

Charlotte Lee (1909-1995) Papers, 1948-1986

Series 20/43

Boxes 1-2

Biography

Charlotte I. Lee was born on August 13, 1909 in Denver, Colorado. She received her A.B. degree in 1930 and her M.A. degree in 1932, both from the University of Wichita. She also studied at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts in London, England, in 1939 and took her Ph.D. from Northwestern University in 1945.

Lee began her teaching career as a teaching assistant at the University of Wichita in 1930-1932. She subsequently served as instructor at Monte Cassino in Tulsa, Oklahoma, 1932-1936; Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, 1936-1940; and William Woods College, Fulton, Missouri, 1840-1941. Lee came to the Department of Interpretation at Northwestern University in 1945 as an instructor. She later accepted appointment as an assistant professor, 1947-1953; associate professor, 1953-1961; and professor, 1962-1974. She served as the Department's acting chairperson during the years 1961-1962 and 1964-1965. Upon her retirement from the Northwestern faculty in 1974 she was appointed professor emeritus.

Lee was president of the Central States Speech Association in 1967-1968. She published several books including *Oral Interpretation* (first edition 1952), *High School Speech for Secondary Schools* (1964), *Oral Reading of the Scriptures* (1974), *Speaking of Theater* (with Bud Buyer, 1975), and *Theater: Preparation and Performance* (with David Grote, 1982). In recognition of her professional accomplishments, Emerson College awarded Lee an honorary doctorate of literature in 1986.

Charlotte Lee died, at the age of 85, in Taos, New Mexico, on February 26, 1995.

For additional information about the Northwestern University School of Speech and the Department of Interpretation, see Lynn Miller Rein, *Northwestern University School of Speech: A History* (Evanston[?]: Northwestern University, 1981).

Description of the Series

The Charlotte I. Lee papers are arranged in two boxes and include mainly biographical materials, correspondence, and publications and lecture materials.

Biographical materials are comprised largely of clippings, press releases, and vitas. Awards and certificates are also included.

The correspondence spans the period 1960-1986, is arranged chronologically, and relates to Lee's academic and professional activities. Correspondence pertaining to Lee's contracts with publishers and her duties as president of the Central States Speech Association are arranged in topical folders. Lee's publication and lecture materials include notes for and drafts of several articles, lectures, and her book *Oral Interpretation* as well as an adaptation for performance of *The Ring and the Book*.

A folder each of course grade records and Northwestern University alumni fund raising records complete the series.

Provenance: The Charlotte I. Lee papers consist of two accessions. Accession #80-175 was separated from the Wallace A. Bacon papers; Accession #86-240 was donated to the University Archives by Charlotte I. Lee on November 17, 1986.

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Restrictions: Course grade records and Northwestern University alumni fund raising records may be used only with permission of the University Archivist.

Processor: Sr. Lorraine Bilodeau, SSA; March 1988.

Separations: Two photographs were transferred to the University Archives' photographic collection. A few extraneous items were discarded.

Note: One videocassette, received as Accession #96-63, has been filed as VC 427 in the University Archives' Audio Collection. The video, titled "Wisconsin Oral Interpretation Workshop, 'In Other Words,'" featuring Charlotte Lee as guest speaker, was recorded in November, 1974.

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Container List

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Dates</u>	
1	1	Biographical Materials	1953-1986	
	2	Honorary Degree, Certificates, and Awards	1952-1986	
	Correspondence			
	3	General Correspondence	1960-1969	
	4	General Correspondence	1970-1982	
	5	General Correspondence	1984-1986, n.d.	
	6	Contracts	1946-1986	
	7	Central States Speech Association	1967-1968	
	8	Course Grade Records	n.d.	
	9	Northwestern University Alumni Fund Raising Records	1984-1986	
Publication and Lecture Materials				
10	Notes and Drafts	n.d.		
2	1	Notes, Drafts, and Reprints	1958, n.d.	
	2	<i>Oral Interpretation</i>	n.d.	
	3	<i>Oral Interpretation</i>	n.d.	
	4	<i>Oral Interpretation</i>	n.d.	
	5	<i>Oral Interpretation</i>	n.d.	
	6	<i>The Ring and the Book</i> , Adaptation	n.d.	