

**Lyrl Clark Van Hyning Papers**  
**1881-1982, n.d.**

**Creator:** Van Hyning, Lyrl Clark (1892-1973)  
**Extent:** 10 linear ft.  
**Location:**  
**Processor:** Ashley Eckhardt, September 30, 2009

**Administration Information**

**Access Restrictions:** Some materials are restricted until 2034.

**Usage Restrictions:** Copyright for materials created by Lyrl Clark Van Hyning in this collection has been transferred to the Women and Leadership Archives.

**Preferred Citation:** Loyola University Chicago. Women & Leadership Archives. Lyrl Clark Van Hyning Papers. Box #, Folder #.

**Provenance:** Received by the Women and Leadership Archives from the donor on May 15, 2009 (WLA2009.17), May 20, May 26, and May 28, 2009 (WLA2009.21), May 29, 2009 (WLA2009.22), June 1, June 9, and June 18, 2009 (WLA2009.26), June 29, 2009 (WLA2009.30), and October 12, 2009 (WLA2009.39).

**Separations:** Approximately 2 linear feet of photographs, newspaper clippings, three-dimensional artifacts, and other documents were not included in the final collection and were returned to the donor.

**See Also:** American Medical Association Archives (correspondence regarding the *Women's Voice* anti-polio vaccine campaign); American Jewish Committee Archives; Gallia County Genealogical Society

**Biographical History**

Mary Lyrl Clark was born on July 23, 1892, to William Howard Clark and Rhoda Ann Walter Clark in Gallia County, Ohio. Lyrl also had three sisters, Frances (Frankie), Faye, and Genevieve (Bunnie). William died when Lyrl was just six years old, leaving Rhoda to raise the children and work the family farm on her own. Rhoda became a house mother at Rio Grande College in Gallipolis, Ohio, not far from the Clark family farm, so that her daughters could attend college. Lyrl graduated from Rio Grande in 1913 as the only woman in her class and the first graduate from the Department of Oratory. While in college, she participated in the Ciceronean Literary Society, the College Ladies' Glee Club, and college theatrical productions as well as serving on the editorial staff for the yearbook. After graduation, Lyrl worked as a teacher in both public schools and Rio Grande College before marrying George Herman Van Hyning on June 17, 1915.

Lyrl and George had three children together: Parrie Ann, Thomas Clark (Tom), and Jorgina (Gina). The family lived in South America for a time as a result of George's job with the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company. When the Van Hynings returned to the United States, they first lived in Galesburg, Illinois, and later settled in Chicago. With the threat of World War II looming, Lyrl began her most ardent anti-war campaigning in Chicago. In February 1941, Lyrl, Lucy Palermo, and Grace Keefe founded We, the Mothers, Mobilize for America, Inc., officially incorporated as an educational, tax-exempt organization. We the Mothers sought to educate the American public and politicians about the threat to American democracy and the safety of their sons through the

country's participation in the war. They protested President Roosevelt, the New Deal, lend-lease, and the war in general. The organization's newsletter, *Women's Voice*, spread their anti-war, anti-Communist, and anti-Semitic rhetoric to adherents throughout the country. Lyrl served as editor for this publication, which ran for almost twenty years.

Lyrl's own son Tom served during World War II as pilot for the Army Air Corps. As a result of his family's residence in Venezuela and his subsequent fluency in Spanish, Tom was sent to South America after completing his pilot training. He helped develop an Air Corps program in Paraguay and attained the rank of captain by the end of the war. Tom returned to South America after he was discharged from the military, living in Venezuela with his wife Shirley, whom he married in 1952, and his daughter Parrie Theresa. Tom died on May 3, 1955, when his plane crashed on a friend's farm near Ciudad Bolivar, Venezuela.

Lyrl continued to promote her political ideology throughout her entire life, primarily through the publication of *Women's Voice*, but she also gave speeches and wrote articles in other publications. In 1952, Lyrl was indicted and went to trial for libel as a result of her anti-Semitic rhetoric in *Women's Voice*. She was acquitted of the charges on November 10, 1952. In addition to her political activities, Lyrl was also a prominent member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, serving as regent of the Aurora chapter from 1936 until 1938. Lyrl was also very ardent about her religious beliefs. Although raised a Methodist, she became a Christian Scientist and attended the "I AM" Temple. Her religious beliefs impacted all aspects of her life and even influenced some of the articles in *Women's Voice*.

After George died on March 31, 1960, Lyrl moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico, to be near Parrie Ann and Gina and their families. Later, Shirley and Parrie Theresa joined the rest of the Van Hynings in New Mexico. Lyrl remained in New Mexico until her death as a result of breast cancer on June 9, 1973.

## **Scope and Content**

The Lyrl Clark Van Hyning Papers contain materials related to Lyrl's activities as a political activist through organizations like We, the Mothers, Mobilize for America, Inc. and her publication of *Women's Voice*. This collection also includes many items regarding Lyrl's family, providing a vivid picture of family life in the Van Hyning household. Materials include correspondence, newspaper articles, speeches, handwritten notes, journals, books, photographs, and three-dimensional objects. Some items, particularly certain correspondence and official documents, are in Spanish due to the Van Hynings' numerous activities and residences in South America. The records are arranged alphabetically within each series.

### **Series 1: Family Records, 1920-1973, 2009, n.d., Boxes 1-5**

This series contains records relating to Lyrl's family, particularly her children, grandchildren, and sisters. The bulk of the material in this series consists of correspondence, primarily among the family members, between 1927 and Lyrl's death in 1973. Much of this correspondence occurred during World War II when Tom was serving as an Army Air Corps pilot and later moved to Venezuela. Other items in this series include Tom's military and personal records, the family's travel records to South America from 1929 to 1930, and various newspaper articles and other documents related to other members of Lyrl's family.

**Series 2: Professional Records, 1913-1973, n.d., Boxes 5-6**

Materials in this series relate to Lyrle's professional activities, including her participation in the Daughters of the American Revolution and We, the Mothers, Mobilize for America, Inc., as well as her editorship of the newsletter *Women's Voice*. Documents and newspaper articles regarding Lyrle's political and religious views are also included in this series as well as items related to her trial for libel in 1952. Materials in this series include articles, correspondence, newsletters, brochures, speeches, and handwritten notes.

**Series 3: Photographs, 1892-1982, n.d., Boxes 6-8**

This series contains photographs of Lyrle's family, including her husband, children, and grandchildren. Also included are photographs of the farm Lyrle grew up on in Ohio and photographs from her childhood that include her parents and sisters. A scrapbook compiled by Lyrle when she was a young adult and Tom's baby book are also part of this series.

**Series 4: Journals, 1907-1973, n.d., Boxes 9-12**

Lyrle's handwritten journals comprise this series. The journals span from 1907 until her death in 1973. Also included are typewritten transcriptions of some of the journals between 1907 and 1955.

**Series 5: Books, 1881-1969, n.d., Boxes 13-15**

This series contains books from Lyrle's library, covering topics from religion to politics to poetry. Most of the books discuss Christian Science and the "I AM" Activity, while many of the others reflect Lyrle's political views.

**Series 6: Three-Dimensional Objects, 1940-1978, n.d., Boxes 16-18**

Three-dimensional objects from Lyrle's life comprise this series, including her sweater, pins, watch face, lace banquet cloth, engraved silverware, a painting of her home in New Mexico, and two framed photographs of the Clark farm in Ohio. Also included in this series are Tom's flying scarf and a Chicago Adventurers' Club banner given to him in 1954.

**Series 7: Restricted Material, Box 19**

These materials are restricted until 2034.

**Subjects:**

Antisemitism  
Antisemitism--United States  
Antisemitism--United States--Societies, etc.  
Christian Science--Doctrines  
Christian Scientists  
Conservative women  
I AM Religious Activity  
Mothers' movement  
Van Hyning, Lyrle Clark  
We, the Mothers, Mobilize for America, Inc.

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Women and politics  
*Women's Voice*  
World War II

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<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Dates</u>
<b>Series 1: Family Records, 1920-1973, 2009, n.d.</b>			
1	1	Correspondence	1927-1941, n.d.
	2	Correspondence	January-June 1942
	3	Correspondence	July-December 1942
	4	Correspondence	January-June 1943
	5	Correspondence	July-December 1943
	6	Correspondence	1944
2	1	Correspondence	1945
	2	Correspondence	1946
	3	Correspondence	1947-1948
	4	Correspondence	1949-1951
	5	Correspondence	1952
	6	Correspondence	1953-1954
3	1	Correspondence	1955-1956
	2	Correspondence	1957-1961
	3	Correspondence	1962-1965
	4	Correspondence	1966-1973
	5	<i>El Sol</i>	1971
	6	Miscellaneous Family Records	1936-1964, n.d.
4	1	Newspaper Articles	1965, n.d.
	2	Parrie Ann Van Hyning Shortle	1920-1975, n.d.
	3	Tom Van Hyning: Congressional Run	1946
	4	Tom Van Hyning: Diaries	1943, n.d.
	5	Tom Van Hyning: Expense Account	1946
	6	Tom Van Hyning: Pedigree Chart	2009
	7	Tom Van Hyning: Personal Records	1920-1939
	8	Tom Van Hyning: Personal Records	1941-1944
	9	Tom Van Hyning: Personal Records	1945-1947
5	1	Tom Van Hyning: Personal Records	1949-1955
	2	Unattributed Poetry	1970, n.d.
	3	Van Hyning Family Venezuelan Documents	1929-1930

**Series 2: Professional Records, 1913-1973, n.d.**

4	Articles about Lyrl	1942-1973
5	Brochures and Stationery	n.d.
6	Daughters of the American Revolution	1928-1960, n.d.
7	Libel Trial	1952
8	Political Views: Documents	1933-1972, n.d.

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9	Political Views: Newspaper Articles	1925-1967, n.d.
10	Religious Views	1914-1951, n.d.
11	Rio Grande College Materials	1913-1917
12	South America	1929-1958, n.d.
13	Speeches and Notes	1920-1942, n.d.
6	1 We, the Mothers, Mobilize for America, Inc.	1941-1945, n.d.
	2 <i>Women's Voice</i>	1944-1960, n.d.
	3 <i>Women's Voice</i> Correspondence	1947-1967

**Series 3: Photographs, 1892-1982, n.d.**

4	Clark Family	1906-1968, n.d.
5	George H. Van Hyning	1892-1960, n.d.
6	Leila "Aleita" Albert Van Hyning	1935-1945
7	Lyrl and George Van Hyning	1913-1915, n.d.
8	Lyrl and George Van Hyning Family	1919-1971, n.d.
9	Lyrl and George Van Hyning's Homes	n.d.
10	Lyrl Clark Van Hyning	1892-1970, n.d.
7	1 Parrie Ann Van Hyning Shortle	1918-1940, n.d.
	2 Parrie Ann and Samuel Shortle Family	1948, n.d.
	3 Parrie Theresa Van Hyning	1953-1969, n.d.
	4 Shirley Barger Van Hyning Stahmann	1940-1957, n.d.
	5 Tom Van Hyning	1919-1982, n.d.
	6 Tom and Shirley Van Hyning Family	n.d.
	7 Van Hyning Family	1898-1964, n.d.
	8 Venezuela	1950-1952, n.d.
	9 <i>Women's Voice</i> Staff	n.d.
8	1 Lyrl's Scrapbook	n.d.
	2 Lyrl's Scrapbook: Loose Photos	n.d.
	3 Lyrl's Scrapbook: Loose Materials	1915-1916, n.d.
	4 Tom's Baby Book	1919
	5 Tom's Baby Book: Loose Photos	n.d.
	6 Tom's Baby Book: Loose Materials	1919-1924, n.d.

**Series 4: Journals, 1907-1973, n.d.**

9	1 Lyrl's Journal: n.d.	n.d.
	2 Lyrl's Journal: 1907-1918, 1915, 1937, 1967	1907-1967
	3 Lyrl's Journal: 1913-1915	1913-1915
	4 Lyrl's Journal: 1920	1920
	5 Lyrl's Journal: 1934-1938	1934-1938
	6 Lyrl's Journal: 1935-1936	1935-1936
	7 Lyrl's Journal: 1936-1938, 1959	1936-1938, 1959

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	8	Lyrl's Journal: 1937	1937
	9	Lyrl's Journal: 1938-1940	1938-1940
	10	Lyrl's Journal: 1939-1941	1939-1941
10	1	Transcriptions of Lyrl's Journals	1907-1955
	2	Lyrl's Journal: 1945, 1961	1945, 1961
	3	Lyrl's Journal: 1945, 1961-1965	1945, 1961-1965
	4	Lyrl's Journal: 1952-1955	1952-1955
	5	Lyrl's Journal: 1955	1955
	6	Lyrl's Journal: 1960	1960
	7	Lyrl's Journal: 1963	1963
	8	Lyrl's Journal: 1964, 1971	1964, 1971
11	1	Lyrl's Journal: 1964-1969	1964-1969
	2	Lyrl's Journal: 1965-1967	1965-1967
	3	Lyrl's Journal: 1966-1968	1966-1968
12	1	Lyrl's Journal: 1967-1969	1967-1969
	2	Lyrl's Journal: 1970-1973	1970-1973

**Series 5: Books, 1881-1969, n.d.**

13	1	<i>Christian Science and Organized Religion</i> , Hugh A. Studdert Kennedy	1930
	2	<i>The Constitution Explained</i> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> ed., Harry Atwood	1962
	3	<i>The Disappearance</i> , Philip Wylie	1951
	4	<i>English Poems</i> , ed. Walter C. Bronson	1907
	5	<i>Ex America</i> , Garet Garrett	1951
	6	<i>A Fair Barbarian</i> , Frances Hodgson Burnett	1881
	7	<i>Holy Bible</i>	n.d.
	8	<i>"I AM" Ascended Master Forgiveness and Mercy Decrees</i>	1950
	9	<i>"I AM" Decrees for America's Freedom</i>	1941
	10	<i>"I AM" Decrees for Violet Consuming Flame – Part II</i>	1947
14	1	<i>"I AM" Decrees for Violet Consuming Flame – Part I</i>	1941
	2	<i>"I AM" Decrees for Violet Consuming Flame – Part II</i>	1947
	3	<i>"I AM" Decrees for Violet Consuming Flame – Part III</i>	1952
	4	<i>The "I AM" Discourses</i> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> ed., Godfré Ray King	1945
	5	<i>"I AM" The Law Decrees – Part I</i>	1951
	6	<i>"I AM" The Law Decrees – Part I</i>	1951
	7	<i>"I AM" Violet Flames Series II</i>	1965
	8	<i>The Iliad of Homer</i> , trans. Alexander Pope	1919
	9	<i>I Say Sunrise</i> , Talbot Mundy	1974
	10	<i>The Law of Liberty</i> , L. Fry	1963
	11	<i>Law of Life: Book II</i> , A. D. K. Luk	1960

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12		<i>Let the Hurricane Roar</i> , Rose Wilder Lane	1948
13		<i>Life and Teaching of Jesus and Mary</i> , A. D. K. Luk	1966
14		<i>The Life Everlasting</i> , Marie Corelli	1911
15		<i>The Master Christian</i> , Marie Corelli	1900
15	1	<i>The Mountain on the Desert: A Philosophical Journey</i> , Conrad Richter	1966
	2	<i>New Horizons: Beyond the World</i> , Frank Bowman	1969
	3	<i>The Odyssey of Homer</i> , trans. Alexander Pope	1911
	4	<i>Old Ugly-Face</i> , Talbot Mundy	1950
	5	<i>One Hundred and One Famous Poems</i> , revised ed., Roy J. Cook	1958
	6	<i>Our Messenger's "I AM" Speaks</i>	1941
	7	<i>Pentecostal Hymns: Number Three</i> , Henry Date	1902
	8	<i>The Prophet</i> , Kahlil Gibran	1945
	9	<i>Quiet Talks with the Master</i> , Eva Bell Werber	1947
	10	<i>The Revelation to John</i> , Aylmer Firebrace,	1963
	11	<i>A Royal Diadem</i> , Walter C. Lanyon	1921
	12	<i>Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures</i> , Mary Baker Eddy	1934
	13	<i>Scriptural Healing Arranged from the Bible</i> , Helen L. Young	1907
16	1	<i>Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures</i> , Mary Baker Eddy	1934
	2	<i>The Voice of the "I AM,"</i> no. 3, May 1936	1936
	3	<i>The Voice of the "I AM,"</i> no. 3, May 1936	1936
	4	<i>The Voice of the "I AM,"</i> no. 6, August 1937	1937
	5	<i>The Voice of the "I AM,"</i> no. 10, December 1937	1937
	6	<i>The Voice of the "I AM,"</i> no. 6, August 1939	1939
	7	<i>The Voice of the "I AM,"</i> no. 10, December 1941	1941
	8	<i>The Voice of the "I AM,"</i> no. 3, March 1945	1945
	9	<i>The Voice of the "I AM,"</i> no. 5, May 1945	1945
	10	<i>The Voice of the "I AM,"</i> no. 5, May 1945	1945
	11	<i>The Voice of the "I AM,"</i> no. 8, August 1947	1947
	12	<i>The Voice of the "I AM,"</i> no. 9, September 1947	1947
	13	<i>The Voice of the "I AM,"</i> no. 1, January 1948	1948
	14	<i>The Voice of the "I AM,"</i> no. 12, December 1948	1948
	15	<i>The Voice of the "I AM,"</i> no. 8, August 1950	1950
	16	<i>The Voice of the "I AM,"</i> no. 4, April 1951	1951
	17	<i>The Voice of the Silence</i> , H. P. Blavatsky	1946
	18	<i>War—What For?</i> , 10 <sup>th</sup> ed., George R. Kirkpatrick	1914

**Series 6: Three-Dimensional Objects, 1940-1978, n.d.**

17	1	Sweater	n.d.
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18	1	Pins and watch face	n.d.
	2	Engraved silver knife and fork set	n.d.
	3	Lace banquet cloth	1940s
	4	Tom's flying scarf	n.d.
	5	Tom's Chicago Adventurers' Club banner	1954
19	1	Framed photos of Lyril on the Clark farm	n.d.
	2	Painting of Lyril's home in New Mexico	1978

**Series 7: Restricted Material**

20	Restricted Material
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