



National Museum of Health and Medicine

Otis Historical Archives

OHA 141.3 Coyle Collection

Accession Number: 2011.0050

Date of Records: ca. 1920s

Size: 1 box

Finding Aid by: Eric W. Boyle (2012)

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Biographical Note: Emily “Ione” de France (1898-1987) and Raymond Frances Coyle (1895-1935) met at Water Reed General Hospital (WRGH), where she was a nurse in training and he was a marine who had been injured during World War I. They married in Philadelphia, shortly after she finished her nursing education, and then moved to the Los Angeles area in California.

Series/Scope and Content Note: This collection consists of two leather-bound scrapbooks with material primarily from the time the couple spent at WRGH. The subject of nursing education is the primary focal point but additional subjects of interest include coverage of WRGH in the news such as the high profile case of President Calvin Coolidge’s son and the effort to obtain benefits for veterans.

BOX AND CONTENT LIST

The first scrapbook, embossed “RFC” on the cover, primarily contains photographs with some ephemera, from time spent at WRGH. Approximately half of the photos are unlabeled.

Labeled photographs include:

- Walter Reed General Hospital (WRGH) Operating Room (ca. 1921)
- Atlantic City, NJ (photo with injured veterans—7/13/21)
- WRGH Ward (12/29/22)
- WRGH Medinah Temple Band (6/6/23)
- WRGH Nurses in Classroom (2/5/23)



- The Johns Hopkins Clinic at WRGH (4/21/23)
- WRGH Ward Bed with Injured Raymond Coyle (3/1/23)
- Student Physical Therapists (n.d.)
- Pres. Harding Lies in State (n.d.)
- WRGH Graduating Nursing Class (5/7/23)
- WRGH Physical Therapy Room with Looms (3/1/23)
- Pres. Harding's Funeral (n.d.—6 photos)
- Col. Glennan (n.d.)
- Pres. And Mrs. Coolidge (n.d.)
- Mrs. Coolidge, Col. Glennan and Mrs. Rodgers (Congresswoman from Mass.—n.d.)
- Col. Glennan and Prince of Wales at Walter Reed (with injured soldiers, n.d.)
- Formal Gardens, Walter Reed (n.d.)
- Raymond Coyle and Mrs. Coolidge (n.d.)
- WRGH Ward 59 with Raymond Coyle in bed (3/17/24)
- WRGH Ward 59 Balcony (3/17/24)
- Signed portraits from Col. Glennan and Illegible Officer (n.d.)
- "When Bill for Veteran's Compensation passed by Congress) (n.d.—Raymond Coyle identified)

Unlabeled photographs include:

- Raymond Coyle in wheelchair with what may be future Mrs. Coyle (3 photos)
- Children's Ball
- Raymond Coyle in Suit on Crutches
- WRGH Campus Photos
- Congressional Session
- Group Photos at WRGH (4)
- Group of Injured Soldiers with Raymond Coyle Identified
- Misc. Personal Photos of Mr. and Mrs. Coyle (6)
- Raymond Coyle Leaving Hospital on Stretcher
- "A Merry Christmas from the Dugout Gang"

Ephemera includes:

- WERGH Field Stand Plans
- House of Representatives Member's Pass (12/3/23)
- WRGH Season Pass for Washington American League Baseball Club (12/27/23)
- Photo from *Washington Post* (8/5/23): The Late President as Host to War Maimed, One of His Chief Concerns
- Clipping with Photograph and caption: "President and Mrs. Coolidge leaving the Walter Reed hospital in Washington on the morning of July 7 after spending the night at their son's bedside. Calvin Jr. died in the evening of the same day." (photograph from Pacific and Atlantic)
- Clippings of Pres. and Mrs. Coolidge



- Article from House Hearing featuring Coyle and Carl Bronner on WWI Veterans
- Pullman Company Passenger Ticket Stubs
- Seattle National Bank Check for 50 cents
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The second scrapbook, embossed with a medical insignia and the year “1924” on the cover, primarily contains photographs with some ephemera, from time spent at WRGH. Almost all of the photos are unlabeled, but can be divided roughly into the following categories:

- Grounds at WRGH and Aerial Photographs (approximately 35 photos)
- Ceremonies, Visits, Meetings, Celebrations at WRGH (approximately 10 photos)
- Portraits (approximately 120 photos—lone and Raymond identified in some)
- Nursing Instruction and Graduations (11 photos)
- Photographs of Washington DC (15 photos)
- Other Nursing Facilities in Philadelphia (18 photos)
- Photographs of Philadelphia (25 photos)

Labeled Photographs Include:

- WRGH Ward Photographs (12/29/22; 3/17/24)
- WRGH Patient Elders (7/5/23)
- Nurses with Colonel (5/7/23)
- Main Operating Room at WRGH (10/24/2?)
- WRGH Treatment Room for Eye Wounds (10/24/2?)

Ephemera includes:

- Pullman Company Ticket Stubs
- Invitation to Watermelon Party in honor of lone de France
- Philadelphia General Hospital Training School for Nurses Material
- Clipping: “The Well-Trained Nurse,” by W.E. Hill (1924) *The Sunday Star*, Washington D.C.
- Misc. Clippings
- Material from the Henry Street Settlement Nursing Service in NYC
- Clippings Related to Lillian Wald, Founder of Henry Street Settlement
- Portrait (Mrs. Coyle?—4/19/27)
- Graduating Class at St. Elizabeth’s (n.d.)
- U.S. Army Recruiting Bulletin (11/15/23)
- Army School of Nursing Course of Study (1921-22)
- Clinical Record Forms
- “The Storm” —Washington DC (1/27-28/22)
- WRGH Postcards
- Pamphlet: “The Post Schools and Shops”



- Thanksgiving Nurses Mess No. 4 Menu (1921)
- WRGH Merry Christmas (1921)
- Misc. Invitations and Programs
- Commencement Exercises Program (1923)
- Leave of Absence Request
- Misc. Clippings Related to WRGH in the News (1923-1924)
- Army School of Nursing Poster (1921)