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# ANNIE LONG CRUTCHER (1868-1955) PAPERS ca. 1906-1952

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# INTRODUCTION

This collection centers on Annie Long (Mrs. Americus Eugene) Crutcher, who lived in Nashville, Tennessee, from 1891 until her death in 1955. She was active in helping found the Tennessee Congress of Parents and Teachers and served as President of this organization from 1913-1923; she was Founders Day Chairman for the Parent Teacher Association of which she was a life member. Prior to her retirement in 1953, she was curator of Fort Nashborough for fourteen years.

The materials in this finding aid measure 1.68 linear feet. There are no restrictions on the materials. Single photocopies of unpublished writings in the Annie Long Crutcher Papers may be made for purposes of scholarly research.

### SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Annie Elizabeth (Long) Crutcher Papers, containing approximately 400 items, covers the years 1906-1952. The collection consists of correspondence, minutes, programs, organizational records, biographies, newsletters, genealogical records, booklets, photographs, and other papers.

Though there are few letters of Mrs. Americus Eugene Crutcher, her incoming correspondence makes up the largest single part of the collection. This correspondence deals with the many organizations in which Mrs. Crutcher was active. Among other subjects, the correspondence deals with the American War Mothers, Fort Nashborough, the National Congress of Mothers, the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Tennessee Woman's Historical Association and especially the Parent Teacher Association.

Materials that are non-correspondence in nature, are organized by organization. Hence, Parent Teacher Association material is grouped together and then further broken down (By-Laws and Resolutions; Founders Day; Founders Day—Programs; history, etc.). See the container list for a complete listing.

Biographical data includes sketches for Mrs. Theodore W. Birney, Mrs. A. Eugene Crutcher, and Mrs. Phoebe Hearst.

Genealogical data is on the Long family of Virginia and Missouri. Related families are Cogswell, Lewis, Caulk, and others.

The folders at the end of the collection are a grouping of letters of condolence to Mrs. Crutcher on the death of her mother (Mrs. Henrietta Austin Timberlake Long) in 1918 and her husband (Mr. Americus Eugene Crutcher) in 1921.

The oversize folder contains several certificates for Annie Long Crutcher as well as a diploma for the Columbia Female Institute. Also included is a membership list for the United States Flag Association, Living Flag No. 207 of which Mrs. Eugene Crutcher was the "Flagstaff."

# **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

# **Annie Elizabeth Long Crutcher**

Mrs. Annie Elizabeth Long Crutcher was born in Columbus, Mississippi in 1868, the daughter of John Richard and Henrietta Austin Timberlake Long. She graduated from Columbus Female Institute and came to Nashville in 1891, the young bride of Mr. Americus Eugene Crutcher. By this marriage there was one son, Eugene Long Crutcher. She resided in Nashville until her death on January 18, 1955. Her home was on 209 Twenty-First Avenue, South. She is buried in Saint Louis.

President of a Mother's Club in 1911, she helped found the Tennessee Congress of Parents and Teachers and served as president of this organization from 1913-1923.

Often referred to as "The Mother of the Tennessee Congress," Mrs. Crutcher served in many capacities: as vice-president-at-large, state historian, and Founders Day Chairman. The National Congress honored her by making her a National Vice-President in 1914 and National Historian in 1923.

Mrs. Crutcher received a state life membership in the Parent Teacher Association in 1922, and the State Board created the Annie L. Crutcher Loan Scholarship Fund at the University of Tennessee in July 1923, in her honor.

Mrs. Crutcher actively campaigned for the passage of child labor and mental deficiency legislation.

During World War I, she was one of the nation's "Dollar a Year" women. She was the founder of the first "Living Flag" organization in Tennessee and Vice President Charles G. Dames presented her a medal.

Prior to her retirement in 1953, Mrs. Crutcher was curator of Fort Nashborough for fourteen years.

She was a member of the West End Methodist Church. She served as president of the Nashville Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy and held membership in the Tennessee Tuberculosis Association; American Legion Auxiliary; Women's Tennessee Historical Society; Federation of Women's Clubs; Red Cross and a member of the Junior Red Cross Advisory Board. She was a member of the Cumberland Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution; a charter member of the Centennial Club; a member of the Harding Jackson Garden Club; the Ladies Hermitage Association; the Kings Daughters; Daughters of 1812; American War Mothers; and also served on the Advisory Board of the Children's Bureau of the United States Department of Labor and the Tennessee Rivers and Harbors Committee.

# **CONTAINER LIST**

#### Box 1

- 1. American War Mothers (1934-1939)
- 2. Autograph book Founders Day Luncheon, 1941
- 3. Biographies Birney, Alice Josephine McLellan; Crutcher, Mrs. Eugene (2); Hearst, Phoebe Apperson, 1842-1919
- 4. Booklets, brochures, calling cards, and photographs
- 5. Financial Records
- 6. Fort Nashborough
- 7. Genealogical data Long, family, et al.

# Box 2

- 1. Historical Sketches
- 2. Legislative Bills
- 3. Lists
- 4. Nashville Housekeeper's Club Minutes, 1906-1912
- 5. Nashville Congress of Mothers (1908-1931)
- 6. National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (1936-1947)
- 7. Newsletters
- 8. Newspapers and magazine clippings

# Box 3

- 1. Parent Teacher Association By laws and Resolutions (1921-1947)
- 2. Parent Teacher Association Founders Day (1944-1948)
- 3. Parent Teacher Association Founders Day Programs (1944-1948)
- 4. Parent Teacher Association History
- 5. Parent Teacher Association Minutes and Reports (1914-1952)
- 6. Parent Teacher Association Programs (1911-1951)
- 7. Parent Teacher Association Speeches and Lectures
- 8. Poetry
- 9. Programs
- 10. Reports Miscellaneous
- 11. Tennessee Women's Historical Association
- 12. Writings and Speeches Miscellaneous

#### Box 4

- 1. Correspondence Incoming A-H
- 2. Correspondence Incoming I-Z
- 3. Correspondence Incoming Unidentified Writers
- 4. Correspondence Outgoing
- 5. Letters of Condolence (Death of mother and husband) A-I
- 6. Letters of Condolence (Death of mother and husband) J-Y and Miscellaneous

# **Box 5**

1. Tennessee Conference of Parents & Teachers -- 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, 1938

# Oversize Folder 1

- 1. Award -- The Tennessee Tuberculosis Association -- Mrs. Eugene Crutcher, 1953
- 2. Certificate -- Daughters of the American Revolution -- Mrs. Annie Long Crutcher, 1909
- 3. Certificate -- Ladies Hermitage Association -- Mrs. Annie Long Crutcher, 1904
- 4. Certificate -- National Society of the United States Daughters of 1812 -- Mrs. Eugene Crutcher, 1925
- 5. Certificate -- Tennessee Congress of Mothers Parent-Teacher Associations and Affiliated Clubs -- Mrs. Eugene Crutcher, undated
- Certificate -- The United States Flag Association -- Hero of New Orleans Chapter, U. S. D., 1927
- 7. Certificate -- The United States Flag Association -- Mrs. E. L. Crutcher, 1927
- 8. Certificate -- The United States Flag Association -- Mrs. Eugene Crutcher, 1928
- 9. Certificate -- United Daughters of the Confederacy -- Mrs. Eugene Crutcher, undated
- 10. Diploma -- Columbus Female Institute -- Annie E. Long, 1884
- 11. Membership -- The United States Flag Association -- Living Flag. No. 207, 1927

# NAME INDEX

This is a name index of the correspondence in the Annie Long Crutcher Papers, together with the dates of the letters and information regarding their contents. Unless otherwise indicated, Mrs. Crutcher was the recipient. The figures in parentheses denote the number of letters, if more than one. The last number refers to the box and folder in which the material is to be found.

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American Legion to Mrs. Howard C. Boone, 1939 (?), re: 1939 American War Mothers Convention, 4-1

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Armstrong, Alvin T., 1941, re: request to again come to Armstrong's Fashion Center (penciled notes concerning Founders Day on reverse), 4-1

Baker, R.H., 1927, re: road sign to protect wildflowers, 4-1

Barnes, E.B., 1945, re: Founders Day (newspaper clipping attached), 4-1

Barr, Mrs. Paul, 1945, re: Founders Day, 4-1

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Beckham, May C., to Mrs. Oldham, 1923, re: Mothers Pension Bill, 4-1

Bender, Mrs. John R., incomplete, [n.d.], re: Founders Day (?) and Child Welfare Day, 4-1

Bentley, Blanche S., 1932, re: Season's Greetings, 4-1

Berry, Ruby Davies to Mrs. Henry Estill, 1940, re: D.A.R. questionnaires, 4-1

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Court, Cora Tranick (?), [n.d.], re: Season's greetings, 4-1

Crutcher, Annie Elizabeth Long (11), 1933-1952, re: historical markers of Cumberland Chapter, D.A.R.; Fort Nashborough; Valley Forge Honor Roll; Founders Day; Highway and Roadside Beautification and Memorial Tree Planting; draft of letter; list of names and addresses; child welfare; Memorial Forests; Susie Gentry Loan Fund; Tennessee Congress of Parents and Teachers, 4-4

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