

Walter P. Reuther Library
Wayne State University Archives
Wayne State University, Detroit, MI

Mary Elvira Weeks Papers
.5 linear feet (1 MB)
1850-1978, bulk 1960-1978

Finding aid written by Meghan McGowan on October 28, 2014.

Accession Number: WSP000524

Creator: Mary Elvira Weeks

Acquisition: Donated to Reuther Library by Janette S. Gaputo, Head of Science Library, on March 3, 1981.

Language: Material is primarily in English, with some articles in Chinese, German and Spanish.

Access: Collection is open for research.

Use: Refer to the Walter P. Reuther Library *Rules for Use of Archival Materials*.

Restrictions: Researchers may encounter records of a sensitive nature – personnel files, case records and those involving investigations, legal and other private matters. Privacy laws and restrictions imposed by the Library prohibit the use of names and other personal information which might identify an individual, except with written permission from the Director and/or the donor.

Notes: Citation style: “Mary Elvira Weeks Papers, Box [#], Folder [#], University Archives, Wayne State University.”

Abstract

Mary Elvira Weeks attended Ripon College for her BS from 1910 to 1913, the University of Wisconsin for her MS, and the University of Kansas for her PhD, where she remained as a professor for 22 years. Throughout her career, Weeks studied chemistry and languages. Weeks then moved to Wayne University to continue her career in 1944. While at Wayne, Weeks focused on the translation of scientific, technical, and medical articles into German, French, Spanish, Italian, Swedish, Danish, Norwegian, Russian, and Portuguese with the supervision and assistance from linguists, as well as students and professors from various language departments within the university.

During her career, Weeks was the Associate Editor of the Record of Chemical Progress, Consulting Editor of Chymia, an international annual about history and chemistry put out by the University of Pennsylvania, and a member of Sigma Xi, Phi Beta Kappa, American Chemical Society, American Association for Advancement of Science, History of Science Society, Swedish History of Science Society, and the Special Libraries Association. She won the Dexter Award in 1967 and among her numerous publications was the *Discovery of Elements*, which was translated into a number of languages, including Chinese.

This collection consists of correspondence, photographs, articles, and research material.

Important Subjects:

Chemistry
College professors
Discovery of Elements
University academics
Women chemists – United States
Women librarians

Important Names:

Browne, Charles A.
Journal of Chemical Education
Leicester, Henry
Linder, Bertel
The Royal Institute of Chemistry
The University of Kansas
Weeks, Mary Elvira, 1892-

Arrangement

The collection is arranged in original order.

Box 1

1. Articles written by Weeks, 1934-1968
2. Correspondence, 1942-1974
3. Richmond, correspondence and newspaper clippings, 1925-1978
4. Family letters, 1850-1852
5. Articles written by other authors, 1939-1974
6. Browne, Charles A., correspondence, 1946-1961
7. Photographs, n.d.-1957
8. Translation of Discovery of the Elements into Chinese, n.d.