B&W))

Fran Lee pitches Windex window cleaner and picks the daily winners in the Drackett contest. A grand prize winner for a car is picked at the end of the contest. The film is available at 00229 and 00242. The commercial ran on WNEW channel five.

Windex and Drackett Contest Commercial 1969

00281 (Time: 1:00 (B&W))

Fran Lee pitches Windex window cleaner and picks the daily winners in the Drackett contest. A grand prize winner for a car is picked at the end of the contest. The film is available at 00229 and 00242. The commercial ran on WNEW Channel Five.

Whistle and Drackett Contest Commercial 1969

00282 (Time: 1:00 (B&W))

Fran Lee pitches Whistle cleaning liquid and picks the daily winners in the Drackett contest. A grand prize winner for a car is picked at the end of the contest. The film is available at 00229 and 00242. The commercial ran on WNEW Channel Five.

Endust Commercial 1969

00091 (Time: 1:00 (color))

Fran Lee made this commercial for Endust furniture polish and dust remover at the then WNEW (later WNYW) studios. The movie ran during the Ladies Day Movie with Fran Lee.

Fressence Shredded Onions Commercial

00233 (Time: 0:30 (color))

Fran Lee is one of six "onion lovers" who tries new Fressence shredded onions, a new packaged item from Betty Crocker.

Mogen David Blackberry Wine Commercial

00234 (Time: 1:00 (color))

Fran Lee appears in a head shot, along with a series of others, as a "sour grape". She has a mad look on her because she uses the wrong wine. She appears later in the spot smiling when the Mogen David wine is brought in.

Series II: Moving Images (cont.)

2.3 Commercials (cont.)

Orafix Commercial

00222 (Time: 1:00 (B&W))

Fran Lee appears in this commercial as one of three people who are impressed with the holding power of Orafix Denture Gel.

Phillip's Tablets Commercial 1966

00246 (Time: 1:00 (B&W))

This commercial spot features only Fran Lee's hands as she fusses over her husband suffering from acid indigestion in a restaurant. She offers him Phillip's tablets. The voice of the wife is not Fran Lee's.

Plunge Commercial 1969

00090 (Time: 1:00 (color))

Fran Lee taped this commercial for Plunge drain cleaner at the then WNEW (later WNYW) studios in New York. The commercial ran during the Ladies Day Movie with Fran Lee.

Tide, Verilan, Vicks commercials

00218 (Time: 2:30 (B&W))

Fran Lee is the doubting Thomas in these series of commercials, first with Tide detergent, where she doubts that children's muddiest clothes can be cleaned with Tide. Next she doubts very muddy slacks by Verilan can be cleaned properly. Finally, she doubts that Vicks cold tablets can relieve her cold.

Whistle Pump 1969

00083 (Time: 1:00 (color))

Fran Lee presents Whistle dish washing liquid in this commercial spot on WNEW (later WNYW) Channel 5 New York. These spots usually ran during the Ladies Day Movie with Fran Lee.

Whistle Commercial 1969

00088 (Time: 1:00 (color))

This commercial, taped at the WNEW (later WNYW) Channel Five studios in New York is for Whistle dish washing liquid. Fran Lee introduces the large economy size and the regular pump. The commercial ran during the Ladies Day Movie with Fran Lee.

Whirlpool 11/1969

00231 (Time: 1:10 (B&W))

Fran Lee tells the viewers about a Whirlpool exhibition to be held at the Felt Forum. This brief spot ran on WNEW Channel Five in New York.

Wolff's Kasha Commercial 09/26/1967

00245 (Time: 0:10 (B&W))

Fran Lee is featured in this 10-second spot for Wolff's Kasha, spoon feeding it to a man playing her husband.

2.4 Consumer News Segments 1968-1974 (45 items)

Consists of Fran Lee's appearances on consumer segments of the local news programs in New York. She was consumer editor for WNEW (Channel 5) in the late sixties and began work at WPIX (Channel 11) about 1972. The videotapes of her work at these stations have been divided into separate subseries:.

2.41 WNEW Consumer Segments 1968-1972 (16 items)

Consists of numerous segments that appeared on the Ten O' Clock News and a number of outtakes of Fran Lee and other reporters for the station.

Enzymes, WNEW 1969

00275 (Time: 1:02 (B&W))

This consumer report for WNEW channel five news by Fran Lee deals with the use of harmful enzymes in laundry products.

Franchise Fraud, WNEW

00216 (Time: 6:15 (color))

Dan Turner is interviewed by Sara Pentz, a reporter for WNEW Channel Five news, about allegations by the Attorney General that franchises that Turner's company runs are fraudulent. Turner appears to be the American Dream come true, having been on welfare and worked to established his own business, Koscot Cosmetics. An access copy of 00216 is not available. Special arrangements can be made to make the film available.

Series II: Moving Images (cont.)

2.4 Consumer News Segments (cont.)

2.41 WNEW Consumer Segments (cont.)

Frozen Foods, WNEW 1969

00206 (Time: 1:36 (color))

As the consumer editor, Fran Lee's consumer report for WNEW Channel Five news deals with the packaging of frozen foods in supermarkets. She urges viewers to write to their senators to about this issue.

Outtakes, WNEW

00288 (Time: 3:20 (color))

This is a series of outtakes Fran Lee compiled from various reports. First is a report on the expiration dates on various products. This is followed by a report on toy safety for children during the Christmas season. These were seen on WNEW Channel Five News.

Furs, WNEW

00280 (Time: 3:00 (color))

Fran Lee shows how one can wear a used fur for a long period of time. This is the final product with the rough cuts found in 00257. There is another fur segment on 00399.

Furs, WNEW

00399 (Time: 2:20 (color))

Fran Lee talks about the care of furs in this consumer segment for WNEW Channel Five News. There is another fur segment on 00280.

Papaya Fruit, WNEW

00224 (Time: 1:30 (color))

As the consumer editor for WNEW channel five news at ten, Fran Lee talks about papaya fruit on her nightly segment.

Polyurethane

00093 (Time: 2:50 (color))

This report showcases the dangers of having highly flammable polyurethane in various products. This segment is not undated.

Pork Requirements, Soap, Bulbs Segments, WNEW

00260 (Time: 4:55 (color))

As the consumer editor for channel five news, Fran Lee reports on location about the latest situation with the pork industry in her consumer segment. These are outtakes of the report. The report appears to have been filmed in the newsroom of WNEW. Another segment follows on the history and price of soap. This is followed briefly by an attempt to do a segment on light bulbs

Sodium Cyclamates, WNEW 1969

00241 (Time: 1:15)

Fran Lee discusses sodium cyclamates in this consumer report for WNEW Channel Five News. These untested chemicals were being used in various foods including children's vitamins. (B&W).

Holiday Toys, WNEW

00226 (Time: 1:05 (color))

As the consumer editor for WNEW Channel Five News, Fran Lee advises on the dangers of toys that children will be receiving at Christmas on this consumer segment.

Turkey report, WNEW 1969

00219 (Time: 1:15 (color))

This is the completed segment of Fran Lee's report on poisoned food (turkeys) for WNEW's Channel Five News. The outtakes can be found on 00207.

Turkey - Outtakes, WNEW 01/10/1969

00207 (Time: 1:50 (color))

Fran Lee reports on the seizing of turkeys treated with a pesticide similar to DDT. This film includes several takes and was done on location at a supermarket. The report was apparently done for WNEW Channel Five news; the completed report can be found on 00219. An access copy of 00207 is not available. Special arrangements must be made to view this film.

Series II: Moving Images (cont.)

2.4 Consumer News Segments (cont.)

2.41 WNEW Consumer Segments (cont.)

WNEW News Segments 1969

00092 (Time: 4:54 (color))

Fran Lee did consumer segments for WNEW. (later Channel 5 WNYW 10 O'Clock News) As the consumer editor, she reported on "Gold Stars for Walgreens & Consumer Reports", singing the praises of the discount prescription chain and the consumer magazine. In "Leukosis - The Chicken Cancer", she warns of the dangers of receiving a bad chicken from butchers. In "USDA Beef" she shows how the government meat inspectors sometimes give grade A ratings to less than grade A meat.

Whirlpool Trash Compactor 1969

00240 (Time: 0:36 (B&W))

On this consumer segment of WNEW channel five news, Fran Lee raves about the new Whirlpool trash compactor.

Penelope Wilson

00360 (Time: 4:29 (color))

Fran Lee is interviewed by Penelope Wilson about her expose on the panty hose industry and its treatment of women. The interview was taped for WNEW. An access copy of 00360 is not available, but special arrangements can be made to view the film.

Furs, WNEW

00257 (Time: 6:40 (color))

Fran Lee filmed this report on furs for her consumer segment on WNEW's Channel Five News. She interviews Milton and Monroe Corn, who manage the store where the report was filmed. Fran Lee then interviews another man about the oxidation of minks. These are outtakes that would be edited into a feature. An access copy of 00257 is not available, but special arrangements can be made to view the film.

2.42 WPIX Consumer Segments 1972-1974 (29 items)

Consists of consumer segments featuring Fran Lee when she appeared on *Action News* on WPIX in New York between 1972 and 1974. Many of these videos contain more than one segment. Please consult the list of Film and Video Tapes (pages 11-32) for detailed information. There are a number of outtakes of Fran Lee and other reporters for the station. Also includes 00284, 00202, 00209, 00212, 00217, 00227)

Fran Lee, Mrs. Consumer I 1970s

00078 (Time: 9:50 (color))

A news segment featuring Fran Lee as Mrs. Consumer on WPIX. In this series of segments, she takes a look at "Small Claims Court" and shows how easy it is to get back money that is owed. Next she shows how "Meat Distributors" try and cheat customers with less than Grade A meat. She also extols the uses of "Coconut Oil". She shows the fraud in various beauty products in "Hope Beauty Cream". "Panty Hose" was one of Fran Lee's pet causes as she fought the hose industry to make nylon stockings that lasted longer. In a precursor to "Small Claims Court", she shows "How to Sue". Finally, she gives the consumer tips on "Reporting to the FDA". Each of these segments runs a little over a minute each.

Fran Lee, Mrs. Consumer II 1970s

00079 (Time: 1:42 (color))

A news segment featuring Fran Lee as Mrs. Consumer on WPIX. In this segment, she looks at various "Dessert Fruits & Puddings" and offers the best and worst that are available to the consumer.

Fran Lee, Mrs. Consumer III 1970s

00080 (Time: 2:50 (color))

A news segment featuring Fran Lee as Mrs. Consumer on WPIX. The two segments featured here are her report on the "Alexander's Fashion Show", held annually, and a look at "Western Union".

Fran Lee, Mrs. Consumer IV 1970s

00081 (Time: 2:05 (color))

A news segment featuring Fran Lee as Mrs. Consumer on WPIX. In "Who's got the Button?" she criticizes the amount of spent on buttons [badges] and then argues that her button, "Don't let New York go to the dogs," is worth the cost.

Fran Lee, Mrs. Consumer V 1970s

00082 (Time: 2:25 (color))

A segment featuring Fran Lee as Mrs. Consumer on WPIX. She talks about "Face Lifts" and about her own experiences with cosmetic surgery.

Series II: Moving Images (cont.)

2.4 Consumer News Segments (cont.)

2.42 WPIX Consumer Segments (cont.)

Fran Lee, Mrs. Consumer VI 1970s

00084 (Time: 2:15)

A news segment featuring Fran Lee as Mrs. Consumer on WPIX. She takes a look at viewers' mail and answers their consumer questions. Anchorman Joe Harper is featured at the beginning of the segment, introducing Fran Lee. (color).

Fran Lee, Mrs. Consumer VII 1970s

00085 (Time: 1:27 (color))

A news segment featuring Fran Lee as Mrs. Consumer on WPIX. She shows how one can make "Fur Hats" out of the remnants of fur coats.

Sausage Report Card

00089 (Time: 1:35 (color))

Fran Lee gives a report on the sausage industry, demonstrating how with a wick, one can make a candle of a sausage link. It is unknown for which program this was taped, but it is probable that it was for WPIX, Action 11 News.

Fran Lee, Mrs. Consumer VIII 1970s

00094 (Time: 2:09 (color))

A news segment featuring Fran Lee as Mrs. Consumer on WPIX. She talks about "Christmas Shopping and Protecting Your Purse" in this holiday segment.

Fran Lee, Mrs. Consumer IX 1970s

00095 (Time: 1:50 (color))

A news segment featuring Fran Lee as Mrs. Consumer on WPIX. She looks at the "Labor Day Sale at Mays Department Store". Anchorman Joe Harper introduces her.

Fran Lee, Mrs. Consumer X 1970s

00096 (Time: 13:47 (color))

A news segment featuring Fran Lee as Mrs. Consumer on WPIX. Each segment ran about a little over a minute long. She first talks about "Day Old Bread & Cakes" that you can find in supermarkets and how they are just as fine as fresh ones. In "Comparative Shopping" she shows the difference in prices of various products in supermarkets around New York. She shows the large number of "Rats" that roam the streets of New York. She then does a report on "LOCATE - Used Glassware", a second hand store. She then reports on a "China Sale". A review of the restaurant, "The Charleston Garden" is next. The usefulness of "Carpet Remnants" follows and finally she talks about "Hazards in the Work Place".

Cooper Costume #74, WPIX 1974

00214 (Time: 1:30 (color))

This consumer segment for the WPIX channel 11 news features Ben Cooper, one of the owners of the largest costume makers in the country for children. The sound dies out at about 1:20. There is also a small piece of spliced film of an unidentified channel 11 reporter asking two kids about a party they are going to.

Dental Convention, WPIX 1970s

00287 (Time: 7:10 (color))

Fran Lee goes to a dental convention in New York for WPIX Channel 11 News. She tries out the latest tools used in dentistry and takes a number of establishing shots for her report.

Dog Run Outtakes

00199

This features reporter Frank Casey of Channel 11 News interviewing Al Rudd who runs a parking lot at Mercer and Houston Streets. The city was leasing the area to him, but wanted it for the dog run. There is footage, with no sound, of dogs using the lot. Several neighborhood members were opposed to the use of the lot as a dog run. There is no access copy available of 00199. Special arrangements can be made to make the film available. Time: 12:05 (color).

Garbage Kids

00277 (Time: 3:00 (color))

This is a series of shots of children playing in a garbage-strewn area. Fran Lee is in the film, talking to parents, but there is no audio. There is no access copy available of 00277, but special arrangements can be made to view the film.

Series II: Moving Images (cont.)

2.4 Consumer News Segments (cont.)

2.42 WPIX Consumer Segments (cont.)

WPIX News Outtakes

00289 (Time: 6:00 (color))

This is a series of outtakes from Fran Lee's reports on WPIX Channel 11. First is a report, by an unknown reporter, dealing with a transit cop hurt while apprehending a suspect. This is followed by footage of costumes at the Cooper costume factory and then Fran Lee interviewing Ben Cooper, owner of the factory. This is followed by further footage.

Outtakes, WPIX

00324 (Time: 5:40 (color))

This is a series of outtakes from Fran Lee's reports for WPIX Channel 11 News, which features an interview about the problem of dog excrement on New York City streets. Fran Lee interviews Mrs. Weitzer, a member of the city council, and asks about the city's plans to clean up the city.

Outtakes, WPIX

00325 (Time: 9:41 (color))

This is a series of outtakes from Fran Lee's reports for WPIX Channel 11 News, which feature an interview with a representative of the Pharmaceutical Association, who responds to assertions that drug companies are profiteers and that they engage in inappropriate advertising.

WPIX news

00328 (Time: 4:10 (color))

Footage of reports for WPIX Channel 11 features a climber who climbed the side of the World Trade Center. An access copy of 00327 is not available, but special arrangements can be made to make the film accessible.

Playground, for WPIX

00327 (Time: 20:23 (color))

This is footage of various reports from Fran Lee produced for WPIX Channel 11. Not every piece has audio. An access copy of 00327 is not available, but special arrangements can be made to view the film.

Subways #2

00279

This contains unedited silent footage of the subways, in particular the Number 6 local line. Time: 2:28 (color).

Subway Yard, WPIX

00343 (Time: 5:07 (color))

This reel contains footage of trains pulling into a subway yard. They are covered in graffiti. In the yard a demonstration is given of the guard dogs put out to discourage graffiti artists who sneak into the yards and paint the trains. This was apparently a major news event; there were several other reporters from television, radio and newspapers. An access copy of 00343 is not available, but special arrangements can be made to view the film.

TV Fires - outtakes WPIX 03/24/1974

00286 (Time: 4:40 (color))

Fran Lee interviews an engineer about the dangers of television burn outs that had been occurring in New York City at the time. She does this for WPIX Channel 11 News and this is a series of outtakes.

2.5 Miscellaneous Moving Images 1958-1965 (5 items)

Consists of items that do not fit into any of the above categories, some of which do not feature Fran Lee. These are primarily outtakes. Also includes 00283, 00215

American Air Lines

00326 (Time: 11:30 (B&W))

This film features footage of an flight without sound. It was probably used for promotion. An access copy of 00326 is not available, but special arrangements can be made to make the film accessible.

Maryann Dinonzo Audition 1970s

00087 (Time: 3:45 (color))

This tape is apparently an audition tape made for WPIX television by Maryann Dinonzo. It an investigative report entitled "Children Cleaning Up" about unsanitary conditions in New York City.

Series II: Moving Images (cont.)

2.5 Miscellaneous Moving Images (cont.)

Europe Footage

00276

This is unedited silent footage of various sites in Europe. There is no access copy available of 00276, but special arrangements can be made to view the film. Time: 2:20 (B&W).

Casts for Fractures 05/16/1969

00235 (Time: 1:00 (color))

This short segment deals with a description of a new kind of cast used in treating fractures. Fran Lee is not in this piece. There is no audio on this piece.

Series III: Professional Files 1925-1994 (8 boxes, 1 oversized folder)

Professional files contain photographs, articles, contracts, press releases, and printed material pertaining to Fran Lee's career as a consumer advocate, model, and actress. Photographs consist of headshots, production stills from Lee's appearances on talk shows, publicity photographs, and snapshots of her craft projects. Other files generally contain a scattering of articles, printed material, and advertisements featuring Lee. The file pertaining to dog issues contains a small amount of correspondence in addition to brochures, articles, and statistical and medical information that Lee acquired for her research.

- b. 5 f. 3 Acting 1925-1994
- b. 5 f. 4 Clozeez 1959-1966
- b. 5 f. 5 Contracts 1950-1969
- b. 5 f. 6 Dog Issues 1966-1994
- b. 5 f. 7 *Follies* 1984
- Photographs
- b. 6 f. 1-4 1930-1984
- b. 16 f. 1-2 1950s-1980s
Oversized photographs.
- b. 7 f. 1 1989-1992
- b. 7 f. 2-3 Acting 1940s-1980s
- b. 7 f. 4 Channel Companies, Inc 1967-1968
Also includes printed material.
- b. 7 f. 5 Commercials and Modeling 1940s-1960s
- b. 8 f. 1 Commercials and Modeling 1940s-1980s
Also includes printed material.
- b. 8 f. 2 Headshots 1963-1972
- b. 8 f. 3-5 "Mrs. Fix It" 1950s-1970s
- b. 9 f. 1 "Mrs. Fix It" 1960s-1980s
- b. 9 f. 2-4 Talk Shows 1951-1968
- b. 9 f. 5 Negatives 1940s-1970s
- b. 10 f. 1-3 Negatives and Slides 1940s-1970s
 - o. 1 Poster
- b. 10 f. 4-5 Printed Material 1940s-1988
- b. 16 f. 3 Printed Material 1942-1985
- b. 10 f. 6 Scripts 1925-1957
- b. 11 f. 1-2 Scripts 1960-1990
- Sound Recordings
- origsr.226256 "My Story"
Unavailable pending digitization.

Series III: Professional Files (cont.)
Sound Recordings (cont.)

origsr.226257	Untitled Unavailable pending digitization.
origsr.226258	Untitled Unavailable pending digitization.