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Smith, Beulah Ethel (Morgan), 1894-1987 (MSS 631)

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Descriptive Inventory

MSS 631 SMITH, Beulah Ethel (Morgan), 1894-1987

5 boxes. 53 folders. 1,480 items. 1910-2013. Originals, photocopies, photographs.

1980.127.1

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Beulah Ethel Morgan, the daughter of John James Morgan (1849-1923) and Virginia Ann Oliver (1861-1909), was born in Graves County, Kentucky on 13 April 1894. She was educated in county schools, Mayfield High School, Western Kentucky State Normal School (now WKU), Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, Peabody College for Teachers in Nashville, and the Bowling Green College of Commerce. She taught school in Cuba, Kentucky and gave private classes in music, art and expression in Mayfield.

On 16 August 1917 Beulah married Bert Raldon Smith (1885-1961), who was then a school principal in Owensboro, Kentucky. They were the parents of two sons, Raldon Morgan Smith (1919-1985), an engineer, and Charles Burnett Smith (1923-1999), a psychiatrist. After Charles's birth in 1923, they moved from Nashville, where Bert was on the Peabody College faculty, to Bowling Green, Kentucky. Bert joined the faculty of the Western Kentucky State Normal School and Teachers College, where he would serve until his retirement in 1955.

Beulah Smith was active in church and community work. At age 15, she lost her mother to tuberculosis (her grandmother also suffered from the disease), and in Bowling Green she helped to organize the Bowling Green-Warren County Tuberculosis Association, leading a movement to educate citizens about the prevention and detection of tuberculosis and to establish a tuberculosis hospital. Located at Riverside (near Richardsville), the Warren County Tuberculosis Sanatorium was dedicated in September 1942 and operated until 1956, when patients were moved to the new Sunrise Hospital. In addition to serving as the Association's president, Beulah also served on the board of the Warren County Tuberculosis Sanatorium Trustees and the Kentucky Tuberculosis Association. In July 1944, Governor Simeon Willis appointed her as the sole woman on the Tuberculosis Sanatoria Commission of Kentucky, charged with selecting sites for state-supported hospitals in six sanatorium districts. Bowling Green campaigned actively for selection, offering its existing hospital or several alternate sites, but Glasgow was chosen as the site for the district.

Beulah Smith served for five years as chairman of the Warren County Crippled Children's Commission, and was a charter member of the Salvation Army. She was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the National Society Southern Dames of America, and the Huguenot Society of Kentucky. Other memberships included the Music Club, the Bowling Green Garden Club, the Mothers Club, and the Altrusa Club. At Bowling Green's First Baptist

Church, she was superintendent of the intermediate Sunday School. She also took up genealogical research on her own and others' behalf.

In 1963, the American Mothers Committee selected Beulah Smith as its Kentucky Mother of the Year, an honor that led to a profile in the Louisville *Courier-Journal Magazine* (see Box 1, Folder 2), and to eligibility for American Mother of the Year.

Beulah Smith died on 8 February 1987 and was interred in Bowling Green's Fairview Cemetery.

COLLECTION NOTE

This collection consists of correspondence, photographs (both original and photocopied) and papers of Beulah (Morgan) Smith relating to her family, genealogy, club activities and community service.

Box 1 includes clippings with biographical data (Folder 2), but otherwise contains material relating to Beulah Smith's work with the Bowling Green-Warren County Tuberculosis Association and the Warren County Tuberculosis Sanatorium. Correspondence from 1941-1944 (Folder 3) covers planning and financing for the hospital, the difficulties in supplying water to the property, the consideration of various physicians for employment as superintendent, and a program celebrating the hospital's second anniversary of operation. Correspondence from 1945-1946 (Folder 4) chiefly documents searches for superintendents, nurses and staff, but includes a copy of a letter to the editor of the Louisville *Courier-Journal* disputing the advantages of Glasgow over Bowling Green as a candidate for the Tuberculosis Sanatoria Commission's district hospital. Correspondence from 1947-1968 (Folder 5) includes material relating to the Warren County Tuberculosis Sanatorium's equipment and finances, payment for the care of African-American patients in other facilities (the hospital was not integrated until 1952), a volunteer award to Beulah, and the dedication of the Glasgow sanatorium. Some statistical data on finances and patient numbers is also present in the correspondence. Undated material (Folder 6) includes articles on citizens whose illnesses highlighted the need for a tuberculosis hospital in Warren County; photocopied photographs of personnel and volunteers connected with the hospital and the Association; and statistical information. Forms (Folder 9) include applications for hospital admission and related forms; also included is the text of a petition by citizens of Warren County requesting the Tuberculosis Sanatoria Commission to locate one of the planned hospitals in Bowling Green. The 1945 report on prospective hospital sites for the Tuberculosis Sanatoria Commission (Folders 10, 14) includes evaluations and recommendations for each district. A 1943 report to the Governor from the Division of Engineering and Construction for the Department of Finance (Folder 11) includes photographs of state prisons and hospitals. Material relating to assistance given by the Bowling Green-Warren County Tuberculosis Association in hosting European high school students under American Field Service Scholarships (Folder 12) includes correspondence, clippings, photographs, and thank-you letters from students. The 1945 proposal by the Bowling Green/Warren County Chamber of Commerce to the Tuberculosis Sanatoria Commission (Folder 14) touts Bowling Green as the site for one of its hospitals; it provides information on the existing facility and the city's amenities, and includes photographs.

Box 2 contains material relating to Beulah Smith's membership in the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) and the National Society Southern Dames of America. Her DAR

material (Folders 1-3) includes her 1942 membership certificate, clippings, correspondence, literature, mementoes of her attendance at a 1952 congress, and documentation of her participation in the Good Citizenship Pilgrimage, a DAR program recognizing high school girls for their civic achievements. Also included (Folder 3) is research and correspondence relating to her presentation of a program on Eleanor Roosevelt to her local DAR chapter, and her invitations to Mrs. Roosevelt to visit Bowling Green both for the program and in conjunction with the Good Citizenship Pilgrimage. Materials related to her involvement in the National Society Southern Dames of America (Folders 4-10) include her application and those of several other women from Kentucky, reports and meeting materials, the Society's newsletter, and literature concerning its promotion of the Eye Bank Program for corneal transplants.

Box 3 contains correspondence and papers of Beulah Smith and members of her family. General correspondence (Folders 1, 2) consists of letters from her sons and their wives about their activities, and from her grandchildren thanking her for Christmas and birthday gifts. Also included are several responses (mostly photocopies) by or on behalf of public figures for Beulah's expressions of sympathy or support; of interest is her letter to President Richard Nixon's daughter and son-in-law offering son Charles's medical expertise to treat Nixon's "strain and worry" arising from the "present crisis," presumably the Watergate affair. Mother's Club and related material (Folder 3) includes her 1936 speech to the club on Adolf Hitler, congratulatory messages on her selection as Kentucky Mother of the Year in 1963, and other greetings. Collected personal mementoes (Folder 6) include family photographs, clippings, commendations and other keepsakes. A small amount of material relating to husband Bert Raldon Smith (Folder 9) includes photocopied family photographs, speeches, and a poem about his WKU class of 1914. Material on Beulah Smith's sons Charles (Folder 10) and Raldon (Folder 11) and their families include biographical data, clippings and letters, especially from Raldon's children.

Boxes 4 and 5 contain genealogical and historical research on Beulah Smith's ancestors, although research on the Getty family (Folder 2) appears to have been performed as a service for a third party. Much of the research concerns her ancestors in the Pryor family, but data on several associated families has also been collected. The research includes correspondence with others interested in the same family line.

SHELF LIST

BOX 1	Beulah (Morgan) Smith – Warren County Tuberculosis Association	1941-1987	331 items
Folder 1	Inventory		1 item
Folder 2	Biographical data	1963-1987	10 items
Folder 3	Warren County Tuberculosis Association – Correspondence	1941-1944	63 items
Folder 4	Warren County Tuberculosis Association – Correspondence	1945-1946	79 items

Folder 5	Warren County Tuberculosis Association – Correspondence	1947-1968	56 items
Folder 6	Warren County Tuberculosis Association – Miscellaneous material	n.d.	34 items
Folder 7	Notes on Warren County and Kentucky Tuberculosis Associations	n.d.	5 items
Folder 8	Warren County Sanatorium Trustees – Photograph	n.d.	1 item
Folder 9	Warren County Tuberculosis Hospital – Admission and related forms; Petition to Tuberculosis Sanatoria Commission of Kentucky	n.d.	6 items
Folder 10	Report on sites for the Tuberculosis Sanatoria Commission of Kentucky by Fred Hartstern	1945	10 items
Folder 11	Report of Division of Engineering and Construction, Kentucky Department of Finance	1943	1 item
Folder 12	American Service Field Scholarships	1951-1964	57 items
Folder 13	Raymond C. Gibson – Peruvian-North American Cooperative Education Service – Visit to Warren County Tuberculosis Association	1951	6 items
Folder 14	“Why Warren County is the Most Logical Location for a Tuberculosis Hospital”; Tuberculosis Sanatoria Districts of Kentucky – Maps showing proposed sites (oversized; shelved in C1,D7,#7)	1945	2 items
BOX 2	Beulah (Morgan) Smith – Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR); National Society Southern Dames of America	1942-1979	263 items
Folder 1	DAR – Membership, activities, etc.	1942-1979	46 items
Folder 2	Photos associated with DAR activities and membership	1948-1952, n.d.	16 items
Folder 3	Materials concerning program on Eleanor Roosevelt	1948-1949	27 items

Folder 4	National Society Southern Dames of America – Membership application and certificate; miscellaneous applications from Kentucky	1963-1965	17 items
Folder 5	National Society Southern Dames of America – Organization, meetings, reports, <i>Quarterly Journal</i>	1963-1967	27 items
Folder 6	National Society Southern Dames of America – Meetings, reports, <i>Quarterly Journal</i>	1969-1970	16 items
Folder 7	National Society Southern Dames of America – Meetings, reports, <i>Quarterly Journal</i>	1971-1975	15 items
Folder 8	National Society Southern Dames of America – Correspondence; Eye Bank	1963-1967	58 items
Folder 9	National Society Southern Dames of America – Correspondence; Eye Bank	1968-1974, n.d.	38 items
Folder 10	National Society Southern Dames of America – Photos	n.d.	3 items
BOX 3	Beulah (Morgan) Smith – Miscellaneous	1910-1980	421 items
Folder 1	General correspondence	1935-1980	107 items
Folder 2	General correspondence, undated	n.d.	16 items
Folder 3	Mother of the Year; Mothers Club; Mother's Committee	1936-1973	28 items
Folder 4	First Baptist Church	1927-1963	7 items
Folder 5	Altrusa Club	1954-1974	4 items
Folder 6	Collected photos, clippings, mementoes	1930-1974	63 items
Folder 7	Greeting cards and announcements	n.d.	31 items
Folder 8	Membership cards, certificates; miscellaneous papers	1939-1978	26 items
Folder 9	Bert Raldon Smith – Biographical data; miscellaneous papers	1910-1966	23 items

Folder 10	Charles Burnett Smith and family	1948-1973	9 items
Folder 11	Raldon Morgan Smith and family	1956-1968	107 items
BOX 4	Beulah (Morgan) Smith – Family Research	1961-1976	299 items
Folder 1	Bean family	1973-1976	5 items
Folder 2	Getty family	1966-1974	35 items
Folder 3	Morgan family	1972-1973	18 items
Folder 4	Pryor family	1966-1971	13 items
Folder 5	Pryor family	1966-1976	30 items
Folder 6	Pryor family	1967-1974	64 items
Folder 7	Pryor family	1971-1972	45 items
Folder 8	Pryor family	1972-1975	46 items
Folder 9	Prior/Pryor family – United Kingdom research	1972-1974	16 items
Folder 10	Pryor and Cabler families	1961-1968	2 items
Folder 11	Pryor and Clack families	1966-1972	25 items
Box 5	Beulah (Morgan) Smith – Family Research	1933-1977	166 items
Folder 1	Pryor and Oliver families	1975, n.d.	29 items
Folder 2	Pryor and Stokes families	1972-1974	24 items
Folder 3	Pryor, Thomson/Thompson, Hopkins, Malcolm families	1965-1971	13 items
Folder 4	Pryor and White families	1972-1977	25 items
Folder 5	Ragsdale and Rohrer families	1965-1971	9 items
Folder 6	Smith family	1933-2013	65 items
Folder 7	Thornton family	n.d.	1 item

BIBLIOGRAPHIC RECORD

MSS SMITH, Beulah Ethel (Morgan), 1910-2013
631 1894-1987

Correspondence and papers of Beulah (Morgan) Smith, Bowling Green, Kentucky, documenting her family, genealogy, and activities in clubs and the community, especially her leadership of the Bowling Green-Warren County Tuberculosis Association, her involvement with the Daughters of the American Revolution and the National Society Southern Dames of America, and her award as Kentucky Mother of the Year in 1963.

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SUBJECT ANALYTICS

Agnew, Spiro Theodore, 1918-1996 B3,F1
American Field Service B1,F12
American Mothers Committee, Inc. B3,F3
Anniversary cards B3,F7
Bean family – Relating to B4,F1
Beech Bend Park – Bowling Green B3,F8
Birth announcements, 1937 B3,F7
Birthday cards B3,F7,9
Bowling Green/Warren County Municipal Airport – Bowling Green – Photograph B1,F14
Bowling Green-Warren County Tuberculosis Association B1,F3-7,12-14
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Christmas cards B3,F7
Christmas seals – Relating to B1,F3,5
Churchill, Clementine Ogilvy (Hozier), 1885-1977 B3,F1
Clack family – Relating to B4,F11
Clubs – Bowling Green – Altrusa International – Photograph B3,F5
Clubs – Bowling Green – Altrusa International – Relating to B3,F5
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 Gibson, Raymond C., 1910-1999 – Relating to B1,F13
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SEE and SEE ALSO

Altrusa Club

See:

Altrusa International

American Mothers Committee, Inc.

See:

American Mothers Inc.

Bowling Green-Warren County Municipal Airport

See also:

Bowling Green Warren County Regional Airport

Niedermeier/Jeffrey 03/05/2018