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ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA

MCFATRIDGE, ARTHUR E., 1867-1943

PAPERS, 1890-1940
(bulk dates, 1890-1917)
Quantity.25 linear ft.

ACQUISITION: Collection donated by Dorothy McFATRIDGE
McBRIDE

ACCESS: This collection is open for research without
restrictions.

PHOTOGRAPHS: The Photographs are located in Box 1.

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Dakota. Permission to reprint material from the
papers must be obtained from the Archives and
Special Collections of the University of South
Dakota.

PROCESSED BY: Anne Hinseth, August 2001

History

Arthur E. McFatrige was born to John and Nancy Wyatt McFatrige on May 9, 1867 in Ripley County, Indiana. He grew up in the Holton, Indiana where his father was a blacksmith. McFatrige graduated from Holton High School and then went on to study at Southern Indian Normal College in Mitchell, Indiana. After graduation, he taught at Holton and eventually was promoted to principal of schools. In 1890, he married Clara Cox and they had one son, Leslie who was born July 9, 1891.

In 1898, McFatrige resigned his post to accept a position to teach on the Rosebud Indian Reservation at He Dog's Camp Day School. His wife Clara became the housekeeper for the school, which also included teaching the girls homemaking skills. McFatrige taught for three years and was then promoted to Rosebud Day School Inspector.

In 1905, McFatrige left Rosebud to become Superintendent at the Winnebago Reservation in Nebraska. He also served at the Umatilla Reservation in Oregon and the Blackfoot Reservation in Montana. While in Montana, McFatrige founded and edited the newspaper *Browning Review* in 1915. In 1917, he quit his job at the reservation and became a Clerk of the Board of Examiners. In 1927, McFatrige and his family moved to Portland, Oregon and then later to Seattle, Washington. After his wife Clara died in 1935, McFatrige moved back to Billings, Montana and served two terms in the Montana State House of Representatives.

Arthur E. McFatrige died in Billings, Montana on December 25, 1943.

Scope and Content Note

The Arthur E. McFatrige Collection was given to the University of South Dakota by McFatrige's granddaughter, Dorothy McFatrige McBride, in April 1971. The collection is comprised of photocopies of McFatrige's papers and photograph reprints from the original glass negatives. The collection is divided into three series:

Manuscripts, Photographs and Typescripts.

The **Manuscripts** and **Typescripts** series contains McFatrige's written observations and descriptions of life on the reservation. Both series contain no original documents, but are comprised of photocopies of the original works. Preservation copies were made because of the high acidity levels in the photocopies. Of special interest included in the **Typescripts** series is a draft version of McFatrige's book on his experiences at Rosebud, *Among the Indians A Study of the Habits, Customs and characteristics of the Ogallala 1898-1905*. He worked on the draft for many years but the book was never published. Many of the articles and photographs in this collection are present in the book.

The **Photographs** series contains reprints of McFatrige photographs he took at the Rosebud Reservation and the Blackfoot Reservation. The Rosebud photographs were taken from 1898-1905. A majority of the photos are numbered and the photographs are arranged by photo number. Photos provide detailed information on the back. Photos numbered 18, 21, 23, 76, 77 79, 80, 82-110, and 113-116 were not included with the collection. Additional information about photographs is available on the Richardson Photograph Database.

Subjects

Rosebud Indian Reservation (S.D.) – History
Great Blackfeet Reservation (Mont.) -- History
Oglala Indians

Additional Resources

Arthur McFatrige Collection, American Indian Photograph Collection, South Dakota State Archives

McBride, Dorothy McFatrige.

Arthur E. McFatrige: Hoosier Schoolmaster Among the Sioux. Montana: The Magazine of Western History 20 (4): 78-97. 1970.

2nd Floor Periodicals

Stout, Tom

Montana, its story and biography; a history of aboriginal and territorial Montana and three decades of statehood. Chicago and New York, American Historical Society, 1921.

Black Hills State University, Case Western Historical Studies F731 .S875 v.1
7222 v.2 722

Box No. Description

Box 1

MANUSCRIPTS (2 folders)

Home life, duties of the wife, husband, care of the children
Home Life of the Indian, Health, Eating Habits, and pregnancy
Indian Courtship and Marriage
Indians before and after establishment of Reservations
Law, Punishment, Divorce among the Indians
Making of Pemmican
Pemmican on a grave
Their First Santa Claus

PHOTOGRAPHS

Rosebud Reservation (4 folders)
Numbered Photographs 1-117
Unnumbered Photographs

TYPESCRIPTS (2 folders)

*Among the Indians A Study of the Habits, Customs and characteristics
of the Ogallala 1898-1905, 1937*
Biography of Arthur E. McFatrige, 1921
How Indian Name their children, 1915
Prairie Indian and the Timber Indian, Way of Life
The Religion of the Indian, 1915
Sickness, Death and Burial of the Indian, 1915
Significance of the Painted Face, 1915
The Teepee of the American Indian, 1915

Preservation Photocopies (2 folders)