

## NEBRASKA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY COLLECTION RECORD

RG2585.AM:           Stabler, Eunice Woodhull (La-ta-we-sah), 1885-1963

Papers: 1910s-1988, mostly 1940s-1950s

Wichita, Kansas: Author

Size: 1.5 cu.ft.; 3 boxes

### BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Eunice Woodhull Stabler (La-ta-we-sah) was born in Macy, Nebraska November 18, 1885 and died April 16, 1963 in Wichita, Kansas. A member of the Omaha tribe, Eunice was a daughter of the last hereditary Omaha Chief. Eunice learned Omaha customs and language as a child. She attended the Genoa Indian School and graduated from William Woods College in Fulton, Missouri.

After college, Eunice worked for an attorney in Walthill, Nebraska and as an enrollment officer for the Bureau of Indian Affairs agencies in Macy and Winnebago, Nebraska. In 1912 Eunice married George Stabler. They had three children, Hollis, Robert, and Marcella, and traveled extensively while raising their family. Marcella Stabler died in a diabetic coma in 1942, and Robert Stabler was killed in action in Italy in 1944.

Eunice was an author of both poetry and prose, and many of her works reflect her respect and concern for the Omaha people and other Native Americans. She was also active in politics, school, church, and community affairs. Eunice was a member of the Harold Big Heart Smalley American Legion Auxiliary, a Gold Star Mother, a National G.O.P. Committee Woman from Nebraska in 1928, a member of the Kansas Authors' Club, and an Officer in the National Congress of American Indians. She lived in Wichita, Kansas from 1945 until her death.

### SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection is arranged in eight Series: 1) Biography and General Information, 2) Writings, 1943-1961, n.d., 3) La-ta-we-sah, 4) General Correspondence, 1910s-1960s, n.d., 5) Family History, 6) Omaha Tribal Matters, 7) Indians of North America, and 8) Miscellany. The bulk of the collection is comprised of writings by Eunice Woodhull Stabler.

**Series 1** contains information relating to Eunice Woodhull Stabler's life. General information about her education, community and political activities, honors, and work as an author may be found in this series.

**Series 2** consists of poetry, prose, and notes written by Eunice. Published items precede unpublished items within the series. Because a clear original order was difficult to ascertain, the writings have been arranged topically. The dates are listed when they are known, and quotation marks identify the titles of unpublished works. The miscellaneous notes in folder 23 appear to be

short jottings of ideas, which Eunice used in other writings. Information related to Eunice's family may also be found in this series in folders 12, 14, and 21.

**Series 3** relates to the book La-ta-we-sah, a compilation of many of Eunice's writings, which was published in 1988. This series contains drafts, the final publication, and a small amount of related correspondence.

The correspondence of **Series 4** includes letters related to Eunice's studies at William Woods College; alumni activities; her political involvement in the 1920s and 1930s; her honorary membership in the Academia Philanthropica of the Collegi Psychologica in Hamburg Germany; and her book How Beautiful the Land of My Forefathers.

**Series 5** contains genealogical and family materials related to Eunice and George Stabler's ancestors and descendants. Clippings about Lewis and Clark are included in this series because the family's ancestors Pierre Dorion and Nu-Da-Hun-Ga both have ties to the explorers.

**Series 6** consists of Eunice's papers related to the Omaha. Of particular interest are genealogies sent to Eunice so she could help confirm the percentage of Omaha blood in mixed-blood individuals applying for Omaha judgment funds. Also included is information related to clans and life on the reservation.

**Series 7** is comprised of bibliographies and articles that relate to Native Americans. **Series 8** includes books of poetry collected by Eunice.

**Note:** For additional information about the life of Eunice Woodhull Stabler, see Elaine Nelson's 2004 M.A. thesis titled, "Eunice Woodhull Stabler, Omaha Indian Writer, 1885-1963." The thesis is available at the University of Nebraska - Lincoln Libraries.

## DESCRIPTION

Series 1 - Biography and general information

Box 1

Folder

1. Biography
2. Obituary
3. Memorial Tribute
4. Education Miscellany
5. William Woods College Yearbook, 1910
6. Kansas Authors' Club Yearbook, 1955
7. Newspaper Clippings
8. Certificates, etc.

Series 2 - Writings, 1943-1961, n.d.

Note: Because an original order was not clear, these items have been arranged topically.

Box 1

Folder

1. How Beautiful the Land of My Forefathers, 1943
2. How Beautiful the Land of My Forefathers, 1943
3. In All Its Fury, 1947
4. Kansas Authors' Club Yearbook, 1952

Box 2

Folder

5. Cherished Thoughts, 1955
6. Omaha Calendar Illustrations
7. Omaha Calendar
8. Omaha Calendar
9. Poetry, undated
10. Prayers, undated
11. "My Biography"
12. Personal Notes
13. Brotherhood, 1951
14. Indians of North America
15. "Rolling Thunder"
16. "The Indian Religion of Yesterday and Today"
17. "Walt Whitman, the Fellowman," 1956
18. "Tipi"
19. Moccasins and Clothing
20. Music, Dance, and Ceremonies
21. Domestic Life
22. Legends and Anecdotes
23. Miscellaneous Notes
24. Notes for a Book
25. Notes for a Book, 1961

Series 3 - La-ta-we-sah

Box 2

Folder

1. Editing Correspondence
2. "Rough Draft Unedited"
3. Draft with Editing Notes
4. Edited Draft

Box 3  
Folder

5. "Master Copy"
6. Publisher's Proof
7. Publication
8. Reader Correspondence
9. Computer Disks
10. Copyright Registration for Works used in the Compilation

Series 4 - General correspondence, 1910s-1960s, n.d.

Box 3  
Folder

1. Correspondence, 1910s-1930s
2. Correspondence, 1940s
3. Correspondence, 1950s-1960s
4. Correspondence, undated

Series 5 - Family history

Box 3  
Folder

1. Genealogical Charts and Notes
2. Pierre Dorion
3. Family History Miscellany
4. Lewis and Clark News Clippings

Series 6 - Omaha tribal matters

Box 3  
Folder

1. Omaha Judgment Fund Enrollment
2. Omaha Claims and Legislation
3. Omaha Tribal Organization and Culture
4. Community Life

Series 7 - Indians of North America

Box 3

Folder

1. Articles, Bibliographies, etc.

Series 8 - Miscellany

Box 3

Folder

1. Poems by Other Authors
2. Miscellany
3. Photographs

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