

Lyrl Clark Van Hyning Papers
1881-1982, undated

Creator: Lyrl Clark Van Hyning (1892-1973)
Extent: 10 linear feet (20 boxes)
Languages: English, Spanish
Repository: Women and Leadership Archives, Loyola University Chicago

Administration Information

Access Restrictions: Some materials are restricted until 2034.

Usage Restrictions: Copyright for materials created by Lyrl Clark Van Hyning in this collection has been transferred to the Women and Leadership Archives.

Preferred Citation: Identification of item, date, box #, folder #, Lyrl Clark Van Hyning Papers, Women and Leadership Archives, Loyola University Chicago.

Provenance: Received by the Women and Leadership Archives from the donor on May 15, 2009 (WLA2009.17), May 20, May 26, and May 28, 2009 (WLA2009.21), May 29, 2009 (WLA2009.22), June 1, June 9, and June 18, 2009 (WLA2009.26), June 29, 2009 (WLA2009.30), and October 12, 2009 (WLA2009.39).

Processor: Ashley Eckhardt, September 30, 2009

Separations: Approximately 2 linear feet of photographs, newspaper clippings, three-dimensional artifacts, and other documents were not included in the final collection and were returned to the donor.

See Also: American Medical Association Archives (correspondence regarding the *Women's Voice* anti-polio vaccine campaign); American Jewish Committee Archives; Gallia County Genealogical Society

Biographical History

Mary Lyrl Clark was born on July 23, 1892, to William Howard Clark and Rhoda Ann Walter Clark in Gallia County, Ohio. Lyrl also had three sisters, Frances (Frankie), Faye, and Genevieve (Bunnie). William died when Lyrl was just six years old, leaving Rhoda to raise the children and work the family farm on her own. Rhoda became a house mother at Rio Grande College in Gallipolis, Ohio, not far from the Clark family farm, so that her daughters could attend college. Lyrl graduated from Rio Grande in 1913 as the only woman in her class and the first graduate from the Department of Oratory. While in college, she participated in the Ciceronean Literary Society, the College Ladies' Glee Club, and college theatrical productions as well as serving on the editorial staff for the yearbook. After graduation, Lyrl worked as a teacher in both public schools and Rio Grande College before marrying George Herman Van Hyning on June 17, 1915.

Lyrl and George had three children together: Parrie Ann, Thomas Clark (Tom), and Jorgina (Gina). The family lived in South America for a time as a result of George's job with the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company. When the Van Hynings returned to the United States, they first lived in Galesburg, Illinois, and later settled in Chicago. With the threat of World War II looming, Lyrl began her most ardent anti-war campaigning in Chicago. In February 1941, Lyrl, Lucy Palermo, and Grace Keefe founded We, the Mothers, Mobilize for America, Inc., officially incorporated as an educational, tax-exempt organization. We the Mothers opposed American intervention in World War II. They sought to educate the American public and politicians about the threat to American democracy and the safety of their sons through the country's participation in the war. They protested President Roosevelt, the New Deal, lend-lease, and the war in general. The organization's newsletter, *Women's Voice*, spread their anti-war, anti-Communist, and anti-Semitic rhetoric to readers throughout the country. Lyrl served as editor for this publication, which ran for almost twenty years.

Lyrl's son Tom served during World War II as pilot for the Army Air Corps. As a result of his family's residence in Venezuela and his subsequent fluency in Spanish, Tom was sent to South America after completing his pilot training. He helped develop an Air Corps program in Paraguay and attained the rank of captain by the end of the war. Tom returned to South America after he was discharged from the military, living in Venezuela with his wife Shirley, whom he married in 1952, and his daughter Parrie Theresa. Tom died on May 3, 1955, when his plane crashed on a friend's farm near Ciudad Bolivar, Venezuela.

Lyrl continued to promote her political ideology throughout her entire life, primarily through the publication of *Women's Voice*, but she also gave speeches and wrote articles in other publications. In 1952, Lyrl was indicted and went to trial for libel as a result of her anti-Semitic rhetoric in *Women's Voice*. She was acquitted of the charges on November 10, 1952. In addition to her political activities, Lyrl was also a prominent member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, serving as regent of the Aurora chapter from 1936 until 1938. Lyrl's religious beliefs also impacted her life and writings. Raised a Methodist, she later became a Christian Scientist. She was also involved in the "I AM" Activity, a religious movement founded in the 1930s.

After George died on March 31, 1960, Lyrl moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico, to be near her daughters Parrie Ann and Gina and their families. Later, Shirley and Parrie Theresa joined the rest of the Van Hynings in New Mexico. Lyrl remained in New Mexico until her death as a result of breast cancer on June 9, 1973.

Scope and Content

The Lyrl Clark Van Hyning Papers contain materials related to Lyrl's activities as a political activist through organizations like We, the Mothers, Mobilize for America, Inc. and her publication of *Women's Voice*. This collection also includes many items regarding Lyrl's family, providing a vivid picture of family life in the Van Hyning household. Materials include correspondence, newspaper articles, speeches, handwritten notes, journals, books, photographs, and three-dimensional objects. Some items, particularly certain correspondence and official documents, are in Spanish due to the Van Hynings' numerous activities and residences in South America. The records are arranged alphabetically within each series.

Series 1: Family Records, 1920-1973, 2009, undated, Boxes 1-5

This series contains records relating to Lyrl's family, particularly her children, grandchildren, and sisters. The bulk of the material in this series consists of correspondence, primarily among the family members, between 1927 and Lyrl's death in 1973. Much of this correspondence occurred during World War II when Tom was serving as an Army Air Corps pilot and later moved to Venezuela. Other items in this series include Tom's military and personal records, the family's travel records to South America from 1929 to 1930, and various newspaper articles and other documents related to other members of Lyrl's family.

Series 2: Professional Records, 1913-1973, undated, Boxes 5-6

Materials in this series relate to Lyrl's professional activities, including her participation in the Daughters of the American Revolution and We, the Mothers, Mobilize for America, Inc., as well as her editorship of the newsletter *Women's Voice*. Documents and newspaper articles regarding Lyrl's political and religious views are also included in this series as well as items related to her trial for libel in 1952. Materials in this series include articles, correspondence, newsletters, brochures, speeches, and handwritten notes.

Series 3: Photographs, 1892-1982, undated, Boxes 6-8

This series contains photographs of Lyrl's family, including her husband, children, and grandchildren. Also included are photographs of the farm Lyrl grew up on in Ohio and photographs from her childhood that include her parents and sisters. A scrapbook compiled by Lyrl when she was a young adult and Tom's baby book are also part of this series.

Series 4: Journals, 1907-1973, undated, Boxes 9-12

Lyrl's handwritten journals comprise this series. The journals span from 1907 until her death in 1973. Also included are typewritten transcriptions of some of the journals between 1907 and 1955.

Series 5: Books, 1881-1969, undated, Boxes 13-16

This series contains books from Lyrl's library, covering topics from religion to politics to poetry. Most of the books discuss Christian Science and the "I AM" Activity, while many of the others reflect Lyrl's political views.

Series 6: Three-Dimensional Objects, 1940-1978, undated, Boxes 17-19

Three-dimensional objects from Lyrl's life comprise this series, including her sweater, pins, watch face, lace banquet cloth, engraved silverware, a painting of her home in New Mexico, and two framed photographs of the Clark farm in Ohio. Also included in this series are Tom's flying scarf and a Chicago Adventurers' Club banner given to him in 1954.

Series 7: Restricted Material, Box 20

These materials are restricted until 2034.

Subjects:

Antisemitism

Antisemitism--United States

Women and Leadership Archives
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Antisemitism--United States--Societies, etc.
Christian Science--Doctrines
Christian Scientists
Conservative women
I AM Religious Activity
Mothers' movement
Lyrl Clark Van Hyning (1892-1973)
We, the Mothers, Mobilize for America, Inc.
Women and politics
Women's Voice
World War II

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<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Dates</u>
		<i>Lyrl Clark Van Hyning Papers 1881-1982, undated</i>	
		Series 1: Family Records, 1920-1973, 2009, undated	
1	1	Correspondence	1927-1941, undated
1	2	Correspondence	January-June 1942
1	3	Correspondence	July-December 1942
1	4	Correspondence	January-June 1943
1	5	Correspondence	July-December 1943
1	6	Correspondence	1944
2	1	Correspondence	1945
2	2	Correspondence	1946
2	3	Correspondence	1947-1948
2	4	Correspondence	1949-1951
2	5	Correspondence	1952
2	6	Correspondence	1953-1954
3	1	Correspondence	1955-1956
3	2	Correspondence	1957-1961
3	3	Correspondence	1962-1965
3	4	Correspondence	1966-1973
3	5	<i>El Sol</i>	1971
3	6	Miscellaneous Family Records	1936-1964, undated
4	1	Newspaper Articles	1965, undated
4	2	Parrie Ann Van Hyning Shortle	1920-1975, undated
4	3	Tom Van Hyning: Congressional Run	1946
4	4	Tom Van Hyning: Diaries	1943, undated
4	5	Tom Van Hyning: Expense Account	1946
4	6	Tom Van Hyning: Pedigree Chart	2009
4	7	Tom Van Hyning: Personal Records	1920-1939
4	8	Tom Van Hyning: Personal Records	1941-1944
4	9	Tom Van Hyning: Personal Records	1945-1947
5	1	Tom Van Hyning: Personal Records	1949-1955
5	2	Unattributed Poetry	1970, undated
5	3	Van Hyning Family Venezuelan Documents	1929-1930

Women and Leadership Archives
Loyola University Chicago

Series 2: Professional Records, 1913-1973, undated			
5	4	Articles about Lyrl	1942-1973
5	5	Brochures and Stationery	undated
5	6	Daughters of the American Revolution	1928-1960, undated
5	7	Libel Trial	1952
5	8	Political Views: Documents	1933-1972, undated
5	9	Political Views: Newspaper Articles	1925-1967, undated
5	10	Religious Views	1914-1951, undated
5	11	Rio Grande College Materials	1913-1917
5	12	South America	1929-1958, undated
5	13	Speeches and Notes	1920-1942, undated
6	1	We, the Mothers, Mobilize for America, Inc.	1941-1945, undated
6	2	<i>Women's Voice</i>	1944-1960, undated
6	3	<i>Women's Voice</i> Correspondence	1947-1967
Series 3: Photographs, 1892-1982, undated			
6	4	Clark Family	1906-1968, undated
6	5	George H. Van Hyning	1892-1960, undated
6	6	Leila "Aleita" Albert Van Hyning	1935-1945
6	7	Lyrl and George Van Hyning	1913-1915, undated
6	8	Lyrl and George Van Hyning Family	1919-1971, undated
6	9	Lyrl and George Van Hyning's Homes	Undated
6	10	Lyrl Clark Van Hyning	1892-1970, undated
7	1	Parrie Ann Van Hyning Shortle	1918-1940, undated
7	2	Parrie Ann and Samuel Shortle Family	1948, undated
7	3	Parrie Theresa Van Hyning	1953-1969, undated
7	4	Shirley Barger Van Hyning Stahmann	1940-1957, undated
7	5	Tom Van Hyning	1919-1982, undated
7	6	Tom and Shirley Van Hyning Family	Undated
7	7	Van Hyning Family	1898-1964, undated
7	8	Venezuela	1950-1952, undated
7	9	<i>Women's Voice</i> Staff	undated
8	1	Lyrl's Scrapbook	undated
8	2	Lyrl's Scrapbook: Loose Photos	undated
8	3	Lyrl's Scrapbook: Loose Materials	1915-1916, undated
8	4	Tom's Baby Book	1919
8	5	Tom's Baby Book: Loose Photos	undated
8	6	Tom's Baby Book: Loose Materials	1919-1924, undated

Women and Leadership Archives
Loyola University Chicago

Series 4: Journals, 1907-1973, undated			
9	1	Lyrl's Journal: undated	undated
9	2	Lyrl's Journal: 1907-1918, 1915, 1937, 1967	1907-1967
9	3	Lyrl's Journal: 1913-1915	1913-1915
9	4	Lyrl's Journal: 1920	1920
9	5	Lyrl's Journal: 1934-1938	1934-1938
9	6	Lyrl's Journal: 1935-1936	1935-1936
9	7	Lyrl's Journal: 1936-1938, 1959	1936-1938, 1959
9	8	Lyrl's Journal: 1937	1937
9	9	Lyrl's Journal: 1938-1940	1938-1940
9	10	Lyrl's Journal: 1939-1941	1939-1941
10	1	Transcriptions of Lyrl's Journals	1907-1955
10	2	Lyrl's Journal: 1945, 1961	1945, 1961
10	3	Lyrl's Journal: 1945, 1961-1965	1945, 1961-1965
10	4	Lyrl's Journal: 1952-1955	1952-1955
10	5	Lyrl's Journal: 1955	1955
10	6	Lyrl's Journal: 1960	1960
10	7	Lyrl's Journal: 1963	1963
10	8	Lyrl's Journal: 1964, 1971	1964, 1971
11	1	Lyrl's Journal: 1964-1969	1964-1969
11	2	Lyrl's Journal: 1965-1967	1965-1967
11	3	Lyrl's Journal: 1966-1968	1966-1968
12	1	Lyrl's Journal: 1967-1969	1967-1969
12	2	Lyrl's Journal: 1970-1973	1970-1973
Series 5: Books, 1881-1969, undated			
13	1	<i>Christian Science and Organized Religion</i> , Hugh A. Studdert Kennedy	1930
13	2	<i>The Constitution Explained</i> , 2 nd ed., Harry Atwood	1962
13	3	<i>The Disappearance</i> , Philip Wylie	1951
13	4	<i>English Poems</i> , ed. Walter C. Bronson	1907
13	5	<i>Ex America</i> , Garet Garrett	1951
13	6	<i>A Fair Barbarian</i> , Frances Hodgson Burnett	1881
13	7	<i>Holy Bible</i>	undated
13	8	<i>"I AM" Ascended Master Forgiveness and Mercy Decrees</i>	1950
13	9	<i>"I AM" Decrees for America's Freedom</i>	1941
13	10	<i>"I AM" Decrees for Violet Consuming Flame – Part II</i>	1947

Women and Leadership Archives
Loyola University Chicago

14	1	<i>"I AM" Decrees for Violet Consuming Flame – Part I</i>	1941
14	2	<i>"I AM" Decrees for Violet Consuming Flame – Part II</i>	1947
14	3	<i>"I AM" Decrees for Violet Consuming Flame – Part III</i>	1952
14	4	<i>The "I AM" Discourses</i> , 3 rd ed., Godfré Ray King	1945
14	5	<i>"I AM" The Law Decrees – Part I</i>	1951
14	6	<i>"I AM" The Law Decrees – Part I</i>	1951
14	7	<i>"I AM" Violet Flames Series II</i>	1965
14	8	<i>The Iliad of Homer</i> , trans. Alexander Pope	1919
14	9	<i>I Say Sunrise</i> , Talbot Mundy	1974
14	10	<i>The Law of Liberty</i> , L. Fry	1963
14	11	<i>Law of Life: Book II</i> , A. D. K. Luk	1960
14	12	<i>Let the Hurricane Roar</i> , Rose Wilder Lane	1948
14	13	<i>Life and Teaching of Jesus and Mary</i> , A. D. K. Luk	1966
14	14	<i>The Life Everlasting</i> , Marie Corelli	1911
14	15	<i>The Master Christian</i> , Marie Corelli	1900
15	1	<i>The Mountain on the Desert: A Philosophical Journey</i> , Conrad Richter	1966
15	2	<i>New Horizons: Beyond the World</i> , Frank Bowman	1969
15	3	<i>The Odyssey of Homer</i> , trans. Alexander Pope	1911
15	4	<i>Old Ugly-Face</i> , Talbot Mundy	1950
15	5	<i>One Hundred and One Famous Poems</i> , revised ed., Roy J. Cook	1958
15	6	<i>Our Messenger's "I AM" Speaks</i>	1941
15	7	<i>Pentecostal Hymns: Number Three</i> , Henry Date	1902
15	8	<i>The Prophet</i> , Kahlil Gibran	1945
15	9	<i>Quiet Talks with the Master</i> , Eva Bell Werber	1947
15	10	<i>The Revelation to John</i> , Aylmer Firebrace,	1963
15	11	<i>A Royal Diadem</i> , Walter C. Lanyon	1921
15	12	<i>Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures</i> , Mary Baker Eddy	1934
15	13	<i>Scriptural Healing Arranged from the Bible</i> , Helen L. Young	1907
16	1	<i>Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures</i> , Mary Baker Eddy	1934
16	2	<i>The Voice of the "I AM,"</i> no. 3, May 1936	1936
16	3	<i>The Voice of the "I AM,"</i> no. 3, May 1936	1936
16	4	<i>The Voice of the "I AM,"</i> no. 6, August 1937	1937
16	5	<i>The Voice of the "I AM,"</i> no. 10, December 1937	1937
16	6	<i>The Voice of the "I AM,"</i> no. 6, August 1939	1939
16	7	<i>The Voice of the "I AM,"</i> no. 10, December 1941	1941
16	8	<i>The Voice of the "I AM,"</i> no. 3, March 1945	1945
16	9	<i>The Voice of the "I AM,"</i> no. 5, May 1945	1945

Women and Leadership Archives
Loyola University Chicago

16	10	<i>The Voice of the "I AM,"</i> no. 5, May 1945	1945
16	11	<i>The Voice of the "I AM,"</i> no. 8, August 1947	1947
16	12	<i>The Voice of the "I AM,"</i> no. 9, September 1947	1947
16	13	<i>The Voice of the "I AM,"</i> no. 1, January 1948	1948
16	14	<i>The Voice of the "I AM,"</i> no. 12, December 1948	1948
16	15	<i>The Voice of the "I AM,"</i> no. 8, August 1950	1950
16	16	<i>The Voice of the "I AM,"</i> no. 4, April 1951	1951
16	17	<i>The Voice of the Silence</i> , H. P. Blavatsky	1946
16	18	<i>War—What For?</i> , 10 th ed., George R. Kirkpatrick	1914
		Series 6: Three-Dimensional Objects, 1940-1978, undated	
17	1	Sweater	undated
18	1	Pins and watch face	undated
18	2	Engraved silver knife and fork set	undated
18	3	Lace banquet cloth	1940s
18	4	Tom's flying scarf	undated
18	5	Tom's Chicago Adventurers' Club banner	1954
19	1	Framed photos of Lyrl on the Clark farm	undated
19	2	Painting of Lyrl's home in New Mexico	1978
		Series 7: Restricted Material	
20		Restricted Material	