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W07-1322. De Young, Anne R. (1916-2007).
Papers, 1907-2005. 6.50 linear ft.



Abstract

Anne Ruth De Young graduated from Hope College in 1942. She served as a Reformed Church of America missionary in Amoy, China, and Oman as a nurse. This collection consists of correspondence from De Young and her brother Ed, newspaper clippings, books, pamphlets, photographs, and information on the mission fields served by the Reformed Church of America (RCA).

The photographs in the collection feature not only De Young, but other RCA missionaries including Jeanette Boersma, Jeanette Veldman, Gladys Kooy, Wells and Beth Thoms, Marge Doorenbos, Paul Harrison, Mary Allison, Elaine Bosch, Harold Storm, Marilyn Tanis, Maurice Heusinkveld, Signe Jung, and the Nykerk family. Additional media includes a movie titled *Wells Thoms: Missionary* (ca. 1970), *The Arabic Mission, 1889-1989* (1989), and digital images of the Bahrain church (2006).

Accession No: W07-1322
Provenance: Anne R. De Young
Donor: Tom De Young
Photographs: 638 images (Boxes 1 and 2)
Processed by: Catherine Jung, May 2007

Biography

From childhood, Anne R. De Young was interested in missions. One of seven children, she was born into a family involved in Christian service. Her father was a Reformed Church minister, and an aunt served as a nurse at Annville Institute.

A native of Clymer, New York, De Young received her nursing certificate from Berea (Kentucky) College School of Nursing in 1938. Four years later, she graduated from Hope College. In preparation for her medical missionary work, she studied Chinese in Berkeley, California, and later attended the Kennedy School of Mission in Hartford, Connecticut, and the School of Midwifery in New York City. After one year at Scudder Memorial Hospital in India, De Young went on to serve with the Amoy Mission in China from 1946 to 1951. She was reassigned to the Arabian Mission in 1952.

De Young's "first love" was teaching. In addition to the many administrative tasks required of mission nurses, she managed to give simple nurses' training to a number of the local Arab employees.

In 1959, De Young became superintendent of nurses at Mutrah General Hospital in Muscat, Oman. Here she had numerous opportunities to share the Christian faith while teaching and supervising nurses and their helpers. When the Oman Ministry of Health was formed in 1970, the mission medical work was gradually integrated with the government services, and De Young continued to work for them, using her knowledge of Arabic to teach and train medical orderlies.

In 1978, she was asked to become the Nursing Superintendent of the District Hospital in Tanam, a village far in the interior of Oman. For De Young, nursing provided many challenges and exciting opportunities to share the Christian faith and demonstrate Christ's healing ministry. With enthusiasm and life-long commitment, she was constantly finding new ways to make the Christian life real for those Christ had called her to serve.

De Young retired from the mission field in 1982 and spent her retirement years by remaining active in church and community affairs. She served as an elder at Trinity Reformed Church in Rochester, New York, sang in the choir, served as church librarian and as chairmen of the Friendship Visitation Committee. She also served the community as a Literacy Volunteer Tutor. Anne R. De Young passed away on February 20, 2007.

Scope and Content

This collection consists of correspondence from De Young and her brother Ed, newspaper clippings, books, pamphlets, photographs, and information on the mission fields served by the Reformed Church of America (RCA). The photographs in the collection feature not only Anne De Young, but other RCA missionaries including Jeanette Boersma, Jeanette Veldman, Gladys Kooy, Wells and Beth Thoms, Marge Doorenbos, Paul Harrison, Mary Allison, Elaine Bosch, Harold Storm, Marilyn Tanis, Maurice Heusinkveld, Signe Jung, and the Nykerk family. Additional media includes a movie titled *Wells Thoms: Missionary* (ca. 1970), *The Arabic Mission, 1889-1989* (1989), and digital images of the Bahrain church (2006). The collection is arranged alphabetically by subject, then chronologically.

Container List

Box 1

“30 days: Muslim prayer focus,” 1999
“The Amoy Mission: Story of China,” 1942
Arab Customs, n.d.
“Arabia Calling,” 1954-1960
Arabic
 History lessons, n.d.
 Hymnals, n.d., 1949
 Lessons, n.d., 1953
 Talks, n.d., 1955-1973
Art, n.d.
Bahai information, n.d.
Bahrain, n.d., 1953, 1954, 1956
Bible Study
 Loving God, n.d.
 Suffering and forgiveness, n.d.
 Unwrapping my gift, Betty Hibma, n.d.
Biographical information, n.d., 1929-1985
Boersma, Jeanette, 1963, 1984, 2002
“Campfire Echoes and Good News Bulletin,” 1944

Certificates, n.d., 1984
Chen, Carol, Stories from Amoy, n.d.
“The Christian approach to the Muslim,” G. E. Morrison, 1964
Clippings (2 folders)
 Benjamin, 1958-1959
 China, 1942-1958
“Come to the fair,” (song book) n.d.
Correspondence
 Anne, 1945-1980-1982, 1985, 1994 (16 folders)
 Ed, 1952-1972
 Jeanette Veldman, 1949-1954, 1988
 Miscellaneous, 1930-1982
 To Anne, n.d., 1951, 1971-2000
English talks, n.d., 1952-2000
“Fiftieth anniversary and first postwar report of Hope Hospital,” 1947-1948
Furlough speaking engagements, n.d., 1965-1980
“How can I relate to a Muslim?” Raymond Joyce, n.d.
“In quest of truth,” I. O. Deshmukh, 2004
“Introducing Islam,” J. Christy Wilson, 1950
Jelsema, Eunice, 2000
Letter to Benjamin De Young, 1907 (22 images)
Letters, transcribed, 1945-1951 (5 folders)

Box 2

Literacy lessons, 1985
Medical Work Arabic Crash Course, abbreviated, 1977
Middle East clippings, n.d., 1953-2005
“Middle East memories: In words and pictures,” Una Ratmeyer, ed. 1989
Middle East Reunion, 1989, 1997 (2 folders)
Mission Pamphlets and clippings, 1938-2003
Mission Today, June-November 1998
Missionary letters and profiles
 Africa, 1985-1995
 Asia, 1979-1997
 Mexico, Central and South America, 1988-1994
 Middle East, n.d., 1954-1997
 Reformed Church World Service, 1993-1995
 United States, 1981-1998
“A Muslim’s pocket guide to Christianity,” Malcolm Steer, 2005
Music, n.d.
“Neglected Arabia,” 1909
Oman, 1972
Oman, 1947-1997
Oman
 Nursing Officer, Sohar Hospital, 1971-1996

Trip, 1994
Passports and Travel, 1955-1983
Personnel Development, 1970, 1979
Photo albums, 1942, 1950
Photographs
 Bahrain, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955 (50 images)
 Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, n.d., 1950s, 1994 (58 images)
 Berkeley, 1945 (28 images)
 China, 1940s, 2000 (82 images)
 Cyprus, 1977 (7 images)
 India, n.d., 1946-1981 (53 images)
 Miscellaneous, n.d. 1982, 1985, 1999 (19 images)
 Mission reunions and missionaries, 1940s-2002 (83 images)
 Mutrah, Oman, 1970s (27 images)
 Oman, n.d., 1954-1996 (95 images)
 Oman, 1994 (20 images)
 Sharakiya, 1973 (14 images)
 Sohar, n.d., 1981, 1982 (54 images)
 Sur, 1974, 1975 (8 images)
 Tanam, 1978, 1979 (18 images)
Physical examinations and health articles, 1950-1980
"Practical lessons for evangelism among Muslims," Vivienne Stacey, 1980, 1988
"Praying through the Arabian Peninsula," n.d.
RCA mission report, 1989
RCA mission services, "Discipling all nations," 1999
Scrapbook, 1945-1952

Box 3

Bible (?), Arabic, n.d.
Book, Arabic, n.d.
Genesis, Arabic, n.d.
Magazines, Arabic, n.d.
New Testament, Arabic, n.d.
"Sin Iok," (Chinese) 1936
Speech notes, n.d., 1950-2002
Spoken Arabic of Iraq, J. Van Ess, 1961
"Spoken Omani Arabic for medical personnel," Anne DeYoung, n.d.
"Your Muslim guest," William Miller, 2000
Media
 DVD, *Wells Thoms: Missionary #2*, ca. 1971 (16mm film in Box 5)
 VHS cassette, *The Arabic Mission, 1889-1989*, 1989
 CD, *Bahrain Church Historical Photos*, Heuskinveld, 2006
Ephemera
 Wooden plaque with Arabic writing, 4.5 x 4.5 inches
 Currency and Coins

Box 4 (Oversized)

Paintings

Spring Trees After Rain, 14.5 x 20 inches

Watercolor painting of cows, 11.5 x 9.5 inches

Watercolor painting of river, 7.5 x 11 inches

Woman's profile, 11.5 x 15.75 inches

Box 5

16 mm film, *Wells Thoms: Missionary #2*, ca. 1971