The Denna Frank Fleming Papers

The Denna F. Fleming papers were given to the Vanderbilt University Library by Mrs. Fleming in February 1981. The material is contained in twenty-one Hollinger boxes and measures 7.55 cubic feet (approximately 15,750 pages).

Scope and Content

The papers of Denna F. Fleming include material from several areas of his life and work -- those of teacher, writer, political scientist, and concerned citizen. The correspondence files, an excellent source of information, cover the period from 1930-1974 and include both personal and professional material. Dr. Fleming’s work as a teacher is represented by student papers, course outlines, examinations, and correspondence concerning university activities. Examples of his writing include reprints from published articles, several book manuscripts, and book reviews. He published frequently in publications such as The Western Political Quarterly, Events, Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, The Nation, British Weekly, and War/Peace Report.

From 1939 to 1947, Fleming presented a series of weekly radio programs broadcast from WSM over much of the United States concerning events leading up to, during, and after the World War II. The programs were favorably received and many of them were collected and published in the book While America Slept. Transcripts of most of these broadcasts are in the collection.

Files on international and national organizations in which Fleming had an interest show a concern about the Vietnam War and the possibilities of a third world war. Committed to peace, Fleming supported numerous organizations including the American Association for the United Nations, Inc., the Arms Control Association, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, and the Fund for Peace.

Professor Fleming had a large collection of clippings on topics such as Vietnam, Cambodia, China-U.S. relations, U.S.-U.S.S.R. relations, and atomic weapons. The clippings were taken from the following publications: Newsweek, Ramparts, New York Times, New Republic, New Yorker, Tennessean, ILFL, Stone’s Bi-weekly, Between the Lines, Nation, Foreign Affairs, Congressional Record, The Progressive, War/Peace Report, Wall Street Journal, Bulletin of Atomic Scientists, Commentary, Look, Atlantic Monthly, Nucleus, New World Review, Minority of One, and Saturday Review. The clippings were removed from the collection.
Denna Frank Fleming – Chronology

1893 Born in Paris, Illinois to Albert and Eleanor McCormack Fleming, March 25
1905-1912 Eastern Illinois State College
1912-1914 Principal of High School, Hume, Illinois
1916 High School Teacher, Freeport, Illinois
A.B., University of Illinois
1917 High School Teacher, Walla Walla, Washington
1918 Aircraft Machine Gun Instructor in France
1919-1921 Superintendent of Schools, Tonica, Illinois
1920 A.M., University of Illinois
1921-1922 Superintendent of Schools, Colfax, Illinois
1922-1923 Assistant Professor, Monmouth College
1923-1924 Associate Professor, Monmouth College
1924-1927 Professor & Head of Department, Monmouth College
1926-1927 Summer Instructor, Iowa State Teachers College
1928 Ph.D., University of Illinois
1928 30 - Assistant Professor, Vanderbilt University
1929 Married Doris Anundson, June 29
1930-1938 Associate Professor, Vanderbilt University
1932-1933 Penfield Traveling Scholar. Attended Disarmament Convention in Geneva
1932 Published the United States and the League of Nations
1934-1937 Columnist for Nashville Tennessean
1935 Attended talks on the Ethiopian Crisis, Geneva
1938 Professor, Vanderbilt; in London during the Munich Crisis
Published The United States and World Organization
1938-1939 Penfield Traveling Scholar
1937-1947 Foreign Affairs commentator for Radio Station WSM, Nashville
1940-1951 Head of the Political Science Department, Vanderbilt University
1941 President of the Southern Political Science Association
1943 Vice-President of the American Political Science Association
1945 Published The United States and the World Court
Founded the Nashville chapter of the Association for the United Nations
1946 Member of Bernard Baruch’s staff in the State Department during the atomic energy negotiations with the U.S.S.R.
1946, 1948-49 Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton
1949 Honorary degree, Ph.D., University of Illinois
1950-1955 Board of Directors, Woodrow Wilson Foundation
1951 Research Professor, Vanderbilt University
1952-1960 Columnist for Classmate (Methodist Publication)
1954-1957 Executive Council, The American Association of University Professors
1954 Fulbright Lecturer, Cambridge
1956 Delegate to the Fifth National Conference of the U.S. National Convention for UNESCO
for the AAUP
1956-1962 Columnist for the British Weekly
1957 Phi Beta Kappa Associates
1959-1960 Fulbright Lecturer, Indian School of International Studies, New Delhi
1961 Retired from Vanderbilt University
Published The Cold War and Its Origins
1964 Visiting Lecturer, University of Arizona
1965 Visiting Lecturer, California State College at Los Angeles
1966 Visiting Professor, University of Arizona
1969 Visiting Professor, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, B.C.
1980 Died, September 03, age 87, in Nashville
Denna Frank Fleming -- Series Description

Box 1
Personal Data
Memorandum
Notes for Lectures and Articles
Petitions
Addresses

Box 2
Incoming Correspondence A-H

Box 3
Incoming Correspondence I-Z

Box 4
Outgoing Correspondence
Unidentifiable Signatures
Papers of George B. Winton
Correspondence to and from Dr. Fleming’s wife, Doris

Box 5
University Activities
Course Material
Lectures

Box 6
Student Papers

Box 7
Organizations and Conferences

Box 8
Articles, Newspaper

Box 9
Reprints
Published Articles

Box 10
Reprints
Published Articles

Box 11
Material on the Published Works of Fleming
Unidentified Manuscripts

Box 12 - 14
Manuscripts, Typescripts

Box 15
Indexes and Chronologies

Box 16
Manuscripts of Book Reviews
Material on the WSM Programs

Box 17
Scripts of America and the World Crisis

Box 18, 19
Scripts of Undercurrents and Current Events, Nov. 1939-May 1944

Box 19
Toward the Future

Box 20
League of Nations Typescripts

Box 21
Scrapbooks