

**ANNE PORTERFIELD RANKIN PAPERS
1887-1941**

Processed by:

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INTRODUCTION

The Joint University Library and Mrs. John Trotwood Moore gave the Anne Porterfield Rankin Papers, composed of correspondence, manuscripts, and articles of the noted editor and newspaper woman Anne Rankin, to the Manuscripts Division of the Tennessee State Library and Archives on April 8, 1959. The Joint University Library and Mrs. Moore received the papers from Mrs. Nell Savage Mahoney, the landlord of Anne Rankin in her latter years. Changes in archival methods as well as the gradual erosion of the internal organization of the papers led to the reprocessing of the papers, originally processed by the Manuscript Division in 1959.

According to the original finding aid, the Manuscripts Division of the Tennessee State Library and Archives retains the literary rights in the unpublished writings of the Rankin family in these papers. The Tennessee State Library and Archives dedicates the said literary rights to the public. For the purposes of scholarly research, single photocopies of unpublished writings may be made.

Linear feet of shelf space occupied: 3.75

Approximate number of items: 2000

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Anne Porterfield Rankin, the eldest of three daughters of Frank Porterfield and Susan Castleman, was born in 1869. Anne Porterfield married Leland Rankin (born in 1867) in 1893. Leland Rankin was a newspaperman of considerable repute and a YMCA worker in World War I and also served as director of publicity for the 1897 Tennessee Centennial Exposition. Anne and Leland Rankin had a daughter, Leland, who married Bruce Douglas in 1917.

Anne developed a talent for journalism and writing. In 1899 she became the literary editor of the *Nashville American*. In 1908 she became editor of the *Southern Woman's Magazine*. From 1921-1927 Mrs. Rankin held a variety of journalistic jobs, such as movie critic for the *Nashville Tennessean*, associate editor for the *Tennessean* and columnist for the *Banner*. In 1927 she became editorial writer for the *Knoxville Journal* and began the "Rain Pool" column. Mrs. Rankin's career also included reviewing books for the *Richmond Dispatch*, the *Richmond News Leader*, and the *Nashville American*. Critics in the South proclaimed her editorials and columns as outstanding. Mrs. Rankin also served as custodian and hostess for the Centennial Club in Nashville and as a war worker in the powder plant in Old Hickory, Tennessee, during World War I.

Anne Rankin possessed other interests besides journalism. She taught a Sunday school class in her teens and early twenties in north Nashville, and led one for First Presbyterian Church. She was a friend of the Fugitives, a group of Vanderbilt students who initiated a literary movement in the 1910s and 1920s. It was from the Fugitives that the Agrarians, famous for their manifesto, *I'll Take My Stand*, evolved. During World War I, Anne Rankin participated in Red Cross work, making bandages in the evenings. She was on the verge of going to France to work for the YMCA as a canteen worker when the cessation of hostilities occurred, thereby ending the need for canteen workers. Mrs. Rankin died in Nashville in 1942 in the home of Mrs. Nell Savage, with whom she had lived for several years.

Sources: *The Centennial Club of Nashville; A History from 1905-1977*, Charlotte A. Williams, 1978
 Nashville in the 1890s, William Waller, 1970
 The Anne Porterfield Rankin Papers

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Anne Porterfield Rankin Papers, numbering approximately 2000 items, is composed largely of manuscripts of Mrs. Rankin's writings, newspaper clippings, and personal letters. There are also some business letters, poems, rough drafts of manuscripts, and published articles in the papers. The bulk of the material falls within the period 1910-1930, but the inclusive dates range from 1887-1941. The materials are arranged alphabetically by series, e.g., Articles and Statements, Checks and Bills, Correspondence. Following the container list, there is located a list of the manuscripts of Mrs. Rankin as well as a partial listing of newspaper articles that may be found in the papers.

A copy of Mrs. Rankin's "book" may be found in the papers. The book is a collection of essays written by Mrs. Rankin on topics from her life and on topics she found interesting, such as Nashville history. The book was never published, and the essays, typed and handwritten, are part of the papers. The manuscript is in the order in which it was found and is not in chronological order. The book offers fascinating glimpses of Mrs. Rankin's early life as well as interesting tidbits concerning Nashville and Tennessee history.

The correspondence is primarily concerned with the *Southern Woman's Magazine* of which Mrs. Rankin was the editor from 1908-1920, and with the war effort of World War I. Of particular interest are letters from Company A of the 114th machine gun battalion. to Nashville newspapers. This company was a Nashville unit commanded by Mrs. Rankin's son-in-law, Bruce Douglas. The letters were written in response to rumors circulating about Mr. Douglas at the time concerning his aptitude as an officer. There is a typed letter from Jane Addams, founder of Hull House in Chicago and a prominent pacifist during World War I. A typed form letter from Herbert Hoover is also in the papers. Of further interest are two letters from Willa Cather, author of *My Antonia* and *Death Comes for the Archbishop*.

A majority of the manuscripts are feature articles and editorials for the *Southern Woman's Magazine*, the *Nashville Tennessean* and the *Knoxville Journal*. Several folders of rough drafts are in the papers. Anne Rankin also collected newspaper clippings. The clippings, being highly acidic, were copied onto acid free paper with the original clippings being discarded, in accordance with standard archival procedure. Several notebooks of clippings from Anne Rankin's column the "Rain Pool" are in the papers as well as several folders of editorials from the *Nashville Tennessean* and the *Knoxville Journal*. Many folders of clippings on a variety of subjects reflecting the interests of Mrs. Rankin are also in the papers.

A large collection of poetry may also be found in the papers. The poems reflect a wide range of authors and subjects. They are arranged alphabetically by title. The poems are typed copies for the most part although there are some photocopies of poems cut out of newspapers. It is unknown why Mrs. Rankin collected the poetry. As she was editor of the *Southern Woman's Magazine* it may be supposed that the poems were collected for inclusion in the magazine.

The Anne Porterfield Rankin Papers offer a glimpse into the life of a journalist at the turn of the century. The voluminous correspondence relating to the *Southern Woman's Magazine* offer

insight into the editorial process. The manuscript of Mrs. Rankin's book highlights life in Nashville during the second half of the nineteenth century as well as earlier Nashville history. The papers also offer information on World War I and one woman's response to it. The Anne Porterfield Rankin Papers are of value to anyone wishing to know more about Nashville in the latter nineteenth and early twentieth century. It is also valuable for its insights into the life of a female journalist in the early twentieth century.

PHOTOGRAPH LIST

Number	Description	Location
1	Man sitting in chair in a field	Box 4 Folder 6 (photocopy)
2	2 soldiers in uniform (WWI)	Box 5 Folder 3 (photocopy)
3	Soldier in uniform	Box 5 Folder 3 (photocopy)
4	Anne Rankin	Box 5 Folder 3 (photocopy)
5	Mother with two children	Box 5 Folder 3 (photocopy)
6	Young woman	Box 5 Folder 3 (photocopy)
7	John M. Cormack (autographed)	Box 5 Folder 3 (photocopy)
8	House	Box 5 Folder 3 (photocopy)
9	Rankin family in front of house (taken as they were leaving on a trip to Europe)	Box 4 Folder 8 (photocopy)
10	Anne Rankin	Box 5 Folder 25 (photocopy)
11	Leland Rankin (daughter)	Box 5 Folder 25 (photocopy)
12	Child and nurse sitting on a bench	Box 6 Folder 11 (photocopy)
13	Child and nurse	Box 6 Folder 11 (photocopy)
14	Child and nurse	Box 6 Folder 11 (photocopy)

CONTAINER LIST

BOX NUMBER 1

1. Articles and Statements
2. Articles and Statements
3. Checks and Bills – 1926-1927
4. Correspondence – Author Unknown
5. Correspondence – Business – Adams, Edgar H. – Library of Congress
6. Correspondence – Business – Logie, Iona M. R. – Young, Ella Flag
7. Craft Designs
8. Editorial Clippings
9. Envelopes
10. Galley Proofs
11. Geometric Designs
12. Invitations and Cards
13. Land Records
14. Legal Documents - Affidavits
15. Legal Documents - Petitions
16. Memorabilia

BOX NUMBER 2

1. Memorabilia
2. Military Records – Clinical – Bruce Douglas
3. Military Records – Combat Activities – Bruce Douglas
4. Manuscript – Anne’s book
5. Manuscript – Anne’s book
6. Manuscript – Anne’s book
7. Manuscript – Anne’s book
8. Manuscript – Anne’s book
9. Manuscript – Anne’s book
10. Manuscript – Anne’s book
11. Manuscript – Anne’s book
12. Newspaper Articles - Miscellaneous
13. Newspaper Articles - Miscellaneous
14. Newspaper Clippings – Nashville *Tennessean* – 1922-1926

BOX NUMBER 3

1. Newspaper Clippings – Nashville *Tennessean* – 1926-1928
2. Newspaper Clippings – Nashville *Tennessean* – 1928-1932
3. Newspaper Clippings – Knoxville *Journal* – 1928-1934
4. Newspaper Clippings – Knoxville *Journal* – 1935-1937
5. Newspaper Articles - Miscellaneous
6. Newspaper Articles – A-B
7. Newspaper Articles – C-D
8. Newspaper Articles – E-F

BOX NUMBER 3 (CONTINUED)

9. Newspaper Articles – G-I
10. Newspaper Articles – J-K
11. Newspaper Articles – L-M
12. Newspaper Articles – N-P
13. Newspaper Articles – Q-R
14. Newspaper Articles – S
15. Newspaper Articles – T
16. Newspaper Articles – V-X
17. Newspaper Articles – W
18. Newspaper Articles – Y-Z
19. Newspaper Articles – Miscellaneous
20. Notebooks

BOX NUMBER 4

1. Notebooks
2. Notebooks
3. Personal Correspondence – Bruce Douglas
4. Personal Correspondence – A-D
5. Personal Correspondence – E-H
6. Personal Correspondence – I-M
7. Personal Correspondence – N-Q
8. Personal Correspondence – Ra
9. Personal Correspondence – Ra - Ro
10. Personal Correspondence – S-Z

BOX NUMBER 5

1. Personal Correspondence - Miscellaneous
2. Postcards, et cetera
3. Pictures & Emblems
4. Poems – A-B
5. Poems – C-D
6. Poems – E-F
7. Poems – G-H
8. Poems – I-J
9. Poems – L-M
10. Poems – O-Q
11. Poems – R-S
12. Poems – T-V
13. Poems – W
14. *Rain Pool* Clippings
15. *Rain Pool* Manuscripts and Drafts
16. Remarks – “Concerning the Fugitives”
17. Rough Drafts and Notes
18. Rough Drafts and Notes
19. Rough Drafts and Notes

BOX NUMBER 5 (CONTINUED)

20. Rough Drafts and Notes
21. Rough Drafts and Notes
22. Rough Drafts and Notes
23. Rough Drafts and Notes
24. Rough Drafts and Notes
25. Tributes

BOX NUMBER 6

1. Typed Manuscripts – Ac-An
2. Typed Manuscripts – An-Aw
3. Typed Manuscripts – B
4. Typed Manuscripts – C
5. Typed Manuscripts – D
6. Typed Manuscripts – E
7. Typed Manuscripts – F-G
8. Typed Manuscripts – H
9. Typed Manuscripts – I-K
10. Typed Manuscripts – L
11. Typed Manuscripts – Ma-Me
12. Typed Manuscripts – Me-Mo
13. Typed Manuscripts – N-O
14. Typed Manuscripts – P
15. Typed Manuscripts - R
16. Typed Manuscripts – S-So
17. Typed Manuscripts – So-Su
18. Typed Manuscripts – T
19. Typed Manuscripts – U-V
20. Typed Manuscripts – W-Wh
21. Typed Manuscripts – Wi-Wo
22. Typed Manuscripts – Miscellaneous

BOX NUMBER 7

Eleven scrapbooks of *Rain Pool* Clippings and other clippings
Nine metal plates from which newspaper cuts were made

BOX NUMBER 8
PHOTOGRAPHS

Man sitting in chair in a field
2 soldiers in uniform (World War I)
Soldier in uniform
Anne Rankin
Mother with two children
Young woman
John M. Cormack (autographed)

BOX NUMBER 8 (CONTINUED)

House

Rankin family in front of house (taken as they were leaving on a trip to Europe)

Anne Rankin

Leland Rankin (daughter)

Child and nurse sitting on a bench

Child and nurse

Child and nurse

MANUSCRIPT LIST

BOX 6

Folder 1 Ac-An

1. An Account to Open
2. After the War
3. Among some Books of Long Ago
4. Anglicanism
5. Anne Rankin - Autobiography
6. The Annes of the World
7. The Annes of the World
8. The Annes of the World
9. The Annes of the World

Folder 2 An-Aw

1. The Annes of the World
2. The Annes of the World
3. Application for Y.M.C.A. Work
4. Application for Visa to France
5. Application for Visa to France
6. Application for Visa to France

Folder 3 – B

1. "Balm in Gilead"
2. Baltimore – The Crown of the Chesapeake
3. Bare Branches
4. Beautiful Inscriptions
5. Beautiful Words
6. Behold, I set before an open Door
7. Bible records
8. Birdle of the Plains
9. Boners of the Great
10. Book Marks
11. Roark Bradford
12. Bread making
13. By the strangest of contrast

Folder 4 – C

1. Called into Active Service
2. Castleman Coat of Arms
3. Catholic Church
4. Chickamauga Path
5. Child Labor
6. China and Japan
7. Christ Church History
8. The Church of the East
9. Civil War
10. The Community Chest
11. Confederate Veteran
12. Confederate Banners
13. Confederate Dates
14. Confederate Leaders
15. Confucius

Folder 5 – D

1. Jefferson Davis
2. Samuel Davis
3. December – The Month of the Child
4. Democracy's Death
5. Deep Sea Chantys and Chantymen
6. Democrats voting for Hoover
7. The Digest Continues to Prophecy
8. James A. Diggons
9. Divisions of Time
10. Capt. Bruce Douglas
11. Capt. Bruce Douglas

Folder 6 – E

1. Dr. C. D. Elliot
2. England, 1941
3. England Refuses the New Alliance
4. Episcopal Churches

Folder 7 – F-G

1. The Feast of the Passover
2. A Faithful Loving Mother
3. February – The Month of Memories
4. February – The Month of Memories
5. Fillers for Ed. Columns
6. Forgotten Man Remembered
7. The Forgotten Man
8. The Forgotten Man
9. From the Flying Fields of France

Folder 7 – F-G (continued)

10. The Garden of Andrew Jackson
11. The Glastonbury Thorn
12. Col. James H. Graham
13. Grandmother
14. The Great Chalice of Antioch
14. “Great Joyaunce”

Folder 8 – H

1. Haunting
2. Henley Street Bridge
3. The Hermitage
4. Hilarious Cockneys
5. His Championship
6. History in Inaugural Speeches
7. The Holy Roman Empire
8. House Keeping

Folder 9 – I-K

1. In Aid of Tuskegee
2. Infantry
3. January
4. January
5. “Jeanne’s Ideal”
6. Jefferson – at Portland Maine
7. A Job for Old Man River
8. Jones Family
9. The Junior League
10. June
11. Junk
12. “Keats, Poet of Light”
13. Kitchen History

Folder 10 – L

1. The Lady History Amuses Herself
2. Lafayette
3. Cullen Landis
4. The Last of the Ringlings
5. Rachel Jackson Lawrence
6. To Legalize Mercy Deaths
7. Clare Leighton
8. Leopold Murder Case
9. “Light of Light”
10. The Lindbergh Drama
11. A London Candle

Folder 11 – Ma-Me

1. Machine Gun men of the Fighting Thirtieth
2. March
3. With Marubushu - Sun
4. May – In praise of May
5. Memorials of Defeat
6. Memorials of Versailles
7. A Memory and a Promise

Folder 12 – Me-Mo

1. In Memoriam
2. Menu
3. The Mero District
4. John Morgan
5. Mosaics of Memory
6. Mosaics of Memory

Folder 13 – N-O

1. Nashville Homes
2. Negro Talk
3. Negro Servants
4. News from Damascus
5. Niloak of the Ozarks
6. L-G Noel's Memories of Nashville
7. Not Too Much Hope
8. The Novelist and the Lady at the Spring
9. October
10. Old Books Among the New
11. On the Value of Ponds
12. Onward Christian Soldiers
13. Orthodox Church
14. Out of Dreams
15. Outward and Visible Signs

Folder 14 – P

1. The Parole
2. Peace Demands Courage
3. Picture Writing
4. "Pluck Wins"
5. "Pluck Wins"
6. The Poem Universal
7. The Poinsettia
8. President's Mothers

Folder 15 – R

1. The Rain Pool

Folder 15 – R (continued)

2. The Return to Primeval Days
3. Reunion of Confederate Veterans
4. The Romance of Language
5. Franklin D. Roosevelt

Folder 16 – S-So

1. Saved From Ruin
2. On Seeing Things with Half an Eye
3. September
4. Shall We Search for Fenius
5. Shepherdess of the Hills
6. So Long Flappera
7. Shylock
8. Southern Literature

Folder 17 – So-Su

1. Southern People
2. Southern Womans Magazine
3. Stalin
4. Strange Manoeuvres
5. Such a Darkness
6. A Surmise

Folder 18 – T

1. Taking us into Their Confidence
2. Tennessee
3. Tennessee
4. Tennessee in War
5. Tennessee in War
6. Temperance
7. Thoughts
7. “To Break a Teachers Neck”
8. “Two Weeks Off”

Folder 19 – U-V

1. “Until the Day Break”
2. Under Mont Blanc
3. Versailles
4. The Violent and the Boy
5. Virginia Beach
6. Virginia Beach

Folder 20 – W-Wh

1. War
2. War-Time Journalism in 1860 and 1918

Folder 20 – W-Wh (continued)

3. War-Time Journalism in 1860 and 1918
4. George Washington
5. Washington, D.C.
6. Wednesday
7. William West
8. Where Kings Are Crowned
9. White House Colors
9. “Whom they Pierced”

Folder 21 – Wi-Wo

1. Wish Cuba a “Merry Christmas”
2. Women
3. Women
4. Words
5. Woodrow Wilson
6. World War

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES
BOX NUMBER 3

This is only a partial listing of the newspaper articles found in box number 3

Folder 6 – Newspaper Articles – A-B

1. The Alamo
2. Americans Without a Country
3. Anglo Saxon
4. Apple Tree
5. Argentina
6. Armenia
7. August
8. Bailey, Joe
9. Battleships, New
10. Bible, Oxford Lectern
11. Bromfield, Lewis

Folder 7 – Newspaper Articles – C-D

1. Cargoes
2. Carlyle, Thomas
3. Chamberlain, Neville
4. Church Unity
5. Confederate States
6. Conning Tower
7. Constable, John
8. Constitution
9. Czar, The
10. Day by Day

Folder 7 – Newspaper Articles – C-D (continued)

11. Dumas's Life

Folder 8 – Newspaper Articles – E-F

1. Evolution
2. Farragut, Admiral
3. Father's Day
4. Flight, Man's First
5. Ford Motor Company
6. Foster, Nathaniel ("Natty Bumpo")

Folder 9 – Newspaper Articles – G-I

1. Georgia
2. Gershwin, George
3. Grey Ghost
4. Horace Greeley's Daughter
5. Hall, Norman
6. Hambone
7. Hamlet
8. Harris, Corra
9. Hermitage
10. Indians
11. Iraq

Folder 10 – Newspaper Articles – J-K

1. Jesse James Crowd
2. Johnson, Andrew
3. Juliet
4. Kipling for Laureate
5. Kunz-baker, Bertha

Folder 11 – Newspaper Articles – L-M

1. Lawrence of Arabia
2. Lee's Farewell
3. Leviathan
4. Lily Pool
5. Lincoln's Letters
6. Lindbergh's Flight
7. Locomotives
8. Louis Philippe in America
9. Love Letters
10. Lynching
11. March of Nations
12. Memorial Day
13. Mona Lisa
14. Mother's Day

Folder 12 – Newspaper Articles – N-P

1. New Deal
2. Opportunity
3. Peace
4. People's Choice
5. Poems that Live
6. Poland
7. Prince of Wales

Folder 13 – Newspaper Articles – Q-R

1. Quintuplets
2. Religion in Action
3. Rogers, Will
4. Roosevelt
5. Rotary Club

Folder 14 – Newspaper Articles – S

1. Saint James Episcopal Church
2. Sea Serpents
3. Shakespeare
4. Smith, Al
5. South, The
6. Southern Planters
7. Sports
8. Stamp Collecting