

MG 1

ADA LOUISE SILVER POWERS FONDS

Main entry: Powers, Ada Louise Silver (1859-1942)

Title: Papers: 1916-1939.

Date(s): 1992

Extent: 1 roll; 35 mm microfilm; positive  
1 roll; 35 mm microfilm; negative

Copy/repository: Originals are held by Mrs Marion Powers Pyke, Lunenburg, Nova Scotia.

Scope and content: Microfilm copy of five diaries and miscellaneous loose papers, 1916-[1939] and letters written to her step-granddaughter Flora, 1920, by Ada Powers mostly concerning Women's Christian Temperance Union and family matters.

Biographical/historical sketch: Ada Louisa Silver was born on 22 October 1859 in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia, the daughter of Charles Silver (1833-1913) and Louisa Gerhardt Silver (1836-1908). She attended Pictou Academy ca. 1876 for teacher's training and then taught school in the Lunenburg area. In 1885, she married Frank Powers (1853-1911), son of Peter and Elizabeth Thomson Powers of Halifax by whom she bore three children - Archibald Forbes, Frank and William T.. She also cared for Flora, a grandchild to Frank Sr. from an earlier marriage to Emma Sophia Morash (1855-1883) following the death of Flora's mother. Throughout her life Ada Powers was actively involved in education, temperance, missionary and social service work. In 1922, she became the first woman to be appointed to the Lunenburg School Board. She was president of the Lunenburg Women's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) for 50 years and held offices of recording secretary, president, and corresponding secretary of the Nova Scotia WCTU. She represented Nova Scotia at World WCTU conferences in Stockholm, London (England), Vancouver, Ottawa, Winnipeg and Toronto and was superintendent on the national executive of WCTU work with sailors, fisherman and light house keepers until the time of her death. Mrs Powers was a staunch Presbyterian but voted for Church Union and served as an officer of the Lunenburg Presbyterial of the United Church. She died in Lunenburg on 29 April 1942. (Sources: Ada Powers fonds; Lunenburg County Marriage License 1885 #1121; Cemetery Inscriptions for Lunenburg and Queens Counties, vol 2 (South Shore Genealogical Society: 1982); Lunenburg Progress Enterprise, 29 April 1942; Marion Powers Pyke, personal communication)

Restrictions on access: None

J  
MG 1

ADA LOUISE SILVER POWERS FONDS

Terms governing use or reproduction: Photocopies are permitted for personal research purposes.

Finding aid: Item level content list

Accession number: PANS 1992-74

Reference code: PANS mfm 541

rvb/1992

MG 1  
MFM 541

ADA LOUISE SILVER POWERS FONDS

Reference

Description

---

mfm 541

1. Notes by Ada Powers of [Women's Institute meeting, Bridgetown, June 1916], recipes, and diary describing mainly the proceedings of the WCTU National Convention held in Regina, 22-25 June 1916, and her return trip to Bridgetown via Washington, British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, and New Brunswick, 14 June 1916-[2] August 1916. (71 pages, pencil and ink). Loose papers include illustrated brochures for Hotel Dunsmuir and Hotel Lotus, Vancouver, and Hotel Georgian, Seattle, Washington ca 1916.

2. Diary of Ada Powers of World's WCTU Convention, London, 19-23 April 1920 and her travels in Great Britain and on the continent, 3 April 1920-19 June 1920. (59 pages, pencil and ink) Her travels included outbound voyage from Saint John to Liverpool, England, aboard SS Melita, England, Wales, Scotland, Belgium, France, Luxembourg, Switzerland, the Isle of Wight and return voyage aboard SS Finland. A detailed itinerary will be found on the inside front fly leaf.

Loose papers include four letters from Ada Powers to her step-grand-daughter, Flora, April-May 1920, from Neston, England, Bettws-y-Coed, Wales, and London, England; a copy of East and West: a paper for young Canadians (Toronto) 29 Oct. 1921; picture post cards of Holyhead, Saint Bernard dogs and a view of Mont Blanc from Geneva; trilingual (English, French, German) "Short description for a visit to the glacier garden, Lucerne"; acknowledgement for clothing donated to the Halifax Infants Home, 3 April 1922.

3. Draft notes and report of proceedings of the World's WCTU Convention, London, England, 19-23 April 1920. (169 pages, ink)  
Loose papers include program, 22 April 1920, tour agenda and notes concerning side trips around Great Britain.

4. Daily personal diary of Ada Powers, 1 January 1927-31 December 1931.  
/continued

MG 1  
MFM 541

ADA LOUISE SILVER POWERS FONDS

Reference

Description

---

mfm 541

5. Notes taken by Ada Powers at executive committee meeting of the Canadian WCTU, 13 June 19[39], and at Canadian National WCTU convention held at Ottawa, 14-16 June 19[39]. (31 pages, pencil)

(accession PANS 1992-74)

rvb/1992