

# **Guide to the Elizabeth Curtis French Papers 2006-004**

**Finding aid prepared by Karen L. Anderson Peterson, Archivist. Resource record in Archivists' Toolkit created by Crystal Rodgers, Student Assistant.**

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This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Oregon Health & Science University Historical Collections & Archives

2013/8/6

3181 SW Sam Jackson Park Road

Portland, Oregon, LIB

503-494-3239

[peterska@ohsu.edu](mailto:peterska@ohsu.edu)

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	Oregon Health & Science University Historical Collections & Archives
<b>Creator - Collector</b>	French, Elizabeth Curtis , M.D.
<b>Title</b>	Elizabeth Curtis French Papers
<b>Date [bulk]</b>	Bulk, 1933-1937
<b>Date [inclusive]</b>	1926-1937
<b>Extent</b>	0.25 Linear feet 1 folder
<b>Location</b>	Archives, Room 440, Old Library, Marquam Hill Campus
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Abstract</b>	<p>The materials consist of manuscripts, correspondence, and other documents created and/or collected by Elizabeth Curtis French, M.D., spanning years 1926 to 1937. French (1907-1997) completed her medical degree at the University of Oregon Medical School, served an internship at the Illinois Research Hospital in Chicago becoming proficient in child delivery, and completed a residency at the Women's and Children's Hospital in San Francisco, California. French eventually established a medical practice in Portland, Oregon, specializing in gynecology and obstetrics. She continued practicing until her retirement at the age of 81, having delivered over 7,000 babies in a career span of 60 years.</p>

### Preferred Citation

Elizabeth Curtis French Papers, Accession No. 2006-004, Oregon Health & Science University Historical Collections & Archives

## Biography - Historical Note

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Elizabeth Curtis French, M.D., was born in Picabo, Idaho on November 7, 1907. She enrolled as a pre-med student at the University of Idaho and continued her studies at the University of Oregon Medical School in Portland, Oregon. She graduated in 1931 at the age of 23, 1 of 4 female medical students out of a class of 75. She served an internship at the Illinois Research Hospital in Chicago, becoming proficient in child delivery. After a year, she completed a residency at the Women's and Children's Hospital in San Francisco, California. French then returned to Weiser, Idaho where she established a general practice.

In 1942, Elizabeth Curtis met and married Donald French. Soon after, she and her husband moved to Portland where she administered first aid to shipyard workers. In 1945, Elizabeth gave birth to her first and only child, Donald. She established a medical office in Portland and specialized in obstetrics and gynecology.

French's husband Donald passed away in 1972. She continued to practice until 1979, reluctantly retiring at the age of 81. After retirement, French traveled extensively, eventually settling in Tucson, Arizona where she gardened, mastered the computer, and began writing an autobiography.

French died of lymphoma at the age of 89 on June 22, 1997, having delivered 7,000 babies in a career span of 60 years.

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## Scope and Contents

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The Elizabeth Curtis French Papers contain 1 folder of manuscripts, correspondence, and other documents created and/or collected by Elizabeth Curtis French, M.D.

Manuscripts include 2 copies of paper, "Lukemia", most likely composed by French as well as the 1926 revision of McKim Marriot's "Notes on Infant Nutrition", used by A.E. Gourdeau and L. Howard Smith of the University of Oregon Medical School's Department of Pediatrics. The Marriot manuscript contains handwritten notes.

Documents include 2 pages of handwritten notes on infant nutrition; notes on powdered milk versus irradiated milk; voucher for services and supplies; Appendix II of War Department Regulations, Relief of Unemployment, Civilian Conservation Corps - Standards of Physical Examination for Applicants for Enrollment in the Civilian Conservation Corps; and State of Idaho Unemployment Compensation Division, Industrial Accident Board's Employers Monthly Contribution Report.

Correspondence includes three letters of diagnosis; reply to Lyle B. Kingery, M.D., regarding patient consultation; and letter to all employers from the State of Idaho Unemployment Compensation Division, Industrial Accident Board regarding monthly contribution report.

## **Arrangement**

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Materials were found in a folder among other small collections. There is no clear order to the materials.

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## **Administrative Information**

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### **Publication Information**

Oregon Health & Science University Historical Collections & Archives 2013/8/6

### **Restrictions on Access**

No restrictions on access. The collection is open to the public.

### **Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use**

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### **Acquisition Information**

No details of provenance were known at the time of processing. The materials were found in the storage room of the OHSU HC& A. Archivist, Karen Peterson accessioned and processed the materials.

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## **Related Materials**

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### **Related Archival Materials**

#### **Historical Image Collection:**

The Historical Image Collection contains images of Elizabeth Curtis French, M.D., as well as photographs of other University of Oregon Medical School students and staff. To view images, see the OHSU Digital Resources Library:

Elizabeth Curtis, M.D., commencement portrait, 1931

<http://drl.ohsu.edu/cdm/singleitem/collection/hom/id/3094/rec/4>

**Related archival collections:**

Lucy I. Davis Phillip Collection, Accession Number 2004-030

**Biographical Files:**

See Biographical Files for additional biographical information related to Elizabeth Curtis French, M.D.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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### Occupation(s)

- Gynecology
- Physicians, Women

### Subject(s)

- General Practitioners
- Idaho
- Infant Nutritional Physiology
- Leukemia
- Medicine and Health
- Obstetrics
- Oregon
- University of Idaho.
- University of Oregon.Medical School

Manuscripts

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## Collection Inventory

Folder 1

### Manuscripts

"Leukemia" - 2 copies, n.d.

"Notes on Infant Nutrition" by McKim Marriot, 1926

### Documents

Handwritten notes on childhood nutrition, n.d.

Powdered milks versus irradiated milk, n.d.

Appendix II of War Department Regulations, Relief of Unemployment, Civilian Conservation Corps, 1935/5/15

Public voucher for services and supplies of hospitals and physicians, n.d.



## Correspondence

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State of Idaho Unemployment Compensation Division, Industrial Accident Board: Employers  
Monthly Contribution Report, 1937/7

### Correspondence

To Lyle B. Kingery, re: consultation, 1935/11/29

To all employers from State of Idaho Unemployment Compensation Division, Industrial Accident  
Board regarding employer's monthly contribution report form, 1937/7/3

### Letters of diagnosis

re: Clarence Speaks, 1936/5/29

re: Torrey B. Woodruff, 1936/4/16

Connie Barton neurological examination, 1933/11/18