

ESTHER EVERETT LAPE

1925-1978

PAPERS OF  
ESTHER EVERETT LAPE  
1925 - 1978

Accession Number: 82-17

The papers were donated to the Library on June 1, 1982, by Olga M. Bendix and The Bank of New York, the executors of Miss Lape's estate. Miss Lape's copyright interests in these papers have been donated to the United States Government.

Quantity: 3 linear feet

Restrictions: Material that constitutes an unwarranted invasion of privacy has been closed.

Related materials: Eleanor Roosevelt's Papers, Anna Halsted Papers, the President's Official File.

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Registration Statement

Esther Everett Lape  
Papers 1925-1978

Esther Everett Lape, a social scientist, was a close friend of Eleanor Roosevelt.

Description: The papers consist of correspondence, reports, clippings, and printed matter.

Quantity: 3 linear feet

Donor: Olga M. Bendix and The Bank of New York

Finding Aids: An unpublished 5-page finding aid is available at the Library.

Restrictions: Material that constitutes an unwarranted invasion of privacy has been closed.

Copyright: Miss Lape's copyright interests in these papers have been donated to the United States Government.

Esther Everett Lape was born in Wilmington, Delaware in 1881. She attended Bryn Mawr on a scholarship and received a bachelor's degree from Wellesley College. During her teaching career, she taught English at the University of Arizona, Swarthmore, Barnard, and Columbia.

In accordance with her efforts to promote American understanding of the need for international cooperation, Miss Lape served as Member-in-Charge of The American Peace Award Policy Committee in 1924. That same year the American Foundation was established with Esther Lape as director. She held that position until her retirement in 1956, but even then remained as a member of the Board of Directors. Her work with the Foundation prompted Calvin Coolidge to send her to Europe in 1927 as an unofficial envoy to secure the renewal of negotiations regarding the United States participation in the World Court. Miss Lape's work for the Foundation also included promoting U.S. recognition of the Soviet Union in 1933 and studies on the problems of medical care in the United States.

Miss Lape worked closely with Eleanor Roosevelt, Narcissa Vanderlip, and Helen Reid in the women's suffrage movement in New York. In the early 1960's, Esther Lape, Lady Stella Reading, and Helen Reid established the Organizing Committee for the group asking the Nobel Committee to consider granting a posthumous award of the Peace Prize to Eleanor Roosevelt.

In July of 1972, Esther Lape donated her 147 acre Connecticut country estate, Salt Meadow, to the Federal Government as a wildlife refuge. Miss Lape died in 1981.

This collection is arranged in a single alphabetical series. It consists almost exclusively of incoming correspondence.

*This collection rearranged in 2012. See new finding aid for box arrangement.*

# Esther Lape Papers, 1925-1978

[\[Back to Formatted Version\]](#)

## Collection Overview

**Title:** Esther Lape Papers, 1925-1978

**Creator:** Lape, Esther

**Extent:** 2.4 Cubic Feet

**Arrangement:** This collection is arranged in four series: Correspondence, Subject Files (arranged in two subseries), Manuscripts, and Clippings and Printed materials.

**Date Acquired:** 06/01/1982

## Abstract

This collection consists of correspondence, memoranda, reports, manuscripts, clippings, and printed materials documenting the life and career of Esther Lape.

## Scope and Contents of the Materials

This collection consists of correspondence, memoranda, reports, manuscripts, clippings, and printed materials documenting the life and career of activist and educator Esther Lape. Materials range in date from 1925-1978 and the majority of correspondence is incoming.

## Administrative Information

**Access Restrictions:** Material that constitutes an unwarranted invasion of privacy has been closed. The remaining materials are available for use by the general public.

**Use Restrictions:** Esther Lape's copyright interests in these papers have been donated to the United States Government. This material is subject to copyright restrictions under Title 17 of the U.S. Code.

**Acquisition Source:** Olaga M. Bendix, The Bank of New York

**Acquisition Method:** Gift

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## Box and Folder Listing

Series 1: Correspondence

Box 1

Folder 1: A - General

Folder 2: B - General

Folder 3: Boettiger, John and Franklin D. Roosevelt III (Joint Book), 1968

Folder 4: Bok, Curtis

Folder 5: Bok, Nellie Lee

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Folder 6: Bowles  
Folder 7: Corr, Maureen, 1956-1969  
Folder 8: Edgar, Margaret T.  
Folder 9: G - General  
Folder 10: H., Caroline  
Folder 11: Halsted, Anna and Jim  
Folder 12: Hickok, Lorena, 1962  
Folder 13: Holst, W. (Mrs. Roland)  
Folder 14: Huxley, Aldous  
Folder 15: Kiskadden, William  
Folder 16: Lash, Joseph  
Folder 17: Litvinoff, Maxim  
Folder 18: Loveland, Frank  
Folder 19: M - General  
Folder 20: Phillips, Eleanor  
Folder 21: R - General  
Folder 22: Roosevelt, Eleanor, 1941-1944  
Folder 23: Roosevelt, Eleanor, 1945-1946  
Folder 24: Roosevelt, Eleanor, 1925, 1933-1939  
Folder 25: Roosevelt, Eleanor, 1947  
Folder 26: Roosevelt, Eleanor, 1948-1950  
Folder 27: Roosevelt, Eleanor, 1951-1955  
Folder 28: Roosevelt, Eleanor, 1956-1959

**Box 2**

Folder 1: Roosevelt, Eleanor, 1960-1962  
Folder 2: Roosevelt, Eleanor, undated  
Folder 3: Roosevelt, Eleanor (From Lape to E.R.)  
Folder 4: Roosevelt Family  
Folder 5: Schulmerich Carillons: Publications  
Folder 6: S - General  
Folder 7: Schulmerich Carillons  
Folder 8: Thompson, Malvina, 1946  
Folder 9: Thompson, Malvina, 1938-1945  
Folder 10: Thompson, Malvina, 1947  
Folder 11: Thompson, Malvina, 1948-1952  
Folder 12: Thompson, Malvina, undated  
Folder 13: Vanderlip, Narcissa  
Folder 14: Winternitz, M.C.  
Folder 15: W - General

**Series 2: Subject Files**

Includes some correspondence

**Sub-Series 1: Noble Peace Prize**

Materials pertaining to Esther Lape's effort to have Eleanor Roosevelt nominated for the Nobel Prize. Includes some correspondence arranged at the beginning of the subseries.

**Box 3**

Folder 1: Correspondence, Memorandums, and Research Notes Concerning Efforts to Secure The Nomination of Eleanor Roosevelt  
Folder 2: Correspondence with Possible Signers of the Nomination of Eleanor Roosevelt: A - F

Folder 3: Correspondence with Raymond Corry (of FDRL Staff)  
Folder 4: Correspondence with Possible Signers of the Nomination of Eleanor Roosevelt: G -K  
Folder 5: Correspondence with the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library  
Folder 6: Correspondence with Possible Signers of the Nomination of Eleanor Roosevelt: L -O  
Folder 7: Correspondence with Possible Signers of the Nomination of Eleanor Roosevelt: P - R  
Folder 8: Correspondence with Lady Reading  
Folder 9: Correspondence with Helen Reid

## Box 4

Folder 1: Correspondence with Possible Signers of the Nomination of Eleanor Roosevelt: S - Y  
Folder 2: Complete File of Materials Sent to Nobel Committee, 1965  
Folder 3: Copies of Cover Letter and Enclosures Sent to Noble Committee  
Folder 4: Copies of Letters Nominating Eleanor Roosevelt and Sent to Nobel Committee: A - M  
Folder 5: Copies of Letters Nominating Eleanor Roosevelt and Sent to Nobel Committee: N - U  
Folder 6: Rules of the Nobel Committee and the Eligibility of Eleanor Roosevelt  
Folder 7: Working Lists of the Possible Signers of the Nomination of Eleanor Roosevelt

## Sub-Series 2: Other Subject Files

## Box 5

Folder 1: The American Foundation  
Folder 2: The American Foundation: Studies on Correction  
Folder 3: The American Foundation: Financial Matters and Minutes  
Folder 4: The American Foundation: "Proposal for a New Baltimore City Detention Center for Women," 1965  
Folder 5: The American Peace Award  
Folder 6: Cadet Honor Code at West Point  
Folder 7: Da Capo Press, Inc.  
Folder 8: Franklin D. Roosevelt Library  
Folder 9: Lawyers Constitutional Defense Committee, 1966  
Folder 10: Medical Research (reports on)  
Folder 11: National Broadcasting Company

## Box 6

Folder 1: Roosevelt, Eleanor: Materials Concerning  
Folder 2: University of Nebraska Commencement Speech, May 24, 1943  
Speaker unknown.

## Series 3: Manuscripts

## Box 6

Folder 3: "Knowing the Ropes" or "So Naturally"  
Folder 4: "Salt Meadow"

## Series 4: Clippings and Printed Materials

## Box 6

Folder 6: Clippings - General  
Folder 7: Clippings - General  
Folder 8: Printed Matter: Eleanor Roosevelt

Folder 9: Printed Matter: Franklin D. Roosevelt

Folder 10: US and USSR - Report on Relations (1)

Folder 11: US and USSR - Report on Relations (2)

Folder 5: The American Foundation Studies in Corrections Publications, 1964  
5 Publications