

Helen Welshimer Poetry and Writings

Milligan College Archives and
Special Collections
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INTRODUCTION

Title: Helen Welshimer Poetry and Writings

Accession Number: 009-2008

Collection Number: 48

Physical Description: 2 boxes, 4 scrapbooks

Creator: Helen Welshimer

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Provenance: The source of these materials is uncertain. It is most likely that these materials were among those donated by the Welshimer family, along with P.H. Welshimer's library and desk furniture, upon dedication of the P.H. Memorial Library in 1961.

Access: This collection is open for research. Due to the nature and condition of some of the materials, especially the scrapbooks, photocopying may not always be possible.

Processing Information: Eric Nauman finished processing this collection in October of 2008. Processing involved a basic inventory of the materials and some re-boxing to smaller containers. The scrapbooks were removed from boxes and numbered. It was decided to re-shelve them unboxed. The finding aid was written at this time.

BIOGRAPHICAL / HISTORICAL NOTE

Helen Welshimer was the daughter of the Rev. P.H. and Clara Welshimer. She was born in 1901. Helen's father was minister of First Christian Church of Canton, OH, for more than 50 years. Her sister Mildred served as Dean of Women at Milligan College and was a benefactress of the school after her marriage. Helen was a prolific writer who became quite well known nationally. She was feature writer for the *Canton Daily News* where she wrote columns and editorials. Later she wrote for the *Akron Beacon Journal*. She later took a job as a feature writer for the Newspaper Enterprise Association (NEA). Much of her work at the NEA was nationally syndicated. She wrote two small books of poetry, copies of each are in this collection. She later left the NEA and became a freelance writer. She wrote articles and poems for well-known magazines such as *Good Housekeeping*. She also devoted much of her time to writing for Christian publications such as *The Lookout* and *Christian Standard*. In 1939 she was in a minor automobile

accident in a taxicab. Francis Arant records in his book *"P.H". – The Welshimer Story* that the minor injury became debilitating due to a lack of calcium in Helen's body. She suffered for 15 years before passing away on December 22, 1954. While bedridden she wrote some of her best poetry.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

This collection contains numerous writings by Helen Welshimer. Included in the collection are several scrapbooks containing newspaper articles, serials, poetry, and short stories written by Welshimer for the Newspaper Enterprise Association and several other newspapers. Also included in the collection are two of Welshimer's books of poetry as well as articles from *Good Housekeeping* and other publications. The collection is arranged in two series. Series I contains many clippings of writings by Helen Welshimer in various magazines, newspapers and other publications. Series II is a series of 4 scrapbooks that contain many more writings of Helen Welshimer.

SERIES DESCRIPTION

Series I, Writings of Helen Welshimer, Boxes 1 and 2

Box 1 contains six small scrapbooks of Welshimer's writings. The writings in these scrapbooks include much of the poetry Welshimer published in her career. There are also newspaper and magazine articles within these scrapbooks. Many of the scrapbooks have handwritten notes on their pages. Box 2 contains more articles, poems, and stories by Helen Welshimer. The box includes two books of poetry, Candlelight and Souvenirs, by Helen Welshimer, as well as "The Linebook," a book of poetry by various authors, including Welshimer. Also included in Box 2 are minutes from 3 "Luncheon Meetings" of the "Brides School", sponsored by Good Housekeeping. Additionally, this box contains articles by Welshimer in various other magazines and newspapers such as New York World and the NEA Service. Some of the specific writings contained in this box are installments of "Girlhood Days" and her serial "Runaway Bride."

Series II, Scrapbooks of Helen Welshimer's Writings, Scrapbooks 1-4

Scrapbooks 1 and 2 contain newspaper articles, magazine articles, poetry, short stories, and serials by Helen Welshimer. These writings were published in publications such as the NEA Service, the Chicago Daily Tribune, the Boston Herald, the Lookout, and Good Housekeeping Magazine. Scrapbook 3 contains many installments of "Story of Sue," a serial in the NEA Service written by Margery Hale and Helen Welshimer. Scrapbook 4 contains articles written by Helen Welshimer in the Canton Daily News.