

LESTER, Muriel (1883-1968) (LESTER)

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Name of Creator:

Lester, Muriel (1883-1968) Christian Pacifist

Extent:

30 Boxes

Administrative/Biographical History:

Peace campaigner, community worker and writer, Muriel Lester was born in 1883 at Gainsborough Lodge, Leytonstone, Essex, the third daughter of a wealthy businessman, Henry Edward Lester, and his third wife, Rachel Mary Goodwin. In 1908 Muriel and her sister Doris moved to Bow (now Bromley by Bow) in London's East End and became active in providing social and educational activities in the community. The sisters were joined by their younger brother, Kingsley, who died in 1914. The following year, with financial help from their father, the sisters bought a disused chapel as a 'teetotal pub' to give local people, evening meeting place. It was named Kingsley Hall, in memory of their brother. Muriel and Doris then set up the first purpose-built 'Children's House' in London. Designed by Charles Cowles Voysey according to the ideas of Maria Montessori, it was opened in 1923.

From 1922 to 1926, Muriel served as an Alderman on George Lansbury's radical Poplar Borough Council, chairing the Maternal and Child Welfare Committee. In 1928 Cowles Voysey designed a new, purpose-built Kingsley Hall for the sisters, combining the functions of a community centre and place of worship. Muriel herself took on the role of vicar. In 1929 the sisters set up a second Kingsley Hall was on the vast new Becontree Estate in Dagenham, Essex, where many Bow residents had been relocated as part of the slum clearance programme.

Muriel took a pacifist stance in 1914 and was a founding member of the Christian pacifist organization, the Fellowship of Reconciliation (FoR). She travelled to India in 1926 to meet M.K.Gandhi: this was the start of a warm friendship. In 1931. attending the Round Table Conference on Indian independence in London, Gandhi stayed at Kingsley Hall in Bow. In 1934 Muriel Lester began her work as travelling secretary for the International Fellowship of Reconciliation. Over the next years she carried a message of Christian nonviolence into the very heart of conflict situations all over the world. She had a large following in the USA. The success of her anti-war speeches there led to her detention in Trinidad in 1941. She mixed easily with the humble but impressed many influential figures, among them Clement Attlee, George Lansbury, Lord Lytton, Lord Halifax, Gandhi, Nehru, Kenyatta, Mandela, H.G. Wells, Eleanor Roosevelt, Madame Chiang Kaishek, Sybil Thorndike, and Vera Brittain.

Muriel Lester was an exponent of practical Christianity, but her writings also reveal deep spirituality. In addition to copious Travel Letters, She wrote numerous articles and had over twenty works published, including two autobiographical accounts, It Occurred to Me (1939) and It So Happened (1947). During a trip to Japan she was once dubbed Mother of World Peace; more formal recognition of her work came in 1964 when Muriel was awarded the freedom of

the borough of Poplar. She died on 11 February 1968 at her home, Kingsley Cottage, Loughton, Essex. A thanksgiving service was held at Kingsley Hall, Bow, on 4 April; her body was donated to science.

Custodial History:

Many of Muriel and Doris Lester's private papers were stored after their death at Kingsley Hall Dagenham by Sydney Russell. Jill Wallis included some other material that she had gathered when writing Muriel's biography, such as the photocopied matter from Swarthmore College and copies of photos and other donated or loaned items.

The Muriel Lester Archive was loaned to Bishopsgate Institute in August 2011.

Scope and Content:

The collection consists of correspondence, diaries and autobiographical notes, scrapbooks, photographs and drafts, produced by Muriel Lester as founder of Kingsley Hall and as Secretary for the International Fellowship of Reconciliation. This second role, as well as promotion of Christian pacifism, led Muriel to travel widely, including several visits to Japan and China. Also included are leaflets, reports, pamphlets, documents and photographs of Kingsley Halls and Children's House Bow, and Kingsley Hall Dagenham. Further material includes Doris Lester's personal papers, the files collected by Sydney Russell as Minister Warden of Kingsley Hall Dagenham, Winifred Barnard's material and publications collected by Lester and others, (1878-1991).

System of Arrangement:

The papers of Muriel Lester are divided into the following nine sections:

LESTER/1: Diaries

LESTER/2: Papers and Correspondence

LESTER/3: Doris Lester Files LESTER/4: Sydney Russell Files LESTER/5: Winifred Barnard Files

LESTER/6: Photographs

LESTER/7: Books, Leaflets and Reports

LESTER/8: Swarthmore College Peace Collection

LESTER/9: Microfilm

Language/scripts of material:

English

Access conditions:

OPEN

Copying conditions:

Documents cannot be photocopied at present. Digital photography (without flash) is permitted for research purposes on completion of the Library's Copyright Declaration form and with respect to current UK copyright law.

Finding Aids:

Copy of handlist available in Library Reading Room.

Rules and Conventions:

Compiled in compliance with General International Standard Archival Description, ISAD(G), second edition, 2000; National Council on Archives Rules for the Construction of Personal, Place and Corporate Names, 1997.

LESTER/1 Diaries 1878-1968 Diaries and notebooks kept by Muriel Lester, (1878-1968) **OPEN** LESTER/1/1 Diaries 1878-1939 1878-1939 1.- Lester family writing album 1888-1896, plus loose leaves from 1878 2.- Diary 1897-1906 3.- Bruce Road Adult School Minute Book 1914-1927 4.- Visitors Book, Kingsley Hall and Children's House, Bow 1916-1932 (includes Gandhi's signature) 5.- Kingsley Hall Sunday Evening Fellowship, records of business meetings 1932-1939 6.- Diary India March-May 1934 7.- Visitors Book, Kingsley Hall, Dagenham, 1930-1980 (includes Gandhi's signature) **OPEN** Diaries 1936-1968 1936-1968 LESTER/1/2 1.- Diary China, India and Ceylon January-March 1936 2.- Diary 1937-1939 3.- Five year Diary 1937-1939 4.- A Line a Day Diary 1939-1941 5.- Five year diary 1949-1953 6.- Diary South Africa February-May 1950 7.- Diary Germany August-September 1950 8.- Diary January-April 1954, autobiographical notes and drafts of letters 1963 9.- Notebook with diary entries for July-December 1954, autobiographical notes and drafts of letters 1963-1964 10.-Year by Year Diary 1955-1958 11.-Notebook with autobiographical notes after 1964 12.-Notebook with advice to her executors, 29th January 1968 (on pp.25 and 106 Muriel assigns to Kingsley Hall, Dagenham or Kingsley Hall, Bow, her books ,letters, relevant manuscripts and photographs) 13.-'Jotter' with autobiographical notes

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14.-Loose-leaf notes on financing Kingsley Halls (Bow and

Dagenham) and Children's House, 1930

OPEN

LESTER/2 Papers and Correspondence

1912-1965

Papers and correspondence, (1912-1965). Includes:

- Lester's private papers and correspondence
- Official Kingsley Hall Bow and Kingsley Hall Dagenham material
- Lester's papers about India (including letters from Ghandi) and her other international travel
- Letters and newspaper cuttings about Lester's detention in $\operatorname{Trinidad}$
- Material about Fellowship of Reconciliation
- Papers of George Aylwinn Hogg, Allan Hunter, Linus Pauling and Kathleen Hogg
- Newspaper cuttings and scrapbooks about all aspects of Lester's work

OPEN

LESTER/2/1	Drafts	1936-1965
	Typescript and handwritten drafts of Muriel Lester's memoires and other writings, (1936-1965)	
LESTER/2/1/1	National Preaching Mission Scroll of Thanks and Greetings from Harijan School	1936
	National Preaching Mission Scroll of Thanks Presented to Muriel Lester and Greetings from Harijan School, (1936) Open	
LESTER/2/1/2	Autobiographical Notes and Prayers	1959-1964
	Handwritten autobiographical draft, roughly organised into chapters. Includes corrections made by Muriel Lester and four prayers, (28 July 1959 to 8 December 1964) Open	
LESTER/2/1/3	Drafts 'It occurred to me'	(n.d.)
	Drafts of 'It occurred to me', (14 September - 27 November [?]). Includes: - Homes-Limited! - Brewhemos - We go camping - A street fight and a sequel - It occurred to me -Non-violence and its implications explained (Report as recorded by the local newspaper Correspondent) Open	
LESTER/2/1/4	Drafts	1960
	Drafts, (1960). Includes: - 'A nineteenth century child' - Number one Bates' alley - Number two Bates' alley - No 4 Bates' alley - Number six Bates' Alley - My neighbour's life - Copy of Broadcast transcript 'Victorian Sunday' Kathleen Lester Hogg (11 May 1960) Open	
LESTER/2/1/5	Draft Autobiographical Accounts	1965
	Drafts of Muriel Lester's autobiography (1965) Includes: - Prologue, Draft autobiography (1965) - From 1883 (1965) - A death bed can be fun - St. Leonards School for Girls - At 18 - Bow - Kingsley Hall - 1916 - Very early account of finding the prayer of	

relaxation

- 'Seven times round', 'Our Al' [Alice Whipps]
Open

LESTER/2/2 Kingsley Hall Files

1915-1963

Correspondence of Muriel Lester regarding her private life and work, (1927-1963)

LESTER/2/2/1 Kingsley Hall

1915-1947

Kingsley Hall papers, (1915-1947). Includes:

- Kingsley Hall. An outline of the aims of the organisation and its current programme (n.d.)
- Invitation to Kingsley Hall's Foundation Day (February 15 [?])
- Interim Report 1938-1939 (8 June [1939])
- Membership Card of John Docker (n.d)
- Invitation to First Anniversary Meeting [1916]
- Leaflet on The Opening of the Children's House, Bow, with Prayers (n.d)
- 1 page printed page by Muriel Lester, about her resignation as Director of Kingsley Hall
- Photograph, two sides. A seaside trip, On an outing 1938, and Doris and Muriel with caption: At 10 Downing Street with Mrs Attlee and Reg Sorenson M.P Lobbying for Nursery Schools. (with handwritten correction)
- Leaflet on the Children's House (n.d)
- Leaflet: Titled, A Challenge, Have you considered your responsibility for the Destiny of the People of India?
- Kingsley Hall Sunday Evening Fellowship (Handwritten) with prayer and Kingsley Hall Evening Club Membership: Club Programme (n.d)
- Kingsley Hall Opening Meeting, (13 February [1915])
- Kingsley Hall, the rules and objectives (n.d)
- The Rule: details of responsibilities for Children's House
- Letter to Muriel from Coleman (11September [?])
- Accounts: Statement of Accounts (From 1 September [1944] 31 March [1947])

Open

LESTER/2/2/2 Kingslev Hall, Bow

1936-1962

- Account of Early History of Kingsley Hall, Bow, (1936-1962) Kingsley Hall Bow Files. Includes:
- -Instructions for members of Kingsley Hall (n.d)
- Printed letter from Muriel Lester: Dear Comrades of Number Sixty (n.d)
- Impact of Nature, Society and Religion on Personality Incomplete (n.d.)
- The Prayer Group, an Account of a prayer group meeting (n.d.)
- Holiday School An Experiment (n.d.)
- For the Consideration of the Member of the Church Fellowship (n.d.)
- A Way of Life (n.d)

Prayers and Orders of Service. Includes:

- An Easter Celebration. Responsive Verses (n.d)

- Thoughts for the Prayer Vigil (April 22 [1939])
- Prayer (n.d)
- Dedication (n.d)
- An Act of Confidence in God. For Use in Times of Danger (n.d)
- Handwritten note (November 6 [?])
- Survey of Community Centres by the Metropolitan Borough of Poplar, (January [1948])
- National Federation of Community Associations in cooperation with the Educational Centres Association, (March 7 [1950] From F.S. Milligan
- Hika Ledo Gungho (Campfire Girls' magazine),no.3, (November [1949])

Open

LESTER/2/2/3 Kingsley Hall Gandhi Memorial

1927-1963

Kingsley Hall Memorial of Gandhi's Stay, (1927-1963). Includes:

- Letter from Kshitis Roy, Organising Secretary of the Memorial Museum Board of Gandhi Smarak Hidhi (October 4 [1962])
- Envelope Addressed to Muriel Lester, Registered (October $31\ [1961]$
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Kshitis Roy (November 25 [1962])
- Kingsley Hall Memorial: ways to commemorate his stay there, written by Kshitis Roy (November 14[1962]) with copy
- W.P Hossack's Reminiscences of Gandhi's Visit to Kingsley Hall (n.d.)
- Arrangements for the Tree Planting (November 6 [1963])
- A leaflet titled: A Challenge, 'Have you Considered your Responsibility for the destiny of the People of India?' (n.d.) **Open**

LESTER/2/2/4 Kingsley Cottage, Loughton

1946

The opening of Kingsley Cottage, Loughton. Includes memories and news cuttings, (1946)

Open

LESTER/2/2/5 Children's House, Bow and Kingsley Hall, Dagenham

1922-1931

Legal documents concerning Children's House, Bow and Kingsley Hall, Dagenham, (1922-1931). Includes:

- account of origins of KH Dagenham;
- receipts from Bertram Hutchings Caravans Ltd, July 1939;
- solicitor's account for purchase of land at Becontree, 2/10/29;
- bill from C. Cowles Voysey, architect, 30/10/30;
- receipt regarding purchase of Morris Motor Car, 24/2/30;
- Kingsley Hall Nursery School, Dagenham. Application for Govt Recognition (form signed by Alice Pullen);
- letter from Board of Education conferring recognition plus grant details:
- Power of Attorney, 31/7/22, allowing Percy le Mare to purchase property in Bruce Rd/Eagling Rd on behalf of Henry Lester, and erect Children's House;

- Deed of Covenant between Henry Lester and Percy le Mare, 1/8/22 regarding Children's House;
 copy of Declaration of Trust re The Children's House, 17/4/23;
- letter from ML to le Mare re CH insurance policy, 26/10/23plus reply 29/10/23.

Open

c.1912

LESTER/2/3/1 Correspondence 1914-1965

Correspondence, (1914-1965). Includes:

- Letter to Muriel Lester from B.G.P: expressions of sympathy from the members of the Sunday Morning Class (September 13 [1914])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from G.S.H Bowtle: a reply to a letter from Lester (July 29 [1914])
- Letter from Muriel Lester to her mother (n.d.)
- Letter to Muriel Lester from W.Wells: a reply to a letter from Lester (4 October [?])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from W. Wells: a description of 'my 50 little incidents in my life' (19 October [?])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Violet Lansbury. General correspondence. (12 July [1936])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Violet [Lansbury] General correspondence. (n.d.)
- Letter to Muriel [Lester] and Doris [Lester] from unknown. General correspondence (23 January [1955])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Ethel. M. Culpin. On Lester receiving freedom of the Borough of Popular for her 80th Birthday (18 December [1965])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Mrs Chesterton and Ann and Family. Christmas Greetings and family news, written on behalf of the author's mother. (n.d)
- Letter to [Muriel Lester] 'Dearest Aunt' from 'Fran' A reply to a letter from Lester, with congratulations on her recent birthday (13 December [1965])
- 'Addresses' [Bill Palfreman] Author discusses Christ, and how to understand him (n.d.)
- General Notes. Author Unknown (n.d.)
 Open

LESTER/2/3/2 Letters from Eleanor "Nellie" Dowel

Correspondence, (c.1912). Includes:

- Letter to Muriel Lester from Granny and Lilly, with best love from Nell [Eleanor Dowell]. General correspondence. (n.d.)
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Nell [Eleanor Dowell]. Contains family news. (n.d)
- Letter and envelope to Muriel Lester from Nell [Eleanor Dowell]. Wishing her a merry Christmas, Nell also sends her £1to 'do what you like' (n.d)
- Letter to Muriel Lester from [Eleanor] Nellie Dowell. In it she states how much she misses Lester, and is looking forward hearing about her travels. (13 November [?])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from [Eleanor] Nell [Dowell] Sending her regards and hoping she gets well soon (n.d)
- Letter to Muriel Lester from [Eleanor] Nell [Dowell] General correspondence (n.d) $\,$
- Letter from [Eleanor Dowell] "Nellikin" 'To all my friends at the peaceful home'. Contains family news and wishing a

13

merry Christmas and a happy New Year (n.d)

- 2 Letters to Muriel Lester. The first from [Eleanor] Nellie Dowell. General news. (14 February [1912]) The Second, also from [Eleanor] Nellie Dowell. General news. (24 March [1912])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from [Eleanor] N. Dowell. Thanking her for the chapters Lester has sent her (1 July [1912])
- From Birth to Death. By Muriel Lester. A typed draft biography on [Eleanor] Nellie [Dowell] with handwritten corrections. Incomplete. Contains pages 1-25. Also contains one page from the second draft (n.d). A much edited version appears as 'The Salt of the Earth' in Kingsley Hall Annual Report [1923]

LESTER/2/3/3 Letters from Beatrice Pryke

(n.d)

Letters from Beatrice Pryke. Includes:

- Letter to Muriel Lester from Beatrice Pryke, offering her thanks to Lester concerning Pryke's decision to stop drinking (n.d.)

Open

LESTER/2/3/4 Correspondence

1936-1968

Correspondence, (1936-1968). Includes:

- Small Poster card. Two sided. One side a quote from Gandhi with short biblical quote 'Caseth Out Fear' 1:John 4:18. Other side shows picture of Nehru and Gandhi along with handwritten address: M.S Chatterja, c/o Central Bank of India (n.d.)
- Letter to Muriel Lester from C. [Charlotte] Despard. Despard was a leading Pacifist and Feminist, with whom Lester and Eleanor Dowell marched. In this letter she disagrees about Lloyd George's susceptibility to spiritual awakening.
- Letter to Agatha [Harrison] from F. Pratt. On the subject of Muriel Lester, and the hope she will persevere against the strongholds of Imperialism. (25 February [1936])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Toyohiko Kagawa. A reply from a letter sent by Lester, it discusses Christianity in Japan, with Kagawa urging Lester not to be discouraged about the Church in Japan. (5 May [1938])
- Joint letter to the Prime Minister, signed Doris Lester, Godfrey. S. Pain and [unknown]. Complementing his attempts to avert war, they suggest giving further support for the rehabilitation of the Czechoslovakians who have lost their homes. (3 October [1938])
- Letter to Godfrey .S. Pain, from James. E. Brown, Jr. Second Secretary of Embassy (American Embassy), acknowledging the receipt by the President of Pain's letter, which expressed appreciation of the President's efforts for peace and urging a world conference be held. (7 December [1938])
- Letter addressed to 'Dear Friend' [Gandhi] from 'a few hundred of your friends in Bow' on the subject of Gandhi's fasting and general news. (n.d.)
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Halifax. Reassuring Lester that

- there has been no change in policy in the Far East, and the reduction of military and naval personnel is due to war needs. (18 January [1940])
- Letter to the Christian Century, Chicago, Illinois, from Muriel Lester. In response to an article in the New York Times written by Dr. Robert Speer, in which he advocates war, she offers three anecdotes on the impact of war on three individuals. (5 September [1940])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Baldwin of Bewdley [Stanley Baldwin] Asking her to send his thanks to Mrs. Hogg for the Penguin Special "India Since Cripps" He also discusses his trip to Cambridge and his meeting with two Antipodean Statesmen. (1 June [1944])
- Letter to the Editor of the Manchester Guardian from Muriel Lester. In response to recent Correspondence Columns, Lester discusses her experience of the situation in Kenya, with the Mau Mau, Concentration Camps, and in particular her positive view of Jomo Kenyatta (1 May, [1953]) - Letter to Percy from M.L. [Muriel Lester] Details of her stay in China (April [1954])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Lady Dorothea Head. Thanking her for her letter. Context not clear from the letter, but Head mentions she has shown the letter to her husband, who says that in circumstances like the ones described by Lester, there have been many occasions when prisoners have been put to useful work on parole. A handwritten pencil note signed DH at the bottom adds to contact that if Lester wants further details from the War Office (11 June 1954)
- Letter to unknown [Dear Sir] from Muriel Lester. Printed with handwritten edits. On the situation in Yemen and the soldiers sent to destroy houses in the mountain village of Danaba. Lester criticises, and compares it to the situation in N.E Frontier Province of India between the wars. (14 February [1958])
- Letter to Muriel [Lester] from Unknown. Incomplete. Author discusses the book of Gandhi's letters they found when they came Berlin. Includes two short copied extract from this book, both what Gandhi said to Mira Behn. Both concern the nature of life and death. (5 July [1957])
- Small piece of paper. Two sided, one side written in French by Albert [?], other side, single word precious underlined. (June [1932])
- Letter to unknown [Dear Friend] from Muriel Lester. Quoting from Clifford Allen's new book "Outside the Right" which describes the targeting of the civilian population in Germany, with private support of Air Minister Sir Archibald Sinclair, who explained that publicly the destruction of civilians should be considered incidental to the bombing of war-serving targets. Only this way could it satisfy to enquire of the Archbishop of Canterbury, and other significant religious leaders. In her own words, Lester mentions it would be reassuring to here from the present Archbishop and Moderator that official answers to their questions are more reliable nowadays. (31 March [1963])
- Letter addressed as 'Dear Friends' from Maria Refin. General news and Christmas Greetings, including the death of the author's mother. 10 December [1963])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Clem [Clement Attlee].

- Thanking Lester for her letter and saying it will be a pleasure to see her on Wednesday. Author also describes route of his campaign. (12 October [1964])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Derek Walker (Assistant Editor of the British Weekly and Christian World) Giving permission to Lester for the cutting of December 4 1952 to be quoted in her book. (25 November [1964])
- Letter to Father of countless souls [Pope Paul] from [Muriel Lester and Rosa Hobhouse]. The request a word from Pope Paul against the sanctioning by Christian Leaders of almost all branches of war (n.d.)
- Letter to Honoured Father [Pope Paul] from Muriel Lester. A short introduction to Lester, including brief outlines of her work and experiences (January [1965])
- Letter to Pope Paul from Rosa Hobhouse. A short introduction to Hobhouse, including her work in the East End, and her marriage to Stephan Hobhouse. (January [1965)
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Vice President of the United States Hubert. H. Humphrey. Author expressing his best wishes to Lester. (5 October [1967])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Mary Wilson. Thanking Lester for her letter. (10 October [1967])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Peter Benenson. The letter discusses the 6 Day War in Israel. Writing as a fellow pacifist, Benenson states while it is impossible to condemn Israel's resort to battle in light on open hostility by the Arab leaders in the region, he wishes for a peaceful solution. (18 October [1967])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Norman Bentwich, thanking her for her contribution to the Hebrew University. Bentwich also hopes that peace can be found in Israel. (2 August [1967])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Professor D.F. Seigmund-Schultze. Thanking Lester for her letter. (28 September [1967])
- Letter, hoping recipient (unknown) can visit them before the recipient goes to South America. (n.d.)
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Sybil [Thorndike] and Lewis [Casson] $(\mbox{n.d})$
- Letter to Alice Whipps from Sybil [Thorndike] on Muriel's death (n.d.)
- Letter to Unknown, without signature. Much of the text has been crossed out, the readable portion states how the writer has been praying for P.M's for many years, several of which they knew personally, such as Stanley Baldwin. (n.d.)
- Letter and envelope to 'Dear Sister' [Muriel Lester] from Vinoba Bhave. Thanking her for her letter dated 24 October [1964] which has given Bhave great strength. (12 November [1964])
- Letter to 'Dear Sister' [Muriel Lester] from Vinoba Bhave thanking her for her letter. The letter also mentions that Bhave received the letter late due to Lester journeys in far distant villages in which there is no postal arrangements. (n d)
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Faith W.Whitney. On Whitney's religious works, and her efforts to bring Gordon Takahashi over to God (4 January [1968])
- Piece of paper by unknown author, mourning the loss of

LESTER/2/3/5 Correspondence

1941-1968

Correspondence, (1931-1968). Includes:

- Letter to Muriel Lester from [Elena]. General news. (16 May [1945])
- 2 Printed pages titled: The Good Comrade. A poem dedicated to the author's mother, set in the aftermath of the Chinese Cultural Revolution. On the second page, it includes a handwritten letter to Gladys, Muriel [Lester] and Doris [Lester] from Lenn. Thanking them for their letters about the author's mother. Writing from Peking, at the peace conference. (23 June [1952])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Gerald. General news, including regards to Lester's sister Doris (28 July [1953])
- Letter to Prue from Jo. Printed with handwritten addition at the bottom of the second page. General news, including a reference to Doris Lester (n.d.)
- Letter to 'My darling and most precious sister' from Prue. General news (n.d.)
- Letter to Doris [Lester] from [Kay] General news. Written in pencil and faded in some places.
- Letter to Muriel Lester from unknown (incomplete) General news (31 May [1961])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Bill Williams. General news (23 July \cite{S})
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Sarah (n.d.) Discusses Muriel's work, travels and the loss of her mother.
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Marjorie [Sykes] Birthday wishes for her 80th Birthday (29 November [1963])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from unknown. In it they states how everyone was deeply moved by her speech the day before, and how after they went into a deep silence for Doris [Lester] with the hope that she will soon find her 'True Home' (16 December [1963])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from George. About Muriel's recent illness (22 April [?])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Grace, Harry, Joan, Trix and David. Mentions the Freedom Marches in America, and questioning why in that situation persons with white skin considered themselves superior. The letter also offers thanks to Muriel and Doris for giving them the 'right outlook' on such situations (27 July [1965])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Lewis [?]. General family news, with thanks to Lester for her friendship (10 September [1966])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from F.N. Barn. General news, includes book recommendations for Muriel and rhymes(20 September [1967])
- Poster card to Muriel Lester from Mae. Mae discusses how she enjoyed her visit to Muriel and Alice (13 March [1967])
- Letter to Pruce [envelope addressed to Muriel Lester] from Gladys Owen. General news (13 April [1967])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from [Alf Butcher] General news (16 April [1967])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Margaret. General news (10 October [1967])

- Letter to Aunt Muriel [Lester] from Mrs John Goodwin. General news, including thanks to Muriel for offering her the choice of some of her books. (28 November [1967]
- Letter to Muriel Lester from [Gary Hogg] An expression of remorse for not saying a few words about his mother (7 January [1968])
- Piece of paper, incomplete letter (n.d.)
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Allan. A. Hunter. General news, including Hunter thanking Muriel for her letter, and a description of the four weeks he spent at the church in La Verne. (25 October [1941])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from unknown [Allan .A. Hunter] General news, includes description of visit to the Grand Canyon, the issue of disarmament, and not voting for Nixon for the govenorship of California (6 November [1962])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Allan [A. Hunter] General correspondence, includes an update on Hunter's on Allan Jr. and a story of a young man back from Vietnam who half way through realised he could no longer co-operate and was subsequently court martialled, though eventually discharged, though not dishonourably. (12 October [1967])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Allan and Elizabeth [Hunter] Written by Elizabeth Hunter. Describes how they listened to the Lester's "Dial a Prayer" phone service from Loughton, available for that week in Los Angeles. The situation in the Middle East is also referred to, with Elizabeth describing her ideal situation where both sides would acknowledging the other's valid (12 July [1967])
- Letter to Muriel Lester, with the first half signed Elizabeth Hunter] and the second half signed 'a' [Allan Hunter] Elizabeth Hunter in her section mentions that she hopes to see Lester in England soon. Allan Hunter gives some general news, along with an anecdote about a 20 year old called Hugh who he "counselled" in the October before he went to Vietnam. While serving in the Navy, he 'felt his conscience click into place' and was eventually discharged, though not dishonourably, after spending a period in a Mental Hospital. Hunter mentions how he believes the military unconsciously relies on people not wanting to be called 'cowards' (8 September [1967])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Allen [Hunter] An update on Elizabeth's [Hunter] condition. He mentions that she can walk without pain, though not too fast (4 October [1967])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Allan [Hunter] General news (3 February [?])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Allan [Hunter] 1 page printed letter with handwritten edits and additions. General news, including his sympathy that Lester is suffering from shingles Open

LESTER/2/4 80th Birthday Papers

1965

Scrapbooks of messages to Muriel Lester collected in celebration of her eightieth birthday. Includes messages of good will from friends, colleagues and organisations, (December 1965)

LESTER/2/4/1 Birthday Wishes, Volume 1

1965

Folder: To Muriel Lester on her 80th Birthday from her

friends Volume I (December 1965). Includes:

Page 1: Title Page

Page 2: Card with picture on the front. Inside text, both in Japanese with English printed translation, wishing Lester a happy birthday. From Gyotsu Nichiko Sato (Japan)

Page 3: Muriel Archer (Chippenham), Rose Gutman Gillinson (Leeds)

Page 4: Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit (India), Nevin and Kathleen Sayre (U.S.A), Lynn Rohrbough (U.S.A)

Page 5: Reginald and Muriel Sorensen (Walthamstow and Leyton) Henry A. Francis (Loughton) (November [1965]) Page 6: Karel and Harriet Hujer (U.S.A) (2 December [1965])

Page 7: Vanessa Redgrave (London), Gillian Scaife (London) (19 November [1965])

Page 8: Isabel Mac Laughlin (U.S.A.), Howard and May Taylor (U.S.A.), Ada Johnson (U.S.A.),

Page 9: Kenneth A. Lee (London), Edgar and Muriel Kinnish (Surrey)

Page 10: Earl Attlee, Frances Lloyd George (Surrey), Ada Mary Ammon (London)

Page 11: To 'Cousin Muriel from T.F. Wootton. Signed "love from Freda, Tina and Tom" (London), Fran (Kiball)

Page 12: Stephen Hogg (Frensham), Kathleen [Hogg] (Moar Park)

Page 13: Barbara and Donald Thomas (Sheffield), Dorothy Hogg

Page 14: Rev. and Mrs. G. Eugene Durham (U.S.A), Margaret S. Campbell (United States), Pauline Casado, Winifred Lambie (United States)

Page 15: Leslie and Wanda Hayman and Eugenia Zarzewska (Two towns put, one written as At Present Woodbrooke-Birmingham, the other London), Lewis and Ry Mac Lachlan (London)

Page 16: Helga Guthrandsen (Norway) (Oslo, 29 September [1963]), E. Hutchurson (Canada), Hannes de Graaf (Netherlands), David and Mary Thackeray (South Africa) Page 17: Harold Aidalberry (Wanstead Park), Doris Aidalberry (Wanstead Park)

Page 18: Hildegard and Jean Goss (Vienna) (2 December [1963])

Page 19: Eika Mayr (Vienna) (2 December [1965])

Page 20: Max Parker (under subheading Name, written as Fellowship of Reconciliation) (Britain), Leonard Tomkinson (London)

Page 21: Rev. Charles Brewster and Grace B. Holt (U.S.A.), Harry and Christiana Plaisance (Richmond, Virginia) (August [1962]), Louise Ingham Thompson (Topeka, Kansas), Dorothy Nagler (U.S.A.)

Page 22: Devi Prasad (Enfield) (21 November [1965])

Page 23: Al(ice) Whipps (Loughton), Rev and Mrs. Eric T.

Lees (Glasgow)

Page 24: Ethel Lingford (Thornton Dale, Yorkshire), Dorothy C. Pullen (Eastbourne)

Page 25: Wallace and Lillian Hancock (London), Ethelwyn Best (France)

Page 26: Margaret L. Peacock with two pictures of roses (U.S.A) (9 December [1965])

Page 27: Coleman Jennings (U.S.A), Rev. R.D. Hopkins (U.S.A), Ethel E. Fisher (U.S.A), John K. Hershey (United States of America)

Page 28: Mrs. Spiller (Bow), Mrs. M. Ferrett (Bow), E. Nightingale (Bow)

Page 29: Vera Earle (Storrington), Jane Lambourn (London), Vera Earle (Storrington)

Page 30: Rev. Albert F. Bayly (Thaxted), Eugene Yoors (Written in French), Magda Yoors-Peeters

Page 31: Bryan and Elizabeth Ostler (Loughton), Frank C. Askew (Loughton)

Page 32: L.J. Askew (Loughton) Includes printed quote from Richard Baxter underneath titled 'Look back with

Thankfulness', Jane Edwards (Loughton)

Page 33: Alfred Hassler and Staff (U.S.A) (4 November [1963])

Page 34: Hilda Bristol (Swanage), Wyons and Evie Mauleverer (Poole, Dorset)

Page 35: Two Birthday cards. First from Christine Clement Brown, second from Katharina Petersen (Hanover) (3 December [1965])

Page 36: Harry and Corinne Allinsmith (U.S.A.) Mentions Nuclear Campaign Group, The Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy (SANE), Shingo Kajimura (Japan), Marjorie Sykes (India), Gay Hamerton (Welington, New Zealand) Page 37: W.C. Turner (Bow) (27 November [1965])

Page 38: Councillor J. Gillender, J.P. (Poplar) Mayor of Poplar, Sam Minardo (London)

Page 39: Alderman C. Blaber J.P. (Poplar) (5 December [1965]), Councillor E. Sims (London), Sidney Fagan (Lee) Page 40: London Council of Social Service, Hugh Brock

(London), Kathleen Richardson (Loughton)

Page 41: Mr and Mrs John Wigham (London. S.W.) Includes short verse from Sherrington . B. Thorne (Harold Wood)

Page 42: E. Stanley Jones (New York) (17 October [1965])

Page 43: Rev. Albert B. Belden (London), Flo and Elsie

(Greenock), Muriel Price (Eastbourne)

Page 44: Lucy M. Burtt (Birmingham), Marjorie Stevenson-Jones (Mill Hill)

Page 45: Vi and Maurice Harwood, Eli. Marnham (Torquay), John (?) and Janet Shepherd

Page 46: Henri Roser. Two pages. First part of the letter in French, second part English.

Page 47: Margaret Slocum, for Mount Hollywood Congregational Church (Los Angeles, U.S.A.) (19 November [1965])

Open

upon Tyne)

To Muriel Lester on her 80th birthday from her friends. Book II. (December 1965) Includes:

Page 1: Title page, Includes newspaper cutting on the back from the Daily Chronicle titled 'Women Gives Up £400 A Year' The article discusses how Muriel Lester has called a meeting of local women at Kingsley Hall to discuss the best way to spend the £400 a year left to her by her father (n.d.) Page 2: Winifred Barnard (Seaford) Includes Proverb 4:7,8,9 and letter (6 December [1965])

Page 3: Gladys Owen (India)

Page 4: Jon Dodd (U.S.A.) Includes picture of building labled 'University Friends Meeting. Seattle, Washington.'

Page 5: Joyce Mann (Wimbledon), Joyce Pollard

(Wimbledon), County School for Girls (Wimbledon)

Page 6: Blanche Frost (Wimbledon), B.E. Gooding

Page 7: Hugh and Doris Flatt (Huish Champflower), Dorothy Champness (Carshalton)

Page 8: Mrs. D.M. Spurs (Catford), J. Hammond (Mrs) (New Barnet)

Page 9: Daphne Greiner (Tollesburg), Mildred Nevill, Phyllis Voltman (Loughborough)

Page 10: Dinah and Jim Payne (Bluntisham, Hunts), Betty Swolty de Grooth (London), Elizabeth K.Bleuller (Bromley) Page 11: Councillor Arthur. C. Niedleman (London) Betty Wallis (New Malden Surrey), E. Margaret Mawer (Newcastle

Page 12: Ishbel Peterkin, née MacDonald (Moray) (9 December [1965])

Page 13: Ivy and Lily Smith (Dagenham), L. Watson (Dagenham)

Page 14: John and Cathie Decker (London), Andrew Stevenson (Leigh on Sea), Mr. and Mrs. Sid Barton (Bow) Page 15: Birthday card, signed Helen Merritt and J. Irving Merritt,

Page 16: Mrs. Broadbear (Woodford Green), M. Goodway (London), Martha Rollason (Chigwell, Essex), Mary Ann Louisa Allsop (Brentwood)

Page 17: Dan Masters and Maureen (London), Violet Broadbent (Wanstead)

Page 18: Pat Hossack (Wimbledon) Includes short verse signed G.K.C, Gladys Tigwell (Basingstoke)

Page 19: Bernard and Amy Eastaugh, Janice and Miriam (Wanstead), Howard Neyroud

Page 20: Frank and Edith Shield, "Kingsley Hall 1925-30" (Seaford, Sussex) (9 December [1965])

Page 21: Tony Shield (Epping), Mary Osborn (Launton), Violet M. Way (Bow)

Page 22. B.Penney (Rickmansworth, Herts) Short rhyme, Alice and Charlie Bettis. Sally Fowler (Dagenham)

Page 23: Beatrice Bure (London)

Page 24: Birthday Card from Hilda Mary.

Page 25: Hilda Mary Payne (Cambridge), Godwin (Bow)

Page 26: Mrs. Charlotte Grainger (Stratford), D. Grainger (Ilford)

Page 27: Hilda Smith (Bow), A. Wharton (Poplar) Includes Proverb. Ch3. v. 5-6, C. Selby (Bow)

Page 28: Ada and Jack Carlile (Bow), Grace Pepper (Mrs

Ada Carlile's sister) (Derby), A.W. Overland (Poplar)

Page 29: Mrs.Lloyd (Bow), Mrs. Kohler (Bow), Mrs. Nichols (Bow)

Page 30: Mrs.H.L. Smith (Bow), Mrs. Fenn (Bow), Mrs. Lickford (Bow)

Page 31: C. Allen (Bow), Mrs. Healey (Bow)

Page 32: Alice and Alf Clark, Lylie Valentine, Joy and Doris, Mary Whipps

Page 33: Miss Maud Smith, Mrs. Bullock (Bow)

Page 34: G. Elms (Bow), Jess and Jack Bartlett (London), Ada Rogine (Walthamstow)

Page 35: Mrs. Hooter (Bow), Mollie Bates (Woking), Ernest Sheridan Knowles (Ilford, Essex)

Page 36: Barbara W. Davies (Lady Eleanor Holles School,

Hampton) (6 December [1965]), Eleonor Williams

Page 37: Fellowship of Reconciliation staff members: Alfred Hassler, Glenn Smiley, John Heidbank, Jim Best, Brewster Kneen (New York, United States)

Page 38: May E. Blackburn (U.S.A.) Includes a birthday card.

Page 39: Arthur Hadley (Woodford Green), K.M. Wescott (Surrey)

Page 40: Ray Lamb (Walthamstow), O.T. Hill (London),

Ernest Hayes (Wallington)

Page 41: Olive M. Grubb (California)

Page 42: Miriam Mabee (U.S.A), Lloyd, Mary and Karen Danzeisen (Age 10) (U.S.A), Helen Merritt and J. Irving Merritt (U.S.A.)

Page 43: Jamie O. Sams (Woodland, North Carolina), Franklin and Elizabeth Cogswell (U.S.A.), On the back of this page, Birthday Greetings from Betty and Eugene Hessel (Philippines) Includes \$50.00 donation to Kingsley Hall

Page 44: J. and Elizabeth (Boulder, Colorado) (1 December [1965])

Open

LESTER/2/4/3 Birthday Wishes, Volume 3

1965

To Muriel Lester on her 80th Birthday from her friends Book III. (December 1965). Includes:

Page 1: Title Page.

Page 2: Birthday card with image of Maitland Bay in the Bouddi Natural Part just North of Broken Bay (New South Wales0 Vreni and John Fallding (New South Wales, Australia), Gertrude Lambert, Ruby Wheston, Marie Byles (Sydney, Australia), Kenneth and Sonoko Strong (Sydney, Ex. Japan)

Page 3: Horace and Rebecca Alexander (Swanage), Gool K. Minwalla (Pakistan)

Page 4: Dorothy Curtis (London), John Bryon (Potters Bar), Vida Foreman (Newcastle upon Tyne)

Page 5: Toni Schepeler (Frankfurt, Western Germany), Vienna Quaker Meeting, signed by Ernst Schwarz and 6 others (Signatures unclear) (Austria), Fritz and Ursula Mensching (Germany)

Page 6: Mr. and Mrs. Frederick J. Gordon (Minehead), Charles and Beatrice Purves (Loughton)

Page 7: Geoffrey G. Tipple (Loughton) (7 December [1965]), Joyce Garnier and Family (Loughton)

Page 8: Mildred Ashford (Harpenden), Grace Gurteen (Haverhill), Cecile Midgley (Bournemouth)

Page 9: Percy and Margaret Bartlett (Epping) (9 December [1965])

Page 10: Birthday Card from Betty and Eugene Hessel (U.S.A.)

Page 11: Janet Bullock (Formerly of St. Andrews, Fife), (Miss) Mary Becton (59 Carlile Mews, SW1), Winifred Gimson (Eastbourne)

Page 12: Lucy F. Andrews, Violet Gould (Cheltenham),

Anne Joseph, Ronald Harris (Southend on Sea)

Page 13: Mrs. M. Bernhardt (London), E. Jewhurst (Croydon), Elizabeth W.Ikin (London. N.W.11)

Page 14: Frida Le Pla and Dorothy Wells (Beaconsfield, Bucks), Gladys E. Read (Horsham, Sussex), Norah A. Cutbush (Harrietsham)

Page 15: John Peck (Southampton), Enid Weaving (Gloucester), Sylvia White

Page 16: Harold F. Bing (Loughborough, Leist.) from War Resisters' International.

Page 17:Harry H. Payne (Birmingham), Fred Caffyn (Tunbridge Wells), W. and E. Broadley (Mirfield)

Page 18: Moyra Caldecott (London), Doris J. Squire (London)

Page 19: Amy V. Clarke (Barking, Essex), Geoff and Betty Pullen (Radlett)

Page 20: Elsie Wright (Enfield), Margaret Palfreman (Hull),

Helen G. Nussey (Chislehurst) (22 November [1965])

Page 21: Irene (Woking) (15 December [1965])

Page 22: Margaret W. Pearson (Corbridge on Tyne), Ella L. Unwin (Bromley), K. A. Trevor (Catsfield, Sussex), Jocelyn Pennington (Whitney on Wye)

Page 23: Bunty Robinson (Chesterfield), Frances Brotchie (St. Leonards on Sea), Ruby and Mae, Mrs. F.E. Bugg(Stowmarket)

Page 24: National Executive and Members of New Zealand Pacifist Society (New Zealand), Katherine M. Knight (New Zealand), Marguerite Ritchie (Palma de Mallorca)

Page 25: Jack Catchpool (Toynbee Hall, London) (10

December [1965]) Includes congratulations on her Freedom of the Borough of Poplar, Gwen Catchpool (London)

Page 26: Dr. Fritz Katz, on behalf of the German Friends'

Peace Committee (Iserlohn) (7 December [1965])

Page 27: Joyce Runham Brown, Hon. Treasurer of War

Resisters' International (Enfield) (6 December [1965])
Page 28: Hugh M. Dickinson (Keighley) Includes short

poem, Norman Walls (Bingley, Yorks) Includes short poem

Page 29: Yashpal Jain (India) Includes recollections of their meeting and Lester's anecdotes about Gandhi's stay in London. Also enclosed is £1.00 donation to Kingsley Hall (23

Page 30: Joyananda and Eunice (Goodfellow) Ratnaike (Ceylon and America)

October [1965])

Page 31: S. Sadanand (Bangalore) (2 December [1965]), Anne S. Walker, Ruth E. Lechte (Fiji), Hatsue Nonomiya (Japan) Page 32: Mary Louise Wood (Philadelphia) Includes reminisces on meeting Lester's sister, Doris, and enclosed a small bank daft for Muriel's work at Kingsley Hall (22 November [1965])

Page 33: Edouard Theis (France), Telegram from Debeve

Butterworth (Constantine Les Ecoles)

Page 34: Mildred Fiahrini (Canada), Kinu and Paul Sekiya,

Haruhiko Nishi (Tokyo, Japan) (24 November [1965])

Page 35: Poem by K. Wilson Baker Titled 'Growing Old'

Page 36: Geoffrey to 'My Dear Aunt Muriel' ((Colchester,

Essex) (7 December [1965])

Page 37: Letter from Gill (8 December [?])

Page 38: Coleman Jennings (Washington D.C., U.S.A.) (9 December 1965))

Page 39: Eugene and Magda Yoors (Purley) (22 December [1965])

Page 40: Eugene (Yoors) Thanking Muriel for the present of a Japanese Print

Page 41: Mrs. Hemingway (Poplar) (18 December [1965])

Page 42: Hugh Redwood (Kent) (18 October [1965])

Pages 43-44: Henri Roser (Paris) (23 November [1965])

Open

1933-1960

LESTER/2/5 Travel Files

Correspondence and papers regarding Muriel Lester's travels to China, Japan, Indian, Europe and the Americas. Also includes material relating to her detention in Trinidad, and travels throughout the Second World War, (1933-1960)

LESTER/2/5/1 World Tour

1933-1953

Muriel Lester's World Tour, (1933-1953). Includes:

- Newspaper article with pictures (In Chinese) [1934]
- Newspaper (In Chinese) (n.d.)
- Book titled: Newspaper Cuttings. Muriel Lester's World Tour. (26 August [1933] to 1 July [1934]) Includes: Insider Cover: Contents (Incomplete) with subheadings: America, Japan, China, India.

Page 1: "British Social Worker tells of Gandhi's visit" from Berkeley Daily Gazette (2 October [1933), "London Social Worker will speak" from the Courier. Includes picture of Muriel Lester, (October [1933])

Page 2: "State Baptists to Hold Meet In Oaklane Church" from Berkeley Daily Gazette (2 October [1933]), "English Social Worker to Speak" from Berkeley Gazette (4 October [1933]), "English Worker in Slums to be quest" from Berkelev [Gazette] (30 September [1933]), Newspaper cutting from unknown paper, concerning a speech that will be performed by Muriel Lester at 2:00 p.m. along with general information about Lester (n.d.), "Social Leader to Speak" from Fullerton College Paper (27 September [1933]), "She Pleads for Humanity", article about 10 addresses made in California and 8 in the Bay Region, from the Presbyterian Banner (n.d.), Cutting from unknown source, titled 'Flash' concerning how Lester, en route to China, will address the Convention program on Tuesday, 10:45 a.m.(n.d.), "Jesus Model for Kingsley Hall London, Says her head worker", about Lester's time in California (incomplete) (n.d.)

Page 3: "Baptist open Convention in Bay Edifice" from San Francisco Chronicle, Includes picture of Muriel Lester with Miss Luella Adams and Dr. Frank. A. Smith "Noted Social Worker tells of work in London East End" from California Press, (27 September [?], "Noted Social Worker gives Church Address" from California Press, About Lester's address last evening at Calvary Presbyterian Church before an audience of 350 Riversiders (n.d.)

Page 4: "Noted Woman at St. Johns" from The Claremont Press, about speech Lester will perform to St. John's Presbyterian Church, includes picture of Muriel Lester (n.d.) "Social Worker of London will be heard here" from Riverside Press, about speech Lester will perform to Calvary Church (29 September [1933]) "Dole not Charity, Insists 'Jane Addams of England'", In it, Lester raises the question 'Is America cheating her unemployed and poor by depriving them of self-respect through injudicious charity?' Article written by Bess. M. Wilson . Includes picture of Lester and Dr. William H. Boddy (n.d)

Page 5: 5 Japanese articles from Osaka Asahi. Includes one

cutting in English about Lester's upcoming lecture on 'Pray and the World' in Yokohama at 7 o'clock at the Kumiai Church (November [1933]).

Page 6: Japanese articles from Osaka Asani (10 November [1933]) and Uokkai Times, Sappero (2 November [1933]). Includes one cutting in English about Lester's passage on the Asama [Maru] with her secretary Miss Hogg and her niece Miss Rosemary Hogg. Also included is a Japanese Xmas Card [1933]

Page 7: Japanese articles from Osaka Asahi, (8 November [1933]). Includes one cutting in English about reception held by members of the Women's Peace Association in Japan in honour of Muriel Lester.

Page 8: Japanese articles from The Yomiuri Shimbun Eve Edition (30 October [1933]), The Jiji Shimpo (20 October [1933]), The Nichi Nichi Shimbun, (20 October [1933]). Includes one cutting in English about Lester and her two nieces sailing for China.

Page 9: Japanese articles from Nee Congregational Organ Weekly (23 November [1933])

Page 10 Japanese articles and English article "Prominent Women Here From America" on Lester's arrival in Yokohama. Includes picture of Lester (n.d.)

Page 11: "Men, Women and Peace", about Lester's speech delivered to members of the Tientsin Rotary Club (24 November [1933]), "Women and Peace" from Peking and Tientsin Times, about Lester's speech concerning women's role in ensuring peace (24 November [1933])

Page 12: "Order of service" from Peking Union Church (10 December [1933]), Letter from Edward Lockwood to Muriel Lester, in which Lockwood states that they enjoyed her visit. (26 November [1934])

Page 13: "Miss Muriel Lester at Cheloo University", Lester's lecture on 'The Voluntary Poverty Movement in England and India' [n.d.]

Page 14: "The Peace Centre At Bow: Miss Muriel Lester addresses Nanki Girls, What Young People In London Are Doing" From Tientsin Times (25 November [?]), "Miss Muriel Lester At Cheeloo University: Lecture On 'Entertaining Ghandi'" From The Peking And Tientsin Times (November [1933])

Page 15: Continuation of previous page: "Miss Muriel Lester At Cheeloo University: Lecture On 'Entertaining Ghandi'" From The Peking And Tientsin Times (November [1933]) Page 16: "Keen, Foreign Interest in Gandhi's Fight for Oppressed", About Lester's experience of the world-wide interest in Gandhi from Sunday Times (18 February [1934]), "Gandhi's Flying Squad" By Muriel Lester, About her meeting with Gandhi in Calcutta. Includes reference to Print "East and West" on page 17. (n.d.)

Page 17: Continuation from previous page "Gandhi's Flying Squad" (n.d.) Print "East and West", depicts King George V and Gandhi shaking hands. Underneath sentence in Hindi. (n.d.)

Page 18: "The Whole World is watching Gandhi: India's Non-Violent Struggle" About Gandhi's negative depiction in the British Press, with Lester maintaining that in general the people in Britain held the opposite, and admired Gandhi, from Hindustan Times (n.d.), "At the Citadel of Orthodoxy:

Opposition to Gandhi Fizzles Out" (incomplete) from The Madras Times, Includes picture of Muriel Lester, and her niece, Mrs. Hoggs (18 February 1934)) Page 19: "Ideals of Fellowship and Service: Miss Muriel Lester On World Peace" from Ceylon Daily News (27 December [1934), "Letter from Edward W. Perera" to the Editor, defending Lester against 'Certain Correspondents' (8 March [?]) and "What Kingsley Hall Stands for: Miss Muriel Lester And Her Life's Mission" from Cevlon Daily News. Letters to the Editor, from (Mrs. G.L.) Dorothy Hogg. Includes picture of Muriel Lester (2 April [1934]) Pages 20-24: Five identical copies of "Make Better Christian's: London Social Worker Has Praise for Philosophy of Asian Peoples", Lester reflects on the late Mahatma Ghandi, and the people of Asia in General after the Second World War, Written By Dorothy Ann Benjamin (Record Staff Writer) Includes picture of Lester, From The Greensboro Record (8 April [1953])

Open

LESTER/2/5/2 China and Japan

1933-1958

Travel Files, (1933-1958). Includes:

- A Visit To Marshall Feng. Draft article, printed with handwritten edits by Muriel Lester. Includes information about European Imperialism in China, including the Opium Wars and the continued use of opium in China; The Boxer Rebellion, and its impact on the population; Lester's meeting with Dr Miner at Cheloo University (Tsinan), and their discussion about Marshall Feng and eventual meeting with him in Tai-Yan, who she compares to Gandhi [1933]
- Muriel Lester's diary of her travels in China (Printed) particularly focused on Nanking and her description of 'China's New Capital'. (Incomplete) Four entries dated from (25 August [1935]) to (14 September [1935])
- Letter to 'Mr Editor' from Newton. Y. C. Liu. A reply to the editorial on 19 September [1933] titled "Doping the Nation", about the addiction to opium in China, and how Japan, Britain and China are primarily responsible. Includes handwritten note 'For Muriel Lester, kindness of Mrs. Rook' (9 October [1933])
- Muriel Lester News Letter No. 7, addressed to 'Dear Friends' Includes diary entries of her travels in Japan, dated 28 February [?] to 12 March [?]
- Muriel Lester News Letter No. 8, addressed to 'Dear Friends' Includes diary entries dated from 22 March [?] to 25 March [?]) and details of her host Mr. Takahashi. Printed with handwritten edits.
- Chinese Diary, "Diary sent from Muriel Lester". Details her travels in China, ending with her arrival in Hong Kong. (March/April [1958])
- Letter to 'Dear Friends' from M.L [Muriel Lester] The situation in China, and the imprisonment of 33 people from Mukden by the Japanese a week or two after an article in the Chinese Recorder "An Ash Heap in Mukden" about the dope situation,. Questioning them over what role they had in the Lytton Commission. Lester mentions her own article "Open Letter to the Japanese People" was printed almost on the same page. Also included is a paragraph about the

imprisonment of Jawaharlal Nehru, crossed out due to his unconditional release. (10 December [1935])

- Letter to 'My Very Dear Friends' from Muriel Lester, Shanghai. About the Japanese occupation of China. Includes handwritten note "This is what I'm sending to my Japanese Friends" [1938]
- Letter to 'Dear Friends' From Muriel Lester. Report of her previous three weeks in Shanghai and Japan, and at the moment. Seattle, United States (8 April [1938])
- Short manuscript 'This Time Last Year', comparing her most recent visit to China and Japan to previous visits between 1933 and 1935, as 'Places of torment', and about the situation in Shanghai and Lester's recollections of the dead Chinese soldiers outside the International settlement, in which she mentions her struggle in being a pacifist [1938]
- Letter to 'Dear Friend' from Muriel Lester, with small handwritten card. Includes her visit to wounded soldiers, her experience of an attack by three Japanese gun boats, her visit to a refugee camp, the cold weather, the impact of the fallen cities on women, and looting (6 January [1938])
- Letter to 'Dear Friends' from Muriel Lester. The occupation of China by Japan, and its impact on everyday life (n.d.)
- Foreword, Written from China. A recount of Lester's travels, and the demoralization brought about through war everywhere [1946]
- Manuscript, printed with extensive handwritten notes. Lester's meeting with Feng, and a recount of her discussion of life in the London East End(Incomplete)
- Letter to Mr Cameron from [Muriel Lester] Handwritten on stationary from the Roosevelt Hotel - Pittsburgh. PA. Much of the text is crossed out. Includes reference to Lester's time in China (30 January [1941])
- Letter to 'Dear Friends' From Ralph and Nancy Lapwood. Includes an update on the 'Anti-Fly and Anti-Mosquito Campaign' by the Yenching Union, efforts clearing up Yenching, the promotion of the study of Russian at University, and information about Ralph and Nancy Lapwood (31 July [1952])
- Declaration Of The Japanese FOR. Five resolutions reached by Participants in the XIIIth Annual Convention of the Japanese FOR, relating to peace and ending international violence (1 September [1963])
- Single page outlining opposition to the Security Treaty between the United States and Japan, with handwritten note Baroness (unknown) (n.d.)
- A Children's Crusade. Compares the report of the Child Labour Commission of Shanghai to own history in the industrial revolution, the reports from missionaries, and condemns the lack of action by people. (n.d.)
- First visit to Communist China, referred to in the manuscript as "Miraculous and terrible", with positives, such as education and employment, and negatives, such as fear, false propaganda, spying and lying (12 February [1954])
- Letter to Percy. W. Bartlett from Muriel Lester. Description of Communist China, as both "Miraculous and terrible", with positives, such as education and employment, and negatives, such as fear, false propaganda, spying and lying (12 February [1954])

- Account of the Mui Tsai Question, and details of the author's [Mrs. Haslewood] severe nervous breakdown as a result from the stress of worrying about child slavery, and pressure from the commodore to stop her actions protesting against the Mui Tsai Question by informing her he would be obliged to report the matter to the Naval Commander-In-Chief of the China station, risking therefore her husband's appointment (8 November [1920])
- Confronted by China 1933-1958. Manuscript with handwritten edits. Discusses Chinese customs Lester became familiar with while in the country, the Japanese presence in northern China and Manchuria, and conditions in the Shanghai textile factories [1933-1958]
- A Chinese Moses? Extract from a book. Description of a Chinese minister whose church was in a southern city recently captured by the Japanese, and his decision to remain and not accept an offer from the Generalissimo to work with him in free China (n.d.)
- Newspaper cutting in German titled "Er Sah ein neues China von Muriel Lester" (n.d.)
- A letter from Muriel Lester in Shanghai, China. Includes her visit to wounded soldiers, her visit to a refugee camp housing 14,000 people, the cold weather and the impact of the fallen cities on women, which Lester compares to the situation in Germany after the First World War [26 January [1938]
- -Hymn booklet. Chinese characters on the front, with alternate English and Chinese lyrics and directions in the inside and on the back [n.d.)
- Red and white print of six individuals singing around a piano. Includes handwritten text in Chinese (31 January [?]) Open

LESTER/2/5/3 China and Japan

1930-1954

Travel Files, (1930-1954). Includes:

- Letter to Muriel Lester from Rae Campbell. General news, including Campbell's decision to stay in Japan forever instead of returning to Australia to train for the order. Includes four poems by (R.C) (25 April [?])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Mary. A. Endicott. Inquiry to Lester about the source of her information that in China they are burning Confucian books (28 June [1954])
- Short account with hand written edits on the Mui Tsai, or child slaves in Amoy and Hong Kong, and Mrs. Haslewood's campaigning against it, along with her husband, who was eventually relinquished of his command in the area in response. Both remained in Hong Kong to continue the campaign. (n.d.)
- Triumph In Trouble. Printed, with handwritten note underneath addressed to Muriel [Lester] from * B. Williams. Description of the situation in China and the way people are coping in the aftermath of war. (n.d.)
- Prayer, signed M.B.S
- 2,000,000 Orphans Need Your Help: Donation form for British United Aid in China. On the other side a Book Review of "The Wisdom of China" by Lin Yutang, reviewed by E.H. (n.d.)
- A brief summary of the Y.W.C.A. industrial camp for

- refugee women and children. An account of the work performed, the items produced and employment statistics of girls from the camp, in order to help rehabilitate the thousands of refugees in Shanghai in the aftermath of the Japanese occupation. (n.d.)
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Tsoo Yi Zia, General Secretary of Y.W.C.A, thanking her for her donation to the Y.W.C.A (21 March [1939]
- Letter to 'Dear Friends of I Fang' from V.F.Scott. News of the bombing of Changsha and I Fang, and the Miss Tseng's decision not to re-open the school there (26 November [1938])
- Manuscript by George A. Fitch: Chungking, China's New Capital. Description of the rapidly modernising western provinces, and of Fitch's travels from Hong Kong to Chungking. Also includes information on the Japanese invasion of China, with Fitch's criticism of America's complicity. On the back of the last page handwritten notes, mostly crossed out (12 February [1939])
- Scrap paper with handwriting mostly crossed out. Author unknown (n.d.)
- Manuscript written by [Mrs. Haslewood]. Account of [Mrs. Haslewood's] campaign on the Mui Tsai question, and her subsequent severe nervous breakdown as a result of stress from worrying about the Mui Tsai question and the threat made against her husband that her campaigning risked her husband's appointment in Hong Kong. Details her recovery, and her and her husband's determination to bring the question before parliament (n.d.)
- Report on Trade Union Work by George Hardy of the China Campaign Committee. How trade Unions and workers all over Britain refusing to load or unload goods from Japan, in protest over Japan's actions in China (n.d.)
- Report on Consumers' Boycott by Mary Sheridan Jones. About the boycott by consumers of Japanese goods in response to the invasion of China, and the need to educate the public in the campaign. Includes reference to [George] Hardy's Report on Trade Union Work. (21 July [1938])
- Page of a book 'It Occurred to Me', from chapter 'Round the World Again. (2) Reconstruction in China. Diary of [Muriel Lester's] time in China, from (4 July [?]) to (18 July [?]) Includes handwritten notes and underlined sections.
- The Society for the Relief of Chinese Slave Girls: Third Anniversary. Includes content, in English and Chinese, and a speech challenging the practice of keeping slave girls by Mr. Hsu Chhun Chhau, translated by Mr. R.A.R. (4 October [1930])
- Handwritten manuscript 'Learning from the Chinese'. Much of the text is crossed out and incomplete [n.d.)
- Pamphlet titled 'Fukien Christian University in the Second Year of the War, by C. J. Lin (President). Includes information about the curriculum, student life and activities and a guarded optimistic outlook on the War with Japan and national reconstruction (27 March [1939])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Talithia Menlach. Welcoming Lester to China. (21 January [1954])
- Small piece of paper in Chinese, from Muriel Lester, her name in English and Chinese (n.d.)
- Letter to 'Dear friends in China and out' from Geraldine T.

Fitch. An update on Fitch collecting signatures in California to protest the supply of war materials from America to Japan, with expectations he will reach 50,000. Includes handwritten notes on the back, mostly crossed out. (1 April [1939])

- Hearken Unto The Voice, in which the author [unknown] reflects on the situation in Europe and South East Asia, stating that the situation is 'of our own manufacture', and comparing it to the biblical story of Jeremiah. (n.d.)
- Page with two newspaper cuttings and handwritten notes. First is about the British Military authority-historian Gen. J.F.C. Fuller and his criticism of "Unstrategic American bombing" and the slaughter of the civilian population of Europe. The Second titled 'After Suffering in World War II, Gapecnuoc Pleads for Peace. Letter from New Guinea Native, Gapecnuoc, asking world leaders to prevent further wars, and recounting the impact of the bombing campaign on New Guinea by Australia, America, Japan and other places (n.d.)
- 'Snap and hints for youth leading worship and others'. Handwritten notes, mostly crossed out. (n.d.)
- decorative card with gold leaf and Japanese writing (n.d.)
- Draft letter to Basil Matthews from Unknown. Sections crossed out. $(\mbox{n.d.})$
- Page of notes, most crossed out and illegible (n.d.)
- 'The Instrument of Love' and "A Peaceful Meeting in Heaven" both titles in English with Chinese translation, labelled # 3 and # 4. First, the plot of a play in which two people become acquainted because of an instrument called the 'Chin'. Second, the plot of a play which deals with the adventures of a monkey who ascended to heaven and stole the peace of immortality (n.d.)
- 'Lu Hua Tang' Title in Latin alphabet and Chinese characters, labelled # 2. Summary of a play, set in the Three Kingdoms Period, 220-265 A.D. Attempt of Chou Yi of Wu Kingdom to capture Liu Pei of Shu Kingdom in Lu Hua Tang, and his failure to do so (n.d.)
- Leaflet titled 'Sentenced to Death! Threat to the Mothers & Children of the World!'. Details the situation in China with the Japanese occupation, the British government's inaction, and how you can help. Includes pictures, and on the back what goods to boycott to 'Help China' (n.d.)
- 'Chen Ngo Slays Hu' Title in Latin alphabet and Chinese characters, labelled # 1. Summary of play, set during the reign of Ch'ung Chen (1627-1644), last emperor of the Ming Dynasty. Living in the court, lady-in-waiting Chen Ngo, after enemies surround palace, she masquerades as the princess to save her, and plans to kill the rebel leader. She commits suicide when she discovers the man she killed was not the rebel leader. (n.d.)
- Six pages of handwritten notes by unknown. Large sections crossed out. About author's travels in the U.S.A (n.d.)
- Notes written on diary paper, dated (14 February [?]) to (17 February [?]). Written in short-hand.
- Handwritten page with biblical quotes and discussions of the nativity, author unknown. On the back, printed title 'The Home as the Primary Force in Personality'. (n.d)
- Letter to Muriel Lester from John Nevin Sayre, Secretary of

the Fellowship of Reconciliation. In it, he requests that, under the re-organised Literature Committee under Mr. Exman, concerned with the production of pacifist literature, that Lester will serve on the committee, and to send in suggestions for the meeting on 28 January. Also has handwritten, mostly crossed out handwritten notes on the back (22 January [1941])

- Incomplete letter to unknown, from Frances [Blave]. The Principles of Prayer Content (n.d.)
- Christmas Service. Nanking Union Church. Program of Selections from 'The Messiah'. Includes three hymns. (24 December [1933])
- New Defense. A Journal of the 30,000 Industrial Cooperatives Movement of China. Vol: 1, No.1. Details impact of the war with Japan on Chinese Industry, and how Industrial Cooperatives are improving the situation. Includes note from Wu Fu Kai, stating the Chinese Industrial Cooperative Promotion Committee has enclosed a copy of the Journal (1 April [1939])
- Print of man sitting with legs folded dressed in white robes and white hat (n.d.)

Open

LESTER/2/5/4 China and Japan

1938-1960

Travel Files, (1938-1960). Includes:

- Newspaper article, reprinted from 'The Manchester Guardian'. 'Drug Traffic in China. Effect of War. Japanese Control Extended. A shameful Trade by Muriel Lester. Lester's experience of the trade of Heroin and Morphine while in China. (25 April [1938])
- Article. 'The President Defines Public Opinion, by Dorothy Detzer. Includes opinion polls showing American desire for neutrality, the President's failure to accord with the Neutrality Act passed by Congress, and a letter from Muriel Lester, writing from Shanghai on the conditions in the Refugee Camp (March [1938])
- Two Articles from Fellowship. The Journal of the Fellowship of Reconciliation. Volume IV, Number 3. First "Let Him Come Down" A Lenten Meditation for Pacifists by A.J. Muste (Former Secretary F.O.R.) About how being Christian means being a pacifist. Second (Incomplete) 'What Else Could China Do? Letter to a Pacifist Chinese Friend' by Vernon Nash, suggesting how China could have avoided war, through methods such as non-violent resistance. (March [1939])
- Letter to 'My Dear friends in "foreign countries" from unknown (incomplete). The author looking back at one year spent in Chengtu. Includes the impact of the War between Japan and China, and teaching English in the new Union Senior Middle School. Also has short poem: 'The Old Students Return' (1 December [1938])
- 'Imperialism Exploiter of Religion'. An Editorial published in Tien Feng Bi-Weekly, the official organ of the National Movement for Self-Government, Self-Support and Self-Propagation in the Churches in China. Pages 1-28 (incomplete). How Christian missionaries in China are being used by Imperialism to cover up its aggressive tendencies, and how churches are trying to regain independence to

'restore the purity of our Churches and Christian Organisations (3 March [1958])

- Collection of notes on spiritual matters (n.d.)
- Collection of Notes. Includes brief thoughts on the international situation, and one item signed Doris (n.d.)
- Recount of a Dream in which the author [unknown] is about to undergo an operation. (n.d.)
- Chapter of 'China Christian Year Book', titled 'The Narcotic Problem'. To be issued Summer, 1940, by M.S.B. Chapter written on basis of information gathered largely through missionaries, as preliminary to a wider study. Details the effect of War in increasing availability and use of Opium (8 May [1940])
- Page of notes, most crossed out. Includes comparisons between written English and written Chinese, and how the name 'Muriel Lester' becomes 'Lei Se De', or translated as one 'Come to ponder on virtue' (n.d.)
- Page of notes on spiritual matters, written on Hotel Gibbons Stationary. Headed 'C.C' (n.d.)
- Miscellaneous notes
- Letter from Mrs. Frank. R. Williams, signed 'Aimee'. Includes the assassination of Dr. Herman. Liu, president of the University of Shanghai, the suicides of Christian Japanese soldiers, and Mrs Frank.R.Williams' visit to an occupied Chinese city
- Small piece of paper, describing a discussion in a meeting of the Culture department in Southern China on why 'Grace' is said before meals. (n.d.)
- Newspaper cutting: Correspondence. Includes two highlighted articles, the first a letter to the editor, S.C.M Post from Luk Shiu-Chong on the Abolition of Mui-Tsai System, the second titled Licensed Concubines from 'a quiet Chinese' on the passage of a Bill to amend the Female Domestic Service Ordinance, 1923 (30 May [1936])
- Newspaper cutting: China Revisited by Muriel Lester. Taken from Peace News, it includes a discussion of the 'two camps' of Christians, the pacifists and the non-pacifists, and the Christians who have been given positions in the Communist government. (15 August [1958])
- Letter to 'Dear Friends' from Ching-Jun Lin (President of the Fukien Christian University) Includes information of the suffering in the wake of the Japanese invasion of China, and a system of student self-help, where they are given work to earn enough to pay for their living expenses while studying. (1 October [1938])
- Letter to 'Dear Friends' from Ching-Jun Lin (President of the Fukien Christian University) Describing the increased violence of the occupation in China, and offering thanks to the friends abroad who protest the war materials being supplied to Japan by America and Britain (8 April [1939])
- Notes on the Present Situation by L.Smythe. Includes the problems of Law and Order, and recurring cases of robbery and rape, the food situation, economic conditions, the relief situation, with case examples of Japanese actions in China (21 March [1938])
- Notes on what hymns to preform, and what parts of the bible to read from in the beginning of a service. Handwritten with corrections. (n.d.)
- Letter to Rewi [Alley] from unknown (letter incomplete)

Thanking Rewi for the book. Includes brief mention of Madam Chiang and the author's love of China [16 February [1960])

- Thoughts for You. Includes anti-war poem by Shelly: The Masque of Anarchy, mentioned to be one of Gandhi's favourites. (n.d.)
- Draft notes written in long and short-hand, includes mention how the war and the three dictators Hitler, Stalin and Mussolini have affected the writer's outlook (n.d.)
- Report of Madam Sun Yat-Sen (Chairman of the China Defense League) and Mrs. Hilda Selwyn-Clarke (Hon. Secretary of the China Defense League) on Medical Relief Work in China. Information on the poor situation of the medical relief work in China (n.d.)
- General notes written on the back of printed pages. Includes description of trip through China, and biblical quotes (n.d.)
- General notes, written in pencil and faded and crossed out in areas. Includes description of the 'Creative Spirit', and brief description of the nature of war in China (8 April [1940])
- The Redoubtable Trio in Kuji. A recount by [Muriel Lester] of three people from a Christian College in Japan (Miss Tommy Allen and the Yahabis) who set up a nursery school in Kuji. Later, and the impact of the Second World War on it (n.d.)
- Letter to Chiang Kai-Shek (received by Mr. H. J. Timperly) from Mr. W. H. Donald. Includes information about the current situation in China and the Japanese invasion, the impact of the blockade of Chinese ports on Western economies, war crimes committed, Chinese resistance and guerrilla warfare, the political situation, air raids, the migration of non-combatants out of invaded areas, women's war work, the creation of industrial co-operatives, appreciation for the efforts of the people in democracies to prevent the shipment of war materials to Japan, and the increasingly optimistic outlook. (30 December [1938]).
- General notes. Includes section titled 'People of India' and the 5 rules, which include Poverty, Non-Violence, non-theft, truth, prayers (n.d.)
- How a Military-minded Chinese youth became a Christian pacifist by Christopher Fang (incomplete). Account of author's life in China, and how, prior to his conversion to pacifism, he wanted to be a military leader, and avenge China's wrongs against Japan, and conquer the world. (n.d.) Open

LESTER/2/5/5 Second World War

1939-1948

World War Two Files, (1939-1948). Includes:

- Letter to Muriel Lester from M. Beatrice Burtt. In which Burtt outlines her experience, as a doctor, of the situation throughout the country in the context of the war and the raids. Also includes a mention of Muriel's sister, Doris, who has left London and Kingsley Hall for the country with a number of the children and the staff. (19 October [?])
- Letter to unknown, from Muriel Lester (incomplete). Includes discussion of the situation in India, meetings of the organisation 'F.O.R., her meeting with the Non-combatant

Corps, and pacifism (n.d.)

- 'The Head Hunters'. Page of a book, in which the tradition of head hunting in the island of Formosa is discussed, and how the tradition ended through the sacrifice of the governor, sent by the Chinese Emperor. (n.d.)
- Letter to Muriel Lester from 'Harry'. General correspondence, includes author's time spent campaigning for the Labour Party in the election, and how he is awaiting the results of a lecturers course. (n.d.)
- Letter to 'Friend' from Muriel Lester. Includes quote from book 'Outside the Right' by Clifford Allen on the attack of civilian targets in Germany by the British government (n.d.) Letter, two sided. First, to Muriel Lester from Dan, on
- spiritual matters and the F.O.R organisation (n.d.) Second, to Muriel Lester from Barbara: family correspondence, and a description of Barbara's daughter, Muriel's 'namesake' (n.d.)
- 'Gandhi's Political Method' by The Rt. Hon: J.C.Smuts. Taken from "Mahatma Gandhi, Essays and Reflections", the extract was printed following news from India that Gandhi has begun a three weeks' fast, and outlines its success as a tactic in India. (n.d.)
- Letter to Dorothy from Dorothy (Franklin[?]). General correspondence. Mentions a trip taken by Dorothy with Muriel [Lester] (3 April [1939])
- Letter to Sonie from Muriel Lester. An update of the situation of friends in Europe in light of the Second World War, with some managing to reach either England, Washington and France as refugees, while others have either not been heard from, or elected to stay behind (3 July [1940])
- Letter to Percy [Bartlett] from unknown. General correspondence, with the author, having just begun the second half of the six months' Christian Mission programme, outlining her activities and the issue of venereal disease in the American Army in France, and the church's attempt to deal with the unusual influx of thousands of young men, due to the defense programme and its dangers (25 January [1941])
- Extract from Hindustan Times, with Gandhi's response to Sir Stafford Cripps' statement that Britain was not going to walk out of India in the middle of a war, and Gandhi's opinion that the independence of India would help the Allied cause (20 June [1942])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from George. General correspondence (23 June [1942])
- Collection of copies of correspondence, sent to Lester by R. Graham Phillips in response to Lester's talk on Indian Leaders at Friends House (3 January [1943]). Includes a letter to Phillips from Quentin Hogg (M.P for Oxford), disagreeing with Phillips' assessment of the Indian deadlock, and that the rejection of the Imperial government's policy was irresponsible (16 December [1942]); Letter to Hogg from L.S. Amery, in which Amery claims that Hogg's correspondent (Phillips) does not appreciate the British Government's own efforts to offer India a change to shape her own post-war destiny, and the disagreements between India's various parties (17 December [1942); Letter to Hogg from R. Graham Phillips, thanking him for his reply, and the addition of Amery's letter

- to Hogg. He mentions while he understands the difficulties of the situation, he maintains the imprisoned Congress leaders should be released, because of their significant popular support, and so a solution can be reached (29 December [1942])
- Collection of copies of correspondence, sent to Lester by R.G. Phillips (17 January [1943]). Includes a letter to Phillips from Quentin Hogg (M.P. for Oxford), outlining his disagreement with Phillips over the issue of independence in India, with Hogg stating he agrees with Cripps, and that in the context of War, victory is more important, even if India has to be held by force. Hogg also states that, even after it has finished, he is not prepared to support Indian Independence due to the likely outbreak of Civil War (n.d.); A reply to Hogg from R. G. Phillips, disagreeing with Hogg's assumption that Civil War would break out, and speaking against the prospect of using force (7 January [1943]); A reply to Phillips from Hogg, clarifying some of the points made in his last letter, stating that the passage of the Civil War was meant to deal with the eventual problem, and not the present military problem and that Phillips was mistaken in stating the loss of Malaya and Burma was due to difficulties of internal security (9 January [1943])
- Two items together. First, a copy of a letter to Agatha from unknown: An account of a public meeting held on the 15 October 1948, between Mr. Amery and his constituents, over his Indian policy. Second, a letter to Sir [Field Marshal Smuts] from Dorothy Hogg, urging Smuts to go to India and meet with Gandhi in order to reach a compromise (4 May [1944])-(16 October [1948])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from L.S. Amery, on the lack of support given by the Congress of India to the War effort (29 January [1943])
- Letter to 'My dear friends' from Muriel Lester. A newsletter, including an update on Lester's attempt to write a sequel to her book 'it occurred to me', and an account of her visit to Scotland [November [1943])
- Printed manuscript, an account of a two day fast in order to protest the government's blockade of ships of vitamins and powered milk destined for Belgian and Greece (3 January [1944])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Adolf Keller. Recollections of Switzerland, the impact of war in central Europe, and the possible incorporation of the European Central Office for Inter-Church Aid with the World Council of Churches (7 January [1944])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from W. Maude Brayshaw. Family news, discussions of the importance of prayer, and of India and starvation in Europe (22 January [1944])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Margaret. News of the death of Margaret's father (16 March [1944])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from Clare. General correspondence. Includes mention of Brede, and of the F.O.R organisation (15 March [1945])

Open

World War Two Files, (1939-1946). Includes:

- Muriel Lester's Travel Letter IV (with letters also from her travelling companion, Dorothy Hogg) Travels in India, and Lester's visit to Calcutta, Santiniketan, Sarnath, Allahabad and Cawnporp (20 January [1939]). Second letter from D.H (Dorothy Hogg). A discussion of the subject of non-violence, Gandhi's article on the Jews, and the Chinese situation (10 January [1939])
- Muriel Lester's Travel Letter. Lester's experience of Palestine, and the conflict and violence that has erupted between Arabs, Jews, and British soldiers (1 March [1939])
- Newspaper clipping 'Social Problems In Germany' (reported by the council). The effect of occupation on women in Germany (incomplete) (n.d.)
- Leaflet, from Muriel Lester, founder of Kingsley Hall, London. 'Trainees of Spirit' (Reprinted by special permission from the Christian Century) discussion of God (4 September [1940])
- News Bulletin, No. 33. International Voluntary Service for Peace (I.V.S.P) Contains memorial to Pierre Ceresole, information on I.V.S.P and membership form (March [1946])
- A translation of an article in 'Le Service Civil', on the life of Pierre Cersole (January [1946]
- Printed manuscript by [Muriel Lester] about her speaking engagements for the F.O.R, her tour of Scotland, and the war. (n.d.)
- Collection of copies of correspondence between the Viceroy and Gandhi. Includes a letter from Mr. Gandhi to the Viceroy, questioning the Viceroy's arrest of him (31 December [1942]); letter from the Viceroy to Mr. Gandhi, questioning Gandhi's failure to condemn the violence throughout India in the wake of a policy adopted by Congress in August (the Quit India campaign) (13 January [1943]); Letter from Mr. Gandhi to the Viceroy, stating while he deplores the violence, he will not express this opinion given he is not well informed of the situation or in control of (19 January [1943]); Letter from the Viceroy to Mr. Gandhi. stating he views that the Congress and Gandhi, and the resolution made last August by the Congress is responsible for the violence, and that he hopes Gandhi will dissociate himself from the decision (25 January [1943]); Letter from Mr. Gandhi to the Viceroy, arguing the violence outbreak after the August 9 resolution was caused by the arrest of Congress workers (29 January [1943]); Letter from the Viceroy to Mr. Gandhi, stating evidence has been gathered that a campaign of sabotage has been conducted in the name of the A.I.C.C. and that well known members of Congress have taken part in violence and murder. He also urges Gandhi not to under a fast due to his age and health (5 February [1943]); Letter from Mr. Gandhi to the Viceroy, disagreeing with the Viceroy' assessment of his contemplated fast, and that he condemns people suspected of violence before they are found guilty (7 February [1945]); Letter from Mr Gandhi to the Viceroy, condemning the Government of India for precipitating the crisis, and despite the earlier disagreement between him and Nehru over how immediate Indian independence would affect the outcome

of the War, Gandhi states that Nehru does now agree that it would be helpful (14 August [1942]); Letter from the Viceroy to Mr. Gandhi, stating he disagrees with Gandhi's assessment, and grant his request that the whole policy of the Government of India should be reconsidered (22 August [1942]); Letter from Mr. Gandhi to the Government of India, Home Department, stating that the policy of Congress remains non-violent, and that the government of India is to blame (12 September [1942])

- A draft of 'Twenty Fathoms Down', Muriel Lester's work latter confiscated in Trinidad (1 August [1941])
- Copy of 'Twenty Fathoms Down', by Muriel Lester (1 August [1941])
- Page of the Christian Pacifist. Includes book reviews with circled section on the role of Church in society, comparing its place to that 'of a good wife' (December [1940]) Open

LESTER/2/5/7 Second

Second World War

1936-1946

World War Two Files, (1936-1946). Includes

- 'An Open Letter to Women' from Muriel Lester. Original manuscript with handwritten edits, and final leaflet version. Role of women in the West over the last twenty years, and the pledge to keep an hours' silence every Thursday between 11pm to Midnight until the end of the War. [1940]
- Letter to 'Dear Friends' from Muriel Lester. General news, including updates on Kingsley Hall, Lester's travels in India, and the mourning of the death of Mrs. Gandhi and Hsu Pei Cheu, the F.O.R leader in China. Also contains handwritten additions signed 'Paul' (18 March [1944])
- Preparedness and Prostitution. A manuscript of the spread of venereal disease amongst armies (two copies) (30 October [?])
- Account of speech given by Muriel Lester to a congregation in the wake of America's decision to enter the war, and the need to follow an alternate line of action (2 Copies) (n.d.)
- An outline of life at the Children's House and Kingsley Hall, its activities, and the need to raise money to continue its work (n.d.)
- A brief description of the responsibility everyone has over the evils existing in the world, from concentration camps to the famine in India. Also mentions the recent suicide of one of Lester's closest friends (n.d.)
- Adolescents in Industry. A description of childhood in Britain, and the transition to wage earner and its impact on adolescents (n.d.)
- Experiences of a Camp Follower by Muriel Lester. A booklet on Lester's experience of war in the Far East, and how it affects soldiers, women, children and noncombatants, and how it can be stopped by ending Imperialism and Empire. Includes the issue of refugee camps and the problems of bedding, food shortages and disease; Britain and America's continued supply of Japan and the events in Nanking. (1936)
- Two pages from a book 'It Occurred to me' on the 'reconstruction in China'. Lester's travels in China, and the reconstruction effort, kept in the form of diary entries. (29

July [?] - 16 October [?])

- 'A Projected Christian Community in China' by P.C. Hsu. Experience of religious communities abroad, and how Hsu visualises a Chinese community should be set out, including its aims, membership, group discipline, activities, Equipment and funds, and location (Reprinted from "The Chinese Recorder" (November [1939])
- 'Why I have become a Japanese subject' by Merrell Hitotsuyanagi. Why she became naturalised, and the impact of the national crisis and Reconstruction (n.d.)
- International Fellowship of Reconciliation (I.F.O.R). News Letter no. 51. Account of the first post-War meeting of the I.F.O.R council at Stockholm, and the impact of war in different nations (June [1946])
- 'People' a leaflet by Muriel Lester. The story of a man who discovered religion, set up a school in the countryside, and when he was subsequently called up for the forces, he refused, and was tortured. By placing his faith in God however, he was able to survive the questioning, and was released, inspiring his torturers in the process (n.d.)
- Printed manuscript on drug trafficking in China, the Japanese occupation of China, and Lester's meeting with her nephew: George Aylwin Hogg. (n.d.)
- 'The Atheist'. Draft with handwritten edits. A story told by Merle Vorhies to Lester, of a man who discovered religion, set up a school in the countryside, and when he was subsequently called up for the forces, he refused, and was tortured. By placing his faith in God however, he was able to survive the questioning, and was released, inspiring his torturers in the process (n.d.)
- 'Michi Kawai' An account of Kawai's visit to the ecumenical Church Conference at Tabaram, Madras, representing, with seven others the Japanese Church, and how in one session, when a delegate referred to Japan's distribution of narcotics in China, Kawai stood and confirmed it to be true (n.d.)
- Chapter 2 'A rumour proves true'. On Lester's travels, first to Japan, and then China, and her first-hand account of the Drugs being flooded into China. Also contains an account of Lester's visit to a village that had been transformed in two years into a model community because of the efforts of a young Brahmin couple, and how a Canadian friend's suggestion of sinking a well, and seeking help from the work-together movement, successfully transformed another village (1935)
- 'Conquest of Happiness'. How education and opening the mind prevents pettiness and self-serving motivation, and increases happiness. Also contains a section titled 'India & Burma' on a visit to the Bose Institute in Calcutta, and experiments on a plant preformed there (n.d.)
- Piece of paper, with handwritten and typed text, comparing Apes to Mankind, and how civilised man must expand his heart, as well as his mind (n.d.)

 Open

LESTER/2/5/8 Trinidad Detention

1940-1941

Trinidad Detention, (1940-1941). Includes:

- Letter to Mr. [Nevin] Sayre from W.G. Hayter. Part of

- 'British Embassy Replies About Muriel Lester: Memorandum #5'. Hayter refuses to give Lester a permit to leave British territory and give a series of lecturers, stating Lester's activities abroad are more likely to hinder Britain's war effort, and that her work could be better employed in the UK (29 September [1941])
- A response by Lester to allegations made by W.G. Hayter, clarifying her position on Britain's policy towards Germany, the industrial effort, Britain's policy towards China and Japan, and creating peace (n.d.)
- Letter to Muriel Lester, from unknown (Letter incomplete). Updating Lester on the F.O.R Conference; a former F.O.R member who is now pro-war and working as a psychiatrist in an army training camp, and inquires into Lester's detention in Trinidad (26 September [1941])
- Three items attached. First, a copy of a telegram sent to Nevin Sayre from [Percy] Bartlett, asking [Cecil] Wilson, [T. Edmund] Harvey, [Lord] Lytton and others for help (25 August [1941]), Second, 'Memorandum' on Lester's detention in Trinidad on her way from Brazil to New York. Third, two copies of telegrams, first to Percy Bartlett from Muriel Lester on her detention pending the Home Secretary's decision on her offense against the Colonial Office. States she is well and comfortable, and to tell Doris [Lester] (23 August [?]), second to Percy Bartlett from Nevin Sayre, on the bad impression Lester's detention could have for Britain (25 August [1941])
- Two letters attached. First, a copy of a letter to C.H. Thornley to Lord Lytton, explaining that Lester's detention in Trinidad was due to her 'anti-British' and 'unpatriotic' speeches made in South America and in the United States (11 October [1941]). Second, a letter to Mr. Hall from T. Edmund Harvey, inquiring over the position of Lester, and her detention in a hut with 22 other inmates (16 October [1941])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from [Ben Platten]. Family correspondence, and the impact of the air raids (November [1940])
- Two items attached. First, an extract of the Baptist Times, which disagrees with the description of Lester by an American correspondent, as 'a representative Baptist' and 'well-known in national life'. The extract is also critical of Lester's 'exaggerated' description of starvation in Germany (28 November [1940]) Second, a letter to Dr. Carlile from D.H. [Dorothy Hogg], on the Baptist Times extract, stating that Lester would not describe herself as a 'representative Baptist', and that American well-wishers have exaggerated her importance (3 December [1940])
- Letter to [Muriel Lester] Prue from [Doris Lester?], describing the work and the children at Sarratt (Kingsley Colony), and that she is returning to Bow (14 October [1940])
- Letter to 'sweet thing' [Doris Lester?] from Prue [Muriel Lester], describing her holidays, and mentions the F.O.R organisation [14 July [1941])
- Two communications by Cable. First from Muriel Lester stating she has been detained in Trinidad by the Home Secretary, and that she is well and comfortable, second from Nevin Sayre on the bad impression Lester's detention could create for Britain (23 August [?])

- Letter to Doris Lester from Nevin [Sayre], informing her of Muriel's trouble getting her visa renewed for re-entry into the U.S. and that it has been fixed (18 July [1941])
- Letter from Prue [Muriel Lester] to 'my Sweet' [Doris Lester]. Prue mentions she is awaiting Lord Halifax's decision on her visa issue, and describes her accommodations (25 July [?])
- Letter to 'My Sweetest & dearest' from unknown (no signature, however likely from Muriel Lester) Describing her time in Buenos Aires (26 July [?])
- Letter to 'Sweetest dear' (Doris Lester) from Prue [Muriel Lester]. She mentions she is awaiting word as to why the permit has not come, and that she has written to Lord Halifax.(31 July [1941])
- Copy of Telegram to Sarratt, Hertford [Doris Lester?] from Muriel Lester. 'Sailing first boat. Cabling when' (Nevin Sayre from Muriel Lester?) (n.d.)
- Letter to Doris [Lester] from Percy Bartlett, discussing Muriel's detention in Trinidad (26 August [1941])
- Letter to Doris Lester from Percy Bartlett, on a discussion Agatha Harrison had over the phone with 'H', on Muriel's situation, and that nothing should be done until he has had a chance to look over Nevin [Sayre's] cables (27 August [1941])
- - Letter to Doris [Lester] from Percy Bartlett, stating that 'H.' has not mentioned anything about Muriel's situation in Trinidad in his note to Agatha [Harrison] (27 August [1941])
- Note to Doris [Lester], with attached 'Memorandum of J. Nevin Sayre on Detention of Muriel Lester'. Mentions that he is still unsure as to why Muriel Lester has been detained, and raises the possibility that it was to silence her and preventing her from speaking out (26 August [1941])
- 'Detention of Muriel Lester: Memorandum 2.' from John Nevin Sayre. An update on the Lester case, mentioning she will likely not be present at lakeside, and possibly not allowed to enter the United States at all. Why Lester was detained is also addressed, mentioning both her conflict with government war policy and how her speeches could incite strikes and be helpful towards Nazi propaganda, and her ignoring the British government policy which did not allow any British citizen to travel who were not connected with the war-effort (29 August [1941])
- Letter to Lord Lytton from (Private Secretary, Home Office) Discussing the Lester case, he mentions that in his enquiries that no order has been issued by the Home Secretary to prevent her from leaving Trinidad for the United States, and that it is likely a Colonial Office matter (30 August [1941])
- Detention of Muriel Lester: Memorandum #2 from John Nevin Sayre. An update on Muriel Lester's situation, with Sayre mentioning she will likely not be present at lakeside, and possibly not allowed to enter the United States at all. Why Lester was detained is also addressed, mentioning both her conflict with government war policy and how her speeches could incite strikes and be helpful towards Nazi propaganda, and her ignoring the British government policy which did not allow any British citizen to travel who were not connected with the war-effort. On the back it also has written note, which mentions the author [unknown] has

received a cable from Muriel on 23 September, and questions if she will be detained when she reaches this country (Britain?) (29 August [1941]).

- Collection of correspondence from Lord Lytton to Doris Lester. First letter, Lytton informs Lester that he has made enquirers into Muriel's detention in Trinidad, and that he could vouch for her (29 August [1941]). Second letter, Lytton states he has received a letter from the Colonial Office, and questions how Muriel's actions abroad can be considered 'damaging to British Interests' (15 September [1941]) Third. Lytton mentions he has spoken to Lord Halifax on the Lester case, in which he mentioned that her public criticism of the British policy in India could have led to her detention (26 September [1941]) Fourth, Lytton states that he has received a letter from the Colonial Office, telling him that Muriel had been making 'unpatriotic speeches in the United States' and urging munitions workers in factories not to produce arms. If this is correct, Lytton says he can do no more for her (15 October [1941]), Fifth, Lytton has learnt Muriel has been allowed to live in a hotel in Trinidad, and that there will be no restrictions on her movements when she arrives in Britain (27 October [1941])
- Letter to Lord Lytton from (Colonial Office) Muriel Lester has now left Trinidad and will arrive here (Britain) in a few days (13 November [1941])
- Letter to Lord Halifax from the Foreign Office, on Muriel Lester being ill with malaria (n.d.)
- Cable to Doris Lester from Muriel Lester. Informing her she is having a good time and her health has never been better (14 September [1941])
- Letter to Doris Lester from Lucy and (Stanley) Baldwin of Bewdley. In it they express how sorry they were that her sister, Muriel Lester has her pardon restricted, and that he has great sympathy for her work, though they do not always see eye to eye (6 September [1941])
- Letter to Lillian Stevenson, Cecil Wilson, Agatha Harrison and Doris Lester from Percy W. Bartlett. He mentions that he has received a letter from the Colonial Office, which in it states Muriel Lester is now willing to return home (23 September [1941])
- Letter to 'Dear Sir' (Percy W. Bartlett) from Christopher Eastwood (Private Secretary, Colonial Office). In it he explains the reasons and circumstances of Lester's detention in Trinidad, and that it was because of Lester's activities abroad, regarded by authorities as harmful to the war effort, that she was removed from the S.S 'Argentina' in Trinidad, and that Lester's passport is now only valid for return to the United Kingdom (23 September [1941])
- Letter to Dolores from Prue [Muriel Lester] Describing her trip home to London (27 September [1941]) **Open**

LESTER/2/5/9 Trinidad Detention

1941

Trinidad Detention, (1941). Includes:

- Letter to 'Dearest Dear' from Prue [Muriel Lester], describing how she is having the 'time of her life', and her activities she is doing (6 October [1941])
- Letter to Doris [Lester] from Ethel, thanking Doris for

sending her Muriel's letter, and that Muriel seems to be happy (7 October [?])

- Letter to Doris Lester from Percy W. Bartlett, in which he states that he hopes Muriel will not fall into the hands of reporters on her arrival in Britain. He also asks that Doris make an enquiry to the Colonial Office as to whether Muriel will be under any restrictions when she arrives in Britain, and if there is a charge (10 October [1941])
- Letter to Lord Lytton from C. H. Thomley (Colonial Office) Stating that, while Muriel Lester has been offered accommodation in a hotel for the duration of her time in Trinidad, Muriel has stated that she preferred to stay in the internment camp (6 November [1941])
- Letter to Muriel Lester from W. Biddulph (Colonial Office), informing Doris that Muriel has left Trinidad and is on her way to Britain (13 November [1941])
- Letter to Doris Lester from Percy W. Bartlett. In it he states that he is reassured that (Lord) Lytton thinks Muriel will be free as soon as she arrives back in Britain (17 October [1941])
- Letter to (Rev. William) Patton from Percy W. Bartlett (Doris Lester. Copy for information) Inquiring after Muriel Lester, and thanking Patton for taking up the matter of her detention in Trinidad (22 October [1941])
- Letter to Doris Lester from Lucy Baldwin of Bewdley, enquiring after Muriel's detention in Australia (Baldwin seems to be mistaken here, Muriel Lester was detained in Trinidad in this period) (27 October [1941])
- Letter to [Doris] Lester from Bedford, in which he hopes that Muriel is well and will soon return from Trinidad, and that he wrote to the Archbishop of York, which received a 'snappy and unfriendly reply' (30 October [1941])
- Letter to Doris Lester from Peggy Maugan, hoping Doris can send her a copy of Nevin Sayre's three page stencil, since her copy has two page 3s. Enclosed (and attached) is a letter to [Cecil] Harvey from G.H. Hall: an update on Muriel Lester's condition, dated 29 October 1941 (1 November 1941)
- Newspaper reports about Lester's detention, (c.1941) Open

LESTER/2/5/10 International travel

1950-1961

Poetry, quotations, addresses, advertisements of Muriel's talks in the United States of America. Circular Letters to friends, (1950-1961)

LESTER/2/6/1 Published and Unpublished Articles

1935-1957

Published and unpublished articles by Muriel Lester, (1935-1957). Includes:

- The Old Five Bells
- Must This Citizen go under?
- The Pre-Natal Influence of a Doss House
- -A New Pattern in History
- The Acid Test
- Hendon
- Trainees of the Spirit
- Ordinary People
- Nursery Schools, black, yellow and white
- The German Doctor
- The Borinage
- The Young Norwegian
- The East End Thief
- An Account of the Development of KH Bow
- Sketches in Holloway Prison
- A Nineteenth Century Child
- At the Strand
- The Latest Police Sensation
- Adolescents in Industry
- Social Justice
- A Visitor in BA
- From Birth to Death
- Christians in East London
- The Decline in Churchgoing
- Armistice Day
- Travel Notes in India (1954) Gandhi: the leader (1957)
- A Co-operative School in China (1947)
- The East End of London (1935)
- Japanese Mood
- The Japan Nobody Knows (1952)
- Five Weeks in Japan (1951)
- The Japanese Prefer Peace (1951)
- Can We Forgive? (1938)
- A Dictatorship That Works (1935)
- Is Japan Drugging China? (1935)
- Following the Opium Trail (1936)
- One Suffers, One Learns, One Enjoys (1954)
- Twice Bombed, Twice Born (1941)
- Pneuma Bombardment (1949)
- Indians in Africa (1950)
- Apartheid (1950)
- Gandhi, World Citizen (1949)
- Blessed are the Peacemakers (1947)
- A Call to Christians in All Lands (1940)
- The World is Waiting (1936)
- Impressions from South America (1941)
- The American Intervention that is Needed (Oct 1939)
- Pioneers of Life (1937)
- Preparing to Pray (1935)

- From Muriel Lester in Shanghai (1938)
- Africa (1948). Cutting regarding Lester refusing to address Maritzburg Parliament
- Two articles about Muriel Lester: A Modern Joan of Arc by Allan Hunter (1934) and an account of ML's trip to New Zealand in The NZ Christian Pacifist (1949)
- Account of Muriel's Trinidad detention, 1941 in The Christian Century

Open

LESTER/2/6/2 Travel Accounts

1938-1954

Drafts and handwritten accounts. Includes: Diary of my German Month; Flashlights from Stockholm (1946); Inside Belgium. Newsletter 19 Dec 1938: Final report of Muriel Lester's World Tour, (1938-1954)

Open

LESTER/2/6/3 Stories

1964

Stories by Muriel Lester, including: Yahabe, Merrel Vorries: The Story of 3 Dutch Sisters, The Borinage, The Young Norwegian, and The Gallant Three Hundred, (1964) Open

LESTER/2/6/4

War Criminals

1951-1954

Letters from families of Japanese war criminals, petitions for their release, and Christmas greetings to Muriel from prisoners at Bilibid Prison, Philippines. Accounts by Muriel Lester called 'Visiting Japanese War Criminals' and 'War Criminals', (1951-1954)

1926-1965

LESTER/2/7 India Files

Includes:

- -letters to Muriel Lester from: M.K. Gandhi, Rabindranath Tagore, Samuel Hoare, George M.Ll. Davies, Lord Halifax, Mohamed Ali, Mrs V.L. Pandit [sister of Jawaharlal Nehru], E.C. Gibson [Rajkot Residency], George "AE" Russell, L.S. Amery.
- letters from ML to: Samuel Hoare [incl. draft report 1934], Lord Lytton [draft of first letter, 31/12/26], Sir John Simon, Sir John Anderson, Mrs Stanley Baldwin, Agatha Harrison, to Kingsley Hall, Bow, to Doris Lester, to Alan and Elizabeth Hunter [1934]
- torn letter [personal from Dorothy Hogg to ML]; copy of letter from Mahadev Desai to Dorothy Hogg.
- report by ML headed 'An Inquiry' [i.e. into the setting up of an Indian Fellowship of Reconciliation], April 1939 Circular letters No.8. 9, 10, 7 13 [from ML in India 1926]; ML letter from Lahore 1936; Travel letters from India 1949. **OPEN**

LESTER/2/7/1 Gandhi's letters

1926-1935

- Letters to Muriel Lester from Gandhi (1926-1935) 1.Handwritten letter- to Muriel Lester from Gandhi, who is writing to Miss Lester about the issues of religion, in particular Hinduism that is exercised in villages around India (2pp) [1926?]
- 2. Handwritten letter- to Muriel Lester from Gandhi, who is replying to Miss Lester's previous letters and writing about prohibition and expressing admiration for Miss Lester's cause. (2pp) (17 March 1927)
- 3. Handwritten letter- to Muriel Lester from 'Bapu' [Gandhi?], who is writing to ensure the right/preferred treatment for one of Miss Lester's future guests (1p) (8 February 1928)
- 4. Handwritten letter- to Muriel Lester from 'Bapu' [Gandhi?], who is assuring Miss Lester that out of all life and death struggles, she is the least among them. (1p) (23 February 1930)
- 5. Handwritten letter (x4) to the children of Kingsley Hall from Uncle Gandhi, who is writing from prison about their meeting an afternoon and thanking the children for their gifts of love. Gandhi is furthermore stating that he does not feel like a prisoner for he has done nothing wrong (one of the typed copies contain an essay about Mr. Gandhi, written by an eleven year old boy from a local Junior School and was published in India) (1p) (20 January 1932)
- 6. Typed letter- to 'His Excellency the Viceroy' from M.K. Gandhi, about Anglo-Indian relations and reassuring the Viceroy of his sincerity in supporting that relationship (1p) (15 March 1934)
- 7. Typed letter- to Muriel Lester from Bapu [Gandhi?], who is writing to Miss Lester explaining his recent silence and that he has not yet gone to jail but attempting to get permission to go to the Frontier Province, although so far he has been denied access. (1p) (18 January 1935)
- 8. Typed letter- to Muriel Lester from Bapu [Gandhi?], who

	is having difficulty in making up his mind on a European visit (2pp) (No date) OPEN	
LESTER/2/7/1/1	Letter to Muriel Lester from Gandhi	1926
	To Muriel Lester: comments on religion, on Indian villages and nonviolence (6 December 1926) OPEN	
LESTER/2/7/1/2	Letter to Muriel Lester from Gandhi	1927
	To Muriel Lester: comments about prohibition (17 March 1927) OPEN	
LESTER/2/7/1/3	Letter to Muriel Lester from Gandhi	1928
	To Muriel Lester: introducing Rajendra Prasad (8 March 1928) OPEN	
LESTER/2/7/1/4	Letter to Muriel Lester from Gandhi	1930
	To Muriel Lester: written on the eve of the Salt March. "I think of all my English friends known and unknown. You are not the least among them" (23 February 1930) OPEN	
LESTER/2/7/1/5	Letter to Children's House from Gandhi	1932
	Copy of a letter to Children's House to thank the children for birthday presents given to 'Uncle Gandhi' during his stay in Bow in 1931 (20 January 1932) OPEN	
LESTER/2/7/1/6	Letter to the Viceroy from Gandhi	1934
	To the Viceroy about his sincerity and his behaviour (15 March 1934) OPEN	
LESTER/2/7/1/7	Letter to Muriel Lester from Gandhi	1935
	To Muriel Lester about the cheque she sent to Harijan funds (18 January 1935) OPEN	
LESTER/2/7/1/8	Letter to Muriel Lester from Gandhi	n.d.
	Letter to Muriel Lester asking for spiritual support from Yeravda Central Prison (n.d.) OPEN	
LESTER/2/7/2	India: Correspondence	1926-1965
	Correspondence about Indian and Ghandi, (1926-1965). Includes:	

1. Handwritten letter- to Lord Lytton from [Muriel Lester?],

- who writes about her concerns after a three month visit in India (2pp) (31 December 1926)
- 2. Typed letter- to Sir John Simon from [Muriel Lester], about Sir. John Simon meeting with Mr. Gandhi in Ashram (1p) (1 February 1928)
- 3. Handwritten letter- to Muriel Lester from "A.E" [poet George Russell], where Mr. Russell is explaining why his response was delayed. (1p) (1931)
- 4. Typed letter- to Muriel Lester from Mohamed Ali, who writes to inform Miss Lester of his illness. (1p) (15 December 1930)
- 5. Handwritten letter- to Muriel Lester from George Davis, who is writing to miss Lester about his impression of Mr. Gandhi and his movement (4pp) (November 1931)
- 6. Typed letter- to Sir Samuel Hoare from [Muriel Lester?], about setting Mr. Gandhi free from prison (2pp) (3 May 1933)
- 7. Typed letter- to the district Magistrate, Midnapore ('Sir') from Bepinbehary Adhikary, who is querying about a notice he received (1p) (6 September 1933)
- 8. Handwritten note- to [Muriel Lester?], a time slotted list of ideas and thoughts (5pp) (23 February 193?)
- 9. Handwritten letter- to 'Dear Child' [Muriel Lester?] from C/O Eddie Ceylon, informing the recipient about his decision (6pp) (date unknown)
- 10. Handwritten letter- to Alan and Elizabeth from Muriel Lester, who speaks of her trip to India (8pp) (4 March 1934)
- 11. Handwritten letter- to 'Dorrie darling' (Doris Lester) from Muriel Lester, about spending an evening together and Miss Muriel updating her sister about some events in her life (3pp) (date unknown)
- 12. Handwritten letter (removed from CHINA FILE)- to 'Darlingest precious' [Dorrie?] from Pru, response to previous letters (2pp)(1934)
- 13. Typed letter- to Miss Lester from Samuel Hoare, who writes to thank Miss Lester for accounts of an interview she held with Mr. Gandhi in Rome (1p) (9 April 1934)
- 14. Typed letters- to Sir John Anderson from [Muriel Lester?], who addresses Anderson regarding her trips to America, China, Japan and India. (6pp) (1934)
- 15. Typed letters- to Muriel Lester from John Anderson, about making opportunities for young men to do constructive work for the country [India?]. Added to the letter is an extract of a newspaper report (3pp) (17 April 1934)
- 16. Typed letter- to Gurudeo from Muriel Lester, about his letter to the viceroy (1p) (13 April 1934?)
- 17. Typed letter (Copy)- to Sir Samuel Hoare from Muriel Lester, about Indian nationalism (1p) (29 August 1934)
- 18. Typed letter- to Miss Lester from Samuel Hoare, who agrees that Indian extremism is becoming a growing concern (1p) (31 August 1934)
- 19. Handwritten letter- to Ms. Stanley Baldwin from Muriel Lester, about Mr. Gandhi, Nehru and a growing concern for extremism, violence and Russian influences on India.
- 20. Typed letter- to 'Dear sir' from Muriel Lester, who is expressing her concern regarding the 'current' number of the Radio Times where Commander Stephen King-Hall is referring to the tribesmen of the North-West Frontiers as "savages" (1p) (13 April 1936)

- 21. Typed letter- to Muriel Lester from 'Halifax', wishing her a good journey to China and Hong Kong and a happy Christmas (1p) (18 October 1937)
- 22. Typed letter- to Muriel Lester from [Ralrndranath Iafore?], expressing excitement over Miss Muriel's future visit to 'this' [India?] country in January (2pp) (9 December 1938)
- 23. Typed letter- to Muriel Lester from [Ralrndranath Iafore?], writing about Miss Lester's previous visit to [Santimiketan?] and apologising for the incident during her visit (2pp) (30 January 1939)
- 24. Typed letter- from E.C Gibson to Muriel Lester, writing to Miss Lester regarding the Rajkot agitation (2pp) (7 February 1939)
- 25. Typed letter- to Muriel Lester from E.C. Gibson, asking Miss Lester if she would allow him to publish the remarks she made about the behaviour of the police in relation to the Rajkot agitation (2pp) (20 February 1939)
- 26. Typed letter- to Muriel Lester from ?, who is discussing Indian betterments in terms of building roads etc. (1p) (20 February 1939)
- 27. Typed letter- to Muriel Lester from Halifax, responding to Muriel's previous letter and commenting about her stay in the North West Frontiers [India?] (2pp) (24 February 1939) 28. Typed letter- to Muriel Lester from Halifax, thanking Miss Lester for her letter (1p) (3 July 1939)
- 29. Typed letter- to 'Dear friend' [Muriel Lester?] from [Nijaya Hakshmi Pandib?], thanking Miss Muriel for her autobiography and writing with concern about the 'War clouds' that is gathering due to the current conditions in Europe (1p) (7 July 1939)
- 30. Typed letter- to Dawson from Lytton, writing in regards to a letter that Muriel Lester addressed to the 'Times', recommending that it be published because Miss Lester has travelled much in the 'East' and thus is very knowledgeable about the topic (2pp) (20 July 1939)
- 31. Typed letter- to Dorothy Hogg from Mahadev Desai (COPY), passing on condolences in regard to times of suffrage, death and destruction (1p) (31 March 1941) 32. Typed letter- to Agatha Harrison from Muriel Lester (COPY), where Miss Lester is describing her impression of 'Dear Mahadev' (1p) (17 August 1942)
- 33. Typed letter- to Muriel Lester from [Hamey?], writing to Miss Lester about female employment in Indian mines and on the matters of economy such as, inflation and investment (1p) (31 January 1944)
- 34. Typed letter (x2)- to Muriel Lester from Pyarelal Nair, thanking, on behalf of Bapu, for Miss Lester's letter and informing about Bapu's letter to Churchill and about the Viceroy's camp (15 October 1944) in addition, on matters of violence and non-violence, a letter regarding the incident of a young Russian girl who was attacked by a soldier and in defence, uses violent means to 'tear him to pieces' further cause disagreements as to her protection (14 November 1944) (3pp)
- 35. Typed letter- to Gandhi from Mountbatten of Burma, about deployment of soldiers in Punjab and Bengal and further more informing Mr. Gandhi of the great appreciation his name received when mentioned in the Constituent

- Assembly (1p) (26 August 1947)
- 36. Handwritten letter- to Muriel Lester form [Gopal Gandhi?], informing Miss Lester of his uncle's death and of his planned journey to London (2pp) [6 April 1956?]
- 37. Typed letter- to Muriel Lester from ?, thanking Miss Lester for her letter as well as sending congratulations for her coming eightieth birthday (1p) (20 August 1963)
- 38. Typed letter- to Muriel Lester from Indira Gandhi, who is writing to Miss Lester about her father's (Nehru's) improving health (1p) (19 January 1964)
- 39. Typed letter- to 'Dear Loved Ones' from R.R 'Dick' Keithahn, who writes about the progress of their work (2pp) (19 February 1964)
- 40. Typed letter- to Muriel Lester from Gandhi's grandson, who is thanking Miss Lester for their time spent together and expressing concern for the future of India while encouraging Miss Lester to continue her work for peace and freedom. (1p) (14 April 1965)
- 41. Typed letter- to Muriel Lester from G. Ramachandran, who is writing to Miss Lester about [his?] 'old' mother's health (2pp) (16 April 1965)
- 42. Typed letter- to Muriel Lester from Indira Gandhi, writing about Indian-Pakistan relations and the question of Kashmir. What is more, Indira is expressing worries of a Chinese threat (4pp) (2 October 1965)
- 43. Typed letter- to? from?, a piece of paper that seem to have been ripped out of a novel with religious sentiments.
 44. Handwritten letter, to 'aunt' from Dorothy, who is writing about her general state of life (4pp) (April 1934)

LESTER/2/8 Papers of Individuals 1931-1959 Papers of George Aylwin Hogg, Allan Hunter, Linus Pauling and Kathleen Hogg, (1931-1959) Open LESTER/2/8/1 George Aylwin Hogg 1938-1950 Papers and correspondence relating to George Aylwin Hogg and Sandan Indusco Bailie School, (1938-1950) Open LESTER/2/8/2 Allan Hunter and Linus Pauling Sermons (n.d.) Allan Hunter and Linus Pauling sermons, (n.d.) Open **LESTER/2/8/3** Kathleen Hogg 1931-1959 Kathleen Hogg's papers and letters, (1931-1959).

LESTER/2/9 Newspaper Cuttings

1928-1965

Scrapbook and newspaper cuttings about Lester's world tours, Ghandi's visit, Kingsley Hall Dagenham and Kingsley Hall Bow as well as the Lansbury Memorial Window, Lester's publications and interviews with Lester, (1928-1965)

LESTER/2/9/1 Scrapbook

1928-1953

Scrapbook of newspaper cuttings regarding Muriel Lester's World Tours 26 August 1933 - 1 July 1934 (plus some loose cuttings 1953). This item was donated by Christopher Bishop in 1992 following the death of Amy Bishop, former Kingsley Hall Youth Leader, (1928-1953)

Open

LESTER/2/9/2 Newspaper cuttings

1931-1965

News cuttings relating to Muriel, Doris, Kingsley Hall Bow and Dagenham. Including details of Gandhi's visit in 1931 (as remembered at the time of his death in 1948), Lansbury memorial window, 1946 Reviews of Muriel's books, and BBC Script of conversation with Muriel Lester, (1931-1965) Open

LESTER/3	Doris Lester files	1929-1946
	Doris Lester's personal diaries, autobiographical notes, stories and verses, letters and articles, (1929-1946) Open	
LESTER/3/1	Personal Papers	1930-1940
	Doris Lester's notes for an autobiography, drafts, letters and book of verses, (1930-1940) Open	
LESTER/3/2	Letters	1929-1946
	Letters (1929-1946). Includes: - Draft of article by Doris Lester on the death of George Lansbury -Address to and report of the Children's House meeting in 10, Downing Street - "Letters to Daffy" about the work of Kingsley Hall, Bow - Letters, drafts and articles Open	
LESTER/3/3	Kingsley Hall	1939-1946
	Diary, letters and reports on Kingsley Hall during the Second World War, (1939-1946). Includes: - Diary concerning World War II in Bow, (23 August 1939-24 October1939) - Drafts for Kingsley Hall report "Further Adventures in Fellowship" - Reports, letters, articles and drafts	
	Open	
LESTER/3/4	Stories, plays and teaching material	1930-1939
	Drafts, stories, plays and teaching material for Sunday School and Children's House, Bow, by Doris Lester, (1930- 1939) Open	

LESTER/4 Sydney Russell files 1927-1970 Sydney Russell's papers and correspondence, (1927-1970) Sydney Russell was Minister Warden of Kingsley Hall, Dagenham 1932-1988. In 1959 he was awarded the Freedom of the Borough. Open LESTER/4/1 Henry, Doris and Muriel Lester 1927-1970 Papers regarding the deaths of Henry Lester, Muriel Lester and Doris Lester, (1927-1970). Includes: - Henry Edward Lester funeral, order of service (1927) - Doris Lester, deceased: cash account of the executors. thanksgiving fund, letters and correspondence, including copy of the correspondence between Muriel Lester and Margaret Bemrose - Muriel Lester deceased: thanksgiving service, letters and cash account of the executors Open LESTER/4/2 Correspondence 1956-1957 Letters to Sydney Russell about Kingsley Hall from Muriel and Doris Lester. (1956-1957) Open LESTER/4/3 1929-1932 Legal papers Legal papers collected by Sydney Russell, (1929-1932) - Copy of the deed of trust to erect a building for social. educational and religious works in Becontree (1929) - Copy of the deed of appointment of the Shaftesbury Society as Joint trustee (1930) - Copy of the deed in which the trustees of Kingsley Hall transfer finance to the Shaftesbury Society, (n.d.) Open LESTER/4/4 Newspaper Cuttings 1949-1963 Copies of newspaper cuttings from Dagenham Digest about Kingsley Hall and Sydney Russell, (1949-1963). Includes: - Kingsley Hall. Dagenham programme of events. 1956 - Kingsley Hall Fellowship questionnaire, 1956 - Script of an imaginary panel discussion between Sydney Russell, Muriel Lester, Mahatma Gandhi and Toyohiko Kagawa, in celebration of Kingsley Hall anniversary LESTER/4/5 1930-1931 Scrapbook Scrapbook created by Sydney Russell including photographs of Winifred Barnard and Peggy James, news cuttings about the Children's Houses in Dagenham and Bow, and copies of programmes for the stone-laying of the

nursery school in Dagenham and the opening of the

Children's House in Dagenham, (1930-1931)

LESTER/5 Winifred Barnard files 1930-1937 Pictures and papers about Kingsley Hall Nursery School, Dagenham, (1930-1937) Open LESTER/5/1 Photograph album 1930 Photograph album of Kingsley Hall Nursery School in Dagenham including images of the Children's House. Mostly photographs of the children, (1930) Open Sunday School Leaders' Council Minutes LESTER/5/2 1931-1937 Kingsley Hall, Dagenham Sunday School Leaders' Council minute book, (1931-1937) Open

LESTER/6	Photographs	1923-1963
	Various photographs of Kingsley Hall Dagenham and Kingsley Hall Bow as well as Ghandi's visit to London and Lester's international visits, (1923-1963) Open	
LESTER/6/1	Children's House Orchestra	n.d.
	Black and white photograph of the Children's House Orchestra (n.d.) OPEN	
LESTER/6/2	Children playing in the street, Bow	1938
	Black and white photograph of children playing in the street, Bow (1938) OPEN	
LESTER/6/3	Children's House Orchestra with celebrities	1931
	Black and white photograph of the Children's House Orchestra with celebrities (10 February 1931) OPEN	
LESTER/6/4	Egyptian scene	n.d.
	Black and white photograph of an Egyptian scene (n.d.) OPEN	
LESTER/6/5	Gandhi at Kingsley Hall, Dagenham	1931
	Black and white photograph taken from Grays and Tilbury Gazette, of Gandhi at Kingsley Hall, Dagenham (23 November 1931) OPEN	
LESTER/6/6	Henry Edward Lester and daughter Muriel	n.d.
	Black and white photograph of Henry Edward Lester and daughter Muriel (n.d.) OPEN	
LESTER/6/7	International Fellowship of Reconciliation group photograph	1963
	Black and white group photograph of the International Fellowship of Reconciliation, featuring Charles Earle Raven, John Nevin Sayre and Muriel Lester (1963) OPEN	
LESTER/6/8	Kingsley Cottage, Loughton	n.d.
	Black and white photograph of Muriel Lester and friends in the garden of Kingsley Cottage, Loughton OPEN	

LESTER/6/9	Children's House, Bow. Children reading	n.d.
	Black and white photograph of children reading at Children's House, Bow (n.d.) OPEN	
LESTER/6/10	George Lansbury planting a tree at Kingsley Hall, Bow.	1929
	Black and white photograph of George Lansbury planting a tree at Kingsley Hall, Bow (November 1929) OPEN	
LESTER/6/11	Muriel Lester portrait	n.d.
	Black and white portrait photograph of Muriel Lester (n.d.) $\ensuremath{\mathbf{OPEN}}$	
LESTER/6/12	Ishbel MacDonald opening Kingsley Hall Nursery School, Dagenham	n.d.
	Black and white photograph of Ishbel MacDonald opening Kingsley Hall Nursery School, Dagenham (n.d.) OPEN	
LESTER/6/13	Kingsley Hall Foundation Day	1955
	Black and white photograph of Muriel Lester, Vijayalakshmi Pandit and Doris Lester at Kingsley Hall Foundation Day, 40th Anniversary (1955) OPEN	
LESTER/6/14	Children sleeping on the roof of Children's House, Bow	n.d.
	Black and white photograph of children sleeping on the roof of Children's House, Bow (n.d.) OPEN	
LESTER/6/15	George Lansbury memorial window, Kingsley Hall, Bow	c1946
	Black and white photograph of the George Lansbury memorial window, Kingsley Hall, Bow (c1946) OPEN	
LESTER/6/16	Muriel Lester	1950
	Black and white portrait photograph of Muriel Lester (1950) OPEN	
LESTER/6/17	Muriel Lester	n.d.
	Black and white photograph of Muriel Lester sitting on a chair (n.d.) OPEN	
LESTER/6/18	Muriel Lester and Margaret Marnham	1963
	Black and white photograph of Muriel Lester with family member (18 May 1963) OPEN	

LESTER/6/19	John Galsworthy at a stone laying ceremony of Kingsley Hall, Bow	1927
	Black and white photograph of John Galsworthy with Sybil Thorndike at a stone laying ceremony of Kingsley Hall, Bow (14 July 1927) OPEN	
LESTER/6/20	Opening of Ben Platten Memorial House	1946
	Black and white photograph of the opening of the Ben Platten Memorial House, Baldwins Hill, showing Doris Lester, Mrs Clement Attlee, Reginald Sorensen and Muriel Lester (June1946) OPEN	
LESTER/6/21	Kingsley Lester portrait	n.d.
	Black and white portrait photograph of Kingsley Lester (n.d.) OPEN	
LESTER/6/22	Children's House, Bow	1923-1924
	Black and white photograph of Children's House, Bow (1923-1924) OPEN	
LESTER/6/23	Children's House, Bow: the schoolroom	1923-1924
	Black and white photograph of the schoolroom in Children's House, Bow (1923-1924) OPEN	
LESTER/6/24	"Do you like butter?"	c1928
	Black and white photograph of children playing "do you like butter?" in a garden (c1927) OPEN	
LESTER/6/25	Dagenham Nursery at Kingsley Hall, after the war	n.d.
	Black and white photograph of the newly adapted Dagenham Nursery at Kingsley Hall, now suitable for physically handicapped children (n.d.) OPEN	
LESTER/6/26	Kingsley Hall Nursery School, Dagenham: rest hour after dinner	n.d.
	Black and white photograph of Kingsley Hall Nursery School: rest hour after dinner (n.d.) OPEN	
LESTER/6/27	Kingsley Hall Nursery School, Dagenham: at work, at home	n.d.
	Black and white photograph of Kingsley Hall Nursery School, Dagenham: at work, at home (n.d.) OPEN	

LESTER/6/28	Doris Lester with children from Children's House, Bow during evacuation at Sarratt	1939-1945
	Black and white photograph of Doris Lester with children from Children's House, Bow during evacuation at Sarratt (1939-1945) OPEN	
LESTER/6/29	Children playing on a slide at Children's House, Bow	n.d.
	Black and white photograph of children playing on a slide at Children's House, Bow (n.d.) OPEN	
LESTER/6/30	Kingsley Hall Nursery School children during evacuation in Gloucestershire	1940
	Black and white photograph of Kingsley Hall Nursery School children during evacuation in Gloucestershire (1940) OPEN	
LESTER/6/31	Muriel Lester portrait	n.d.
	Black and white portrait photograph of Muriel Lester (n.d.) OPEN	
LESTER/6/32	Dr Siegmund- Schultze and Muriel Lester at IFOR Conference, Lunteren	1938
	Black and white photograph of Dr Siegmung-Schultze and Muriel Lester at IFOR Conference, Lunteren OPEN	
LESTER/6/33	Henry Lester portrait	n.d.
	Black and white portrait photograph of Henry Lester (n.d.) OPEN	
LESTER/6/34	Conference at Kingsley Hall, Bow	n.d.
	Black and white photograph of a Conference held at Kingsley Hall, Bow (n.d.) OPEN	
LESTER/6/36	Emily Saville	1944
	Black and white photograph of Emily Saville (1944) OPEN	
LESTER/6/37	Kingsley Hall teenagers at camp in Herne Bay	c1938-1939
	Black and white photograph of Kingsley Hall teenagers at camp in Herne Bay (c1938-1939) OPEN	
LESTER/6/38	Muriel recalling her memories of Gandhi to Motilal Kothari	1965
	Black and white photograph of Muriel Lester recalling her	

	memories of Gandhi to Motilal Kothari who inspired Richard Attenborough's film (1965) OPEN	
LESTER/6/39	Kingsley Hall Nursery School, Dagenham evacuated to Poship Hall, Gloucestershire	1940
	Black and white photograph of Kingsley Hall Nursery School, Dagenham evacuated to Poship Hall, Gloucestershire OPEN	
LESTER/6/40	Sydney Russell portrait	n.d.
	Black and white portrait photograph of Sydney Russell (n.d.) $\ensuremath{\mathbf{OPEN}}$	
LESTER/6/41	Muriel Lester about to broadcast in Argentina	1941
	Black and white photograph of Muriel Lester about to broadcast in Argentina (1941)	
LESTER/6/42	Muriel Lester with wife of Indonesian Governor	1956
	Black and white photograph of Muriel Lester with wife of Indonesian Governor on Lester's 1956 tour (1956) OPEN	
LESTER/6/43	War Resisters' International Council meeting at Bilthouen, Holland	1938
	Black and white photograph of members of the War Resisters' International Council meeting in Bilthouen, Holland. Members in photograph include Muriel Lester, John Nevin Sayre and George Lansbury (26-28 July 1938) OPEN	
LESTER/6/45	Muriel Lester	1940
	Black and white photograph of Muriel Lester in a garden OPEN	
LESTER/6/46	George Aylwin Hogg	1936
	Black and white photograph of George Aylwin Hogg (1936) OPEN	
LESTER/6/47	Muriel and Doris Lester at Kingsley Cottage, Loughton	1956
	Black and white photograph of Muriel and Doris Lester at Kingsley Cottage, Loughton (1956) OPEN	
LESTER/6/48	Carol Schwarz with Muriel and Doris Lester	1963
	Black and white photograph of Carol Schwarz with Muriel and Doris Lester (18 May 1963)	

OPEN

LESTER/6/49	Mr John Galsworthy and Miss Sybil Thorndike help to lay the foundations of New Kingsley Hall	1927-1928
	Black and white picture postcard of Mr John Galsworthy and Miss Sybil Thorndike helping to lay the foundations of New Kingsley Hall (1927-1928) OPEN	
LESTER/6/50	Muriel Lester portrait	1940
	Black and white portrait photograph of Muriel Lester (1940) OPEN	
LESTER/6/51	F.O.R. disarmament procession	1931
	Black and white photograph of the Fellowship of Reconciliation disarmament procession (March 1931) OPEN	
LESTER/6/52	Group of IFOR leaders in Lunteren, Holland	1938
	Black and white group photograph of the IFOR leaders in Lunteren, Holland, including Pierre Ceresole, Charles Raven, Muriel Lester, Friedrich Siegmund-Schultze and John Nevin Sayre (March 1938) OPEN	
LESTER/6/53	The first children admitted to Kingsley Hall Nursery School	1930
	Black and white photograph of the first children admitted to Kingsley Hall Nursery School (February 1930) OPEN	
LESTER/6/54	Carol Schwarz, Muriel and Doris Lester	1963
	Black and white photograph of Carol Schwarz with Muriel and Doris Lester OPEN	
LESTER/6/55	Vanessa Redgrave opens the Kingsley Hall Christmas Bazaar	1962
	Black and white photograph of Vanessa Redgrave opening the Kingsley Hall Christmas Bazaar (1962) OPEN	
LESTER/6/56	Muriel Lester receiving presentation from Douglas Steere at FOR office, New York	n.d.
	Black and white photograph of Muriel Lester receiving presentation from Douglas Steere at FOR office, New York (n.d.) OPEN	

LESTER/6/57	Irene Whitmee and Roy Henson's wedding, with Kingsley Hall Nursery School children	1939
	Black and white photograph of Irene Whitmee and Roy Henson's wedding, with Kingsley Hall Nursery School children (1939) OPEN	
LESTER/6/58	Main building of Kingsley Hall, Dagenham	1993
	Black and white photograph of the main building of Kingsley Hall, Dagenham (February 1993) OPEN	
LESTER/6/59	Children cleaning the exterior of Children's House, Bow	n.d.
	Black and white photograph of children cleaning the exterior of Children's House, Bow (n.d.) OPEN	
LESTER/6/59a	Children cleaning the exterior of Children's House, Bow	n.d.
	Black and white photograph of children cleaning the exterior of Children's House, Bow (n.d.) OPEN	
LESTER/6/59b	Children cleaning the exterior of Children's House, Bow.	n.d.
	Black and white photograph of children cleaning the exterior of Children's House, Bow (n.d.) OPEN	
LESTER/6/60/1	Visit to China	n.d.
	Black and white photograph of a woman eating, from Lester's visit to China (n.d.) OPEN	
LESTER/6/60/2	Visit to China	n.d.
	Black and white photograph of refugee children learning to sing at the G.W.E.A. Industrial Camp for Refugees, during Lester's visit to China (n.d.) OPEN	
LESTER/6/60/3	Visit to China	n.d.
	Black and white photograph of a demolished building taken during Lester's visit to China (n.d.) OPEN	
LESTER/6/60/4	Visit to China	n.d.
	Black and white photograph of woman and child, taken during Lester's visit to China (n.d.) OPEN	

LESTER/6/60/5	Visit to China	n.d.
	Black and white photograph of refugee women learning embroidery work at G.W.E.A. Industrial Camp for Refugees, taken during Lester's visit to China (n.d.) OPEN	
LESTER/6/60/6	Visit to China	n.d.
	Black and white photograph of an agricultural farmer, taken during Lester's visit to China (n.d.) OPEN	
LESTER/6/61	Gandhi walking into the unknown	n.d.
	Black and white photograph of Gandhi entitled 'Gandhi walking into the unknown' (n.d.) OPEN	
LESTER/6/62	The treasured portrait of Gandhi	n.d.
	Black and white photograph entitled 'The treasured portrait of Gandhi', bequeathed to S.J.R. by Muriel Lester (n.d.) OPEN	
LESTER/6/63	Gandhi in salutation	1935
	Drawing representing Gandhi in salutation (n.d.) OPEN	

LESTER/7 Books, Leaflets and Reports

1900-1999

Books, leaflets and reports including books written by Muriel Lester, annual reports and information for Kingsley Hall and Children's House Bow, annual reports and information for Kingsley Hall Dagenham, pamphlets and leaflets for services and events collected by Lester and publications collected by Lester and others, (1900-1999)

LESTER/7/1	Muriel Lester: Books and Leaflets	1900-1999
LESTER/7/1/1	'My Host the Hindu'	1931
	'My Host the Hindu' by Muriel Lester, (1931) OPEN	
LESTER/7/1/2	'Ways of Praying'	1931
	Booklet, 'Ways of Praying' by Muriel Lester, (1931) OPEN	
LESTER/7/1/3	'Praying: How, When, Where, Why'	1940
	'Praying: How, When, Where, Why' by Muriel Lester, (1940) OPEN	
LESTER/7/1/4	'Entertaining Gandhi'	1932
	'Entertaining Gandhi' by Muriel Lester, (1932) OPEN	
LESTER/7/1/5	'The Prayer School'	1942
	'The Prayer School' by Muriel Lester, (1942) OPEN	
LESTER/7/1/6	"A Way of Life"	n.d.
	Booklet 'A Way of Life', by Muriel Lester, (n.d.) OPEN	
LESTER/7/1/7	'Let Your Soul Catch Up With Your Body'	1942
	'Let Your Soul Catch Up With Your Body' by Muriel Lester, (1942) OPEN	
LESTER/7/1/8	'Why Forbid Us?'	1935
	'Why Forbid Us?' by Muriel Lester, (1935) OPEN	
LESTER/7/1/9	'Why Worship?'	1937
	'Why Worship?' by Muriel Lester, (1937) OPEN	
LESTER/7/1/10	'Training'	1940
	'Training' by Muriel Lester, (1940) OPEN	

LESTER/7/1/11	'Ways of Praying'	1931
	Booklet, 'Ways of Praying' by Muriel Lester, (1931) OPEN	
LESTER/7/1/12	'Humble Followers of the Way of the Cross'	1957
	'Humble Followers of the Way of the Cross' by Muriel Lester, (1957) OPEN	
LESTER/7/1/13	'The Word of God for Now'	1933
	Leaflet, 'The Word of God for Now' by Muriel Lester (1933[?]) OPEN	
LESTER/7/1/14	'It Occurred to Me'	n.d.
	'It Occurred to Me' by Muriel Lester, (n.d.) OPEN	
LESTER/7/1/15	'Adventures in Reconciliation'	(n.d.)
	Leaflet, 'Adventures in Reconciliation: A Chinese Scholar' by Muriel Lester (2pp) (n.d.) OPEN	
LESTER/7/1/16	Leaflet	(n.d.)
	Partial leaflet regarding Kingsley Hall, Bow, (2pp) (n.d.) OPEN	
LESTER/7/1/17	'Ways of Praying'	1931
	Booklet, 'Ways of Praying' by Muriel Lester, (1931) OPEN	
LESTER/7/1/18	"A Way of Life"	(n.d.)
	Booklet, "A Way of Life" by Muriel Lester, (n.d.) OPEN	
LESTER/7/1/19	"A Way of Life"	(n.d.)
	Booklet, "A Way of Life" by Muriel Lester, (n.d.) OPEN	

LESTER/7/2	Kingsley Hall, Bow: leaflets and reports	1915-1947
LESTER/7/2/1	'Adventures in Fellowship'	1915-1936
	OPEN	
LESTER/7/2/2	'First Year's Report'	1916
	OPEN	
LESTER/7/2/3	'Second Year's Report'	1917
	OPEN	
LESTER/7/2/4	'Sixth Annual Report'	1920
	OPEN	
LESTER/7/2/5	'Adventures in Fellowship, Being the Tenth Annual Report of Kingsley Hall'	1924-1925
	OPEN	
LESTER/7/2/6	'Interim Report of Kingsley Hall'	1926-1927
	OPEN	
LESTER/7/2/7	'Kingsley Hall Report'	1927-1928
	OPEN	
LESTER/7/2/8	'Kingsley Hall Report'	1929
	OPEN	
LESTER/7/2/9	'Kingsley Hall Constitution'	1930
	OPEN	
LESTER/7/2/10	'What Kingsley Hall Is'	1931
	OPEN	

LESTER/7/2/11	'Why a Kingsley Hall?'	1929
	OPEN	
LESTER/7/2/12	'What Is Kingsley Hall?'	1933
	OPEN	
LESTER/7/2/13	'Kingsley Hall'	1933-1934
	OPEN	
LESTER/7/2/14	'Further Adventures in Fellowship, The Waw Years and up to 1947'	1947
	OPEN	
LESTER/7/2/15	Kingsley Hall Annual Report	1934-1935
	Annual report for Kingsley Hall, Bow, (1934-1935) OPEN	
LESTER/7/2/16	Leaflets	1916-1963
	Includes:	
	 'Clinic of Natural Healing' (pp. 7) (1936-1938) 'Sidelights on Fellowship' (pp. 2) (n.d.) 'God, You have made a perfect world, don't let me spoil it ever any more' (p.1) (2 copies) (n.d.) 'First Anniversary Meeting' (p. 1) (March 6th) 'Founders' Day' (p. 1) (February 13th) 'The Stone-Laying of the New Kings Hall' (pp. 6) (3 copies) (July 14th 1927) 'The Ceremony of the Knocking out of the First Brick, Kingsley Hall' (pp. 4) (3 copies) (May 3rd 1927) 'Easter' (pp. 4) (1943) 'Interim Report' (pp. 4) (2 copies) (1938-1939) 'Kingsley Hall?' (pp. 4) (n.d.) 'Souvenir of the 29th Foundation Day of Kingsley Hall' (pp. 4) (2 copies) (11th February 1943) 'An Effort Towards the Kingdom of God on Earth' (pp. 6) (1915-1930) 'Think of What?, A Special Week of Meetings to be Held at Kingsley Hall' (p. 1) (11th-16th October 1927) 'Unto a child is born, unto a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called PRINCE OF PEACE' (p. 1) (1937) 'Kingsley Hall, Opened 1915, Bombed 1916, Blasted 1940, Still Stands Intact to Enrich the Common Life of the People of Bow' (pp. 6) (2 copies) (n.d.) OPEN 	

LESTER/7/3	B Children's House, Bow	1923-1938
	Leaflets and reports for the Children's House, Bow, (1923-1938) Open	
LESTER/7/3/1	Annual Report	1923-1924
	Includes a description of the new building and the opening ceremony. Also includes information about the laying of the stone by Lylie Valentine (author of Two Sisters and the Cockney Kids), (1923-1924) Open	
LESTER/7/3/2	Annual Report	1925-1926
	Annual Report for the Children's House, Bow, (1924-1925) [2 copies] Open	
LESTER/7/3/3	Annual Report	1926-1927
	Annual report for The Children's House, Bow, (1926-1927) Open	
LESTER/7/3/4	Annual Report	1927-1928
	Annual report for the Children's House, Bow, (1927-1928) Open	
LESTER/7/3/5	Annual Report	1928-1929
	Annual report for the Children's House, Bow, (1928-1929) Open	
LESTER/7/3/6	Annual Report	1929-1930
	Annual report for the Children's House, Bow, (1929-1930) Open	
LESTER/7/3/7	Annual Report	1930-1931
	Annual report for the Children's House, Bow, (1930-1931) Open	
LESTER/7/3/8	Annual Report	1931-1932
	Annual report for the Children's House, Bow, (1931-1932) Open	
LESTER/7/3/9	Annual Report	1932-1933
	Annual report for the Children's House, Bow, (1932-1933) Open	
LESTER/7/3/10	Annual Report	1933-1934
	Annual report for the Children's House, Bow, (1933-1934)	

Open

LESTER/7/3/11 Annual Report 1934-1935

Annual report for the Children's House, Bow, (1934-1935)

Open

LESTER/7/3/12 Annual Report 1936-1937

Annual report for the Children's House, Bow, (1936-1937)

Open

LESTER/7/3/13 Annual Report 1938

Annual report for the Children's House, Bow, (1938)

Open

LESTER/7/3/14 Leaflets 1919-1934

Leaflets about the Children's House, Bow. Includes the opening of the House and the laying of the foundation

stone, (1919-1934)

LESTER/7/4 Kingsley Hall and Children's House Bow 1939-1944 Reports Reports for Kingsley Hall and the Children's House, Bow, (1939-1944) Open LESTER/7/4/1 1941 Report Report for Kingsley Hall and Children's House, Bow, (1941) Open 1942 LESTER/7/4/2 Report Report for Kingsley Hall and Children's House, (1942) Open **LESTER/7/4/3** Programme 1941-1942 'Siren Permitting!' Kingsley Hall and Children's House programme for winter, (1941-1942) Open LESTER/7/4/4 Report 1943 Report for Kingsley Hall and Children's House, (1943) Open **LESTER/7/4/5** Report 1943-1944 Report for Kingsley Hall and Children's House, (1943-1944) Open

LESTER/7/5	Kingsley Hall Dagenham Leaflets and Reports	1930-1947
	Leaflets and reports for Kingsley Hall Dagenham, (1930- 1947) Open	
LESTER/7/5/1	The Stone-laying of the Nursery School and Library	1930
	Programme for the stone-laying of the nursery school and library, (8 November 1930) Open	
LESTER/7/5/2	Circular regarding Kingsley Hall	(n.d.)
	Circular from Sydney Russell sending greetings to those who have 'recently come to live near the settlement', (n.d.) Open	
LESTER/7/5/3	'A Further adventure in fellowship'	1930
	Information leaflet about Kingsley Hall, Dagenham and Kingsley Hall, Bow, (1930) Open	
LESTER/7/5/4	Annual Report	1932-1933
	Annual report for Kingsley Hall, Dagenham (1932-1933) Open	
LESTER/7/5/5	Annual Report	1933-1934
	Annual report for Kingsley Hall, Dagenham (1933-1934) Open	
LESTER/7/5/6	Annual Report	1935-1936
	Annual report for Kingsley Hall, Dagenham (1935-1936) Open	
LESTER/7/5/7	Annual Report	1938
	Annual report for Kingsley Hall, Dagenham (1938) Open	
LESTER/7/5/8	'Kingsley Hall Dagenham: An Adventure in Christian Service'	1951
	Information leaflet about Kingsley Hall, Dagenham, (c.1951) Open	

LESTER/7/6 Services and events

1923-1991

Marriages, Prayers, Thanksgiving Services, Freedom of the Borough and other information leaflets, (1923-1991) **Open**

LESTER/7/6/1

Marriages, Prayers, Thanksgiving Services and Freedom of the Borough

1923-1991

Marriages, Prayers, Thanksgiving Services, Freedom of the Borough and other information, (1923-1991). Including:

- Addresses by Muriel Lester,
- Programmes for the weddings of Ralph Emery to Kathleen Rowley, Joseph Broadbent to Violet Mortimer, 'Gary to Dorothy', 'Martin to Hilda'
- Funerals of Hettie Mint, Henry Lester, Lilly Aidalberry
- Baptisms of Patricia Pullen
- Information about the Hall and holiday home, as well as one copy of the 'Kingsley Hall Gazette'
- 'Presentation of the Honorary Freedom of the Borough to Miss Muriel Lester', Metropolitan Borough of Poplar, (1964) **Open**

LESTER/7/7 Publications

Publications collected by Muriel Lester [and other members of Kingsley Hall?], (1900-1999). Includes:

- The Children of Vietnam (1966) Pepper, William F.
- Memories for Tomorrow(1981) Hogg, Dorothy
- Choose your Weapons(n.d.) Fellowship of Reconciliation
- Key to Health(1948) M.K. Gandhi
- Gandhi Marg 42. Journal of the Gandhi Peace Foundation (1967) Gandhi Peace Foundation
- Gandhi Marq 43. Journal of the Gandhi Peace

Foundation(1967) - Gandhi Peace Foundation

- Mahadev Desai's Early Life(1953) Narahari D. Parikh
- The Drum beats louder(n.d.) Claud Roding
- Bapu's Letters I. To Ashram Sisters(1952) Kaka Kalelkar
- Revelation for the New Age(1967) Anthony Brooke
- The Long Road(1958) Arthur E. Morgan
- Proverbs and Ecclesiastes(n.d.) William Wells
- Character and Conduct(1956) Mukulbhai Kalarthi
- Intimations of Personality. A brief study of Stephen Hobhouse, Scholar and Christian Pacifist(before 1965) -Rosa Waugh Hobhouse
- This Life We Take(1965) Trevor Thomas
- What doth the Lord require of thee?(1966) Mildred Binns Young
- The Teilhard Review (1966-1967)

Reference Number: NRA 42112/7/7/17

- The Attitude to Property: Christian, Marxist & Gandhian(n.d.) K. K. Chandy
- Affirmations(1951) Allan H. Hunter and Elizabeth W. Hunter
- Pamphlets about Vietnam, the Poor Law, Racism, the Fellowship of Reconciliation, prostitution and Christianity, (1930-1965)

1926-1968

LESTER/8 Swarthmore College Peace Collection

Swarthmore College Peace Collection Files, (1926-1968). Includes:

Box One:

SCPC/1: Correspondence 1926-27 (docs 1-6) letters from India + draft chapter re visit 1926 [SCPC ref CDG-B box Muriel Lester]

SCPC/2: Correspondence 1930-36 (docs 7-19) India, USA,

Japan + call for prayer (21/10/30) [SCPC ref as above]

SCPC/3: Correspondence 1937-39 (docs 20-23) incl letter to

Roosevelt Sept 1939 [SCPC ref as above]

SCPC/4: Correspondence 1940-42 (docs 24-28) incl

Detention details, 1941 [SCPC ref as above]

SCPC/5: Correspondence 1943-56 (.docs 29-30) [SCPC ref as above]

SCPC/6: Correspondence with the Hunters 1960-68 (docs 31-58) [SCPC ref as above]

SCPC/7: Misc articles and news cuttings (docs 59-64, 310-315) [SCPC ref as above (59-64.), DG117:B box 27 (310-15)

SCPC/8: Miscellaneous 1930-40 (docs 65--70) news cuttings, summary of talks etc. [SCPC ref CDG-B box Muriel

SCPC/9 Correspondence with AJ Muste 1940-47 (docs 71-76a) [SCPC ref DG 13 box 9 Muste]

SCPC/10: Correspondence, Muriel Lester 1941-60 (docs 78-83) correspondence with John Swomley [SCPC ref DG 13 Box Swomley]

SCPC/11: J Nevin Sayre, China, Lester letters 1935-38 (docs 84-89) also doc 77 'Confronted by China' from Hassler corresp (DG13) plus copy of Chinese Diary 1958 [SCPC ref DG 117:B box China]

SCPC/12: Sayre -Doris Lester 1941-53 (docs 90-95) [SCPC ref DG 117:B box 25]

SCPC/13: Sayre - Muriel Lester 1934-38 (docs 96-98) Japan and China [SCPC ref as above]

SCPC/14: Sayre -Lester US Tours 1934-41 (docs 99-104)

[SCPC ref DG 117:B box 251]

SCPC/15: Sayre - Lester S.American Tour 1941 (docs 105-119) incl dup Travel Letters 1941 [SCPC ref as above]

SCPC/16: Sayre - Lester Trinidad Detention 1941 (docs 120-123) [SCPC ref as above]

SCPC/17: Sayre - Lester corresp 1941-43 (docs 124-140) [SCPC ref as above]

SCPC/18: Sayre - Lester corresp 1944-47 (docs 141-155)

[SCPC ref as above]

Box Two:

SCPC/19: Sayre - Lester World Tour 1948-50 (.docs 156-197) [SCPC ref as above]

SCPC/20: Sayre - Lester World Tour 1950-51 (.docs 198-202) [SCPC ref DG 117:B box 26]

SCPC/21: Sayre - Lester corresp 1951 (docs 203-213) [SCPC ref as above]

SCPC/22: Sayre - Lester World Tour 1951-52 (docs 214-232) [SCPC ref as above]

SCPC/23: Sayre - Lester corresp 1952-53 (docs 233-251)

[SCPC ref as above]

SCPC/24: Sayre -Lester World Tour 1953-54 (docs 252-262)

incl some extra duplicate items [SCPC ref as above]

SCPC/25: Sayre -Lester Tours and Correspondence 1955-56

(docs 263-276) [SCPC ref as above]

SCPC/26: Sayre -Lester corresp 1959-68 (docs 277-302) incl

details of ML's last day [SCPC ref as above]

SCPC/27: Sayre -Lester misc writings/speeches (docs 303-

309) [SCPC ref as above]

SCPC/28: Sayre -Lester misc and Travel Letters 1943-49

(docs 316-21) [SCPC ref DG 117:B box 27]

SCPC/29: Sayre -Lester Travel Letters 1950 (docs 322-26)

[SCPC ref as above]

SCPC/30: Duplicate copies of Travel Letters 1938-46

SCPC/31: Duplicate copies of Travel Letters 1950-58

SCPC/32: Misc duplicates (press releases. copy corresp etc)

LESTER/9 Microfilm

(n.d)

Microfilms of material from the Lester archive, (n.d.) $\ensuremath{\textsc{Open}}$