GOODSELL PAPERS
JANE NEUBERGER GOODSELL PAPERS

Provenance: The Jane Neuberger Goodsell Papers are a gift of her daughter, Kate Goodsell Marquez.

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Access: Please consult with the Reed College Library Special Collections Librarian.

Size: The Jane Neuberger Goodsell Papers consist of two manuscript boxes, or 1 linear foot.

Processed by: Mark Kuestner

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Biography

Jane Neuberger Goodsell was born in Portland, Oregon, on March 23, 1921. Her parents, Isaac and Ruth Neuberger were owners of popular Bohemian restaurants and bakeries. Her brother was the late U.S. Senator, Richard L. Neuberger. She attended Lincoln High School and graduated from Reed College in 1942 with a bachelor’s degree in English Literature.

Her career as a writer began early in her adult life, as she was raising three daughters. Her humor column, “From Soup to Nonsense,” was syndicated in the national labor press. Her first book, Katie’s Magic Glasses, was published by Houghton Mifflin in 1965, her last, Not a Good Word About Anybody, in 1988. She published three biographies for children: Eleanor Roosevelt, (1970), Mayo Brothers, (1972), and Daniel Inouye, (1978). The last work won the Carter Woodson Book Award given by the National Council for Social Studies.

Jane Goodsell was a member of the board of the Institute of Literary Arts, an organization founded to enhance the work of writers in Oregon. She served on a food-judging panel in 1977, assisting with the Oregonian’s James Beard Recipe Contest, and was an active alumna of Reed College, receiving the Distinguished Service Award of the
Foster-Scholz Club of the college’s alumni association in June, 1988. She died on September 7, 1988 at her home in Portland, Oregon.

[From the obituary that appeared in the Oregonian, 9/9/88]

Scope and Contents

The Jane Neuberger Goodsell Papers consists of newspaper clippings and reviews of her published works, biographical data, correspondence with her publisher about Katy’s Magic Glasses, typed manuscripts with corrections of: “My Face is Familiar” (published as I’ve Only Got Two Hands... along with reviews and promotional flyers), a collection of her newspaper column: “Soup to Nonsense”, unpublished manuscript files, a first draft of: “Wouldn’t It be Silly?”, a collection of poetry, and a draft and revision of Good For Nothing Witch.

Box Index

BOX 1

1:1 Biographical information (newspaper clippings, reviews, Memorial Service)
1:2 Poetry: (birthdays, holidays and general)
1:3 “Good For Nothing Witch”, drafts and revisions (typescripts with pencil corrections)
1:4 Reviews and promotional flyers for I’ve Only Got Two Hands And I’m Busy Wringing Them

BOX 2

2:1 Typescript of Katie’s Magic Glasses, and relevant correspondence dated October 13, 1963
2:2 Edited proof of I’ve Only Got Two Hands... (original title: “My Face is Familiar”), with pencil and ink corrections, and suggestions by Doubleday editor, Ken McCormick
2:3 “Soup to Nonsense”, columns written from 1980 to 1988, released by Press Associates, Inc. (PAI)
2:4 Unpublished manuscripts: “Wouldn’t It Be Silly?” (first drafts); “Mr. Winkle’s Wonderful Word Store”, (July 1967), “Miranda’s Magical Brew”, (1984), and an untitled fragment, chapters 2 and 3, with comments from Marie Rodell (literary agent), dated September 22, 1958