OHA 353
Vogel Collection

Date of Records: 1919 – 1981

Size: 5.5 cubic feet

Finding Aid by: Eric W. Boyle (2012)

Access and Use: The Otis Historical Archives is committed to providing open access to its collections as far as possible within the limits of privacy and confidentiality. Some of the records in the Vogel Collection contain restricted material. Access to this collection is at the discretion of the Otis Historical Archives and material contained within the records may be subject to review before access is granted.

Biographical Note: Emma E. Vogel was born in Mankato, Minnesota. She graduated from State Teacher’s College in 1908 and received a degree in physical therapy training from Reed College in 1918. Vogel’s Army career began in 1919 when she was appointed a physical therapist at Army General Hospital No. 24 near Pittsburgh, PA. After World War I, she helped organize the first postwar training course in the country for physical therapists, at Walter Reed Army Hospital, one of the first courses of its type to receive professional recognition from the American Medical Association. In 1942, Vogel was transferred to the Office of the Surgeon General of the Army. She was awarded the Legion of Merit for effectively organizing the Physical Therapist Branch and for formulating politics and plans to ensure the highest standards for treatment of the sick and wounded. She became the first military director of physical therapists to reach the rank of major in 1943. As the first chief of the Women’s Medical Specialists Corps, Vogel headed what was formerly three separate groups in the Army Medical Service—dietitians, physical therapists, and occupational therapists and was promoted to the rank of Colonel in 1947. She also became a charter member of the American Physical Therapy Association. Upon her retirement in 1951, Major General Norman T. Kirk, retired, former Surgeon General, stated: “No woman, either as a civilian employee of the Medical Department, or a commissioned officer in one of its corps, has made the contribution to the Medical Department that you have made.”

Series/Scope and Content Note: The series in this collection are divided by main subject and document type. The wide range of materials are from the personal collection of Col. Emma E. Vogel, and include scrapbooks, personal and professional histories, and records of the AMSC; articles, manuals, reports, and photographs related to physical therapy; along with biographical information, personal documents, personal photographs, and the writings of Vogel on a variety of topics.
SERIES 001: BIOGRAPHICAL DATA AND CORRESPONDENCE

This series includes miscellaneous biographical documents from the Museum and other branches of the Department of the Army, outside sources including Who’s Who of American Women, and clippings from a number of sources. Some correspondence related to legislative history of events leading to the formation of the Women’s Medical Specialist Corps is also included. Vogel maintained an active correspondence record with the Museum over a period of several years as she worked on her own historical publications too. Additional topics in this series, along with related correspondence, include the anniversary of the Army Medical Service Corps, Vogel’s retirement, and various speeches she delivered throughout her career.

SERIES 002: PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS

This series includes reports from physical therapy treatment during World War I and II, along with articles on the history of physical therapists in the Army throughout this period. A number of other articles and pamphlets on related topics, including those authored by Vogel and others, comprise the bulk of the series. Two books, An Outline of Anatomy and Physical Therapists of the Medical Department are also included.

SERIES 003: PHOTOGRAPHS, AWARDS, AND CERTIFICATES

This series includes hundreds of photographs documenting the history of physical therapists and treatments from WWI to WWII. Portraits of Vogel and several of her close friends and colleagues are also included. Photos that appear to have been separated from a scrapbook document Vogel’s private and professional life from 1919-1910. Additionally, a number of awards and certificates round out the series.

SERIES 004: SCRAPBOOKS

Scrapbook I is a photographic essay compiled by Vogel to document the period from 1919-ca. 1941 in the field of physical therapy in the Army. Scrapbook II and a folder of supplemental materials in Box 005 include photographs, clippings and correspondence from 1942-1968, covering Vogel’s career and retirement, along with the work and accomplishments of other physical therapists and colleagues in the Army Medical Department during that same period.

SERIES 005: PERSONAL ADDRESSES

These two small boxes include several hundred 3 x 5 personal address cards. They are believed to be students who worked or trained under Col. Vogel.

- SERIES 001: BIOGRAPHICAL DATA AND CORRESPONDENCE .................................................. 3
- SERIES 002: PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS ................................................................. 3
- SERIES 003: PHOTOGRAPHS, AWARDS, AND CERTIFICATES .................................. 3
- SERIES 004: SCRAPBOOKS AND ANNUALS ................................................................. 4
- SERIES 005: PERSONAL ADDRESSES ........................................................................ 4
BOX AND CONTENT LIST

SERIES 001: BIOGRAPHICAL DATA AND CORRESPONDENCE

Box 001:

00001: Original Description/Finding Aid for Emma Vogel Collection
00002: Biographical Data
00003: Legislative Material, Public Law #828, 36 and 514
00004: Correspondence With Museum
00005: Army Medical Service Corps Anniversary
00006: Retirement and Related Letters
00007: Speeches—Notes, Graduation
00008: Speeches—Notes, Misc.

SERIES 002: PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS

Box 002:

00001: Reports: PT Activity in Europe and Mediterranean in WWII
00002: Charts and Graphs: WWII Physical Therapy
00003: Manual: Physical Therapy for Lower-Extremity Amputees
00004: Pamphlets: PT Treatment for Patients
00005: Articles: Army Physical Therapists
00006: Article: Physical Therapists from WWI to WWII
00007: Article: History of Women’s Medical Specialist Corps
00008: Pamphlets and Misc. Articles
00009: Articles: Walter Reed
00010: Book: An Outline of Anatomy
00011: Physical Therapists of the Medical Department

SERIES 003: PHOTOGRAPHS, AWARDS, AND CERTIFICATES

Box 003:

00001: Photographs—WWI Treatment/Apparatus
00002: Photographs—WWI Chest Cripples
00003: Photographs—Vogel, Nurse Aides, Physiotherapy Scrapbook (1919-20) [1 of 2]
00004: Photographs—Vogel, Nurse Aides, Physiotherapy Scrapbook (1919-20) [2 of 2]
00005: Scrapbook Material—Missing and Misc.
00006: Photographs of Friends of Vogel
00007: Photographs—Events Post WWI to WWII
00008: Photographs—Various Events from Vogel’s Life (1945-72)
00009: Awards, Memberships, Oath of Office
00010: Honorary Memberships, Clippings and Letters

**Box 004:**

00001: Desk Marker
00002: Certificate of Retirement as Colonel (Dec. 1951)
00003: Promotion to Major Certificate (Oct. 1947)
00004: Certificate of Retirement (Jan 1952)
00005: Retirement Certificates (1951)
00006: Photograph with Lovett, McDaniel, Snyder and Lee (1958)
00007: Photograph of Robinson and Harr
00008: Photographs Misc.
00009: Photos of Vogel, Portraits
00010: Phonograph Record: “The Battle of Emma Vogel”

**SERIES 004: SCRAPBOOKS AND ANNUALS**

**Box 005:**

00001: The Army School of Nursing Annual (1921)
00002: Scrapbook I—The Early Years to World War II

**Box 006:**

00001: Scrapbook—Post-World War II

**SERIES 005: PERSONAL ADDRESSES**

**Box 007:** Personal Addresses (A-K)
**Box 008:** Personal Addresses (L-Z)