

Edith L. Christenson Collection

**Papers, 1909-1974
(Predominantly, 1918-1973)**

**6 linear feet
1 scrapbook**

Accession #588
DALNET #
OCLC #

The papers of Edith L. Christenson were placed in the Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs in February of 1973 and May of 1983 by Ms. Christenson.

Born in 1893, Edith Christenson is a graduate of the Moravian Seminary and College for Women at Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

During World War I, Ms. Christenson worked for the YMCA as an entertainer and canteen worker for the troops in Ireland, England and France. After returning to the United States, she took an active interest in the labor movement, holding positions with the Women's Trade Union League, the Chorus Equity Association, the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America and the OPA labor office. She was also active in the adult education and cooperative movements.

Important subjects covered in the collection are:

Adult Education
Cooperatives
Organized Labor
Trade Unionism

Among the important correspondents are:

Julia and Paul Blanshard
John Edelman
Gregory Mason
Steven Raushenbush
Spencer Williams

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Contents

12 manuscript boxes
1 scrapbook

Part 1

Series I, Correspondence, 1913-1947, Box 1
Arranged chronologically.

Series II, Newspaper Clippings, 1919-1974, Box 2
Many are concerned with her activities as an entertainer and canteen worker for the troops during World War I. Arranged chronologically.

Series III, Printed Material, Box 2
Includes booklets and pamphlets related to the Worker's Education Movement. Arranged alphabetically.

Series IV, Miscellaneous, Box 2

Series V, Diaries, Boxes 3-7

Non-manuscript material:

A scrapbook containing photographs and memorabilia of a 1925 six-month trip around the world has been placed in the Archives Audiovisual Collection.

Part 2

Series VI, Correspondence and Postcards, 1918-1974; Boxes 8-10:
Correspondence and postcards concerning Ms. Christenson's world travels and her involvement in the labor and cooperative movements. The majority of the correspondence is between her and her daughter at boarding school.

Series VII, Cooperatives and Adult Education, 1949-1976; Box 11:
Pamphlets, flyers, clippings and other materials relating to the cooperative movement and Ms. Christenson's involvement with educational programs for senior citizens.

Series VIII, Personal Files, 1913-1974; Box 12:

Clippings, essays, job applications and other materials relating to Ms. Christenson's varied interests, including a classbook and notes from her school days at the Moravian Seminary for Women.

Non-manuscript material:

Photographs, buttons and other memorabilia have been placed in the Archives Audiovisual Collection.

An index to subjects in Part 2 may be found on page 11.

Series I

Box 1

1.	Correspondence:	1913.
2.	“	1915: (Letter of Recommendation).
3.	“	1917.
4.	“	1918.
5.	“	1919:
6.	“	1919:
7.	“	1922.
8.	“	1923.
9.	“	1925.
10.	“	1926.
11.	“	1927.
12.	“	1920's.
13.	“	1931.
14.	“	1930's.
15.	“	1930s or early 1940s.
16.	“	1932.
17.	“	1933.
18.	“	1934.
19.	“	1937.
20.	“	1940.
21.	“	1947.
22.	“	Undated.

Series II

Box 2

1. Newspaper clippings: 1919.
2. “ “ 1929.
3. “ “ 1938.
4. “ “ 1940s.
5. “ “ 1960s.
6. “ “ Undated.
7. “ “ 1974: issue of Comment and Review

Series III

Box 2

8. ACWA Songs for the Workers,
Sing With Spirit: Song Book.
9. Affiliated Schools for Workers:
Annotated List of Labor Plays by Jean Carter.
10. Affiliated Schools for Workers:
Annotated List of Materials for Workers' Classes.
11. Affiliated Schools for Workers:
The Social Science Workshop, A Scrapbook.
12. Affiliated Schools for Workers:
Suggested Reading List, Social and
Economic Problems.
13. Affiliated Schools for Workers:
This America by Jean Carter
14. American Labor Educational Service:
What Your Union Means by Alfred Baber Lewis.
15. Bryn Mawr Summer School: Song Book (1931-1932)
16. Bryn Mawr Summer School: Song Book.
17. To The Dallas Underpass by Paul G. Sifton.

Series IV

Box 2

18. Biographical Sketch of Edith Christenson
by John Edelman, 1940.
19. "Certificate of Release from A.E.F. - Y.M.C.A.",
August 25, 1919.
20. Essay by Julie Christenson, Edith Christenson's
daughter, June 5, 1947.
21. Essay by Ralph Ingersoll entitled "In My Time",
July 11, 1946.
22. Letter from Jeannette Christenson, June 26,
year unknown.
- 23-24. Miscellaneous.
25. Ration Books.

Series V

Box 3

1. Diary: 1906.
2. " 1918-1919.
3. " 1925.
4. " 1933.
- 5-6. " 1934: Account of ACWA Organizing Campaign in Staunton, Virginia
7. " 1935: Desk-Private.
8. " 1936: Desk-Private.

Box 4

1. Diary: 1937: Desk-Private.
2. " 1938: Desk-Private.
3. " 1941.
4. " 1942.
5. " 1943.

Box 5

1. Diary: September, 1946.
2. " 1947.
3. " 1953-1954: Appointment Books.
4. " 1955.
5. " 1959: Notebook.
6. " 1960: Daily Reminder.

Box 6

1. Diary: 1960: Daily Journal.
2. " 1961.
- 3-4. " 1962: Appointment Book.
5. " 1963: Appointment Book.
6. " 1964: Appointment Book.

Box 7

1. Diary: 1965: Appointment Book.
2. " 1965.
3. " 1966: Appointment Book.
4. " 1966: Year Book.

5. “ 1968: Date Book.
6. “ 1969: (Marked 1964).
7. “ 1945: (Daughter’s Diary).

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Series VI
Correspondence and Postcards, 1918-1974
Boxes 8-10

Correspondence and postcards relating to Ms. Christenson's term as a YMCA canteen worker during World War I. Other correspondence concerns her 1925 trip through Asia and Europe with Julia and Paul Blanshard to observe labor in foreign countries. The majority of the files contain correspondence between Ms. Christenson and her daughter away at boarding school. The files are in chronological order.

Box 8

- 1-5. Correspondence, 1918 - Nov 1919
- 6. Postcards; without notations, 1918-1919
- 7. ; with notations, 1918-1919
- 8-9. Correspondence, Apr 1925 - Sep 1925

Box 9

- 1-10. Correspondence, 1937-1944

Box 10

- 1-7. Correspondence, 1945 Sep 1946
- 8. , 1949-1952
- 9-12. , 1954-1955
- 13. , 1968-1974
- 14. , n.d.
- 15. Personal letters; misc., 1919-195
- 16. Personal; Julie Ann's drawings, 1940's

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Series VII
Cooperatives and Adult Education, 1949-1976
Box 11

Pamphlets, flyers, clippings and other material relating to the cooperative movement and adult/senior citizen educational programs.

Box 11

1. Cooperatives; clippings
2. ; consumer
3. ; craft workshops, candlemaking
4. ; credit unions
5. ; educational activities
- 6-7. ; general information
8. ; housing
9. ; newsletters
10. ; notes, award
11. ; nutrition
12. ; promotion
13. ; product labels
14. ; schools
15. ; share programs
16. ; Southern
17. ; student
18. ; tax legislation, 1951-1952
19. Federation of Communities in Service (FOCIS)
20. Senior Citizens

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Series VIII
Personal Files, 1913-1974
Box 12

Clippings, essays, job applications and other material relating to Ms. Christenson's interest in labor and her family. There are also materials from her days at the Moravian Seminary for Women.

Box 12

1. Children's essays, 1947, 1970
2. Clippings, 1918-1974
3. Edelman, John
4. Job applications
5. Labor
6. Moravian Seminary for Women; classbook, 1913
7. ; notes
8. Passports, 1918, 1961, 1966

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