

A GUIDE TO THE  
MYRTLE TATE MYLES PAPERS MS/NC  
679

By

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MYRTLE TATE MYLES

## MYRTLE TATE MYLES

Myrtle Tate Myles was born May 15, 1886 in Grantsville, then a thriving central Nevada mining town, to Thomas and Esther Tate.

When Manhattan, Nevada, was first discovered in 1905 the Tates went there and Myrtle helped her mother run a boarding house for the miners. She met John Myles there and later married him at her grandmother's home in Big Pine, California. John Clack Myles was from a pioneer Austin, Nevada, family. He died in 1932. Myrtle and John had two children, Marjorie, and Jack.

In 1920, while living in Keeler, California, she took a correspondence course on writing from the University of California. She started writing poetry and stories of Nevada for publication. During the late 1920's, while living in Carson City, Nevada, Myrtle became associated with De Aryan Publishing Company, selling subscriptions to International Poetry Magazine and soliciting poetry in Nevada. She had her poems published monthly in the magazine. She became a second vice president of the company, then associate editor.

In 1932, the year in which her husband died unexpectedly in Austin, Nevada, she became a correspondent in central Nevada for United Press and later, after she moved to Reno, was employed by the Internal Revenue Service.

Myrtle became an authority on Nevada history, and after she moved to Reno, she worked for the Thomas Wilson Advertising Agency doing the research for Harold's' Club Pioneer Nevada, a popular series of history articles which appeared in newspapers throughout the state. In the 1950's, working her way through

old newspapers, records, diaries and interviews she was able to come up with many exciting incidents for the series, which ran from the late 1940's to the mid-1950's.

She later researched and wrote a book, Nevada's Governors from Territorial Days to the Present 1861-1971, which was published in 1972. She personally knew 13 of the governors she wrote about.

Myrtle also published a book of poems, The Lone Tree and Other Ballads, in 1972. Many of her other writings were published by various magazines and newspapers. Between the years 1957 and 1969 she was a staff member of the Nevada Historical Society, working as a library assistant and researcher. By that time, she was widely recognized as an authority on central Nevada and its history.

She retired at age 84 from the historical society, planning to travel and write. . The University of Nevada honored her as a "Distinguished Nevadan" on May 15, 1976, her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. Four years later, on September 19, 1980, she died in Reno at age 94.

## SCOPE AND CONTENTS OF THE COLLECTION

The Myrtle Tate Myles collection includes correspondence, some personal papers, literary works, newspaper clippings, photographs, maps, and other printed material.

The correspondence consists of letters relating to physical culture lessons she took, 1907 & 1908 while she was single then married; letters from her family 1928 to 1953, and poetry related correspondence while working for the De Aryan Publishing Company. Also included is correspondence related to the Thomas Wilson Advertising Agency.

In her personal papers there are lessons and lesson plans from the University of California, 1920-22. She took their writing courses by mail. Included is a small amount of financial and legal documents, awards, and certificates. There are some poetry and writings sent to her by others regarding the International Poetry Society.

Among the literary works there are copies of some of her speeches and talks she gave around Nevada, and typewritten articles written for publication. The Pioneer Nevada series for Harolds' Club contains folders of research material arranged by Nevada counties and other related subjects. Research materials for the Nevada governor's book is in folders arranged by the 24 governors' names. The folders contain research notes and correspondence; some include pictures of the governors.

There are copies of the International Poetry Magazine from 1927 to 1930, that contain her published poetry. There is also poetry published in various other publications. Two files include poetry drafts and random notes.

Included are 17 folders of research notebooks that are undated and on various subjects.

The newspaper clippings contain one folder of personal and family clippings. The rest of the clippings are arranged by Nevada counties and various subjects.

Among the photographs there is one file of a few personal pictures and one research related file.

There are a few maps and some miscellaneous printed items. Among the latter are some poetry related documents, mailing lists related to poetry, and one piece of sheet music.

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MYRTLE TATE

MYLES Box      Folder Description

### I. CORRESPONDENCE

1	1	Personal 1928
	2	Personal 1929
	3	Personal 1930
	4	Personal 1940
	5	Personal 1950-1953
	6	Poetry related 1919
	7	International Poetry Society 1925-1926

- 8 International Poetry Society 1927
- 9 International Poetry Society 1928
- 10 International Poetry Society January 1929-June 1929
- 11 International Poetry Society July 1929-December 1929
- 12 International Poetry Society January 1930-April 1930
- 13 International Poetry Society May 1930-December 1930
- 14 International Poetry Society 1931
- 15 International Poetry Society 1953 & 1962
- 16 Misc. Corresp. Undated International Poetry Society
- 17 Misc. Research Material 1929 & 1960
- 18 Physical Culture Correspondence 1907-1908
- 19 Correspondence Thomas Wilson Agency 1949-1954

## II. PERSONAL PAPERS

- 20 Univ of California Lesson Plans & Lessons 1920-1921 -1922
- 21 Financial and legal documents
- 22 Envelopes with various addresses where Mrs. Myles lived
- 23 Misc. Personal Documents
- 24 Awards and certificates
- 25 Poetry sent in by others for International Poetry Society
- 26 Writings sent by others for International Poetry Society

## III. LITERARY WORKS

- 1 27 Speeches and Talks
- 28 Articles written for Publication by Mrs. Myles  
"Pioneer Nevada" series for Harolds Club
- 29 Harolds Club Miscellaneous Research Note
- 30 Harolds Club Newspaper Clippings
- 31 Harolds Club Research Bidwell Bartleson Party
- 32 Harolds Club Research 4<sup>th</sup> of July
- 33 Harolds Club Research Gray Reid's "Reno
- 34 Harolds Club Research Indians #1
- 35 Harolds Club Research Indians #2
- 36 Harolds Club Research Military
- 37 Harolds Club Research Overland Hotel-Reno
- 38 Harolds Club Research Churchill County
- 39 Harolds Club Research Clark County
- 2 1 Harolds Club Research Douglas County
- 2 Harolds Club Research Elko County
- 3 Harolds Club Research Esmeralda County
- 4 Harolds Club Research Eureka County
- 5 Harolds Club Research Humboldt County
- 6 Harolds Club Research Lander County
- 7 Harolds Club Research Lincoln County
- 8 Harolds Club Research Lyon County
- 9 Harolds Club Research Mineral County
- 10 Harolds Club Research Nye County
- 11 Harolds Club Research Ormsby County
- 12 Harolds Club Research Pershing County
- 13 Harolds Club Research Storey County
- 14 Harolds Club Research Washoe County #1
- 15 Harolds Club Research Washoe County #2
- 16 Harolds Club Research White Pine County

### Nevada's Governors

- 17 Research material - Capitol
- 18 Research material - New Legislature building
- 19 Research material – Governor’s Mansion

20	Research material – Governor’s wives
21	Research Material James Warren Nye
22	Research Material Henry G. Blasdel
23	Research Material Lewis Rice Bradley
24	Research Material John Henry Kinkead
25	Research Material Jewett Adams
26	Research Material Charles Clark Stevenson
1	Research Material Frank Bell
2	Research Material Roswell Keys Colcord
3	Research Material John Edward Jones
4	Research Material Reinhold Sadler
5	Research Material John Sparks
6	Research Material Denver S. Dickerson
7	Research Material Tasker Oddie
8	Research Material Emmett Derby Boyle
9	Research Material James G. Scrugham
10	Research Material Frederick Balzar
11	Research Material Morley Isaac Griswold
12	Research Material Richard Kirman
13	Research Material Edward P. Carville
14	Research Material Vail Pittman
15	Research Material Charles H. Russell
16	Research Material Grant Sawyer
17	Research Material Paul Laxalt
18	Research Material Mike O'Callaghan
19	Articles/News Releases for Nevada Historical Society
20	Her Poetry published 1927
21	Her Poetry published 1928 February to June
22	Her Poetry published 1928 July to October
23	Her Poetry published 1928 November & December

Box Folder Description

3	24	Her Poetry published 1929 March & April	
	25	Her Poetry published 1929 May	
	26	Her Poetry published 1930 June, July & August	
	27	Her poetry published miscellaneous and undated	
	28	Poetry Drafts	
	29	Poetry Random Notes	
	30	Thomas Wilson Advertising Agency General Research Notes	
	31	General Research miscellaneous printed items	
	32	Random Research Notes #1	
	33	Random Research Notes #2	
	34	Random Research Notes #3	
	4	1	Research Material Death Valley
		2	Research Material Fort Smith-McDermitt
3		Harold's Club New Mural Project	
4		Research Material - Indians	
	6	Research Material – Notes on Military	
	5	Research Material - Information and maps of old trails	
	6	Research Material - Pony Express	
	7	Research Material - Joseph Redford Walker	
	8	Research Materials	

Research notebooks undated

	10	Notebooks #1
	11	Notebooks #2
	12	Notebooks #3
	13	Notebooks #4
	14	Notebooks #5
	15	Notebooks #6
	16	Notebooks #7
	17	Notebooks #8
	18	Notebooks #9
	19	Notebooks #10
	20	Notebooks #11
	21	Notebooks #12
	22	Notebooks #13
	23	Notebooks #14
Box 5	1	Notebooks #15
	2	Notebooks #16
		Notebooks #17

IV .NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS

1. Personal and family
2. Nevada Historical Society - Reno
3. Historical Essays from High Schools
4. Lehman Caves
5. Railroads
6. Clark County
7. Churchill County
8. Douglas County
9. Esmeralda County
10. Eureka County
11. Humboldt County
12. Lander County
13. Lincoln County
14. Lyon County
15. Mineral County
16. Nye County
17. Ormsby County
18. Pershing County
19. Storey County
20. Washoe County
21. Washoe County – Bowers
22. White Pine County

V. PHOTOGRAPHS

1. Photographs – Personal
2. Photographs - Research related



## VI. MAPS AND PRINTED MATERIAL

### Box 5

1. Maps
2. Printed Material Miscellaneous #1
3. Printed Material Miscellaneous #2
4. Printed Poetry Miscellaneous
5. Miscellaneous Poetry Documents
6. Mailing Lists and Addresses - Poetry Association
7. Sheet Music