



The New York Public Library
Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture,
Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division

Guide to the

E. Sylvia Pankhurst collection

1935-1937

Sc MG 159

Processed by Janice Quinter, 1994.

Summary

Creator: Pankhurst, E. Sylvia (Estelle Sylvia), 1882-1960

Title: E. Sylvia Pankhurst collection

Date: 1935-1937

Size: 0.01 linear feet (1 folder)

Source: Purchase from University Place Book Store, ca. 1976.

Revision History: Finding aid updated by Lauren Stark.

Abstract: Born in Manchester, England, in 1882, Sylvia Pankhurst was the daughter of Emmeline Pankhurst, a champion of woman suffrage who became active in the late 1880s. With her mother and older sister, Christabel, Pankhurst helped found the Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU) in 1903, a political organization dedicated to achieving equality between the sexes, with an emphasis on female enfranchisement. In 1914, Pankhurst was expelled from the WSPU for her insistence on involving working-class women in the suffrage movement; her mother and sister felt that suffrage could best be achieved through the efforts of middle-class women like themselves. From her base in the poor East End of London, Pankhurst ran the East London Federation of the Suffragettes (ELFS) and published a working-class women's paper, the *Woman's Dreadnought*, which later became *Workers' Dreadnought*. She became regarded as a leader of working-class men and women and convinced a few labor organizations to oppose the war. In 1935, she campaigned vigorously against the invasion of Ethiopia by Fascist Italy and founded *The New Times and Ethiopia News* to publicize the plight of the Ethiopians and other victims of fascism. She later helped settle Jewish refugees from Germany. In 1956, Ethiopian Emperor Haile Selassie invited her to live in Ethiopia; she accepted and founded the *Ethiopia Observer*, which she edited for four years. Pankhurst died on September 27, 1960, and was given a state funeral by the Ethiopian government in recognition of her service to the country. This collection consists of letters between Ethel Wieland Archer, C. W. Martin (Ethiopian Minister), and Sylvia Pankhurst, mostly about donations to the Ethiopian Defense Fund and a publication sponsored by Pankhurst. Also included are several cashed checks from Ethel Wieland Archer and a draft of an article on the war in Ethiopia.

Preferred citation: [Item], E. Sylvia Pankhurst collection, Sc MG 159, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, The New York Public Library

Language of the Material: English

Processing note: Processed by Janice Quinter, 1994.

Creator History

Born in Manchester, England, in 1882, Sylvia Pankhurst was the daughter of Emmeline Pankhurst, a champion of woman suffrage who became active in the late 1880s. With her mother and older sister, Christabel, Pankhurst helped found the Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU) in 1903, a political organization dedicated to achieving equality between the sexes, with an emphasis on female enfranchisement. In 1914, Pankhurst was expelled from the WSPU for her insistence on involving working-class women in the suffrage movement; her mother and sister felt that suffrage could best be achieved through the efforts of middle-class women like themselves. From her base in the poor East End of London, Pankhurst ran the East London Federation of the Suffragettes (ELFS) and published a working-class women's paper, the *Woman's Dreadnought*, which later became *Workers' Dreadnought*. She became regarded as a leader of working-class men and women and convinced a few labor organizations to oppose the war. In 1935, she campaigned vigorously against the invasion of Ethiopia by Fascist Italy and founded *The New Times and Ethiopia News* to publicize the plight of the Ethiopians and other victims of fascism. She later helped settle Jewish refugees from Germany. In 1956, Ethiopian Emperor Haile Selassie invited her to live in Ethiopia; she accepted and founded the *Ethiopia Observer*, which she edited for four years. Pankhurst died on September 27, 1960, and was given a state funeral by the Ethiopian government in recognition of her service to the country.

Scope and Content Note

This collection consists of letters between Ethel Wieland Archer, C. W. Martin (Ethiopian Minister), and Sylvia Pankhurst, mostly about donations to the Ethiopian Defense Fund and a publication sponsored by Pankhurst. Also included are several cashed checks from Ethel Wieland Archer and a draft of an article on the war in Ethiopia.

Key Terms

Geographic Names

Ethiopia -- History -- 1889-1974

Subjects

Italo-Ethiopian War, 1935-1936

Names

Pankhurst, E. Sylvia (Estelle Sylvia), 1882-1960