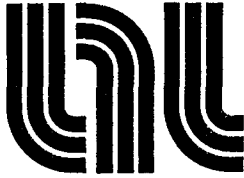


Northwestern
University Library
Evanston,
Illinois 60201

Special Collections



series LXXXIX
2 boxes
Shelved with
Whitman Collection

FANSLER/WHITMAN COLLECTION

Ralph L. Fansler was an alumnus of Northwestern University and a Walt Whitman enthusiast. Besides collecting Whitman material, he researched and wrote a biography of the poet. In the course of this project he became acquainted with Whitman's niece, Jessie L. Whitman. She gave him some of her signed first editions and other Whitman material. Fansler donated his entire collection including books, manuscript of the biography THE PASSWORD PRIMEVAL, notes, and correspondence to Northwestern University in 1942.

The Fansler/Whitman Collection consists of the archival material in Ralph Fansler's collection. Included are the manuscript of his Walt Whitman biography, THE PASSWORD PRIMEVAL, and any notes and correspondence pertaining to it; correspondence with publishing companies in attempts to get it published; correspondence with Jessie L. Whitman and others regarding the poet. Much of this material is addressed to "Garrett Newkirk", a pseudonym Fansler used. Original Walt Whitman correspondence has been cataloged separately. Information about Fansler's donation and acceptance by Northwestern University can be obtained from departmental files.

Box 1

- F. 1 Notebook: Ralph Fansler (Garrett Newkirk) interview with Jessie L. Whitman. 48pp.
Fansler's drafts of correspondence with Miss Whitman, Oct.-Nov., 1939. 19pp.
ALS from Jessie L. Whitman answering questions about Whitman family history, March 6, 1939. 2pp.
- F. 2 Correspondence of Jessie L. Whitman, St. Louis, Missouri, to Ralph Fansler/Garrett Newkirk.
- | | | |
|-----|------------|------------------|
| ALS | 10/26/1939 | 2pp. |
| ALS | 11/6/1939 | 4pp. |
| ALS | 11/14/1939 | 2pp & typed poem |
| ALS | 11/21/1939 | 4pp. |
| ALS | 12/18/1939 | 2pp. |
| ALS | 1/28/1940 | 3pp. |
| ALS | 4/16/1940 | 4pp. |
| ALS | 8/5/1940 | 4pp. |
| ALS | 10/6/1940 | 3pp. |
| ALS | 12/18/1940 | 2pp. |
| ALS | 2/4/1941 | 2pp. |

- F. 2 ALS 2/20/1941 4pp.
ALS 3/4/1941 4pp.
ALS 3/11/1941 1p.
ALS 4/1/1941 4pp.
ALS 6/11/1941 2pp.
ACS Dec. 1941 Christmas card
ALS 4/29/1942 5pp.
ALS 6/21/1942 4pp.
ALS 10/25/1942 4pp.
ANS 12/19/1942 1p.
ACS 12/19/1942 Christmas card
ALS 2/14/1943 3pp.
ALS 3/31/1943 2pp & article on Walt Whitman
ALS 4/9/1943 3pp.
ALS 6/22/1943 2pp.
ALS 11/11/1943 2pp.
Christmas card from Fanslers to Jessie L. Whitman returned "unclaimed" December 18, 1944. Note by Fansler "We lost touch with Miss W. She was 87 then."
- F. 3 Notebook. Ralph Fansler correspondence drafts to Jessie L. Whitman, November 22, 1939-May 3, 1942. 29pp. Miss Whitman's letters to Fansler were originally attached to pages in this notebook.
- F. 4 Correspondence. Martha Lippincott Davis, Walt Whitman House, 330 Mickel Street, Camden, N.J. to Ralph Fansler/Garrett Newkirk.
ALS 2/13/1939 2pp.
ALS 3/17/1939 16pp.
ALS 10/2/1939 64pp.
ALS 10/4/1939 16pp.
ALS 10/8/1939 3pp.
ALS 10/9/1939 25pp.
ALS 1/27/1940 5pp.
ALS 2/20/1940 1p.
ALS 3/3/1940 16pp.
ALS 5/13/1940 2pp.
ALS 5/22/1940 10pp.
ALS 6/5/1940 3pp.
ALS 10/7/1940 5pp.
ALS 5/4/1941 7pp.
ALS 5/27/1941 9pp.
ALS 9/12/1946 5pp.
Notes n.d. 3pp. "from Horace Traubel book on Whitman"
- F. 4A Correspondence. Dr. Clara Barrus to Jessie L. Whitman. March-April, 1930. 4 pp.
Re: Horace Traubel books on Walt Whitman.

- F. 5 Correspondence. Anne M. (Mrs. Horace) Traubel, Germantown, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to Ralph Fansler/Garrett Newkirk.
- | | | | | |
|----|-----|-----------|------|----------------------------|
| | ALS | 3/16/1939 | 2pp. | |
| RF | TLS | 4/7/1939 | 3pp. | Fansler's TLS carbon reply |
| | ALS | 4/11/1939 | 6pp. | |
| | ALS | 5/24/1939 | 3pp. | |
| | ALS | 8/24/1939 | 1p | |
| RF | TLS | 8/27/1939 | 4pp. | Fansler's TLS carbon reply |
| | ALS | 8/28/1939 | 1p. | |
| | ALS | 9/5/1939 | 7pp. | |
| | ALS | 9/8/1939 | 3pp. | |
| | ALS | 9/8/1939 | 1p. | |
| RF | ALS | 9/8/1939 | 1p. | Fansler's ALS draft reply |
| | ALS | 9/18/1939 | 3pp. | |
| RF | TLS | 9/26/1939 | 2pp. | Fansler's TLS carbon reply |
| | ALS | 10/2/1939 | 1p. | |
| | ALS | 11/2/1939 | 1p. | |
| | ALS | 7/8/1940 | 2pp. | |
| | ALS | 8/7/1940 | 1p. | |
- F. 6 Miscellaneous correspondence. 15 letters responding to requests for information about Whitman or his family. 41pp. Map of Bellefontaine Cemetery.
- F. 7 Miscellaneous correspondence. 8 letters responding to requests for copyright information or permission to publish material in THE PASSWORD PRIMEVAL. 24pp.
ALS from Fansler's daughter 10/9/1942 4pp.
ALS from Henry S. Saunders, Toronto, Canada. 8/25/1939 4pp.
Includes typed list of Whitman materials for sale.
- F. 8 Receipts of expenses incurred in conducting research on biography, 1938-1941. Includes expense account log.
- F. 9 Exhibit of Fansler's Whitman Collection in Detroit Public Library in March, 1942. Includes list of materials on display, photographs, and letters about the exhibit.
- F. 10 Northwestern University.
2 TL carbons from Ralph L. Fansler to Franklyn B. Snyder, President, N.U. 9/21 and 9/25/1942 7pp. Re: donation of Whitman collection.
Northwestern University Alumni News, November, 1942
(pages 10-11 highlight Fansler's Collection)
Northwestern University News, v. 1#1, February 15, 1943.
(p. 12 Fansler's donation is mentioned)

FANSLER/WHITMAN
series LXXXIX

- F. 11 Ephemera. Miscellaneous information about Walt Whitman, Whitman scholars, or Whitman exhibits.
- F. 12 Photographic plates of Hannah Whitman, George and Louisa Whitman, and Manahatta and Jessie Whitman. Made from original photographs for Fansler.
- Box 2 *Spec. hps. of Whitman exhibits*
- F. 1 THE PASSWORD PRIMEVAL. Typescript (incomplete), pp. 37-321 and table of contents.
- F. 2 THE PASSWORD PRIMEVAL. Typescript (incom.), pp. i-xix, 1-376, with collation information.
- F. 3 Typescripts. "Section three. Preliminary Drafts of Poems in 'Leaves of Grass'" With corrections. 2 copies
Includes: "First draft of Leaves of Grass"
"Glossary of words, phrases used by Walt Whitman"
"A concordance to the seventy-two leaves of grass"
"Walt Whitman, wound dresser" 44pp.
- F. 4 Fansler's research notes
Spiral notebook, #760-S, 37pp.
Binder, 145pp.
Spiral notebook, #40, 98pp.
Loose notes, 29pp.
Legal pads, 63pp. & 63pp.
- F. 5 Publishing correspondence
Letters regarding Fansler's attempts to publish THE PASSWORD PRIMEVAL (Bobbs-Merrill, E.P. Dutton, Alfred A. Knopf, Viking Press, Covici, Friede, Inc.) 22pp.
- F. 6 Bill of sale of manuscript of THE PASSWORD PRIMEVAL and full rights for royalties to Ada S. Fansler, 1/15/42.