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MARGARET MESSER

By LAURA RATHGABER
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By ELIZABETH SEITZ

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Margaret Messer was born in Qu'Appelle, Saskatchewan. She and her family then moved to Saskatoon where she attended public and high school. After graduating from Nutana Collegiate she attended the University of Saskatchewan and received her Bachelor of Arts in 1939 and her Bachelor of Education in 1942. She did graduate work throughout Canada, the United States and Europe. She received her Master of Arts in Fine Art Education from Columbia University in 1958.

Messer taught high school for four years in North Battleford before moving to Balfour Technical School in 1944 where she taught for 23 years. She taught commercial art at Balfour and played a major role in the organization and opening of the present art department. She was also an advisor to the Beacon, the Balfour yearbook, and was involved in many of the dramatic and musical productions put on by the school. In 1952, Messer was an exchange teacher at Dame Allan's School for Girls in Newcastle-Upon-Tyne, Great Britain. She was appointed Assistant Professor of Art Education at the University of Saskatchewan, Regina Campus in 1966 and remained with the Faculty of Education until 1973.

Messer was actively involved in several organizations. She was a chartered member of the Canadian College of Teachers, an honorary member of the Saskatchewan Technical Teachers Association and the Saskatchewan Teachers Federation, and a member of the Canadian Society for Education through Art, the University's Women's Club and the National Art Education Association (USA). She was past president and secretary for the Regina Local of the Saskatchewan Society for Education through Art and the first woman president of the Saskatchewan Historical Society. The collection contains several journals published by the Saskatchewan Society for Education through Art.

Margaret Messer illustrated many books and journals, from historical books and instructional books on sewing to children's colouring books and science workbooks. In 1986, she designed many of the stained glass windows for St. Matthew's Anglican Church in Regina. She wrote several articles for the Regina Leader Post on everything from the history of Saskatchewan artists, and the first Saskatchewan settlers to the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II.

A large part of this collection contains information on art education programs, both at Balfour and the University of Regina, where Messer was a significant influence in the development of the art education programs at these schools and on the students she taught.

NOTE ON ARRANGEMENT - Original order not deemed useable.
New file titles and headings were generated.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EDUCATION

Classes Taken
Schools Attended

GENERAL

Artefacts
Biographical Information
Commissions
Correspondence
Division 1 Curriculum, Margaret Messer Chair
Drawings
Information re: Certification of Teachers
School Aids and Text Books Publishing Company Ltd., Royalty Reports
Share Certificates, Saskatoon Collegiate Institute Memorial Art Gallery
Task Force on Secondary Education
Travel Logs

TEACHING

Classes Taught
Schools Taught At

ORGANIZATIONS

Assemblies/Conferences
Canadian Society for Education through Art (CSEA)
Saskatchewan Arts Board
Saskatchewan Historical Society, Annual Report of Secretary
Saskatchewan Society for Education through Art (SSEA)
Saskatchewan Teachers Federation, Policy

PUBLICATIONS

Articles about Margaret Messer
Articles by Margaret Messer
Articles regarding Art Education
Books re: Art Education
Publications (Adults) illustrated by Margaret Messer
Publications (Children's) illustrated by Margaret Messer
Reviews

SCRAPBOOKS

EDUCATION

Box 1 School Commencement Programs - 1920-21, 1926, 1939-43
 School Reports and Teachers Diplomas - 1916-59
 School Transcripts - 1933-34, 1945, 1948-49, 1961
 Teachers College, Columbia University - 1956-68, 1983
 University of Saskatchewan, Art II - 1939
 University of Saskatchewan, Bachelor of Arts Certificate - 1939 [oversize]
 University of Saskatchewan, Bachelor of Arts Honours Certificate - 1940 [oversize]
 University of Saskatchewan, Bachelor of Education Certificate, 1942 [oversize]

GENERAL

Artefacts - 1938, 1941, 1946-47
 Biographical Information, Margaret Messer - n.d.
 Biographical Information, Messer Family - 1957-69

Commissions

Deputy Minister of Public Works re: Decoration of the Chamber - 1950
 Diocese of Qu'Appelle, St. Matthew's Anglican Church re: Centennial Logo and Stained
 Glass Windows - 1983-86
 Saskatchewan Government Exhibition at the Toronto Winter Fair, Subjects for a
 Design - n.d.

Correspondence

Application for a Position at the University of Saskatchewan - 1959-60
 re: Art - 1945, 1951 1961-66, 1975-79
 re: Art Scholarships - 1962
 Balfour - 1948-51, 1966
 Board of Education - 1950, 1960-66, 1974
 Curriculum - 1972-75
 Dean's Office - 1960, 1973, 1976-78
 General - 1960-62
 Historical Societies - 1944, 1974-76, 1986
 McGraw-Hill Company - 1955-56, 1963-64
 Norman Mackenzie Art Gallery - 1962-63, 1986

Box 2 Personal, Dalgliesh, P. - 1958, 1973-78
 Personal, from Europe - 1953-54, 1960
 Personal, to Mrs. J. S. Messer - 1952
 Personal, to Mrs. J. S. Messer - 1953
 Principal's Office - 1966-77
 School Publications and Specialties Ltd. -
 1948-78, 1983
 Students - 1927-31, 1951, 1961, 1966, 1986
 re: Teacher Exchange Program - 1950-53
 re: Text Books and School Supplies - 1946-49, 1958-64, 1974
 University of Regina - 1961-63, 1968-76, 1981-84
 re: Workshops and Lectures - 1947, 1956, 1960, 1974-75

Division I Curriculum, Margaret Messer Chairperson - 1975-77
 Drawings by Margaret Messer - 1923, 1948-49, n.d.
 Information re: Certification of Teachers -
 1962-64
 St. Matthew's Anglican Church, 75th Anniversary Yearbook - 1985
 School Aids and Text Book Publishing Company Ltd., Royalty Reports - 1946-68
 Share Certificates in Saskatoon Collegiate Institute Memorial Art Gallery - 1920-22
 Task Force on Secondary Education - 1978-79
 Travel Log, England and Europe - 1952-53

Box 3 Travel Log, England and Europe - 1953

TEACHING

Balfour

1945-57

Balfour Tea for Margaret Messer, Guest Book - 1974

Balfour Reunion

Classes

Advertising Design Class, Grade XII - n.d.

Art Displays, Grade XI and XII - n.d.

Drawing, Grade IX and XI - n.d.

History of Sculpture, Grade XI - n.d.

Leather Design, Grade XI and XII - n.d.

Signwriting, Grade XII - n.d.

Yearbooks, Balfour Beacon

1945

1946

1946-47

1947-48

1948-49

1949-50

1950-51

Box 4 1951-52

1952-53

1953-54

1954-55

1955-56

1956-57

1957-58

1958-59

1959-60

1961

1962

1963

1964

1965

1966

Box 5 1966-67

1967-68

1971-72

Dame Allan's Girl's School, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne

Classes, Art and Architecture - 1952-53

Dame Allan's Girl's School Magazine - 1952-53

North Battleford Collegiate Institute

Yearbook - 1943-44

University of Regina

Classes

Education 140 - n.d.

Education 260 - n.d.

Education 270/370, Art in Canadian Culture -n.d.

Miscellaneous Class Material - n.d.

ORGANIZATIONS

Assemblies and Conferences

1959-73

- Papers Delivered at Assemblies - 1961-70
Stolow Seminar - 1965
- Box 6 **Canadian Society for Education through Art (CSEA)**
Correspondence - 1962, 1965, 1971-75
Publications, CSEA Journal, Janus Edition - 1975
Publications, CSEA Newsletter - 1965-68, 1978, 1984
- Saskatchewan Arts Board**
Art Education Conference - 1959-65
Correspondence - 1960-65
Reports - 1947, 1954, 1959-60, 1964, 1967-68, 1970
Saskatchewan Historical Society, Annual Report of the Secretary - 1943-44
- Saskatchewan Society for Education through Art (SSEA)**
Art Symposium - 1975
Conferences - 1961-82
Correspondence - 1962-67
Executive Minutes - 1963-78
Membership - 1969
- Publications**
Art Education - 1979
Art Education - 1980
Art Education - 1981
Box 7 Art Education - 1982
Art Education - 1983
Art Education - 1984-85
Art Journal - 1962-63
Art Journal - 1964
Art Journal - 1965-67
The Colouring Books - 1965, 1970
Discovery Through Art - volumes 1-3, 1971-73
Box 8 Discovery Through Art - volume 4, 1973-74
Discovery Through Art - volume 5, 1975
Discovery Through Art - volumes 6 and 8, 1976, 1978
For the Children, Margaret Messer, Editor - 1985
For the Children, Original Manuscript - 1985
SSEA Newsletter - 1964-71, 1974
Saskatchewan Teachers Federation, Policy - 1963

PUBLICATIONS

- Articles about Margaret Messer** - 1922, 1958, 1963, 1986, n.d.
Articles by Margaret Messer
1948, 1952-53
- Box 9 History of Art in Saskatchewan - 1965
History of Artists in the Qu'Appelle Basin - n.d.
History of Saskatchewan Artists, Research - 1965
Miscellaneous Papers - 1946-51, 1956
- Publications re: Art Education**
1967-68, n.d.
Children as Artists by R. Tomlinson - 1944
Prang's New Graded Course in Drawing for Canadian Schools, Teacher's Manual - n.d.
- Publications Illustrated by Margaret Messer**
Adult
Memoirs of Hillsburgh, Rural Municipality No. 289 - n.d.
The Joy of Sewing by Violet Wilson - 1973
Sew a Fine Seam by Violet Wilson - 1955
Sew a Fine Seam, Second Edition by Violet Wilson - 1964

- Box 10 Sewing Without Tears by Violet Wilson - 1972
Children
Children Around the World by Dorothy and F.J. Gathercole - 1948
Chinese Stand-Ups by Margaret Messer - n.d.
 Enterprise Books, Published by School Publications and Specialties Ltd. - n.d.
 Hectograph Activity Sheets by Margaret Messer - n.d.
 Holiday Packages by Margaret Messer - n.d.
Home Economic Posters by Margaret Messer - n.d.
Jolly Juniors (semi-monthly) - 1934-37
Jolly Juniors - 1937-38
Jolly Juniors (semi-annual) - volumes 5, 9-12 1936, 1938-40
- Box 11 My Literature Book II by Raell Chaplan - 1935
My Literature Book III by Belva Howatt - 1939
My Literature Book IV by R. Chaplan - 1935
Near Home and Farther Afield by Nora Kelly - 1959
Our Mexican Friends by Nora Kelly - 1946
Picture Dictionary Set by Maude Kendrick - n.d.
Round the Year With Nature by Margaret Messer - n.d.
Social Study Panel Posters by Margaret Messer - n.d.
Tinkle Toes - 1934-37
Ukrainian Primer by Elias Shklanka - 1944
- Box 12 A Workbook in Beginning Science, Book I by Margaret Messer - 1961
A Workbook in Primary Science, Book II by M. Messer - 1960
A Workbook in Primary Science, Book III by M. Messer - 1963
Workbook on Jean Val Jean by Raell Chaplan - 1942
 Publications, General
Cities of Canada by Bernard Sandwell - 1953
The Sphere. "Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II" - June 06, 1953
 Various Newspaper Articles on Saskatchewan History - 1952-53, 1970-76
 Reviews by Margaret Messer
Centennial by James Mitchener, Research on Hudson's Bay Company - 1976
Mission: Klondike by James Sinclair - 1978

SCRAPBOOKS [oversize]

- Christmas, Assorted Cards (blue scrapbook) - 1946-72
 Balfour (brown scrapbook) - 1944-69
 Europe (brown and gold scrapbook) - 1952-53
 University, General Interest (brown scrapbook) - 1967-84