Mary Welty Christy Collection

An inventory of papers at the Midwest Nursing History Research Center,
College of Nursing, University of Illinois at Chicago.

Overview of the Collection
Repository: MNHRC, CON, University of Illinois at Chicago
Creator: Mary Welty Christy Collection
Title: Mary Welty Christy Collection
Dates: 1903-1963
Quantity: 1.5 linear feet
Identification: MWC
Language: English.

Biographical Sketch
Mary Welty Christy (1881-?) graduated as a nurse from Chicago’s Passavant Memorial Hospital in 1906. She was a graduate of a 10 week course on the Boston Floating Hospital (nd). Christy served with the American Expeditionary Force in France for 18 months, from 1917-1918. She later corresponded with Helen Hay Greeley regarding rank for nurses. In 1961 Christy was honored for serving 40 years with the Dayton OH. chapter of the American Red Cross.

Scope and Contents
This collection is focused on Mary Welty Christy’s service in France during the First World War. The collection includes over 40 letters she wrote home, her diary, scrapbook, a book of patients’ messages when she left the hospital, photographs, and newspaper clippings.

Box 1
Folder 1: Copy of transcript- Passavant Memorial Hospital, Chicago, IL. 1903-1906.
Folder 2: Photo: Mary Christy dated 12/25/96
Folder 3: PMHTSN School Hymn and school ribbon. Gift to Mary Christy from Eliza C. Glenn
Folder 4: Photo of Eliza C. Glenn, Supt. of Nurses, PMH n.d.
Folder 5: Mary’s papers on the Nervous & Vascular Systems. n.d. c 1903-05
Folder 6: Photo of Mary Christ (front row, far left), n.d. & group of nurses
Folder 8: Paper removed from Mary Christy’s copy of *Reference hand-book for nurses* - various preparations c. 1905
Folder 9: *American Pocket Medical Dictionary*, 4th ed. Used by Mary Christy
Folder 10: Mary Christy and other nurses abroad Boston Floating Hospital, n.d. c1910
Folder 11: Stationery from the Boston Floating Hospital, n.d. c1910
Folder 12: Newspaper clipping re Boston Floating Hospital. Quotes Mary Christy.
Folder 13: Photograph of Mary Christy. 1915; Photograph of Mary Christy in WWI uniform. 1919 (In display case)
Folder 14: 3 photographs of Mary Christy. n.d.
Folder 15: Tin-type photo of Mary Christy seated, right) and 3 unidentified women. n.d.
Folder 16: Mary Christy’s passport. Dated 9/11/17
Folder 17: English-French Ambulance Hospital Aid Book. c. WWI
Folder 18: Address/Notebook 1917. “Taken to France while an Army Nurse”
Folder 19: Hills’s Vest Pocket French-English Dictionary used by Mary Christy. WWI
Folder 21: “Versailles et les Trianons-Vue detachables en couleur” (book of postcards)
Folder 22: 1918 French calendar used by Mary Christy in WWI
Folder 23: American Expeditionary Forces “Soldier’s letter” envelope c 1918
Folder 24: Photo and news clippings re Katherine Patterson Irwin’s death in France. 1918
Folder 25: American Red Cross “Instructions for Nurses Called Upon for Service in Military Hospitals,” n.d. c. 1916
Folder 26: Photo: Boy and Soldier in WWI France (Paris) c. 1918 (photo of Mary Christy’s)
Folder 27: The American Church in Paris-Service brochures 6/1918 and 6/18/1918
Folder 28: Correspondence to Christy Family from Miamisburg, OH soldiers serving in France.
Folder 29: Helen Hoy Greeley, Nat’l Committee to Secure Rank for Nurses, to M. Christy 10/11/19
Folder 30: Mary Christy to Helen Hoy Greeley. 10/22/19
Folder 31: Helen Hoy Greeley to Mary Christy 11/3/19
Folder 32: “Impressions and Conclusions based on experience abroad by Overseas Nurses” Sara E. Parson. 6/26/19
Folder 33: Correspondence between Mary Christy and War Dept. 6/27/22
Folder 34: Army Song Book. 4/12/20
Folder 35: Florence Nightingale tribute by W.B. Saunders and co. n.d.
Folder 36: “The World War and the Army Nurse” c. 1920
Folder 37: *American Red Cross First Aid Textbook*. rev. 1940
Folder 38: American National Red Cross-Dayton Area Chapter. 1960-'61 Reports
Folder 39: Photos of Mary Christy & Dayton, OH Chapter of the W.O.S.L 4/30/63

Box 2
Folder 1: Newspaper clippings and photocopies
Folder 2: Newspaper clippings. 1917
Folder 3: Album of patients’ appreciation for Mary Christy
Folder 4: A Line a Day Diary
Folder 5: Newspaper clippings, First World War
Folder 7: Image of Florence Nightingale’s statue in London: W.B. Saunders
Folder 8: Scrapbook of items from Mary Christy’s 19 months in France

Box 3
Correspondence (47 letters) between Mary Christy and her family, written when she was in France.