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Ada Fernald Rees Collection : A Collection Guide

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Ada Fernald Rees (1877 - 1969)

Hope L. Black

Marta L. Jones

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The Ada Fernald Rees Collection

A Collection Guide by
Hope Black and Marta L. Jones
Special Collections Assistants
Spring 2011

Special Collections and Archives
Nelson Poynter Memorial Library
University of South Florida St. Petersburg

Introduction to the Collection

This small collection consists of correspondence and various other ephemera related to Ada Fernald Rees's association with the Pinellas County Federation of Women's Clubs. This specific organization no longer exists as of this date, but at the time it was connected to the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs, as well as the General Federation of Women's Clubs. Although Ada lived in Tarpon Springs, it is evident from the correspondence that she was in regular contact with the St. Petersburg Woman's Club. During her time with the club, Ada served as vice president, and also president of the county organization. Ms. Rees served as the first treasurer of the Pinellas County League of Women Voters when that organization was established in January 1922. She also served as a commissioner in the Pinellas County Board of Public Instruction representing the Tarpon Springs (northern county) district from 1923 through 1928 and was the only female member of the Pinellas school board at that time. She was the second female to serve of the Pinellas board.

Ada Fernald Rees came to Tarpon Springs, Florida, with her husband George F. Fernald in 1898. Originally from Ohio, she was born Ada May Champlin in June of 1877. After, George F. Fernald died Jan. 3, 1909, Ada eventually remarried on June 10, 1925; her second husband was William Gwilym Rees, who also preceded her in death on April 26, 1943. The 1945 Florida State Population Census lists Ada's residence as St. Petersburg, FL, and her occupation as "practical nurse". On Jan. 13, 1969, Ada Fernald Rees passed away and was buried in Cycadia Cemetery, in Tarpon Springs.

Scope and Contents

One box holds all of the materials in this collection, and it presently occupies approximately 0.25 linear feet of space.

Preservation Note

Collection items have been placed in acid free folders, and copies have been made of the majority of the originals, the exception being the booklets and pamphlets, whose numerous pages make this impractical.

Provenance of the Ada Fernald Rees Collection

This collection falls under the Local and Regional History provenance of the Special Collections and Archives department, Nelson Poynter Memorial Library, USF St. Petersburg.

Container Listing

Box 1 -

Folder 1, Pinellas County Federation of Women's Clubs, 1925-1927, Correspondence, (originals)

Folder 2, Pinellas County Federation of Women's Clubs, 1925-1927, Correspondence, (copies)

Folder 3, Pinellas County Federation of Women's Clubs, 1925-1927, Misc. lists, meeting notes and minutes, telegram, (originals)

Folder 4, Pinellas County Federation of Women's Clubs, 1925-1927, Misc. lists, meeting notes and minutes, telegram, (copies)

Folder 5, Pinellas County Federation of Women's Clubs, 1925-1927, Clippings, greeting cards, poetry, (originals)

Folder 6, Pinellas County Federation of Women's Clubs, 1925-1927, Clippings, greeting cards, poetry, (copies)

Folder 7, Pinellas County Federation of Women's Clubs, 1925-1927, The Florida Clubwoman, The Woman Citizen, (originals)