



GOUCHER COLLEGE

**SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES**  
**Goucher College Class of 1903 Round Robin Letters**  
**An Inventory**

- Creator:** Goucher College Class of 1903  
**Title:** Goucher College Class of 1903 Round Robin Letters  
**Dates:** 1907-1938  
**Abstract:** Letters, photographs and newspaper clippings document the lives of the Goucher College class of 1903 as they wrote letters in a “round robin” fashion. Forty-six women wrote letters, sending them in a circle, creating volumes of historic information. Letters provide insight into the lives of women in the early twentieth century, including careers, family life, World War I, suffrage and general life after graduating from college.  
**Extent:** 1 container, 0.5 linear feet  
**Language:** English  
**Repository:** Goucher College Library  
**Call #:** MS 0002

**Biographical Sketch**

In 1907, the Goucher College graduating class of 1903 began writing letters and continued for almost fifty years. In order to save time and keep in contact with all of the women involved, they used a system in which the letters were sent collectively in a circle. The 46 women participating in this round robin were divided into seven geographical groups and appointed a leader for each one. Each circle, which are divided into volumes, began and ended with Alice Dunning Flick. Flick would write a letter and send it to the next recipient who would also write a letter and send both hers and Flick’s letter to the next recipient, and so on. Each woman involved was able to read all of the letters before writing her own.

The first three volumes are now missing, but the subsequent volumes housed in the Goucher College Library document the lives of 37 women between the years 1919 and

1938. The letters discuss a variety of important issues, including suffrage, war, the depression, family life and more.

## **Scope and Contents**

Goucher Class of 1903 Round Robin Letters (1919-1938) cover a wide variety of topics, including family life, war and war efforts, suffrage, and travel. The letters remain in original chronological order.

## **Restrictions**

Access to the physical collection requires permission of the Goucher College Special Collections Librarian. Reference copies are available for use. Transcriptions of letters are available online at <http://meyerhoff.goucher.edu/library/robin/>

## **Index Terms**

### **People**

Bailey, Lyda Norris  
Bankard, Florence Carmine  
Beavers, Mary J.  
Bielaski, Milly D. B.  
Channell, Hattie Taylor  
Davenport, Helen Vandling  
Doetsch, Emilie  
Doherty, Helen Frances  
Enochs, Martha  
Fehr, Carrie Louise  
Flick, Alice Dunning  
Frost, Eda Briggs  
Hand, Clara Robinson  
Haslup, Ruth  
Hyde, Jane A.  
Jones, Charlotte Abbott  
Larrick, Nancy Nulton  
Magee, Lottie Pearl  
Matthews, Daisy Murphy  
Merry, Luella Eakins  
Miller, Louise David Lawrence

Mohr, Helen Hendrix  
Oglesky, Nina Caspari  
Parker, Mabel Day  
Pennegar, Olive Frances Mast  
Pringle, Edith Powell  
Rees, Thyra Crawford  
Reynolds, Mary Taylor  
Ricaud, Letitia Everett  
Scully, Rosalie Pendleton  
Shields, Nancy Catching  
Slease, Anna M.  
Soper, Alice Belt  
Taylor, Margaret Hukill  
Trosh, Arinda Philp  
Verner, E.H.  
Verner, Mary Taylor Abercrombie  
Vliet, Claire Ackerman  
Walker, Mollie Cullom

### **Organizations**

American Association of University Women (lcnaf)  
Daughters of the American Revolution (lcnaf)  
United Daughters of the Confederacy (lcnaf)  
Goucher College (lcnaf)  
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (lcnaf)  
American Red Cross (lcnaf)  
Young Women's Christian Association (lcnaf)  
Women's Land Army of America (lcnaf)

### **Subjects**

Fashion—20<sup>th</sup> Century—History (lcsh)  
Depressions—1929 (lcsh)  
Suffrage (lcsh)  
Technology—United States—History—20<sup>th</sup> Century (lcsh)  
Voyages and Travels (lcsh)  
Women—Education—United States (lcsh)  
Women's colleges—United States—History  
World War, 1914-1918 (lcsh)

### **Document Types**

Correspondence (aat)  
Clippings (aat)  
Photographs (aat)

## Related Material

Materials from the Round Robin Collection may be found online at <http://meyerhoff.goucher.edu/library/robin/>

Class of 1906 Records, Goucher College Library

## Administrative Information

### Acquisition

Purchased in 1998 by the Friends of the Goucher College Library.

### Processors

Lindsey Baker, 2005

Cassie Brand, 2009

### Preferred Citation

Goucher College Class of 1903 Round Robin Letters, 1907-1938. Goucher College Library.

## Container List

### Original Letters, 1919-1938

**Folder 1:** 1919. Subjects include children, college, college professors, disease, peace, Red Cross, travel, and war/war effort. This folder marks the beginning of Volume 4 with Alice Dunning Flick's letter and is followed by a letter from Clara Robinson Hand which includes a poem.

**Folder 2:** 1920. Subjects include children, church, college, college professors, disease, politics, prohibition, suffrage, travel, war and war effort, work, and Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA).

**Folder 3:** 1921. Subjects include campus, children, college, college professors, disease, hobbies, peace, suffrage, travel, war/war effort, work, and YWCA. This folder begins with a letter which goes into detail describing the female viewpoint

of winning the war and the views of Germany in 1921 post war America. Some of the other letters discuss similar female sacrifices during the war.

**Folder 4:** 1922. Subjects include children, college, suffrage, war/war effort, and work. Letters discuss family involvement in the war effort and a newspaper clipping from one woman whose husband fought a burglar.

**Folder 5:** 1924. Subjects include American Association of University Women (AAUW), children, college, college professors, disease, fashion, politics, technology, and work. Letters discuss the possibility of a class letter, death within the class and within families, and the upcoming reunion of 1925.

**Folder 6:** 1925. Subjects include children, college, college professors, politics, suffrage, technology, and work. Letters discuss the preservation of the original Goucher campus, and emerging technology.

**Folder 7:** 1926. Subjects include children, college professors, fashion, hobbies, suffrage, technology, and travel. Letters contain discussion of the type of graduates that Goucher College produced.

**Folder 8:** 1927. Subjects include children, college, college professors, disease, peace, travel, and work. Letters discuss alumnae's roles as mothers, reunions, and family changes.

**Folder 9:** 1928. Subjects include children, clubs, disease, travel, and work. The letters discuss mainly family, one woman who describes herself and a female companion as "unseparable a pair as Lindbergh and his plane" and includes a picture of them.

**Folder 10:** 1929. Subjects include campus, children, clubs, college professors, disease, hobbies, work, and YWCA. Letter noting that the Round Robin began 26 years ago and some discussion of Goucher connections.

**Folder 11:** 1930. Subjects include AAUW, campus, children, clubs, college, college professors, hobbies, politics, suffrage, travel, and work. These letters contain newspaper clippings and pictures of various family members.

**Folder 12:** 1931. Subjects include campus, children, clubs, college, college professors, and travel. Several letters discuss the reunion of 1930.

**Folder 13:** 1934. Subjects include AAUW, clubs, college, and college professors. Discussion of alumnae activities together and daughters' college plans.

**Folder 14:** 1935. Subjects include children, clubs, the depression, disease, hobbies, peace, politics, work, and YWCA. Main focus is on children.

**Folder 15:** 1936. Subjects include children, church, clubs, college professors, hobbies, travel, work, and YWCA. Letters focus on family and community work.

**Folder 16:** 1937. Subjects include children, clubs, travel, and work. These letters discuss mainly children and travel, have a personal tone and address other alumnae within the letters.

**Folder 17:** 1938. Subjects include disease. One letter is a note that was written 2 months before one alumna's death.

**Folder 18:** Letter, undated, subjects include travel and work.

**Folder 19:** Three-ring binder in which letters were sent, including a mailing list glued to the inside cover with instructions for mailing volume 6 and a loose mailing list and instructions for volume 7 (1934-1938).