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Lance, John, Collection, 1858-1984

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Lance, John, Collection, MS 127

John Lance Collection

Collection Number	MS 127
Title	The John Lance Collection
Name and Location of Repository	Pittsburg State University, Special Collections & University Archives, Pittsburg, Kansas
Dates	1858 - 1984
Collection Size	1 linear foot
Creator	This collection was donated by Phil Carr, Associate Athletic Director and Head Athletic Trainer at Pittsburg State University.

Scope and Content The John Lance Collection contains items pertaining to John Lance, who was the basketball coach at Pittsburg State University, 1923-1964, including both personal and professional correspondence; student papers of Lance; sports information and memorabilia; publications; yell cards from Kansas State College of Pittsburg; various handwritten notes; and photographs and sixty years' worth of news articles. The news articles are from different newspapers with the majority coming from *The Collegio*, the campus newspaper of Pittsburg State University. The dates included in the collection range from the 1910s through 1984.

Access Restrictions This collection is open for access

Languages English

Biographical Note John Lance was a native of Pittsburg, Kansas. He was born on October 29, 1897, and attended school in Pittsburg, Kansas, graduating from College High in 1915. He received his college diploma from Manual Normal Training School (now Pittsburg State University) in Pittsburg in 1918. He is best known as the winningest coach at Pittsburg State University (PSU), with his tenure there lasting through two name changes for the school. Mr. Lance began his career as basketball coach at Southwestern Oklahoma State (1918-1922) and then returned to Pittsburg to coach basketball at PSU in 1923, retiring in 1964. At the end of his career Coach Lance was one of five collegiate coaches who could boast 600-plus wins, eventually retiring with 643 wins. He was inducted into the Helms Foundation Hall of Fame in 1967 and the NAIA Hall of Fame in 1968. PSU is currently home to the John Lance Arena, which is named after Lance. Coach Lance passed away in September 1981.

Series The collection is divided into the following series: **Biographies, Correspondence, Education, Sports, Publications, Memorabilia, Miscellaneous, Notes, Photographs, News Releases, and Newspaper Articles.**

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The **Biographies** series contains biographies on John Lance, his work experience at Kansas State College of Pittsburg and a speech by Mrs. Lance in regards to his work career. There are also mini-biographies of Dr. Garfield W. Weede, S.F. "Slim" Wilcher, Charlie Wasser, Larry Cutter, S. L. Householder, George E. Ruggles, Harry V. Hartman, Frank German and Prentice E. Gudgen. The dates are from 1968 to 1980.

The **Correspondence** series contains correspondence from and to John Lance. There are a variety of topics including basketball reunions, congratulatory letters, and they date from 1963-1984.

The **Education** series contains student notebooks for subjects such as botany, outline maps of the United States, plane geometry, psychology and child study. There are student papers on child study as well as psychology. There are also blueprints for a garden at Lake Side and cylinder plans. The dates for this series run from 1913-1915, with some items undated.

The **Sports** series contains sub-series of Basketball and Football and both contain game statistics. The Basketball sub-series also contain schedules as well as blank sports certificates. The dates run from 1916-1978, with some undated items.

The **Publications** series contains the following publications: The Courtship of Miles Standish (1858), the Palmer Method of Business Writing (1908), five books about concrete (1912-15), The Kanza (1923-63), Newsletters (1963), and The Alumnian (1959-63).

The **Memorabilia** series contains Basketball brochures from Kansas State College of Pittsburg for the years 1962-63 and 1967-68, a 1917 Yell Card from Manual Normal Training School, and Alumni Association Spring Reunion agenda from 1962, as well as Mr. Lance's "In Remembrance" card from Brenner Mortuary. The dates for this series range from 1917 to 1981.

The **Miscellaneous** series contains a business card from circa 1915; Pittsburg, Kansas hotel rates for 1978; and a 7th grade item of school work.

The **Notes** section contains several pages of handwritten notes, actually more like scribbles. These are not of any particular topic and many of them are written on the back of typed sheets.

The **Photographs** series includes several photographs of just John Lance, including one from his college days, circa 1916. There is a photograph of the Manual Normal Training School Basketball Central Conference Champions of 1931, which Lance coached. The only name appearing on any of the photographs, besides Lance, is E.A. Thomas. There is a Lance family photograph as well. The photographs are dated from circa 1916 to 1978.

The **News Releases** series contains news releases related to many different topics, including basketball stories, Lance becoming one of the five winningest coaches in history, and his death. They date from 1963 to 1981.

The **Newspaper Articles** contains articles that span the career of John Lance including his becoming one of the five winningest coaches in history and his death. This series contains over sixty years of articles, with the majority of them coming from The Collegio. The dates run from the 1920s and go through the 1980s.

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Biographies

f.1 1968-1980

f.2 Undated

Correspondence

f.3 1963-1984

Education

Student Notebooks

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f.5 1915

f.6 c. 1915

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f.8 c. 1915

f.9 c. 1915

Student Papers

f.10 c. 1915

f.11 c. 1915

f.12 Undated

f.13 Undated

Sports

Basketball

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f.15 1970

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f.17 1971-72

f.18 1978

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Football

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- f.23 1908-1912
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- f.40 c. 1950s
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- f.46 1961
- f.47 John Lance and E.A. Thomas, 1963
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News Releases

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